

GAZETTEER OF INDIA

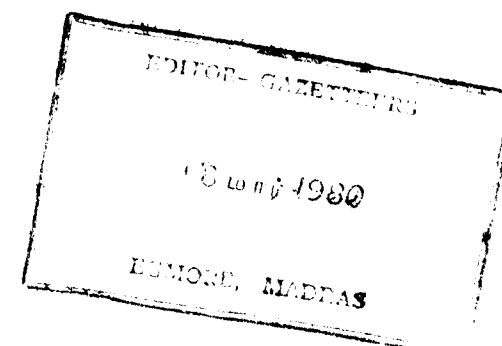


PUNJAB STATE

GURDASPUR DISTRICT

GAZETTEER OF INDIA

PUNJAB

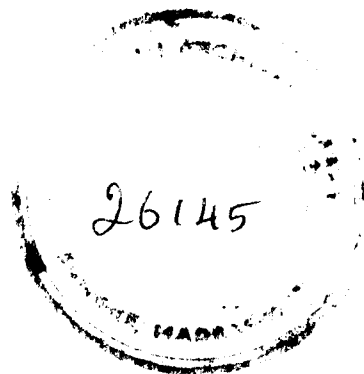


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FOREWORD

A district gazetteer presents a comprehensive view of the past and present of a district. It describes its physical features, relates its history and discusses the social, political and economic life of the people inhabiting it. As such, it serves as a guide to the administrator, a reference book for the general public and a source of information for the specialist.

The last edition of the *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer* was prepared in 1914, over six decades back. The vast and varied changes that have taken place in the different spheres of life in the district since then have rendered the old gazetteer obsolete. An attempt has, therefore, been made in the present volume to bring things up-to-date.

CHANDIGARH
January 16, 1978

HARDEV SINGH CHHINA
Financial Commissioner, Revenue,
Punjab

PREFACE

This volume is the third in the series of the Punjab District Gazetteers being published under the scheme of Revision of District Gazetteers, jointly sponsored by the Government of India and the State Government. The previous editions of the *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer* were prepared under the British regime from time to time, as detailed below :

The *Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District*, 1883-84, published from Lahore in 1884, was the first edition of the gazetteer of this district. It was based upon the Settlement Reports and a draft *Gazetteer*, compiled between 1870 and 1874, by F. Cunningham, Barrister-at-Law. The latter, i.e. F. Cunningham's draft *Gazetteer*, itself was largely based upon the *Settlement Report of the Gurdaspur District*, written in 1856 by Sir Henry Davies. The *Census Report of 1881* and the other published reports, especially on the subject of industries, were also utilized. The *Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District*, 1891-92, was the second edition of the gazetteer of the district. It was prepared in accordance with the then general orders of Government requiring a revision of the gazetteer from the Settlement Officer at each reassessment. The former arrangement of the work was strictly adhered to, and as far as possible the old matter was retained and amplified where necessary by the additional information collected during the preceding settlement of 1885-92. Louis W. Dane wrote the *Final Report of the Revised Settlement of the Gurdaspur District in the Punjab*, 1892, which was published from Lahore in 1892. The *Census Report of 1891* could not be utilized as it had not been published when the gazetteer went to the press. The results obtained by the census were, however, incorporated wherever this was practicable. For the historical retrospect, Muhammad Latif's *History of the Punjab*, published from Calcutta in 1891, was freely drawn upon, and the chapter on history was also got revised from that author. The annual monographs on the trades of the district were also utilized. The *Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District*, 1914, published from Lahore in 1915, was the third edition of the gazetteer of the district and the last in the old series. The information collected during the preceding Fourth Regular Settlement, 1907-12, and contained in the *Final Report of the Revision of the Settlement of the Gurdaspur District*, 1912, by F. W. Kennaway (published from Lahore in 1912) was utilized. The *Census Report of 1911* was also utilized.

Besides the above-mentioned different editions of the main descriptive volume of the district gazetteer in the old series, the *Statistical*

Tables were prepared in 1904, 1912 and 1936 and published in separate volumes in 1904, 1913 and 1936 respectively.

Since the compilation of the last edition of the *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer* in the first half of the second decade of the present century and especially after the achievement of independence in 1947, vast changes have taken place in the political, social and economic life of the people. The end of the British rule in 1947 and the declaration of India as a Sovereign Democratic Republic in 1950 have brought a new social and political consciousness among the people. The Shakargarh Tahsil of the former Gurdaspur District was transferred to Pakistan on the partition of the country in 1947 and now forms part of the Sialkot District of that country. The mass migration of the minority population from both sides of the border has changed the social structure of the region beyond recognition. On the socio-economic side, the implementation of the successive Five-Year Plans has brought about vast development in all spheres of life and has changed the urban and rural landscape of the district. The impact of all such developments and changes, which have occurred during the last over six decades, has been depicted in the present volume, which was compiled during 1973—75 and approved by the Government of India in 1976.

In the preparation of this volume, the State Gazetteers Unit has benefited immensely by the able guidance and encouragement given by the successive Financial Commissioners, Revenue, viz. Shri I. C. Puri, I.A.S., Shri N. Khosla, I.A.S., and Shri R. S. Talwar, I.A.S., and also the successive Deputy Secretaries, Revenue, viz. Shri C. D. Khanna, I.A.S., and Shri Pritam Singh Bala, I.A.S.

I take this opportunity of expressing my grateful thanks to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Editor (Gazetteers), Department of Culture, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, and to the members of his staff for the thorough scrutiny of the draft and for the helpful suggestions for the overall improvement of the standard and quality of the publication.

My thanks are due to Shri S. P. Bagla, I.A.S., Joint Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi, for going through the draft and making useful suggestions for its improvement.

I am grateful to the various heads of departments and offices in the State, especially the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, and the different officers working under him for extending whole-hearted co-operation in supplying the requisite information and data for the compilation of this volume.

I am thankful to the staff of the State Gazetteers Unit, especially to Shri Baldev Raj Sharma, Senior Editor, Gazetteers ; to Sarvshri Gurmej Chand Kler and Stephen K. Massey, Editors ; to Sarvshri Rajinder Singh Gandhi, Subhash Chander Behal, Rajinder Kumar Gupta and Joginder Singh Bedi, Compilers ; and to Shri Sureshar Lal Sahi, Draftsman-cum-Artist ; for their commendable contribution to the preparation of this volume.

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CHANDIGARH
January 2, 1978

BARKAT RAI CHOPRA
State Editor, Gazetteers, Punjab

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Foreword ..	i
Preface ..	i-ii
Contents ..	i—xxii
List of Illustrations ..	xxiii
CHAPTER I—GENERAL	1—24
(a) Introductory ..	1
(i) Origin of the name of the district ..	ib.
(ii) Location, general boundaries, total area and population of the district ..	ib.
(iii) History of the district as an administrative unit and the changes in its component parts ..	2
(iv) Sub-Divisions, Tahsils and Thanas ..	5
(b) Topography ..	ib.
(i) The Hilly Tract ..	ib.
(ii) The Dissected Undulating Plain ..	6
(iii) The Floodplains of the Ravi and the Beas ..	ib.
(iv) The Upland Plain ..	7
(c) River System and Water Resources ..	ib.
(i) Main Rivers and Tributaries and Canals ..	ib.
River Beas ..	ib.
River Ravi ..	ib.
Chhambs ..	8
Canals ..	ib.
(ii) Underground Water Resources ..	9
Kandi Region ..	ib.
Sirowal and Adjoining Indo-Ganga Plains ..	ib.
Water-table ..	10
(d) Geology ..	ib.
(i) Geological Formation ..	ib.
(ii) Mineral Resources ..	11
Building Material ..	ib.
Foundry Sand ..	ib.
Calc-tuffa ..	ib.
Limestone ..	ib.
Ochre ..	ib.
Saltpetre ..	ib.
Fuller's-earth ..	ib.
(iii) Seismicity ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
(e) Flora ..	13
(f) Fauna ..	15
(g) Climate ..	16
(i) Climatic divisions and seasons and their duration ..	ib.
(ii) Temperature and humidity ..	17
Temperature ..	ib.
Humidity ..	ib.
(iii) Rainfall ..	19
(iv) Atmospheric pressure and winds ..	22
Cloudiness ..	ib.
Winds ..	ib.
Special weather phenomena ..	23
CHAPTER II—HISTORY	25—53
(a) Ancient Period ..	25
(b) Medieval Period ..	26
Jahangir at Kahnuwan and Pindori ..	27
Construction of the Shah Nahar ..	ib.
The Sikh Gurus and the District ..	ib.
Exploits of Banda Bahadur ..	28
Sikhs overrun the towns of Raipur and Bahrapur and advance upon the <i>parganahs</i> of Kalanaur and Batala ..	ib.
Persecution of the Sikhs who in turn punish the oppressors ..	31
Occupation of Kalanaur and Batala ..	ib.
Siege and Fall of Gurdas Nangal ..	32
First Ghalughara (Holocaust), 1746 ..	34
Adina Beg ..	35
Sikh Misals and Maharaja Ranjit Singh ..	37
Shahpur Kandi Tract ..	ib.
(c) British Rule ..	38
I. Abolition of female infanticide ..	ib.
II. The Great Uprising of 1857 ..	39
Precautionary measures taken ..	ib.
Number of Hindustanis in the Gurdaspur District ..	ib.
Measures for guarding the River Ravi ..	40

	<i>Page</i>
Advance of Sialkot rebels and their annihilation by Brigadier-General Nicholson ..	40
Destruction of a party of the 26th Native Infantry from Lahore ..	41
III. The Struggle for Freedom ..	ib.
Namdhari Movement ..	ib.
Lahore Session of the Indian National Congress, 1900 ..	42
Agitation following the partition of the Bengal in 1905 ..	ib.
Unpopular policies of Government raise a political storm in the Punjab ..	ib.
The Ghadar Movement, 1913—15 ..	44
Formation of the District Congress Committee, Gurdaspur, in 1917 ..	ib.
Anti-Rowlatt Act Agitation, 1918-19 ..	45
Gurdwara Reform Movement ..	47
Non-co-operation Movement, 1920—22 ..	48
Punjab Provincial Conference at Batala, 1922 ..	49
Civil Disobedience Movement, 1930-31 ..	ib.
Individual Satyagrah, 1940-1941 ..	50
Quit India Movement, 1942 ..	51
IV. Partition of the Country and Aftermath ..	52
Appendix I—Ghadar Rebellion of 1915—	53
Revolutionaries belonging to the Gurdaspur District tried and convicted by Special Tribunal	
CHAPTER III—PEOPLE ..	54—97
(a) Population ..	54
(i) Total Population ..	ib.
Growth of Population ..	ib.
Emigration and Immigration ..	55
Density of Population ..	56
Sex Ratio ..	57
Age Composition ..	58
Marital Status ..	60
(ii) Distribution of Population between Rural and Urban Areas ..	61
(iii) Displaced Persons ..	62
(b) Languages ..	ib.

	Page
(c) Religion and Caste ..	64
Principal Communities ..	ib.
Hindus ..	65
Rajputs ..	56
Jats ..	67
Scheduled Castes ..	ib.
Sikhs ..	68
Jats ..	ib.
Christians ..	72
Muslims ..	74
(d) Social Life ..	76
(i) Property and Inheritance ..	ib.
(ii) Marriage and Morals ..	77
Marriage ..	ib.
Dowry System ..	78
Morals ..	ib.
Birth and Death Ceremonies ..	79
(iii) Home Life ..	80
Dwellings ..	ib.
Furniture and Decoration ..	82
Dress and Ornaments ..	ib.
Food ..	83
(iv) Communal Life ..	ib.
Fairs and Festivals ..	ib.
Games, Sports and Recreations ..	ib.
Folk Songs and Cultural Life ..	84
(e) Rehabilitation ..	88
Rural Rehabilitation ..	ib.
Temporary Allotment of Agricultural Land ..	ib.
Quasi-Permanent Allotment of Agricultural Land ..	89
Garden Colonies ..	ib.
Rural Housing ..	90
Urban Rehabilitation ..	ib.
Allotment of Urban Immovable Property ..	ib.
Urban Housing ..	ib.
Grant of Compensation ..	91
Advance of Loans ..	ib.
Educational Grants and Loans ..	92
Vocational Training ..	ib.
Rehabilitation of Unattached Women and Children ..	ib.

	Page
Appendix I—Displaced persons from Pakistan etc. who settled in the Gurdaspur District on the partition of the Country in 1947 ..	94
Appendix II—Rajput Clans of the Gurdaspur District ..	96
CHAPTER IV—AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION ..	98—140
(a) Land Reclamation and Utilization ..	98
(i) Land Utilization ..	ib.
(ii) Cultivable Waste ..	100
(iii) Reclamation of Waterlogged Areas, Swamps, etc. ..	101
(b) Irrigation ..	ib.
(i) Rainfall ..	ib.
(ii) Irrigation Facilities ..	102
Canals ..	105
Wells (including Tube-wells and Pumping-sets) ..	106
(c) Agriculture including Horticulture ..	ib.
(i) Set-up and Activities of the Agriculture Department ..	ib.
(ii) Soils, Climate and Crops ..	107
Soils ..	ib.
Major and Subsidiary Crops ..	109
Vegetables ..	111
Fruit Crops and Gardens ..	112
(iii) Improved Agricultural Practices ..	ib.
(iv) Farmers' Training Camps ..	114
(v) Agricultural Co-operatives ..	ib.
(1) Primary Agricultural Credit/Service Societies ..	ib.
(2) Agricultural Non-Credit Societies ..	115
Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Societies ..	ib.
Co-operative Farming Societies ..	116
Other Societies ..	ib.
(vi) Progress of Scientific Agriculture ..	117
Agricultural Implements ..	ib.
Seeds ..	118
Crop Rotation ..	ib.
Fallow Cultivation ..	119
Fertilizers and Manures ..	ib.
Chemical Fertilizers ..	ib.
Local Manurial Resources ..	ib.
Town Compost and Sullage Utilization ..	120

	<i>Page</i>
(vii) Agricultural Insect-pests and Diseases and Obnoxious Weeds ..	120
Insect-pests and Diseases ..	ib.
Obnoxious Weeds ..	121
(viii) Regional Research Station, Gurdaspur ..	122
(d) Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries ..	123
(i) Animal Health Wing and Animal Breeding Wing ..	124
Animal Health Wing ..	ib.
Animal Breeding Wing ..	125
Development of <i>Gaushalas</i> ..	126
Cattle Fairs and Shows ..	ib.
Castration ..	127
Control of Menace of Wild and Stray Cattle ..	ib.
(ii) Area under Fodder Crops ..	ib.
(iii) Dairy Farming ..	128
(iv) Sheep Breeding ..	129
(v) Poultry Farming ..	ib.
(vi) Piggery ..	ib.
(vii) Fisheries ..	ib.
(viii) Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals ..	130
Animal Diseases ..	ib.
Veterinary Hospitals ..	ib.
(e) Forestry ..	133
(i) Importance of Forestry in the Economy of the District ..	ib.
(ii) Area under Forests ..	ib.
(iii) Forest Produce ..	135
(f) Floods ..	136
(g) Famine ..	138
Appendix I—Area under principal crops in the Gurdaspur District ..	139
Appendix II—Production of principal crops in the Gurdaspur District ..	140
CHAPTER V—INDUSTRIES ..	141—178
(a) Old-Time Industries and Industrial Development ..	141
(b) State Aid to Industries ..	145
(i) Supply of Machinery on Hire-Purchase Basis ..	147

	<i>Page</i>
(2) Supply of Raw Materials ..	147
(3) Marketing Assistance ..	ib.
(4) Quality Marking Scheme ..	ib.
(5) Common Facility Service Development Schemes ..	148
Industrial Development Centre, Batala ..	ib.
(6) Other Organisations for the Development of Industries ..	149
(i) The Punjab State Small Industries Corporation Ltd., Chandigarh ..	ib.
(ii) The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Chandigarh ..	150
(iii) Small Industries Service Institute, Batala ..	ib.
(iv) National Metallurgical Laboratory, Batala ..	ib.
(v) Industrial Training Institutes ..	151
(vi) Rural Industrial Development Centres ..	ib.
(c) Industrial Training ..	ib.
(d) Industrial Areas and Estates ..	155
(e) Sources of Power ..	ib.
(f) Growth and Development of Industries ..	157
(g) Industries and Manufactures of the District ..	159
(i) Large and Medium-Scale Industries ..	ib.
(1) Textile Industry ..	ib.
(2) Engineering Industry ..	ib.
(3) Sugar Industry ..	ib.
(4) Flour Mills ..	160
(5) Rice Mills ..	ib.
(ii) Small-Scale Industries ..	161
(6) Machine Tools ..	162
(7) Agricultural Implements ..	ib.
(8) Trunks and <i>Balties</i> ..	ib.
(9) Utensils Making ..	163
(10) Conduit Pipes ..	ib.
(11) Saw Milling and Woodworking ..	ib.
(12) Soap Making ..	164
(13) Sports Goods ..	ib.
(14) Cycle Parts ..	ib.
(15) Sewing Machines ..	165
(16) Rubber Goods ..	ib.
(17) Radio and Radio Parts ..	ib.
(18) Steel Re-rolling ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
(19) Bolts and Nuts ..	165
(20) Electrical Motors and Other Goods ..	ib.
(21) Surgical Instruments ..	ib.
(22) Automobile Parts ..	166
(23) Plastic Goods ..	ib.
(24) Batteries and Plates ..	ib.
(25) Food Products ..	ib.
(iii) Cottage and Village Industries ..	ib.
(26) Hand Spinning ..	ib.
(27) Handloom Weaving and <i>Khadi</i> ..	167
(28) Shoe-Making ..	ib.
(29) Carpentry and Blacksmithy ..	ib.
(30) Flaying/Leather Tanning ..	ib.
(31) <i>Ban</i> and Rope Making ..	ib.
(32) Rice husking, Flour Milling and Oil Extracting ..	168
(33) Baskets, <i>Chicks</i> and Straw Bottle Covers Making]	ib.
(34) Sericulture ..	169
(35) <i>Gur</i> and <i>Khandsari</i> Making ..	ib.
(36) Pottery ..	ib.
(37) Ivory and Inlay Goods ..	ib.
(iv) Handicrafts ..	ib.
(v) Jail Industries ..	170
(h) Industrial Potential ..	ib.
(i) Role of Industrial Co-operatives ..	ib.
(j) Labour and Employers' Organizations ..	175
Labour Organizations ..	ib.
Manufacturers' Associations ..	ib.
(k) Welfare of Industrial Labour ..	176
Appendix—List of Registered Trade Unions in Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	177
CHAPTER VI—BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE ..	179—208
(A) Banking and Finance ..	179
(a) History of Indigenous Banking ..	ib.
(b) General Credit Facilities ..	182
(i) Indebtedness, Rural and Urban ..	ib.
Rate of Interest ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
(ii) Role of Private Money-lenders and Financiers ..	183
Money-lenders ..	ib.
(iii) Government and Semi-Government Credit Agencies ..	184
(iv) Joint-Stock Banks ..	185
(v) Post Office Savings Bank Account ..	186
(vi) Co-operative Credit ..	187
Co-operative Credit Societies ..	ib.
(c) Insurance and Small Savings ..	188
Insurance ..	ib.
Small Savings ..	190
(d) Currency and Coinage ..	192
(B) Trade and Commerce ..	ib.
(a) Course of Trade ..	193
(b) Trade Centres ..	ib.
(i) Regulated and Unregulated Markets ..	ib.
(ii) Fairs, <i>Melas</i> and Other Rural Marketing Centres ..	194
Fairs and <i>Melas</i> ..	ib.
Cattle Fairs ..	195
(c) Co-operation in Trade ..	ib.
Co-operative Marketing ..	ib.
Co-operative Consumers' Stores ..	197
(d) State Trading ..	198
(e) Merchants' and Consumers' Associations and Organs for the Dissemination of Trade News ..	ib.
Market Intelligence ..	ib.
(f) Weights and Measures ..	199
(g) Storage and Warehousing ..	201
Appendix I—Work done by the Co-operative Agricultural Credit Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72 ..	203
Appendix II—Work done by the Co-operative Non-Agricultural Credit Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72 ..	204

	<i>Page</i>
Appendix III—Fairs and Festivals of Trade Significance held in the Gurdaspur District ..	205
Appendix IV—Work done by the Co-operative Marketing Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72 ..	208
CHAPTER VII—COMMUNICATIONS ..	209—237
(a) Old-Time Trade Routes and Highways and Modes of Conveyance ..	209
(b) Road Transport ..	ib.
(i) Classification of Roads ..	210
National Highways ..	ib.
State Highways ..	ib.
District Major Roads ..	211
Other District Roads ..	ib.
Village Approach Roads ..	ib.
Municipal Roads ..	ib.
(ii) Vehicles and Conveyances ..	ib.
Automobiles ..	212
Cycles ..	ib.
Cycle-Rickshaws ..	ib.
Horse Carriages ..	ib.
Boats ..	ib.
(iii) Public and Private Transport ..	213
State Owned Services ..	ib.
Private Bus Services ..	214
(c) Railways ..	ib.
Rail-Road Competition ..	215
(d) Waterways, Ferries and Bridges ..	ib.
(e) Air Transport ..	216
(f) Travel and Tourist Facilities ..	ib.
Dak Bungalows and Rest Houses ..	ib.
(g) Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones ..	217
Posts ..	ib.
Telegraphs ..	ib.
Telephones ..	ib.
Radio and Television ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
(h) Organizations of Owners and Employees in the Field of Transport and Communications ..	218
Appendix I—Number of Different Types of Motor Vehicles Registered in the Gurdaspur District, 1967 to 1971-72 ..	219
Appendix II—Bus Routes Operated by the Punjab Roadways in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	220
Appendix III—Bus Routes Operated by Private Transport Companies in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	223
Appendix IV—Railway Passengers Traffic in the Gurdaspur District, 1971-72 ..	226
Appendix V—Railway Goods Traffic in the Gurdaspur District, 1971-72 ..	227
Appendix VI—Dak Bungalows, Inspection Bungalows and Rest Houses in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	228
Appendix VII—Post Offices in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	231
Appendix VIII—Combined Post and Telegraph Offices in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	237
CHAPTER VIII—MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS ..	238—245
(a) Public Administration ..	239
Central, State and Local Government Services ..	ib.
Public Employees' Organizations ..	240
(b) Learned Professions ..	241
Educational Services ..	ib.
Medical and Health Services ..	ib.
Legal Services ..	242
Engineering Services ..	ib.
Artists, Writers and Related Workers ..	243
(c) Personal and Domestic Services ..	ib.
Personal Services ..	ib.
Barbers ..	ib.
Washermen ..	ib.
Tailors ..	244
Self-employed Persons ..	ib.

	Page
Domestic Services	.. 244
(d) Miscellaneous Services	.. 245
Transport Services	.. ib.
CHAPTER IX—ECONOMIC TRENDS	.. 246—270
(a) Livelihood Pattern and General Level of Prices and Wages and Standard of Living	.. 246
Livelihood Pattern	.. ib.
Prices and Wages	.. 248
Prices	.. ib.
Wages	.. 252
Standard of Living	.. ib.
(b) Employment Situation	.. 254
Employment Exchange	.. 255
Employment Market Information Scheme	.. 259
Vocational Guidance Scheme	.. 260
(c) Planning and Community Development	.. 262
Planning	.. ib.
Community Development	.. ib.
Community Development Training Centre, Batala	.. 264
Appendix I Sample household classification by the number of members and by the number of rooms occupied in the Gurdaspur District, 1971..	265
Appendix II Wage rates of labour per day prevalent in the Gurdaspur District, 1905-1906 to 1930-31	267
Appendix III Wage rates of labour per day fixed in the Gurdaspur District, during 1971-72	.. 269
Appendix IV Work done by the Employment Exchanges in the Gurdaspur District, during 1968-1972	.. 270
CHAPTER X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	271—285
(a) Historical Background and Divisions of the District Administrative Divisions	.. 271
(b) District Authorities	.. ib.
Deputy Commissioner	.. 272
	.. ib.

	Page
Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil)	.. 275
Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars	.. 276
Kanungos and Patwaris	.. ib.
Lambardars	.. 277
(c) Development Organization	.. ib.
(d) General Arrangement for Disposal of Business	.. 278
General Assistant	.. 279
Public Grievances Officer	.. ib.
District Development and Panchayat Officer	.. ib.
Civil Defence Controller	.. ib.
Executive Magistrates	.. ib.
Registration	.. 280
Official Receiver	.. ib.
Oath Commissioners	.. ib.
District Attorney	.. ib.
(e) District Committees	.. 281
(f) Other State and Central Government Officers	.. ib.
State Government Officers	.. ib.
Central Government Officers	.. 285
CHAPTER XI—REVENUE ADMINISTRATION	286—314
(a) Land Revenue Administration	.. 286
(i) History of Land Revenue Assessment and Management	ib.
First Regular Settlement, 1852	.. ib.
Second Regular Settlement, 1865	.. 287
Revision of Records in Pathankot	.. 289
Revision of Records	.. ib.
Third Regular Settlement, 1885—92	.. 291
Fourth Regular Settlement, 1907—12	.. 294
Working of the Settlement of 1907—12	.. 296
(ii) Collection of Land Revenue	.. 297
(iii) Income from Land Revenue and Special Cesses	.. ib.
Land Revenue	.. ib.
Special Cesses	.. 299
Village Officers' Cess	.. ib.
Local Rate	.. ib.

	<i>Page</i>
Surcharge on Land Revenue ..	300
Special Assessment on Land put to Non-Agricultural Use ..	301
Special Charge on Land Revenue ..	ib.
<i>Abiana</i> ..	302
(b) Land Reforms ..	303
Security of Land Tenures ..	304
Utilization of Lands ..	305
Consolidation of Holdings ..	ib.
Bhoodan ..	306
Rural Wages and Condition of Agricultural Labour ..	ib.
(c) Other Sources of Revenue, State and Central ..	308
(i) Other Sources of State Revenue ..	ib.
Stamp Duty ..	ib.
Registration Fee ..	309
Excise Tax ..	311
Motor Spirit Tax ..	ib.
Urban Immovable Property Tax ..	ib.
Sales Tax ..	ib.
Passengers and Goods Tax ..	ib.
Entertainments Tax ..	ib.
Entertainments Duty ..	ib.
Central Sales Tax ..	ib.
Electricity Duty ..	312
Copying Fee ..	ib.
(ii) Central Sources of Revenue ..	314
Central Excise Duties ..	ib.
Income Tax ..	ib.
Wealth Tax ..	ib.
Gift Tax ..	ib.
Estate Duty ..	ib.
CHAPTER XII—LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE ..	315—334
(a) Incidence of Crime in the District ..	315
Murder ..	317
Dacoity ..	ib.
Robbery ..	ib.
Burglary ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
Rioting ..	317
Theft ..	ib.
Cattle Lifting ..	ib.
Traffic in women ..	ib.
Cheating ..	318
Offences under Local and Special Laws ..	ib.
Incidence of Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	ib.
Road Traffic ..	ib.
(b) History and Organization of Police ..	320
History of Police ..	ib.
Organization of Police ..	ib.
Civil Police ..	322
Vigilance Police ..	ib.
Railway Police ..	323
Excise Police Staff ..	ib.
Village Police ..	ib.
Trackers ..	324
Punjab Home Guards ..	ib.
(c) Jails and Lock-ups ..	ib.
District Jail, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Sub-Jail, Pathankot ..	328
District Crime Prevention Society, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
District Probation Officer, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
(d) Organization of Civil and Criminal Courts ..	330
Civil Justice ..	ib.
Criminal Justice ..	331
(e) Bar Associations ..	334
CHAPTER XIII—OTHER DEPARTMENTS ..	335—342
(a) Public Works Department ..	335
(i) Superintending Engineer, Pathankot Circle, P.W.D., B & R, Pathankot ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., B & R, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Central Works Division, P.W.D., B & R, Pathankot ..	336

	<i>Page</i>
Executive Engineer, Construction Division No. 2, P.W.D., B & R, Batala ..	3 36
(ii) Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Division, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
(iii) Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Diversion Division, Amritsar ..	ib.
(iv) Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar ..	337
Executive Engineer, Madhopur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Gurdaspur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Majitha Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar ..	ib.
(v) Superintending Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Circle, Pathankot ..	338
Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. I, Pathankot ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. II, Pathankot ..	ib.
Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. IV, Pathankot ..	339
Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Mechanical Division No. V, Pathankot ..	ib.
(b) Public Relations Department ..	ib.
(c) Co-operative Department ..	340
(d) Food and Supplies Department ..	ib.
(e) Finance Department ..	341
(f) Planning Department ..	ib.
(g) Language Department ..	342
CHAPTER XIV—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT ..	343—360
(a) Evolution of Local Self-Government in the District ..	343
Historical Retrospect ..	ib.

	<i>Page</i>
(b) Organization and Structure ..	345
Functions and Duties of Municipal Committees ..	ib.
Gurdaspur Municipality ..	346
Dhariwal Municipality ..	ib.
Dinanagar Municipality ..	ib.
Batala Municipality ..	347
Dera Baba Nanak Municipality ..	ib.
Fatehgarh Churian Municipality ..	ib.
Srigobindpur Municipality ..	348
Qadian Municipality ..	ib.
Pathankot Municipality ..	ib.
Sujanpur Municipality ..	349
(c) Town and Country Planning and Housing ..	ib.
Pathankot Improvement Trust, Pathankot ..	350
(d) Panchayati Raj ..	351
Gram Panchayats ..	352
Panchayat Samitis ..	355
Zila Parishad ..	357
Appendix—Income and Expenditure of Municipalities in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72 ..	359
CHAPTER XV—EDUCATION AND CULTURE ..	361—384
(a) Historical Background ..	361
(b) Literacy and Educational Standards ..	362
Educational societies rendering service in the field of education ..	364
Women's Education ..	367
Education of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes ..	ib.
Role of Local Bodies in the Field of Education ..	369
Medium of Instruction ..	ib.
Educational Set-up ..	ib.
(c) General Education ..	370
Pre-primary Schools ..	ib.

	Page
Primary and Basic Schools ..	370
Secondary Schools ..	371
Higher Education ..	ib.
(d) Professional and Technical Education	375
Teachers' Training ..	ib.
Medical Education ..	ib.
Technical Education ..	ib.
(e) Physical Education	ib.
(1) Promotion of Sports and Games ..	376
(2) National Fitness Corps ..	377
(3) National Cadet Corps ..	378
(4) Bharat Scouts and Guides ..	379
(f) Cultivation of Fine Arts	ib.
(g) Oriental Schools and Colleges	ib.
(h) Education for the Handicapped	380
(i) Adult Literacy, Social Education and Measures for the Diffusion of Culture among the Masses	ib.
(j) Cultural and Literary Societies and Periodicals	
Cultural and Literary Societies ..	ib.
Literary Societies ..	ib.
(k) Libraries, Museums, etc.	381
Libraries ..	ib.
Museums, etc. ..	382
Appendix I—Educational institutions and scholars at primary stage in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	383
Appendix II—Educational institutions and scholars at secondary stage in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	384
CHAPTER XVI—MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	385—403
(a) Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times	ib.

	Page
(b) Vital Statistics	385
Important Causes of Mortality ..	387
(c) Diseases Common to the District	ib.
(i) Fevers ..	ib.
(ii) Respiratory Diseases ..	ib.
(iii) Malaria ..	388
(iv) Communicable Diseases	ib.
Plague ..	ib.
Cholera ..	389
Smallpox ..	ib.
Hookworm ..	ib.
(v) Tuberculosis ..	390
(d) Medical and Public Health Services	ib.
Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Dispensaries, etc. ..	391
Allopathic Medical Institutions ..	ib.
Ayurvedic and Unani Medical Institutions ..	ib.
Government Hospitals and Nursing Homes ..	392
Civil Hospital, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Civil Hospital, Batala ..	ib.
Civil Hospital, Pathankot ..	ib.
Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes ..	393
Salvation Army MacRobert Hospital, Dhariwal ..	ib.
Blood Transfusion Centres ..	ib.
Prevention of Adulteration of Foodstuffs ..	394
(e) Sanitation	ib.
(i) Public Health and Sanitation in Urban Areas ..	ib.
(ii) Rural Sanitation and Water-supply ..	ib.
Appendix I—Deaths Registered by Causes in the Gurdaspur District, 1963—72 ..	396
Appendix II—Incidence of Smallpox and Preventive Measures taken in the Gurdaspur District, 1963—72 ..	397
Appendix III—List of Hospitals /Primary Health Centres and Dispensaries in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	398
Appendix IV—Family Planning Clinics in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972 ..	401

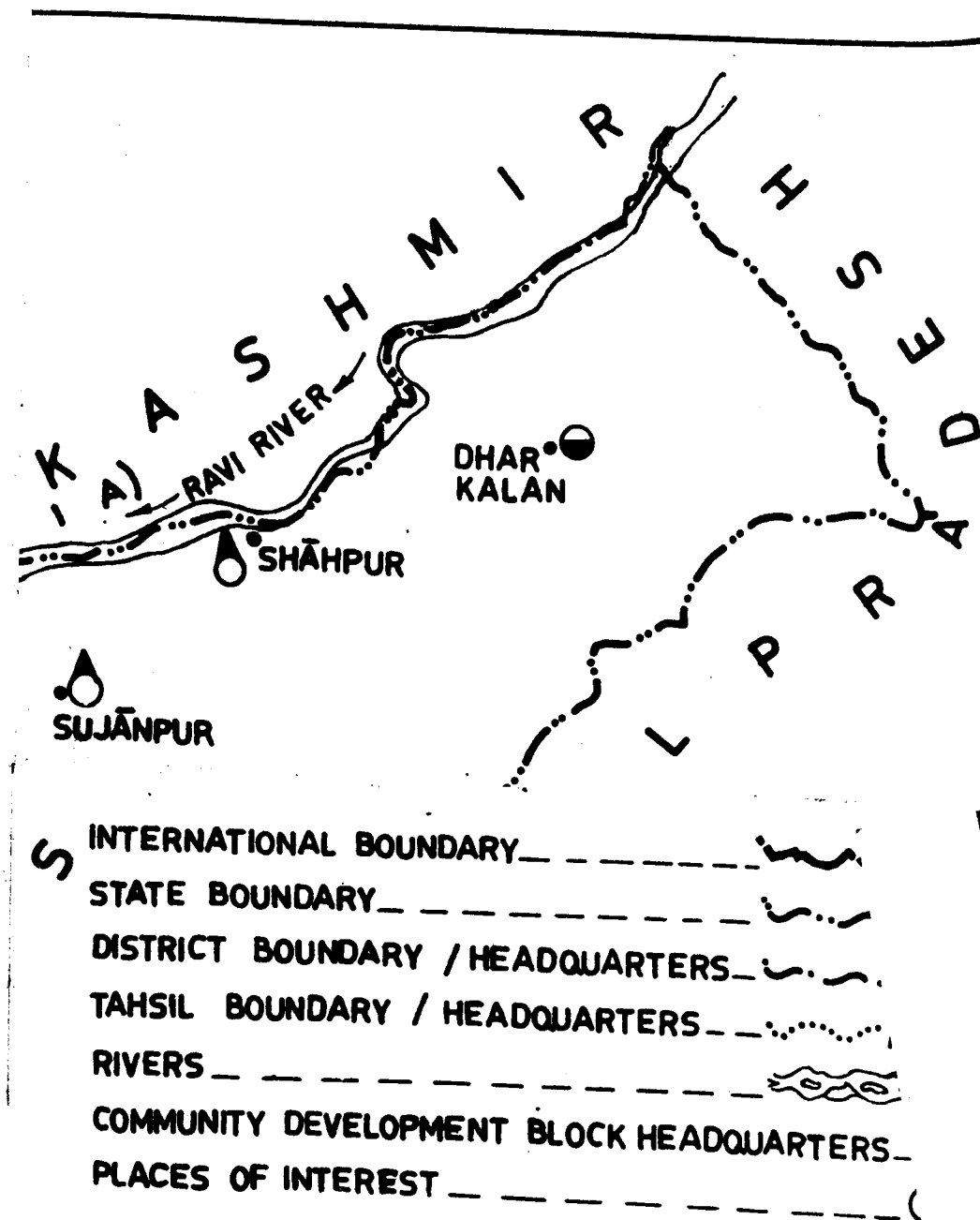
	<i>Page</i>
Appendix V—Maternity and Child Health Centres in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972	402
Appendix VI—List of Ayurvedic/Unani Institutions in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972	403
CHAPTER XVII—OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES	
(a) Labour Welfare	404—427
Labour Legislation	.. 404
Industrial Relations	.. 406
Works Committees	.. 408
The Factories Act, 1948	.. 410
Employees' Provident Fund Scheme	.. ib.
Employees' State Insurance Scheme	.. 411
Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme	.. ib.
(b) Prohibition	.. 413
(c) Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes	414
Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes	.. ib.
Measures adopted for betterment of the condition of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes	.. 415
I. Social Welfare Schemes	416
(i) Subsidy for Construction of New Houses	.. ib.
(ii) Subsidy for Purchase of House-sites	.. 417
(iii) Land Scheme	.. ib.
(iv) Facilities for Drinking Water	.. 419
(v) Community Centres	.. ib.
(vi) Legal Assistance	.. 420
(vii) Interest-free Loans	.. 421
(viii) Award of Scholarships and Reimbursement of Fees	.. 422
(ix) Piggery Scheme	.. ib.
(x) Dharmshalas Scheme	.. ib.
II. Industrial Training Schemes	ib.
(i) Industrial Training Centres	.. 423
(ii) Industrial Training in Mills, Factories and Institutions	.. ib.
(iii) Industrial Training Institutes	.. ib.
(iv) Industrial Schools for Boys and Girls	.. ib.
Representative Institutions	.. 424

	<i>Page</i>
(d) Other Social Welfare Activities	.. 424
(e) Public Trusts, Charitable Endowments and Muslim Wakfs	425
Appendix	.. 426
CHAPTER XVIII—PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS	
	.. 428—449
(a) Representation of the District in the State and the Union Legislatures	.. 428
Historical Retrospect	.. ib.
General Elections held under the Constitution of India	.. ib.
First General Elections, 1951-52	.. ib.
Parliamentary Constituency	.. 429
Punjab Legislative Assembly Constituencies	.. 430
Second General Elections, 1957	.. ib.
Lok Sabha Constituency	.. 431
Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies	.. ib.
Third General Elections, 1962	.. 432
Lok Sabha Constituency	.. ib.
Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies	.. 433
Fourth General Elections, 1967	.. ib.
Lok Sabha Constituency	.. ib.
Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies	.. 434
Mid-term Poll, 1969	.. 435
Bye-election to the Gurdaspur Lok Sabha Constituency, 1970	.. 436
Fifth General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 1971	.. ib.
Fifth General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1972	.. 437
(b) Political Parties and Organizations	.. 438
All-India Parties	.. ib.
Indian National Congress	.. ib.
Communist Party of India	.. 439
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	.. ib.
Samyukta Socialist/Praja Socialist Party	.. ib.
Republican Party of India	.. ib.
Swatantra Party	.. ib.
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	.. ib.
State Parties	.. 440
Shriomani Akali Dal	.. ib.

(c) Newspapers and Periodicals ..	Page 442
Newspapers and periodicals published outside but in fairly large circulation in the district ..	444
(d) Voluntary Social Service Organizations ..	445
General Welfare Institutions ..	ib.
District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Bharat Sevak Samaj, Gurdaspur ..	446
Sewa Sadan Leper Colony, Dinanagar ..	ib.
Other Organizations ..	ib.
Bhartiya Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Shri Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Organizations of National or International Repute ..	447
The Indian Red Cross Society (District Branch), Gurdaspur ..	ib.
Rotary Clubs at Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot ..	448
CHAPTER XIX—PLACES OF INTEREST ..	450—475
Achal ..	450
Bahrampur ..	ib.
Barath ..	451
Batala ..	452
Dera Baba Nanak ..	454
Dhariwal ..	456
Dhianpur ..	457
Dinanagar ..	ib.
Dorangla ..	459
Fatehgarh Churian ..	ib.
Ghuman ..	ib.
Gurdaspur ..	460
Jakhbar ..	462
Kahnuwan ..	465
Kalanaur ..	466
Lehal ..	467
Masanian ..	ib.
Narot Jaimalsingh ..	ib.
Pathankot ..	ib.
Qadian ..	468
Shahpur ..	469
Srigobindpur ..	ib.
Sujanpur ..	470
Talibpur Pindori ..	ib.
BIBLIOGRAPHY ..	476—481
INDEX ..	483—488

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

No.	Particulars	Facing page
1.	Map of District Gurdaspur ..	1
2.	Chart showing Growth of Population in the Gurdaspur District, 1901 to 1971 ..	54
3.	Chart showing Tahsil-wise Population in the Gurdaspur District, 1971 ..	61
4.	Chart showing Land Utilization in the Gurdaspur District, 1971-72 ..	99
5.	Chart Showing Number of Educational Institutions in the Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972 ..	370
6.	Chart Showing Birth Rate, Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate, Per Thousand Per Annum in the Gurdaspur District, during 1963 to 1972 ..	386
7.	Mandir Achaleshwar Maharaj, Achal ..	450
8.	Shiv Mandir, Achal ..	ib.
9.	Gurdwara, Achal ..	ib.
10.	Mosque built by Haji Bahram Khan in A.D. 1684 at Bahrampur ..	451
11.	Tomb of Shamsheer Khan at Batala ..	452
12.	Tank at Batala built by Shamsheer Khan during the time of Emperor Akbar ..	ib.
13.	Palace of Maharaja Sher Singh at Batala ..	453
14.	Gurdwara Kandh Sahib, Batala ..	ib.
15.	Darbar Sahib, Dera Baba Nanak ..	455
16.	Gurdwara Chola Sahib, Dera Baba Nanak ..	456
17.	Smadh of Baba Lal Dayal at Dhianpur ..	457
18.	Baradari, Dinanagar ..	458
19.	Temple built by Rani Chand Kaur at Fatehgarh Churian ..	459
20.	Temple of Baba Nam Dev, Ghuman ..	460
21.	Shri Guriya Ji, the founder of Gurdaspur ..	ib.
22.	Jhulna Mahal, Gurdaspur ..	461
23.	Main gate of the Dera of Jogis at Jakhbar ..	462
24.	Shiv Mandir, Kalanaur ..	466
25.	Takhat Tajposhi of Emperor Akbar, Kalanaur ..	ib.
26.	Shahidi Gurdwara Damdama Sahib, Srigobindpur ..	470
27.	Main gate of Pindori Dham, Talibpur Pindori ..	471
28.	Poison being administered to Narainji of Pindori Dham under orders of Emperor Jahangir at Lahore ..	474
29.	Tomb at Pindori Dham built by Emperor Jahangir ..	475



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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

(a) Introductory

(i) **Origin of the name of the district.**—The district takes its name from the headquarters town which was only a village until it became the administrative centre of the district in 1852. The name is said to be derived from Mahant Gurlaji who bought the village, settled here and called it after himself. The family came from a village, named Gurdaspur Bhaian, in the Pathankot Tahsil, and it still mostly owns the estate.

(ii) **Location, general boundaries, total area and population of the district.**—Included in the Jullundur Division of the Punjab, the Gurdaspur District lies in the north-west corner of the State on the India-Pakistan frontier along the Indian side of the River Ravi. A portion of the district is also situated beyond the River Ravi. It is somewhat like a gun in shape as if its two tahsils of Batala and Gurdaspur are the broad rear part and the third tahsil of Pathankot is the barrel, the trigger and striker.

The district lies between north latitude $31^{\circ}-36'$ and $32^{\circ}-34'$ and east longitude $74^{\circ}-56'$ and $75^{\circ}-24'$. It is bounded by Kathua District of Jammu & Kashmir in the north, Chamba and Kangra districts of Himachal Pradesh in the north-east and east, respectively, Hoshiarpur District in the south-east, Kapurthala District in the south, Amritsar District in the south-west, and Pakistan in the north-west. The Chakki stream separates the Gurdaspur District from the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh) on the east. The Beas River separates it from the Hoshiarpur District in the south-east and Kapurthala District in the south.

Of the three tahsils (Batala, Gurdaspur and Pathankot) which comprise the district, the two southern Batala and Gurdaspur, are situated in the Bari Doab between the Beas and Ravi rivers, and present the ordinary features of the Punjab plains. Tahsil Pathankot, which is to the north of Gurdaspur, lies mostly between the Chakki stream (an affluent of the Beas) on the east and the Ravi on the west, but includes Chak Andhar (formed into the sub-tahsil of Narot Jaimalsingh in 1973), a small tract beyond the Ravi and between that river and its

tributary the Ujh, which is copiously irrigated by a network of canals. The Chak Andhar and the rest of the lower portion of Pathankot Tahsil is in a modified degree a *terai* country, with very little vegetation. The land has now been reclaimed to a considerable extent and is arable.

Gurdaspur, the headquarters of the district administration, is directly connected, both by rail and road, with Pathankot in the north-east and Amritsar in the south-west, from which places it is 36 km and 72 km, respectively. It falls on the Amritsar-Batala-Pathankot Section of the Ferozpur Division of the Northern Railway and also the Amritsar-Batala-Pathankot Road, both of which run all through side by side. Gurdaspur is also connected by road with Jullundur in the south, from which place it is 113 km. Pathankot is also directly connected with Jullundur, both by rail and road, from which place it is 116 km. It falls on the Pathankot-Mukerian-Jullundur City Section of the Ferozpur Division of the Northern Railway and the Pathankot-Jullundur Road, both of which run all through side by side.

According to the Surveyor General of India, the area of the Gurdaspur District, as in 1976, was 3,579.42 sq. km. In area, the district ranks 9th among the 12 districts of the State. The tahsil-wise area is given below :

Tahsil	Area (sq. km.)
Tahsil Gurdaspur	.. 1,358.28
Tahsil Batala	.. 1,250.07
Tahsil Pathankot	.. 971.07
District Gurdaspur	.. 3,579.42

(Source : Surveyor General of India, Dehra Dun)

According to the 1971 Census, the population of the district is 12,29,249 and ranks 4th in the State.

(iii) History of the district as an administrative unit and the changes in its component parts.—The district has only gradually assumed its present form. After the First Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46), by the Treaty of Lahore, concluded on March 8, 1846, the Jullundur Doab, including

the Kangra District (now in Himachal Pradesh), was ceded by the Lahore Darbar to the British as a war indemnity. The boundary of the Kangra District was demarcated by a commission, and ran from just below the head of the Bari Doab Canal in an almost straight line to the old bed of the Chakki Khad near Dhangu, whence it followed the course of the eastern branch of that stream in its junction with the Beas. After the annexation of the Punjab in April 1849, C.B. Saunders was directed to form a new district of Dinanagar (then called Adina Nagar) which should include two-thirds of the Bari Doab north of Amritsar. Dinanagar was selected as the headquarters as Batala was considered to be too far south. The administration was to be based on the regulations in force in the North-West Province. The Dinanagar District was settled by H. Davies and included the whole of the present Gurdaspur Tahsil, the greater part of the Batala Tahsil, and the 181 villages in the Pathankot Tahsil south of the boundary between the British and the Lahore Darbar defined in 1846. In July 1849, the civil officers and military escort were transferred to Batala and established in Maharaja Sher Singh's house at Anarkali, as Dinanagar was thought to be unhealthy. In the autumn, Batala was considered to be too much exposed to floods, and so Gurdaspur was selected as a suitable site for the station ; and, after some further doubts as to its healthiness, the name of the treasury and district was finally altered from that of Dinanagar to Gurdaspur on May 1, 1852.

In the meantime, work had been commenced on the Bari Doab Canal, and, in 1850, it was deemed desirable to place the whole course of the canal within one district, so, with effect from March 1, 1852, 83 villages south of a line running from the Ravi at Shahpur to the Chakki Khad above Pathankot were transferred to the Gurdaspur Tahsil. The Revenue Survey was then well advanced, and, at the revision of the boundaries of tahsils and districts in 1853, the Shakargarh Tahsil (transferred to Pakistan at the partition of the country in 1947) was transferred from the Sialkot District (now in Pakistan) ; the boundaries of Gurdaspur and Batala tahsils were fixed much on their present lines, some 107 villages in the south-east being added to the latter from Amritsar Tahsil and the delta between the Ravi and Ujh, containing 99 villages, was cut out of Shakargarh Tahsil and with 181 villages from Gurdaspur Tahsil and the Kangra villages formed into a separate tahsil with headquarters at Pathankot.

The Gurdaspur District was then formed as follows :—

Tahsil Pathankot in the north-east.

Tahsil Shakargarh-trans-Ravi, except Chak Andhar.

Tahsil Gurdaspur—the central portion of the Bari Doab.

Tahsil Batala—the southern portion of the Bari Doab.

In August 1860, the hills upon which lies the Dalhousie sanitorium, having been acquired in 1853 from the then Chamba State, were transferred from the Kangra to the Gurdaspur District, and in April 1862, this transfer was supplemented by the further transfer to the district of the strip of hill country already described as lying between the Ravi and Chakki Khad and intervening between Dalhousie and the plains. In 1861, Raja Teja Singh's Jagir was consolidated in the south-west of the Batala Tahsil and his headquarters were fixed at that town and a considerable jurisdiction over the jagir villages was conferred on him with the title of Raja of Batala. A new tahsil was formed at Qadian, but, on the death of the Raja on December 2, 1862, the jagir was resumed and the former tahsil reconstituted. In April 1867, the Batala Tahsil was transferred to the Amritsar District, but was re-transferred to the Gurdaspur District on April 1, 1869, as the arrangement did not work satisfactorily.

On the partition of the country on August 15, 1947, the whole of the Shakargarh Tahsil, situated generally on the west of the River Ravi, was transferred to Pakistan.

On November 1, 1966, under the Punjab Re-organisation Act, 1966, the pockets of Dalhousie, Balun (Dalhousie Cantt.) and Bakloh of Tahsil Pathankot were transferred to Himachal Pradesh.

In 1970, 29 villages¹ of Tahsil Dasuya of District Hoshiarpur were transferred to District Gurdaspur. Of these, one village was included in Tahsil Pathankot, 26 villages in Tahsil Gurdaspur and 2 villages in Tahsil Batala.²

1. Out of these 29 villages, one was re-transferred from Tahsil Gurdaspur, District Gurdaspur, to Tahsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur, in 1973.

(Punjab Government Notification No. 2202-Rg-I-73/2959, dated the 24th August, 1973)

2. Punjab Government Notification No. 564-Rg-I-70/727, dated the 17th March, 1970

(iv) **Sub-Divisions, Tahsils and Thanas.**—The district comprises three tahsils/sub-divisions, viz., Gurdaspur (725 villages), Batala (497 villages) and Pathankot (421 villages). All these three tahsils were made sub-divisions in 1955. Besides, there are three sub-tahsils, viz., Dera Baba Nanak (in Tahsil Gurdaspur), Dhar Kalan and Narot Jaimalsingh (both in Tahsil Pathankot). Sub-tahsils Dera Baba Nanak³ and Dhar Kalan⁴ were formed in 1970, and Sub-tahsil Narot Jaimalsingh in 1973⁵.

The tahsil-wise list of police stations and police posts in the district is given in chapter X, 'General Administration'.

(b) Topography

Situated in the north-west of Punjab, a large part of the district of Gurdaspur is plain and is similar to the rest of the Punjab plain in structure, genesis, lithology and surface configuration. Only its northernmost part in Pathankot Tahsil is in the Shiwalik Hills. When examined in detail, the physiography of the district permits a four-fold division as under :

- (i) The Hilly Tract ;
- (ii) The Dissected Undulating Plain ;
- (iii) The Floodplains of the Ravi and the Beas ; and
- (iv) The Upland Plain.

(i) **The Hilly Tract.**—Covering the north-eastern parts of the Pathankot Tahsil, it is the north-west continuation of the Punjab Shiwaliks. The tract has a typical bad land topography, ranging in elevation from about 381 to 930 metres above sea level. From north to south, the hilly tract consists of three small but distinct parallel ranges running in north-west to south-east direction : the Siali Dhar—Dangahri Dhar range, the Dhaura Dhar—Nag Dhar range, and the Rata Dhar range. The Siali Dhar—Dangahri Dhar range, the watershed of which forms the boundary between Gurdaspur District and Chamba District (Himachal Pradesh), lies to the extreme

3. Punjab Government Notification No. 564-Rg-I-70/722, dated the 17th March, 1970, published in the *Punjab Government Gazette, Extraordinary*, dated the 20th March, 1970.

Sub-tahsil Dera Baba Nanak was formed w.e.f. the 1st April, 1970.

4. Punjab Government Notification No. 312-Rg-I-70/488, dated the 25th February, 1970, published in the *Punjab Government Gazette, Extraordinary*, dated the 26th February, 1970.

Sub-tahsil Dhar Kalan was formed with immediate effect, i.e., w.e.f. the 25th February, 1970.

5. Punjab Government Notification No. 2291-Rg-I-73/3075, dated the 4th September, 1973, published in the *Punjab Government Gazette, Extraordinary*, dated the 5th September, 1973.

Sub-tahsil Narot Jaimalsingh was formed w.e.f. the 10th September, 1973.

north. Its northern slopes are steeper than those to the south. In its western part, the Siali Dhar is about 931 metres above sea level at its highest point, and in the eastern part about 959 metres above sea level. The drainage of the Siali Dhar falls into the Ravi and that of the Dangahri Dhar in the Chakki Khad. To the south of this range lies a low lying area of about 6 to 10 km width, with an elevation ranging from about 457 to 610 metres above sea level. It is highly dissected by numerous streams. South of this is situated the Dhaula Dhar—Nag Dhar range which also runs in north-west to south-east direction. It is about 13 km long, and at places about 2.5 km wide, and has an elevation varying from about 610 to 844 metres above sea level. In its western part, which is known as Dhaula Dhar, the highest point is about 844 metres above sea level and, in its eastern part, the maximum height is about 729 metres. To the south of this range again there is a narrow belt, about 3 to 5 km wide, of lowlying dissected tract. Then comes the third parallel range—the Rata Dhar which is the southernmost range marking the boundary between the hilly tract and the dissected undulating plain. It forms an arc having its convex edge towards north and has an elevation of about 665 metres above sea level.

(ii) **The Dissected Undulating Plain.**—To its south lies an area of about 128 sq. km. which is highly dissected and is an undulating plain. This forms a transitional zone between the Shiwalik Hills to the north and the Upland Plain to the south. The line joining Madhopur, the Upper Bari Doab Canal Headworks, in the north with a point near village Dango in the south (where the stream Chakki Khad takes its southward turn) marks the southern boundary of the dissected undulating plain. Its elevation ranges from about 305 to 381 metres above sea level. It is traversed by a number of *chos* (small seasonal streams) and has an undulating topography. These *chos* traverse the tract in north-east to south-west direction and, at places, the intervening distance between the *chos* is even less than 1.5 km.

(iii) **The Floodplains of the Ravi and the Beas.**—These are separated from the upland plain by sharp river-cut bluffs. They are lowlying, with slightly uneven topography. Sand dominates in the soil structure of the floodplains, but it diminishes in both quantity and coarseness in the upland plain.

The floodplain of the Ravi is separated from the upland plain by a low scarp of less than 6 metres in height. The floodplain is widest in the upper section, about 9.5 to 13 km, and narrows down in the lower section to about 3 km. The floodplain of the Beas is separated from the upland plain by a steep cliff, varying in height from about 6 to 31 metres. The scarp is highest in Batala Tahsil and hence the floodplain is narrowest in that tahsil. The origin of this bluff can be attributed partly to a tectonic

uplift which affected the whole of the Indus-Yamuna divide during the Pleistocene Age and partly to steep cutting of the river side as a consequence of climatic amelioration at the end of Pleistocene. In the northern section, the stream Chakki makes a floodplain of about 9 to 13 km width which merges with the floodplain of the Beas.

(iv) **The Upland Plain.**—It covers a large part of the district, particularly of Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils. Its elevation ranges from about 305 metres above sea level in the north-east to about 213 metres above sea level in the south-west, with a gentle gradient of about 1 metre in 1.6 km. It is, in general, a flat, featureless plain, with a local relief of about 2 to 6 metres. From the human and economic view points, this is the most important physiographic unit in the district.

It may be seen that the physiography of the Gurdaspur District partakes some of the topographic characteristics of the districts of Ropar and Hoshiarpur.

(c) River System and Water Resources

(i) Main Rivers and Tributaries and Canals :

The Beas and the Ravi are the two rivers of the district, both of which originate near the Rohtang Pass in Himachal Pradesh.

River Beas.—Rising from the southern face of the Rohtang Pass in Kulu at an altitude of about 4,062 metres, traversing the districts of Kulu, Mandi, and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh, the Beas strikes the border of the Gurdaspur District at Mirthal, a place about 19.2 km south of Pathankot. Thenceforth, it marks the boundary between Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur districts. It performs a total journey of about 68.8 km along the south-eastern border of the district. All through its course, a strip of shallow alluvial soil fringes its banks which is subject to inundation during the rainy season. The main channel of the river is broad, dotted with islands and wide pools. The depth of water varies from about 1.5 metres during the dry season to about 4.5 metres during the rainy season.

The Chakki Khad is the chief tributary of the Beas in Gurdaspur District. This stream rises in the hills surrounding Dalhousie and for some distance forms the boundary of the district with Kangra. After collecting the drainage of the Chamba Hills, it joins the Beas near Mirthal.

River Ravi.—After traversing the mountainous areas of Himachal Pradesh, it enters the district at a place opposite Basoli. With its general south-western course, it forms the boundary between the Punjab and the Jammu and Kashmir State for about 40 km. Further, it traverses well within the territory of the district for about 26 km till it reaches Mirzapur,

from where it again marks roughly the western boundary of the district and the international boundary between India and Pakistan for a distance of about 58 km. A number of tributaries join it from both sides. On its right bank, it is joined by the Ujh, the Jalalia, the Shingarwan and the Masto, all of which rise in the Jammu Hills. The Kiran and the Naumuni streams, which take their origin from local depressions in the district, are its left bank tributaries.

Like other rivers of the Punjab, the discharge of the Beas and the Ravi fluctuates from season to season and from year to year. The dry winters have only a trickle of water in these rivers. As summer approaches, the melting of snow in their source areas releases more water. The rivers are swollen into floods during the rainy season. The fluctuating discharge of the rivers does not permit their navigational use.

Chhambs.—Mention must also be made of a number of local swampy depressions, popularly known as *chhambs*. The largest of these is the Kahnuwan *chhamb* which stretches along the Beas River in the Gurdaspur Tahsil. Triangular in shape with its base in the south, this *chhamb* receives inundated waters from the Beas, rain water from the surrounding area, and percolated water from near-by canals. Frequent attempts were made to reclaim it by construction of embankment along the Beas and by draining out water from here. Its present reduced area is only 165 acres (66.77 hectares) which is nearly one-tenth of its former size. The newly reclaimed land has been brought under cultivation. The Kahnuwan marsh abounds in fish, *sanghara* and lotus flower and attracts large number of water-fowl.

Another prominent swampy depression is the Keshopur *chhamb* which is located 5 km north of the Gurdaspur town. The Kiran stream takes its origin from here. This *chhamb* has practically been reclaimed now. The same is the case with regard to the other erstwhile *chhambs* of Dhamrai, Narad, Badi-ul-Zaman, Paniar, Bucha Nangal and Naranwali. Though reclaimed, these *chhambs* have left clearly visible scars of their former existence on the landscape. Magar Mudian (125 acres=50.58 hectares) near the Gurdaspur town and Bhopar (25 acres=10.12 hectares) by the side of the Gurdaspur-Dera Baba Nanak road are the only two small *chhambs* which still await reclamation.

Canals.—Apart from these natural drainage lines, the district possesses a fairly dense net work of canals of the Upper Bari Doab Canal System which irrigates most of the upland plain of the Gurdaspur District. Its main branches traversing through the upland plain of the district are the Lahore branch, the Kasur branch and the Sabraon branch. Through about a 19 km long canal, the Ravi-Beas link, completed around 1954 diverts part of the Ravi water into the Chakki Khad which is a tributary of the Beas. Some drains have also been constructed to drain flood water.

(ii) Underground Water Resources :

Physiographically and geohydrologically, the district is divided into three distinct units, viz., (i) Hills on the north-eastern side ; (ii) Kandi Region—immediately to the south-west of the hills, formed by detrital deposits; and (iii) Sirowal and adjoining Indo-Ganga Plains—south-west of the Kandi Region.

Kandi Region.—Kandi belt extends from the foothills of the Shiwalik Hills on the east to Phungtori Khad on the west and generally ranges in width from 5 to 10 km. The sediments in the Kandi belt comprise boulders, pebbles, gravel and sand with occasional clay. Textural variation in grain size are observed laterally in the coarser materials predominating towards the foothills.

Ground-water occurs under unconfined conditions. Depth to water generally varies between 10 and 40 metres below land surface.

Ground-water is fresh and potable and suitable for irrigational and domestic uses.

Sirowal and Adjoining Indo-Ganga Plains.—The Kandi and Sirowal deposits being contemporaneous, it is difficult to demarcate precisely the line between these two belts. However, the 'spring line' broadly marks the boundary of Kandi and Sirowal. Sediments of Sirowal comprise clay, silt and sand whereas in the Indo-Ganga Plains occasional occurrence of thin lenticular beds of gravel and *kankar* is met with besides clay, silt and sand of various grades.

Ground-water occurs both under confined and unconfined conditions. Depth to water varies between one and 22 metres below land surface. The piezometric surface generally coincides with the water table but, at times, it rises to about two metres above land surface.

Tube-wells in Sirowal belt range in depth from 8 to 76 metres whereas in the Indo-Ganga Plains they go down to a maximum depth of about 100 metres. The depths of shallow tube-wells generally range between 8 to 27 metres and these tap about 5 metres of saturated material in the water-table zone. The deep tube-wells generally tap about 15 to 20 metres of saturated granular material. The yields of tube-wells in the Sirowal belt range from 39,600 to 70,200 litres per hour for drawdowns of 0.8 to 1.85 metres.

A number of artesian wells also exist in the area. They are observed at Vadala, Garhmal, Nala Jandi, Chaunta, Jharauli, Pachhowal, Sudhana, and Bianpur. The tube-wells are about 75 metres deep and tap fine to coarse sand with gravel between the depths of 60 and 75 metres. Free flow from these tube-wells are generally around 22,500 litres per hour.

The area west of Pathankot-Amritsar State Highway in the vicinity of Gurdaspur and Dinanagar is prominently occupied by swamps. These swamps lie in the discharge zone of the alluvial fans in the area between Ravi and Beas and owe their origin to the combined discharges of springs and confined waters of alluvial fan. Abandoned channels of the rivers are also seen in northern part of the area. One such channel of Naumuni River, extending from village Marara in north-west to Paharu Chak in the south-west may be demarcated.

Ground-water in the area is fresh and potable and suitable for irrigational and domestic uses.

Geohydrological studies reveal that utilization of ground water by means of tube-wells is possible in the area. Artesian flowing conditions are likely to be encountered in two kilometres wide belt lying immediately north-west of line joining Garhmal and Jangi and in the belt extending from Chanlia to Pindori and up to Beas. Abandoned channel of Naumuni between Marara and Paharu Chak holds promise for the construction of tube-wells.

Water-table.—The sub-soil water depth ranges from 1.5 to 3 metres in most parts of the district. In the upland plain, particularly its south-eastern part, there is considerable amount of waterlogging which is a clear expression of the district's alarmingly high water-table. The chief factors responsible for this have been a century old canal irrigation and faulty construction of some new roads without providing for adequate number of siphons. The government have taken several steps to fight the increasing menace of waterlogging. Drainage lines were laid out to drain out excessive underground water, tube-well irrigation was encouraged and eucalyptus trees were planted. As a result, water-table has come down in some areas where it now ranges in depth from 3 to 4.5 metres. The land reclamation measures have not only helped in regaining a lot of waterlogged land lost to agriculture but also in improving the productivity of the soils.

(d) Geology

(i) Geological Formation :

The area forms a part of the Indo-Ganga alluvium, with a north-west-south-east running hilly terrain of the Shiwaliks forming the foothills of the Himalayas. The oldest rocks belong to the lower Shiwalik formation comprising of alternating sandstone, silt and shale horizons of grey and maroon colours. To the south-west of the Shiwalik range are exposed gravel, sand and clay beds of the quaternary period.

Vertebrate fossils are noticed associated with the Shiwalik formations indicating a luxurious growth of animal life which later perished due to severe glaciation during the upper Pleistocene period.

(ii) Mineral Resources :

The minerals found in the district are building stones, foundry sand, gold, calc-tuffa, limestone, ochre, saltpetre, fuller's-earth, etc. A brief account of the occurrence of these minerals is given below :

Building Material.—Building material includes boulders, shingle, sand, brick-earth, etc. These usually occur at the same place and are found in the ephemeral streams as well as in the perennial streams and on the hill slopes. Brick-earth is found in enormous quantity throughout the district. These are found in the vicinity of the beds of the Ravi, Chakki and Beas, and in hilly terrain of the Dhar Block.

Foundry Sand.—Occurrence of foundry sand (which includes moulding and core sand) has been reported from Dharamkot near Batala. The deposits are located 6.5 km west of Batala on the Batala-Dera Baba Nanak Road. The sand is exposed on both sides of the road and extends southwards up to the village Khan Fatta, at a distance of about 3 km from Dharamkot. The Dharamkot sand is a natural moulding sand, containing about 20 per cent of clay. Another deposit of natural moulding sand occurs at about 6 km from Batala on the Batala-Qadian Road. The sand gives a yellowish tinge on the surface but is reddish brown at about one metre depth. The deposit is about 4 metres thick.

At Bhagwanpur, a sand deposit occurs about 15 km west of Batala on the Dera Baba Nanak Road. The sand deposit, about 10 km from Gurdaspur on the Gurdaspur-Naushehra Road, contains 20 per cent clay.

Calc-tuffa.—A few isolated pockets of calc-tuffa have been located in Dhar-Dunera blocks of District Gurdaspur. Calc-tuffa found in that area is suitable for lime burning and cement manufacture.

Limestone.—Limestone occurs as boulders and pebbles in the beds of a few ephemeral streams in the Dunera area and in the bed of the Chakki Khad which flows along the border of the Gurdaspur District, south and east of Pathankot. These limestone boulders can sustain cottage-scale, lime burning industry in the area.

Ochre.—Deep coloured ochreous clay is reported from the Shiwaliks near Dunera.

Saltpetre.—Saltpetre occurs in the district at the villages of Thikri-wala, Lamin and Pandori in Tahsil Gurdaspur and Dhawan, Chataurgarh and Badowal in Tahsil Batala.

Fuller's-earth.—Its occurrences have been reported in the Dhar Block of Tahsil Pathankot.

(iii) Seismicity :

Gurdaspur District is situated in a region which is liable to slight to moderate damage due to earthquakes. The Great Himalayan Boundary fault zone, which runs from Assam to Kashmir and has been the scene of some of the great Indian earthquakes, runs to the north of this district. It has also experienced occasionally the fringe effect of the earthquakes originating in the Karakoram and Hindukush region.

According to the records, maximum intensities varying between VII to VIII on the Modified Mercalli Scale—1931⁶ were experienced in the district during the Kangra earthquake of April 4, 1905. Considering its geographical location *vis-a-vis* the main tectonic features and its past seismic history, it is felt that the suitable provision of seismic factor may be made in the design of civil engineering structures to make them earthquake resistant. The northern part of the district is comparatively more vulnerable to earthquake effects than its southern half.

For ordinary structures like residential building and schools, etc., provision of seismic coefficient of 7 per cent of gravity may be made in the lower half of the district while a provision of 10 per cent of gravity may be made in the upper half of the district for the structures based on consolidated foundations.

⁶Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale of 1931 :

Scale	Specifications
VII	Everybody runs outdoors. Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction ; slight to moderate in well built ordinary structures ; considerable in poorly built or badly designed structures ; some chimneys broken. Noticed by persons driving motor-cars.
VIII	Damage slight in specially designed structures ; considerable in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse ; great in poorly built structures. Panel walls thrown out of frame structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned. Sand and mud ejected in small amounts. Changes in well water. Disturbs persons driving motor-cars.

(Source : Director-General of Observatories, New Delhi)

(c) Flora

The district includes both hilly tracts and the plains. The vegetation is varied depending on the soil, topography and elevation. There is considerable biotic influence, the human agency being particularly conspicuous in bringing about numerous changes in the vegetation. Many changes have occurred in the forest area since the publication of the last Gazetteer in 1914. At present, the Reserved Forests occupy an area of 123.84 hectares. The Protected Forests include the Block Forests in Shahpur Kandi Range (11,270.34 hectares) ; canal strips (2,258.15 hectares) ; railway strips (874.93 hectares); road strips (534.65 hectares) and unclassified forests (430.30 hectares). The flora of the district may be considered under the two main divisions, viz. hilly tracts and the plains.

In the Shahpur Kandi Range which lies in the hilly tract, the forests are mainly of the miscellaneous hardwood species and of the *chil* pine. In the former type of forests, which are generally of the scrub type, the main components are : *Acacia catechu* (*khair*), *Albizia lebbek* (*siris*), *A. odoratissima* (*karmaru*), *Anogeissus latifolia* (*dhau*), *Bombax ceiba* (*B. malabaricum*) (*simal*), *Butea monosperma* (*B. frondosa*) (*palah*), *Cassia fistula* (*kariar*), *Dalbergia sissoo* (*shisham*), *Ehretia laevis* (*chamror*), *Elaeodendron roxburghii* (*E. glaucum*) (*marindu*), *Emblica officinalis* (*Phyllanthus emblica*) (*amla*), *Erythrina suberosa* (*galleru*), *Flacourtia indica* (*F. ramontchii*) (*kangu*), *Kydia calycina* (*pula*), *Lannea coromandelica* (*Odina wodier*) (*kaimbal*), *Mitragyna parvifolia* (*Stepheygyne parvifolia*) (*kalam*), *Ougeinia ougeinensis* (*O. dalbergioides*) (*sandan*), and *Syzygium cumini* (*Eugenia jambolana*) (*jaman*).

The above tree species are generally found mixed in forests but on exposed slopes, *Acacia catechu* and *Anogeissus latifolia* often form pure patches.

Among the smaller trees and shrubs in the above forests, the prominent are : *Adhatoda zeylanica* (*A. vasica*) (*basuti*), *Carissa spinarum* (*garna*), *Dodonea viscosa* (*mehndru*), *Mallotus philippensis* (*kamal*), *Mimosa himalayana* (*dadrar*), *Murraya koenigii* (*gandhela*), *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* (*huri*), *Wendlandia heynei* (*W. exserta*) (*pansara*), *Woodfordia fruticosa* (*W. floribunda*) (*dhawi*), *Zizyphus mauritiana* (*Z. jujuba*) (*ber*), and *Zizyphus nummularia* (*malla*).

In the forests are also seen many climbers and stragglers like *Abrus precatorius* (*rattak*), *Bauhinia vahlii* (*taur*), *Celastrus paniculata* (*sankhir*), *Millettia auriculata* (*solangen*), and *Pueraria tuberosa* (*salorh*).

In the pine forest, the dominating species is the *chil*, *Pinus roxburghii* (*P. longifolia*). The pine is associated with a number of other species among which may be mentioned *Acacia catechu*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Embllica officinalis*, *Grewia optiva* (*dhaman*), and *Pyrus pashia* (*kainth*). Plantation of the pine, *khair* and the exotic eucalyptus has also been undertaken.

Holarrhena antidysenterica (*kura*), *Pistacia integerrima* (*kangar*) and *Vitex negundo* (*marwan*) are also seen frequently in the district and these find use in local medicine.

The common grasses in the hilly tract are *Chrysopogon fulvus* (*Andropogon monticola*) (*dhaul*), *Eulaliopsis binata* (*Ischaemum angustifolium*) (*baggar*), *Heteropogon contortus* (*Andropogon contortus*) (*lambu*), and *Themeda anathera* (*lungi*).

In the plains, large scale afforestation programme has been undertaken by the Forest Department. Canal banks, P.W.D. roadsides, strips along the railway lines and station yards are also included by the Forest Department in their afforestation programme. Where water facilities exist, *shisham*, mulberry and eucalyptus are being planted. Willow (*Salix sp.*) and *jaman* are planted in water-logged areas. In the *kaller* area, *kikar* (*Acacia nilotica*), *Prosopis* and eucalyptus have been planted. Among the grasses of the plains, the most prominent are *Saccharum bengalense* (*S. munja*) (*kans*), *Saccharum spontaneum* (*dab*), and *Cynodon dactylon* (*khabbal*).

Among the weeds of crop plants and waste-land plants, *Calotropis* (*ak*) and *Asphodelus* (*bukhat*, wild leek) are distributed widely in the district. *Ipomea fistula*, in recent years, has been extensively used for hedges.

Acacia nilotica (*kikar*), *A. modesta* (*phulai*), *Bauhinia spp.* (*kachnaar*), *Ficus bengalensis* (*borh*), *F. racemosa* (*gular*), *F. religiosa* (*pipal*), *Mangifera* (mango), *Morus* (mulbeery), *Melia azedarach* (*bakain*), *Pongamia pinnata* (*charr*) and *Toona ciliata* (*toon*) are frequently met with in various places in the district.

Besides mango and mulberry, other fruit trees cultivated in the district include various members of the citrus group, viz. *sangtra* (*Citrus aurantium*), *mitha* (*Citrus limetta*), *khatta* (*Citrus medica*), *nimbu* (*Citrus acida*), *chakotra* (*Citrus decumana*), etc. and *loquat* (*Eriobotrya japonica*), *kela* (*Musa paradisiaca*), *amrud* (*Psidium guava*), *anar* (*Punica granatum*) and *nashpati* (*Pyrus communis*). In some of the *chhams* (swamps) in the district, the growth of *singhara* is luxuriant, and both fruit and root of the plant are eaten.

(f) Fauna

There are few notable wild animals in the district. Those found are : blue bull (*nilgai*) in the jungles between the Beas and the canal north of Gurdaspur and the south-east of the Pathankot Tahsil, panther (*cheeta*) also in the same tract as well as in the hill circle of the Pathankot Tahsil, wild boar (*suar*) in the Kahnawan swamp, jackal (*gidar*), hog deer (*para*), barking deer (*kakar*), hare (*khargosh*), monkey (*bandar*), grey ape (*langur*), etc.

Of the game birds described in Hume and Marshall's "Game Birds of India", the following are found in the district :-

English name	Vernacular name	Latin name
Common sand-grouse	<i>Bhattitar</i>	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>
Common peafowl	<i>Mor</i>	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
Koklas	<i>Kalsa</i>	<i>Pucrasia macrolopha</i>
White-crested kali	<i>Kalsa</i>	<i>Euplocamus albocristatus</i>
Red jungle-fowl	<i>Jangli Murga</i>	<i>Gallus ferrugineus</i>
Black partridge	<i>Kala Tittar</i>	<i>Francolinus vulgaris</i>
Grey partridge	<i>Tittar</i>	<i>Ortygornis pondicerianus</i>
Common or grey quail	<i>Bater</i>	<i>Coturnix communis</i>
Rock-bush quail	<i>Bater</i>	<i>Perdica argoondah</i>
Saras	<i>Saras</i>	<i>Grus antigone</i>
Common crane	<i>Kunj</i>	<i>Grus communis</i>
Demoiselle crane	<i>Kunj</i>	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>
Grey lag goose	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Anser cinereus</i>
White-fronted or laughing goose	<i>Mag</i>	<i>Anser albifrons</i>
Bar-headed goose	<i>Mag, Hans</i>	<i>Anser indicus</i>
Ruddy sheldrake or Brahminy duck	<i>Ratta Mag Surkhab</i>	<i>Casarca rutila</i>
Shoveller	<i>Tidari</i>	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>

English name	Vernacular name	Latin name
Mallard	Nilsir, Nila	<i>Anas boscas</i>
Gadwall	Bey Khur	<i>Chaulelasmus streperus</i>
Pintail	Shinkhpar	<i>Dafila acuta</i>
Wigeon	Peasan	<i>Mareca penelope</i>
Common teal	Sou-Churka, Murghabi	<i>Querquedula crecca</i>
Garganey teal	Chatwa Khira	<i>Querquedula circia</i>
Pochard or dun bird	Lal Sir	<i>Fuligula ferina</i>
Red-crested pochard	Lal Sir	<i>Fuligula rufina</i>
White-eyed pochard	Kurchiya, Majitha	<i>Fuligula nyroca</i>
Tufted pochard	Dubaru	<i>Fuligula cristata</i>
Common or fan -tail snipe	Chaha	<i>Gallinago coelestis</i>
Jack snipe	Chaha	<i>Gallinago gallinula</i>
Painted snipe	Rajchaha	<i>Rhynchaea capensis</i>

The different varieties of fish, found in the Gurdaspur District, are : *Goonch* (*Bagarius bagarius*), *Bachwa* (*Clupisoma garua*), *Bachwa* (*Eutropiichthys vacha*), *Mulle* (*Wallago attu*), *Singhi* (*Heteropneustes fossilis*), *Shinghari* (*Mystus aor* or *Mystus seenghala*), *Keenger* (*Mystus cavasius* or *Mystus vittatus*), *Khaga* (*Rita rita*), *Kalehan* (*Labeo calbasu*), *Rohu* or *Dhambra* (*Labeo rohita*), *Siriha* (*Labeo gonius*), *Gid* (*Labeo dero*), *Butal* (*Labeo dyocheilus*), *Mahanseer* (*Tor tor* or *Tor Putitora*), *Bhangan* (*Labeo microphthalmus*), *Mrigal* (*Cirrhina mrigala*), *Sunni* (*Cirrhina reba*), *Thail* or *Thaila* (*Catla catla*), *Makni* (*Amblypharyngodon mola*), *Moh* or *Butt* (*Notopterus notopterus*), *Parri* (*Notopterus chitala*), *Saul* or *Sol* (*Channa marulius*), *Daulla* (*Channa punctatus*), *Dauli* (*Channa gachua*), *Karrar* or *Saul* (*Channa striatus*).

(g) Climate

(i) Climatic divisions and seasons and their duration

The climate of this submontaneous district is somewhat milder than that of the neighbouring districts to the south. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season is from November to March. The period from April to June is the summer season. The south-west

monsoon season, which follows, continues up to about the first week of September. The succeeding period till the beginning of November is the post-monsoon or transitional period.

(ii) Temperature and humidity :

Temperature.—There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Pathankot. The records of this observatory may be taken as representative of the conditions in the plains of the district. The description of the climate of the northern submontane region of the district is based on the records of observatories of the neighbouring districts where similar climatic conditions prevail. From about the beginning of March, there is steady increase in the temperatures till June which is generally the hottest month. The mean daily maximum temperature in June over the plains is 40.2° C and the mean daily minimum 26.1° C. In the northern parts of the district, the temperatures are lower by several degrees, the mean daily maximum and minimum temperatures being of the order of 29° C and 18° C, respectively. On individual days during the summer, the day temperatures in the plains reach over 44° C. The hilly regions are comparatively cooler, the maximum temperature seldom exceeding 35° C. With the onset of the south-west monsoon in the district early in July, there is appreciable drop in the day temperature but the nights continue to be as warm as in the latter part of the summer. When the south-west monsoon withdraws early in September, there is a slight increase in the day temperature in September but the nights become progressively cooler. After October, both day and night temperatures decrease rapidly. January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum at 18.4° C and the mean daily minimum at 5.6° C. The weather is colder by many degrees in the hilly parts of the district than in the plains. In association with the passage of western disturbances during the winter, cold waves affect the district and the minimum temperatures on such occasions may go down to a degree or so below the freezing point of water in the plains and some 3 or 4 degrees below zero in the hills.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Pathankot during the brief period of 15 years for which records are available was 46.1° C on 1960 June 11 and the lowest minimum-1.8° C on 1964 January 28.

Humidity.—Except during the brief south-west monsoon season when the relative humidities are over 70 per cent, the air is generally dry. The driest part of the year is the summer season when in the plains the relative humidities in the afternoons are less than about 30 per cent.

The following table 1 gives normals of temperature and relative humidity during the different months of the year in the Gurdaspur District :—

TABLE 1
Normals of Temperature and Relative Humidity
(PATHANKOT)

Month	Mean Daily Temperature		Highest Maximum ever recorded		Lowest Minimum ever recorded		Relative Humidity Hours (Indian Standard Time)	
	°C	°C	°C	Date	°C	Date	0830	1730
January	18.4	5.6	26.1	1952 January 23	1.8	1964 January 28	84	61
February	22.2	8.4	29.4	1956 February 28	0.6	1964 February 3	74	46
March	27.1	13.5	35.2	1958 March 28	6.1	1954 March 5	56	40
April	33.5	17.9	41.7	1958 April 27	7.2	1955 April 17	34	24
May	39.0	23.2	44.9	1962 May 30	10.4	1964 May 16	25	19
June	40.2	26.1	46.1	1960 June 11	18.0	1964 June 15	35	28
July	34.1	25.0	43.4	1957 July 5	17.2	1955 July 20	75	61
August	32.5	24.0	36.5	1964 August 5	17.9	1965 August 28	82	70
September	32.8	22.4	36.7	1965 September 16	15.0	1963 September 28	74	63
October	30.8	16.9	36.7	1952 October 2	8.7	1964 October 31	60	52
November	25.9	9.8	33.3	1965 November 2	4.1	1962 November 29	60	49
December	21.1	6.9	27.2	1959 December 5	1.4	1964 December 12	75	58
Annual	29.8	16.6					61	48

(iii) Rainfall :

Records of rainfall in the district are available for 6 stations for periods ranging from 90 to 100 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in the following tables 2 and 3. The average annual rainfall in the district is 944.1 mm. The rainfall in the district is greater in the submontane north-eastern parts of the district and decreases rapidly towards the south-west. In the plains the rainfall varies from 1320.2 mm at Madhopur near the north-eastern border to 676.6 mm at Aliwal near the south-western border. About 70 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the period July to September. The district receives some rainfall in June mostly in the form of thundershowers and during the cold season in association with passing western disturbances. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is appreciable. In the 50 year period, 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall amounting to 188 per cent of the normal occurred in 1950. The lowest annual rainfall which was 50 per cent of the normal was recorded in 1902. In the same period, the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 11 years, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurring twice. Considering the annual rainfall at individual stations such low rainfall in two consecutive years occurred two to four times at 4 out of the 6 plain stations and once each at the other two stations. Three consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once at Tibri and four consecutive years once each at Aliwal, Pathankot and Madhopur. It will be seen from table 3 that the annual rainfall in the district was between 700 and 1200 mm in 40 years out of 50.

On an average, there are 45 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 37 at Aliwal and Batala to 58 at Madhopur.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 495.3 mm at Aliwal on October 5, 1965.

TABLE 2
Normals and Extremes of Rainfall in Gurdaspur District

Station	Number of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Aliwal	..	50 (a)	35.3	34.0	17.0	11.9	40.9	192.8	183.4	89.7	8.9
		(b)	2.9	2.7	1.7	1.3	3.0	8.4	8.1	3.2	0.6
Batala	..	50 (a)	36.1	34.3	18.0	17.5	45.7	205.0	184.4	92.7	10.7
		(b)	2.9	2.7	1.7	1.4	2.9	8.6	8.2	3.3	0.6
Tibri	..	50 (a)	45.5	46.2	22.9	17.5	61.7	266.7	238.3	113.0	13.2
		(b)	3.1	3.0	1.7	1.6	3.5	10.3	9.7	4.1	0.7
Gurdaspur	..	50 (a)	46.7	42.9	22.6	17.5	59.2	241.8	252.5	109.5	14.0
		(b)	3.2	3.0	1.8	1.6	3.5	10.3	9.8	4.1	0.8
Pathankot	..	50 (a)	62.7	55.6	27.7	19.8	58.7	336.0	340.4	143.5	15.7
		(b)	3.9	3.4	2.2	1.7	4.1	12.6	13.2	5.1	1.1
Madhopur	..	50 (a)	71.9	60.5	29.0	20.8	63.5	380.7	408.7	155.7	16.3
		(b)	4.1	3.8	2.4	1.9	4.1	13.5	14.6	5.7	1.1
Gurdaspur (District)		(a)	49.7	45.6	22.9	17.5	54.9	271.2	267.9	117.3	13.1
		(b)	3.3	3.1	1.9	1.6	3.5	10.6	10.6	4.3	0.8

GURDASPUR

GENERAL

Station	Number of years of data	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal and year*	Lowest annual rainfall % of normal and year*	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours **	Date
Aliwal	..	50 (a)	5.1	18.5	676.6	186 (1950)	495.3	1955 October 5
		(b)	0.4	1.5	36.6			
Batala	..	50 (a)	4.8	20.1	713.9	211 (1950)	474.5	1955 October 5
		(b)	0.4	1.4	36.9			
Tibri	..	50 (a)	5.3	24.1	904.4	243 (1950)	385.6	1950 September 4
		(b)	0.5	1.7	42.9			
Gurdaspur	..	50 (a)	5.3	25.7	886.7	174 (1950)	370.3	1955 October 5
		(b)	0.6	1.7	43.6			
Pathankot	..	50 (a)	5.6	34.5	1162.7	169 (1950)	294.1	1894 June 19
		(b)	0.5	2.2	53.7			
Madhopur	..	50 (a)	6.6	36.6	1320.2	168 (1917)	351.0	1955 October 5
		(b)	0.6	2.4	58.3			
Gurdaspur (District)	..	(a)	5.5	26.6	944.1	188 (1950)	50	
		(b)	0.5	1.8	45.3			

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.
 (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm or more).
 *Years given in brackets.
 **Based on all available data up to 1965.

Table 3

Frequency of Annual Rainfall in Gurdaspur District

(Data 1901—1950)

Range in mm	No. of years
401—500	1
501—600	1
601—700	3
701—800	8
801—900	10
901—1000	10
1001—1100	6
1101—1200	6
1201—1300	2
1301—1400	0
1401—1500	1
1501—1600	1
1601—1700	0
1701—1800	1

(iv) Atmospheric pressure and winds :

Cloudiness.—The skies are moderately to heavily clouded and occasionally overcast during the south-west monsoon season and for brief spells of two or three days in the cold seasons in association with passing western disturbances. During the rest of the year, the skies are generally clear or lightly clouded.

Winds.—Winds are generally light with some strengthening in force in summer and the early part of the monsoon season. Winds are mostly north-easterly to easterly in the mornings and westerly to north-westerly throughout the year though south-easterlies and south-westerlies are

also common during mornings and evenings, respectively, during the period June to August.

Special weather phenomena.—Western disturbances affect the weather over the district during the cold season, causing widespread rain and gusty winds. Thunderstorms occur in the summer and monsoon seasons though the phenomena is not very uncommon during the rest of the year. Dust-storms occur in the latter part of the summer season. Occasional fogs occur in the cold season, their frequency being more in the hills and valleys in the northern part of the district.

The following tables 4 and 5 give the mean wind speed and special weather phenomena, respectively, for Pathankot:—

TABLE 4
Mean wind speed in km/hr.
(PATHANKOT)

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
5.7	6.4	8.8	9.9	11.8	10.9	9.0	6.8	6.9	5.7	6.1	5.1	7.8

TABLE 5
Special Weather Phenomena
(PATHANKOT)

Mean number of days with	Jan- uary	Feb- ruary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	Decem- ber	Annual
Thunder	..	1.3	0.7	2	3	3	3	5	3	0.7	0.3	1.0	28
Hail	..	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.5
Dust-storm	..	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.7	3	3	0.1	0	0.2	0.1	0	8
Squall	..	0	0	0.4	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0.9
Fog	..	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.6

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

CHAPTER II HISTORY

(a) Ancient Period

Little is known about the ancient history of the district except a few antiquities like the rock-temples at Mukheshwar on the Ravi, some eight kilometres above Shahpur Kandi. These are said to date back to the times of the Pandavas. Stories are told of Arjun's and Draupadi's visit to the place : a long cleft in the rock a little way up the river is known as 'Arjun's chula'.

Later, the tribe called Udumbaras lived in the Kangra valley from Gurdaspur to Pathankot, where their coins have been found. They were a branch of the ancient Malavas, who played a leading part in the history of Punjab. Alexander Cunningham identified the Udumbaras with some other tribes mentioned in the Puranas and inhabiting the neighbouring areas of Kangra, Kulu and habitations on the River Ravi¹.

Gurdaspur, along with its neighbouring districts, was the scene of the exploits of Alexander, who had come as far as the River Beas in his grand design of world conquest. Alexander was engaged in a grim struggle with the Kathaians at Sangala, which has been located near Fatehgarh in the Gurdaspur District by some scholars. King Poros arrived with his army and elephants and tilted the scales of victory in Alexander's favour.²

The last camp of Alexander before he commenced his return march is supposed to have been on the bank of the River Beas, probably in this district. But all traces of the twelve enormous altars of hewn stone, which he is supposed to have left on the spot, have unfortunately been irretrievably lost.³

The authority of Alexander retreated with him everywhere like a shadow. As the semblance of Alexander's influence was fading and flagging away, the vast mass of displaced mercenaries, decrepit armies, infuriated rebels and upstart adventurers of the Punjab was being canalised and organised by Chandragupta Maurya and Chanakya into a tremendous imperial movement which swept up to Pataliputra in the east and resulted in the creation of the first unified Indian empire known to history.⁴

1. Buddha Prakash, *Glimpses of Ancient Punjab* (Patiala, 1966), pp. 35, 37 ; *Archaeological Survey Reports*, Vol. XIV, p. 115
2. Buddha Prakash, *Glimpses of Ancient Punjab* (Patiala, 1966), p. 27 ; Buddha Prakash, *History of Poros* (Patiala, ..), p. 13]
3. *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer*, 1914, p. 26 ; Muhammad Latif, *History of the Punjab* (Reprinted : Delhi, 1964), p. 67
4. Buddha Prakash, *Glimpses of Ancient Punjab* (Patiala, 1966), pp. 29-30

The weak successors of Ashoka Maurya could not retain the region. The Greeks of Bactria invaded and occupied the Punjab in the second century B.C. About 150 B.C. Demetrius overran Madhyamika, modern Manjher or the upper part of the Bari Doab. Then followed a series of foreign inroads by Sakas, Kushans, Huns, etc.⁵

In the 6th century A.D. arose the great kingdom of Thanesar under Harshavardhan which included only the Punjab east of the River Jhelum.⁶

Medieval Period

From the latter half of the tenth century up to 1019 A.D. the district was included in the Shahi kingdom of the Punjab under Jayapal (d. 1001 A.D.), Anandpal (also known as Anangpal) (1001—1012 A.D.) and Trilochanpal (1012—1019 A.D.) which once extended from the Indus to Lamghan on the one side, and from Kashmir to Multan on the other. On the death of Trilochanpal and the flight of his son Bhimpal from the region in 1019 A.D., the entire Shahi kingdom formed part of the dominions of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni.⁷

Thereafter, an important event recorded of the district is the visit of the great canal constructor, Firoz Shah Tughluq (1351—1388 A.D.), to Kalanaur in 1353 on a hunting excursion. Here he had a splendid palace built on the bank of the Sarsuti⁸ (which seems to be identical with the Sarasvati). Kalanaur was the most important town in the district during the period of the Delhi Emperors. It was the chief place in the neighbourhood from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century, and was twice attacked by Jasrath Khokhar, once after his unsuccessful assault on Lahore in 1422, and again in 1428, when Malik Sikandar marched to relieve the place and defeated Jasrath on the Beas. It was here that Akbar received the news of his father's death, and immediately thereafter he was here installed by Bairam Khan on a *takht* or throne on February 15, 1556. The masonry platform which still exists about a kilometre and a half to the east of the town, is the actual spot upon which his installation took place; a fine garden constructed round it, together with an *hamam* and a *lukhe chappe* or maze, have long since disappeared, and the bricks of the ruined buildings were used as ballast for the Amritsar-Pathankot Railway Line.⁹

5. Buddha Prakash, *Glimpses of Ancient Punjab* (Patiala, 1966), p. 47

6. Suri, V.S., *Punjab Through The Ages* (Chandigarh, 1971), p. 1

7. Majumdar, R.C., *The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. V, The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 1—17 ;

Muhammad Latif, *History of the Punjab* (Reprinted : Delhi, 1964), pp. 77—84 ;

Nijjar, Bakhshish Singh, *Punjab under the Sultans (1000—1526 A.D.)*, pp. 11—22

8. Muhammad Latif, *History of the Punjab*, (Reprinted : Delhi, 1964), p. 110

9. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Punjab, Vol. II (Calcutta, 1908)*, pp. 59, 73 ;

Muhammad Latif, *History of the Punjab*, pp. 117—118, 136—137 ;

Nijjar, Bakhshish Singh, *Punjab under the Sultans (1000—1526 A.D.)* (Delhi, 1968), pp. 74—76 ;

Nijjar, Bakhshish Singh, *Punjab under the Great Mughals (1526—1707 A.D.)*, p. 32

Jahangir at Kahnuwan and Pindori.—The prospects of sport in the extensive marsh to which Kahnuwan gives its name attracted the Emperor Jahangir (1605—1627 A.D.) who made frequent visits to this town. During one of his visits, he first heard of the existence of the celebrated Bairagi, Fakir Bhagwanji, and sought to make his acquaintance. The Bairagi avoided the King by miraculously burrowing through the ground to Pindori, some 16 km off to the north, and on the King following him up, he effected in a similar way his escape to Dhamtal, across the River Chakki Khad, in District Kangra (Himachal Pradesh). In proof of the story, caves, or rather holes in the ground, are shown at Kahnuwan and Pindori. On a subsequent visit, Jahangir found Narain, the disciple of Bhagwanji, at Pindori, but could get no answer from him, since the fakir was then undergoing a penance in consequence of which he was not allowed to speak. He, therefore, took him to Lahore, where seven cups of poison were, it is said, administered to Narain, a mere taste of which was sufficient to kill an elephant on the spot, but which caused him no hurt whatever. On Bhagwanji's arrival, he explained matters to the Emperor, who was so amazed at the occurrence that he had a temple constructed at Pindori, in the shape of a Muhammadan domed tomb which still exists, and endowed the shrine with a grant of a jagir of Rs 20,000. The deed is, it is said, still preserved at the daughter shrine of Damtal, and there is no doubt that the tomb and grant were due to the munificence of the Emperor.

Construction of the Shah Nahar.—In 1639, the celebrated Engineer Ali Mardan Khan, under the auspices of the Emperor Shah Jahan (A.D. 1627—1658), began the construction of the Shah Nahar to carry the waters of the River Ravi to the royal gardens of Shalimar near Lahore (Pakistan). Ala-ul-Mulk or Fazal Khan remodelled and completed the work and within this district at least the alignment was closely followed, not only by the Sikh rulers in constructing the Hasli Canal but also by the British engineers in laying out the Bari Doab Canal.

The Sikh Gurus and the District.—In the decline and fall of the Mughal supremacy and the rise of the Sikh power, the district saw its most stirring scenes. Some of the Sikh Gurus have been closely associated with the district.

Guru Nanak Dev

Guru Nanak Dev, born in 1469 in the Lahore District (Pakistan), married in 1485 Sulakhni, daughter of one Mul Chand, a Khatri of Pakhoke (Dera Baba Nanak) in the Batala Tahsil, and from his two sons by this marriage, Sri Chand and Lakhmi Das, are sprung, by spiritual descent, the two sects of Udasis and Bedis.

At Galri in the Gurdaspur Tahsil on the road to the Trimmu ferry, there is a grove of old *shisham* trees, one of which is said to have grown from Sri Chand's *datan* or tooth brush, which he had stuck into the ground, and a fair is held here on the Baisakhi. The original trees have of course ceased to exist, but a young sapling is shown as having come up from its roots.

Guru Nanak Dev seems to have lived a great deal at Pakhoke, his wife's village, and eventually died in 1539 at Kartarpur on the opposite bank of the River Ravi (in Pakistan). It was there that the celebrated dispute occurred between his Hindu and Muhammadan followers as to whether his body should be burnt or buried, which was solved by the body itself disappearing. Pakhoke itself is now known as Dera Baba Nanak, and is the headquarters of the Bedis; it contains a celebrated Udasi shrine or Darbar, as it is called, constructed somewhat on the lines of that of the Darbar Sahib at Amritsar.

Guru Hargobind

The Sixth Guru, Hargobind, the first champion in arms of the Sikhs, re-founded Srigobindpur, which had been formerly known by the name of Rahila, a word which it was considered most unlucky to pronounce in the early morning, owing to a curse of the Gurus to the effect that all who do so should have neither wife nor family—“*jo kahe Rahila, us da na tabbar na kabila*”. His powers as an archer and warrior are still the subject of talk in the countryside, and it is said that he could shoot an arrow from the town of Srigobindpur to the shrine of Damdama, about four-fifths of a kilometre to the west on the Amritsar road.

Exploits of Banda Bahadur.—On being commissioned by Guru Gobind Singh from the Deccan to the Punjab in 1708 to punish those who had persecuted the Sikhs and murdered his father and innocent children, Banda Bahadur used this district as a base from which to raid the country up to Lahore. The Emperor Bahadur Shah (A.D. 1707—1712) conducted an expedition against him in 1711, but with only temporary effect.

Sikhs overrun the towns of Raipur and Bahrapur and advance upon the parganahs of Kalanaur and Batala

In February-March 1711, in about three months from his evacuation of the fort of Lohgarh (District Ambala, Haryana), Banda Bahadur issued from the hills near Raipur and Bahrapur and began to extend his influence in the direction of Gurdaspur. Bayzid Khan, the Faujdar of Jammu, was about 16 *kos* (about 38 km) to the north-west of

Raipur. At this time his nephew Shamas Khan accidentally arrived there after his dismissal from the Faujdari of Doaba Bist Jullundur. On the receipt of the news of the appearance of the Sikhs in that area, Bayzid Khan deputed Shahdad Khan, Shamas Khan's sister's husband, with fifteen hundred horses, to proceed, with all haste, for the protection of Raipur. Bayzid Khan himself and Shamas Khan moved out at the head of nine hundred horses, and having gone half the way occupied themselves with hunting, when the news arrived that the Sikhs had come very near. Shamas Khan went out to meet them but was easily tricked by the Sikhs. It seems that they pretended to fly at the sight of Shamas Khan, who, in spite of the warnings of his uncle Bayzid Khan, hastened to pursue them at close quarters. They had not gone very far when the Sikhs, all of a sudden, sharply turned upon their heels and pounced upon their pursuers.

In an instant the battle ensued with all its fury, and the Muhammadans were driven back line by line, leaving heaps of them dead and wounded. When Bayzid Khan and Shamas Khan saw that the scales were turning against them, they rushed forward to oppose the advancing Sikhs like Baj Singh and others. Baj Singh and Fateh Singh came out to meet them. Shamas Khan attacked Baj Singh with his spear. Baj Singh snatched the spear from his hand and flung it back upon him, severely wounding his arm. The wounded Shamas Khan heeled his horse and rushed upon Baj Singh with a naked sword. Baj Singh received the sword upon his shield and dealt him so heavy a blow that Shamas Khan's sword fell down from his hand. Pahar Singh, his brother, who was standing nearby, fell upon Shamas Khan before he could attack Baj Singh a second time, and so strongly hit him that his sword passed from his shoulder through to his back and his head went rolling to the ground.

Bayzid Khan was much enraged at the death of his nephew Shamas Khan and boldly came up to wreak his vengeance upon the Sikhs. Finding that the shots from his gun every time missed their aim, Bayzid Khan broke it in anger and rushed upon Baj Singh with a naked sword. Baj Singh was slightly wounded and before Bayzid Khan could inflict a second wound upon him, Fateh Singh hit him with his spear and wounded him in the arm. Bayzid Khan attempted another attack upon Baj Singh, but Fateh Singh in the meanwhile came upon him and mortally wounded him (Bayzid Khan) with his sword. With the fall of their leader, confusion spread in the Muslim ranks and they took to their heels. After three days Bayzid Khan also died of his wounds. The whole of the Dera or camp equipage of the Faujdar of Jammu and Shamas Khan fell into the hands of the Sikhs who overran the towns of Raipur

and Bahrapur and advanced upon the *parganahs* of Kalanaur and Batala.

On receipt of the information of the arrival of the Sikhs in the neighbourhood, many of the inhabitants of these places deserted their homes and fled to Lahore and other places of safety with their families and such property as they could remove. When Banda marched upon the town of Batala, the inhabitants were divided in opinion as to the measures to be adopted. One party headed by Sayyed Muhammad Fazil-ud-Din Qadri, who had recently settled in the city and established a college and a monastery there, proposed to abandon the place with their families, and the Sayyed himself, with his relations and *darveshes*, fled to the town of Sultanpur in the Bist Jullundur Doab; while the other party, of which Shaikh Ahmed, known as the *Shaikh-ul-Hind*, was the leader, urged a strenuous defence and encouraged the people to fight and to prepare themselves for a siege.

Banda arrived at the Tank of Achal, about 6 km to the east of Batala, and on the following day turned his attention to the town. The inhabitants shut the gates and prepared themselves to defend the walls, while the *Shaikh-ul-Hind* himself, with his followers and inhabitants went out of the Hathi Gate to meet Banda. On reaching the road he made a bold stand, but he could ill-afford to stand against the Khalsa, and, after a short struggle, he was overpowered and slain. The followers of the *Shaikh-ul-Hind* were soon defeated and driven back. Under the orders of Banda, the Sikhs broke open the gates and entered the town. The college of Sayyed Muhammad Fazil-ud-Din Qadri, which was now empty, and many of palatial buildings of the town beginning with the house and *mohalla* of Qazi Abdul Haq, perished in the flames.

Banda next desired to advance upon Lahore (Pakistan), but as he was pursued by the Imperial generals (Muhammad Amin Khan and Rustam Dil Khan) at close quarters and the Emperor himself was not far off, being encamped at Hoshiarpur on 9th June, 1711, he crossed the Ravi into the Rachna Doab and went towards the hills of Jammu, beyond the reach of his pursuers.

On his way to Lahore, the Emperor passed through the district. From the Hoshiarpur District he crossed the River Beas into the Gurdaspur at the fort of Srigobindpur (Rahila) on 23rd June, 1711. A halt was made at the town of Kahnuwan on 17th July, at Kalanaur on 29th, and Chamiani on the 30th, reaching Lahore on 11th August. Bahadur

Shah died at Lahore towards the end of February 1712 and was succeeded by Jahardar Shah, who after a year was ousted by Farrukhsiyar (A.D. 1713—1719) on 11th February, 1713. The latter determined to extirpate the Sikhs and so chose one of his best generals, Abd-us-Samad Khan, surnamed 'Diler Jang', for the purpose.

Persecution of the Sikhs who in turn punish the oppressors

The years 1712 and 1713 were most unfavourable to the Sikhs. Thousands of them were captured and put to death. The decline of the Sikh power and the official persecution of the Sikhs gave an impetus to those in power, all over the country, to persecute them remorselessly. The pinch of oppression was felt the most in the Majli and the Riarki.

Most of the leading persons who roused feelings against the Sikhs on this side belonged to the village of Kiri Afghanan (Kiri Pathan) in the *Parganah* of Kahnuwan. The Sikhs of the neighbourhood, therefore, collected under the leadership of Jagat Singh of this *parganah* and resolved to punish them. On March 27, 1714, Jagat Singh, with a detachment along with his brothers and servants, fell upon the village and entered the *Garhi* or the fortress of the Pathans. Muhammad Ishaq was slain in the scuffle. Booty worth about sixty thousand, in cash and in kind, belonging to the residents of the village and to those of the neighbouring villages, who had deposited their belongings in the fortress for safety, fell into the hands of the Sikhs. Many well-to-do people left their homes and fled away.

Occupation of Kalanaur and Batala

In the beginning of the year 1715, after about fifteen months' sojourn in the Jammu hills, Banda reappeared in the plains from the direction of Jammu and marched towards Kalanaur. On receipt of the news, Faujdar Suhrab Khan of Kalanaur, his Kanungo Santokh Rai, and Anokh Rai, brother of the latter, collected a large force from the *parganah* and its neighbourhood. But, with the very first blow of the Sikhs, they were scattered to the winds. Suhrab Khan, Santokh Rai and Anokh Rai fled from the battle-field to save their lives, and Kalanaur fell into the hands of the Sikhs. The old officials were replaced by Sikh officials, and a sufficient number of horse and foot were left there for the maintenance of peace and order.

Passing through Achal, Banda next marched towards Batala. Its Faujdar, Sheikh Muhammad Dayam, came out to encounter the Sikh force. A bloody battle was fought for about six hours, and there was great bloodshed on both sides. Many from among the nobility of Batala were killed. None of the Zamindars and commanders could resist the

Sikhs in the field of battle. Muhammad Dayam was defeated and fled away in dismay. Batala and its neighbourhood were occupied by the Sikhs.

Siege and Fall of Gurdas Nangal

The reports of the re-appearance of the Sikhs and their conquests in the Punjab were now regularly pouring in at the court of Delhi to the great alarm of Emperor Furrukhsiyar and his Amirs. Out of fear, or for some other reason, Abd-us-Samad Khan, Governor of Lahore, had taken no measures to deal with them. The Emperor administered a sharp reproof to him on March 20, 1715 and ordered Qamr-ud-Din Khan and some others to proceed with their troops to the Punjab to reinforce Abd-us-Samad Khan. Imperial *parwanas* were also addressed to the various Faujdars and Jagirdars in the Punjab to join their troops with him.

Banda was aware of the preparations being made at Lahore. He had, therefore, decided to throw up a mud fortification at Kot Mirza Jan, a small village between Kalanaur and Batala. But before its defence could be completed, the combined Mughal forces under the chief command of Abd-us-Samad Khan and his deputy Arif Beg fell upon the Sikhs. Banda fought heroically but was forced to retreat from post to post, fighting valiantly and inflicting heavy losses on his pursuers. He was at last compelled to fall back upon the old village of Gurdas Nangal, now a heap of ruins, known as *Bande-wali-Theh*, lying about $1\frac{1}{2}$ km to the west of the present village of Gurdas Nangal, and about 6 km to the south-west of the town of Gurdaspur. It had no regular fort. The Sikhs had, therefore, to shelter themselves in the *ihata* or enclosure of Bhai Duni Chand. Banda made every effort to strengthen its defences and collect stores of ration and ammunition. To keep the enemy at a respectable distance from his fortifications, he surrounded it by a moat filled from the neighbouring canal. He also cut the Imperial Canal, called the *Shahi Nahar*, and other small streams flowing from below the hills and allowed the water to spread and form a quagmire round the place so that the enemy could not easily come close to the enclosure (*ihata*).

When Abd-us-Samad Khan and his allies arrived at Gurdas Nangal, many of the Sikhs were out in the villages for the collection of supplies. Numbers of them fell into the hands of the Imperialists, columns of whom were scouring the country in search of them. They were brought into the camp and executed with indignity and cruelty.

The enclosure containing the Sikhs was immediately surrounded and blockaded, and the besiegers kept so watchful a guard that not a blade of grass, nor a grain of corn, could find its way in. Occasionally Abd-us-Samad Khan and his son Zakriya Khan, at the head of several thousand troopers, attempted to storm the Sikh position, but all in vain. Abd-us-Samad Khan now raised batteries and pushed forward his approaches, while the Sikhs, on the other side, maintained a steady defence and exhibited great courage and daring, pouring missiles, night and day, into the enemy's camp. They made frequent sallies into the besiegers' trenches and killed a great number of them. The siege and struggle continued for several months, and there was great loss of life on both sides. So close was the investment that it became impossible for the Sikhs to bring in anything from outside. Their confinement for eight long months had exhausted their already small stock of provisions. Famine now commenced its ravages amongst the besieged Sikhs and they were reduced to great extremities.

At this stage, a difference of opinion is said to have occurred between Binod Singh and Banda. Apparently it arose in a council of war over the proposal of evacuating the enclosure and following their old tactics of cutting through the enemy's line for a place of safety. Banda it seems was not in favour of it, for reasons best known to him while Binod Singh stuck to his own. Hot words were exchanged between the two, and then their hands went to the hilts of their swords. At this moment Kahan Singh, son of Binod Singh, stepped in between his father and Banda. It was decided that one of them should leave the place. Binod Singh accepted the decision, and, mounting his horse, he rode out of the enclosure, and, with swords in hand, he cut through the besiegers all alone and was off in an instant.

The difference was overcome, but there was no remedy for the distress of hunger which was increasing day by day. In the absence of grain, horses, asses, oxen and other animals were converted into food and eaten. In the absence of any fire-wood, they ate the flesh raw. Many died of dysentery and privation. When all the grass was gone, they gathered leaves from trees. When these were consumed, they stripped the bark and broke off the small shoots, dried them, ground them and used them instead of flour, thus keeping the body and soul together. They also collected the bones of animals and used them in the same way. Their never-ending starvation and the devouring of uneatable and unconsumable things wrecked their physical system and produced a bloody flux which carried them away in large numbers. The abnoxious smell of putrid bodies of the dead and dying men and

animals made the place uninhabitable. The survivors were reduced to mere skeletons. They were all half-dead, unable to use their muskets. Their magazines were emptied of their contents and it became practically impossible for them to offer any resistance and continue the defence any longer.

At last on December 17, 1715, the enclosure at Gurdas Nangal fell into the hands of the besiegers. The surviving Sikhs therein had been physically incapacitated and disabled to continue the defence, but the Imperialists were still benumbed with terror and they dared not enter the enclosure. Abd-us-Samad Khan promised to intercede with the Emperor for a free pardon for them. But, when the gates were opened, the besieged including Banda were made prisoners. Some two three hundred of the Sikhs were put to the sword and their heads borne on pikes before Banda and others as they were marched first to Lahore and then to Delhi where all of them were executed¹⁰.

First Ghalughara (Holocaust), 1746.—A huge army consisting of Mughal troops and auxiliaries drawn from all over the country, marched against the Sikhs under the personal command of Yahiya Khan, the Governor of Lahore (1745—1747), and his Diwan, Lakhpat Rai. The Sikhs, about fifteen thousand in number, had taken refuge in the reedy marches of Kahnuwan, which were inaccessible to the heavy clothed troopers and their artillery. A way was, however, cut through for the movement of the army, and with the help of guns the Sikhs were pushed out towards the River Ravi, which they crossed and headed towards Parol and Kathua (in Jammu & Kashmir State). Lakhpat Rai was close on their heels. The only course left for them was to take to the hills of Basohli (in Jammu & Kashmir State), where they expected the Hindu population to shelter them. But they were soon disillusioned to find that orders had already reached them from Lahore not to give any quarter to them. The Sikhs were received with showers of bullets and stones, and were obliged to cry a halt. The situation was desperate. They had a steep mountain in front, with a hostile population pouring death on them, a flooded river to the right, and the enemy in hot pursuit behind. They had no food, no ammunition, and their horses too being weak, were tumbling into mountain clefts and ravines. They decided to retrace their steps to Majha. But the River Ravi being in spate was unfordable. Two brothers of Gurdayal Singh Dallewal

10. Ganda Singh, *Banda Singh Bahadur* (Amritsar, 1935), pp. 150—213;

Khushwant Singh, *A History of the Sikhs* (London, 1963), Vol. I, pp. 101—119 ;

Gokul Chand Narang, *Transformation of Sikhism* (Delhi, 1956), pp. 99—114.

jumped into the river to see where it could be crossed. They never returned. Seeing no escape from the predicament, the leaders resolved that those who were on foot should try their luck with the mountaineers, and others who had horses under them should cut their way through the enemy. The main body with Sukha Singh as their leader rushed upon the pursuing troops, but were surrounded and cut down in hundreds. Some were taken prisoners. Sukha Singh himself was wounded in the leg in an effort to get at Lakhpat Rai. The remaining Sikhs were pursued into a jungle where they were again attacked not only by the army, but also by the common folk collected for the purpose from their neighbouring villages. The Sikhs found an easy prey in these impromptu soldiers, and were able to relieve many of them of their horses and arms. This happened on June 1, 1746.

The Sikhs, who were about two thousand, now got some respite to cross the Ravi and enter the Riarki part of Gurdaspur. When they came to the eastern bank of the river, the heat of the burning sand added to their torture of hunger and wounds. They tore off pieces from their scanty garments, and sat down to tie them to their naked feet. Thus rigged out, they crossed the sandy tract, and pushed on towards the river Beas which was crossed at Srigobindpur. They had hardly sat down in the neighbourhood of Yahiyapur to bake their loaves of bread (*rotis*) on the broad backs of their shields, buried in the hot sand instead of fire, when a party of local Pathans fell upon them. They would have settled their account well with these men, and eaten their cakes too, but they heard at the same time that Lakhpat Rai had crossed the river and was to be soon on them. They gave up their cooking, and made straight for the Satluj. They forded it at Aliwal, and entered Malwa. Lakhpat Rai had had enough of fighting, and returned to Lahore. In this campaign he must have killed at least seven thousand, besides three thousand brought as prisoners to Lahore. These too were beheaded at the *Nakhas* (horse market at Lahore) after being subjected to indignities and torture. It was the first time that the Sikhs had suffered so much loss in a single campaign. It was, therefore, called the first *Ghalughara* or holocaust, to be distinguished from the second and the bigger one which occurred in 1762¹¹.

Adina Beg.—The invasion of Nadir Shah in 1738 disorganized the Government and the aggression of the Sikhs increased. It was at this point that Adina Beg began to rise into prominence. He was made Governor of Bahrapur by Zakriya Khan (Governor of the Punjab,

11. Teja Singh and Ganda Singh, *A Short History of the Sikhs, 1469—1765*, Vol. I (Bombay, 1950), pp. 132—134

1726—1745), and subsequently placed in charge of the Jullundur Doab. He founded Dinanagar on the banks of the Hasli or Shah Nahar as his residence and cantonment in 1730, and seems to have exercised his government mainly from that town. The adjoining village of Mughrala also is said to have acquired its name from having been used as his poultry farm. He held his post as Governor of the Jullundur Doab during the tenure of office at Lahore of Yahiya Khan (1745—1747), and Shah Niwaz Khan, sons of Zakriya Khan, throughout the reigns of Muhammad Shah (1719—1748), Ahmad Shah (1748—1754) and Alamgir II (1754—1759), and was still in charge when in 1747, on the invitation of Shah Nawaz Khan, Ahmad Shah Abdali invaded India, but was repulsed in the following year near Sirhind and driven across the Indus. The disorganization, commenced by Nadir Shah's invasion, was naturally increased by this and subsequently of incursions of Ahmad Shah Abdali, while the Sikhs, probably with the connivance of Adina Beg, seized practically the whole of the country now included in the Gurdaspur District, though they appear to have left the towns in the hands of the royal governors. At least, they became so strong that their protector thought that they required a check; so in compliance with the urgent order of the Governor of Lahore, he inflicted a bloody defeat on them at Makhwal on the Satluj in 1752. Immediately after this, however, in accordance with the usual policy of playing off one side against the other, he took Jassa Singh, the founder of the Ramgarhia *Misal*, into his service. For a short time during the reign of Alamgir II, after the capture of Lahore by Wazir Ghazi-ud-Din, Adina Beg was transferred to that town as Governor, but was soon driven out by the return of the Abdali in 1755-56, and had to hide in the hills till the departure of the Shah in 1757. In the following year, with the assistance of the Sikhs, he recovered the governorship of the Jullundur Doab, and defeated a force sent from Lahore to drive him out, but was compelled to retire on the approach of the Wazir Jahan Khan in person. Murad Khan, the leader of the first force, was executed at Batala for his incompetent conduct of the first expedition. The Sikhs under Jassa Singh Kalal, were now strong enough to drive the Afghans out of Lahore, and tried to get rid of Adina Beg. He retaliated by calling in the Marathas on the promise of payment of Rs 1,00,000 for each march, and Rs 50,000 for each halt. They readily complied with the request, and with the assistance of Adina Beg drove Timur Shah from Lahore and put in their ally as Governor of the Punjab, who, with his headquarters at Batala, soon extended his power as far as Multan (Pakistan) and Kangra (Himachal Pradesh). The Majha Sikhs now turned against him and were signally defeated by his troops;

but in the same year, 1758, in which he attained the summit of his ambition, he was seized with a colic and died at Batala, whence his body was carried to Khanpur, a village near Hoshiarpur, and there buried. Other accounts represent him as having died at Khanpur.

The death of Adina Beg removed the main check on the growing power of the Sikhs, and they soon spread over the country.

Sikh Misals and Maharaja Ranjit Singh.—The history of the district then degenerates into an account of the struggles of the rival Ramgarhia and Kanhaya *Misals* for supremacy in this part of the Doab; the power of the former was broken in 1808 and of the latter in 1811 by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who thus assumed sway over the whole district. Dinanagar, with its pleasant mango gardens and running canal, was a favourite summer residence of the Lion of the Punjab, who, when not elsewhere engaged, used to spend here the two hot weather months of May and June, amusing himself by drilling and manœuvring his troops. It was here that in May 1838, he received with great magnificence the Macnaghten Mission on the subject of the proposed alliance with the object of placing Shah Shuja on the throne of Kabul; and it was here that Tripartite Treaty, which eventually gave rise to so much trouble, was practically concluded. It does not appear that he ever constructed any costly buildings at this town, where he lived mostly in camp.

The district was intimately connected also with the family life of the great Maharaja. He owed much of his strength to his own marriage at Batala to Mahtab Kaur, the daughter of Gurbakhsh Singh Kanhaya; and his son Kharak Singh was married to Chand Kaur, daughter of Jaimal Singh Kanhaya of Fatehgarh Churian. After one of his Kangra campaigns, Ranjit Singh married Raj Devi, the daughter of Mir Padma, a Pathania Rajput of Dunera (Tahsil Patankot), and conferred this village in jagir on him for his complaisance. On his death the jagir was resumed.

Shahpur Kandi Tract.—Little of note occurred after this until the district became merged in the British territory on the annexation of the Punjab in 1849. The Shahpur Kandi tract was transferred from Kangra to this district in 1852 and 1862. There is nothing of local interest sufficiently important to be reproduced, but mention may be made of the unsuccessful attempts made to recover it for its former masters by Ram Singh, son of the last Raja of Nurpur, Bir Singh, in 1848 and 1849. In August 1848, he made a rapid march from the Jammu hills and seized the Shahpur fort. From this fort he was quickly ejected and fled to the Sikhs' camp at Basoli. In January 1849, he obtained two Sikh

regiments from Raja Sher Singh and took up a strong position near the Tika of Dalla in the Dhaula Dhar range of hills. A force under John Lawrence defeated him and he was eventually captured.

(c) **British Rule**

The district came under the British rule on the annexation of the Punjab in 1849.

I. Abolition of female infanticide

The abolition of female infanticide was one of the important social welfare measures adopted by the British. All the ingenuity and efficiency of the police had failed to uproot the crime of infanticide. In 1851, the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, brought to the notice of the Government that the Bedis killed their female offsprings and were known as *Kureemars* (girl slayers). The matter was immediately taken in hand and all the Deputy Commissioners in the Punjab were directed to send detailed reports on the prevalence of this crime in their areas. The returns of the various districts showed that not only the Bedis but the other Khatri and Muhammadans were also not free from this nefarious practice. The Bedis being the priestly class among the Sikhs were too proud to offer their daughters to the members of other classes whom they despised as inferior. Khatri and Muhammadans resorted to this practice under pressure of poverty. Female infanticide being a secret and domestic practice, the vigour and watch of the police were alike helpless to check it. Force alone was insufficient to eradicate such malpractices from society. The Government, therefore, came to the conclusion that the vice could only be put down with the co-operation of the general public. In 1853, John Lawrence, Chief Commissioner of the Punjab (1853—58) called a meeting of the representatives of all classes in the Punjab at Amritsar. At this gathering were represented all the hierarchy and nobility of the old Sikh regime as well as the new landed and industrial aristocracy. The evil practice of female infanticide, which disfigured the fair face of the Punjabi society, was frankly but amicably discussed and the conference was soon convinced of the sinister nature of the crime. The practice was unequivocally condemned as a crime against nature and humanity. To strike at the root of the crime, resolutions were passed, recommending the reduction of marriage expenses. The success of this conference spread to every district in the Punjab. The local officers took a keen interest in the matter and exhorted people to carry out the resolutions of the conference. By 1856, the crime practically ceased to exist and many homes began to ring with the merry cries of girl babies.¹²

12. N. M. Khilnani, *British Power in the Punjab, 1839—1858* (Bombay, 1972), pp. 214—19.

Arnold Edwin, *The Marquis of Dalhousie's Administration of British India* (London, 1862), Vol. I, pp. 267, 279-80.

The First Punjab Administration Report, 1849—51, p. 66.

The Second Punjab Administration Report, 1851—53, pp. 54-5.

The Third Punjab Administration Report, 1853—55, p. 11.

II. The Great Uprising of 1857

As the intelligence of the events at Meerut and Delhi became known and circulated in the Punjab, it seemed evident that considerable popular ferment or agitation would ensue. Precautionary measures were, therefore, taken by James Naesmyth, Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, to meet the situation.

Precautionary measures taken.—The first measure adopted by the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, was to ensure the regular, accurate and direct communication of intelligence from each outpost of the district as to the state of feeling, etc. in the neighbourhood. The police were further enjoined at once to arrest any agitator or suspicious person or persons who might be disseminating or stirring up rebellion, or who could not satisfactorily account for themselves.

In addition to the above for ensuring the earliest and best intelligence from all parts of the district, trustworthy informers were thrown out, and means were taken to ascertain the temper or certain influential individuals whose antecedents warranted some degree of distrust on the part of the British authorities, and whose example would have been likely materially to influence the people.

The next step was the removal of nearly rupees seven lakhs of treasure to the fort of Govindgarh at Amritsar. This was quickly arranged for, and the treasure, escorted by a party of the 2nd Irregular Cavalry, run through in one night: relays of *bahlies* or light two-bullock carts were stationed on the road, and the treasure reached Govindgarh in safety on the night of May 20, 1857.

On the 3rd June, a feeling of still greater security was created at Gurdaspur by the dismissal of the detachment of the 59th Native Infantry to join its headquarters at Amritsar. Its place over the treasury was taken by a party of the police battalion, from which corps also guards had been furnished to the houses of all European residents until the 59th left. The jail was carefully watched, and interviews between the prisoners and any of their friends forbidden, lest any design to break out of jail should be formed.

Number of Hindustanis in the Gurdaspur District.—There was an extraordinary number of 'Hindustanis' in the district, mostly employed on the works of the Bari Doab Canal, which has its headquarters at Madhopur. This public enterprise had not hitherto attracted natives of the Punjab in the proportion that might have been expected. Many of the clerks, contractors and workmen were natives of the Uttar Pradesh, etc. As such it was needful for the British authorities to watch them closely and to

resort to espionage so that any projected disturbance might be stifled at once.

Two 'Hindustani' civil officers, namely, the judicial Serishtadar, and Shyam Lal, Extra Assistant Commissioner, fell under such serious suspicion that they were removed to other places, and ulterior measures against them were at one time contemplated.

Measures for guarding the River Ravi.—It was impossible to guard the River Ravi thoroughly as it was frequently fordable, and owing to its proximity to the mountains, and consequent liability to sudden freshets, no dependence could be placed on it as a barrier. However, all stray beams and planks, which could be bound up in rafts, were cleared away, all the boats but two were withdrawn or scuttled, and, on the receipt of the news of the Jhelum uprising on July 7, 1857, these two were also sunk. The river was, therefore, considered temporarily impassable.

Advance of Sialkot rebels and their annihilation by Brigadier-General Nicholson.—Two days after the above, i.e. on 9th July, 1857, came tidings of the march of the 46th Native Infantry and a wing of the 9th Light Cavalry in rebellion from Sialkot towards Gurdaspur. The news had been also telegraphed to Brigadier-General Nicholson, who was lying at Amritsar with his movable column. The signaller was drunk, and the message was not delivered, but an express sent by mail-cart reached early in the morning. He was earnestly requested to intercept the rebels, and he started the same evening with six guns under Captain Bouchier, 600 men of Her Majesty's 52nd Foot, some Sikh levies, and a few half-disciplined Sikh Horse.

In the absence of railway between Amritsar and Lahore, hundreds of native gigs or *ekkas* plied unceasingly between the two cities. On the day in question, the Deputy Commissioners of both places were ordered to seize every *ekka*, *bahli* and pony that was to be seen and to despatch them under police guards to General Nicholson's Camp at Amritsar on urgent public service. The vehicles on their arrival there were promptly loaded with British soldiers, and the force started at dusk for Gurdaspur, which is at a distance of 70 km from Amritsar, reaching it at 3 P.M. on the 11th July. It was joined at Batala by Roberts, Commissioner, and Captain Perkins, Assistant Commissioner of Amritsar. The next day, General Nicholson was told that the rebels had crossed to the left bank of the Ravi by the ford at Trimmu. He marched and met them drawn up in line near the river. The 9th Light Cavalry charged the Artillery fearlessly on both flanks and cut down some of the gunners, the 46th Native Infantry advanced boldly to take the guns in the face of a storm of grape which moved them down by scores, and it was not till the 52nd

Foot leaped out on them with the bayonet that they turned and fled. The remnant of the rebel force took refuge on an island, where they erected a battery for their gun and collected their women and their spoil. At daylight on the 16th July, they were attacked in this their last stronghold. Numbers were drowned or shot in the water, many were killed in the flight and the prisoners were all executed under martial law. On the 18th July, the columns returned to Gurdaspur.

The fight took place on the border of the villages of Thakarpur and Wazirpur, close to the Trimmu encamping-ground. The rebels were stopped for a short time on the opposite bank of the Ravi owing to the want of boats but, strangely enough, the water suddenly fell to a point unusually low for the middle of the rains and they were enabled to cross. As soon as most of them had crossed, however, the water rose to its normal level and blocked some of them on the island between the two streams. Even after over half a century, bones of horses and men were occasionally ploughed up on the field of battle, especially on the spot where a deep *nala*, known as the *Kala pani*, used to be, as during the retreat hundreds of the rebels were driven into this and shot or drowned. Many of the surviving rebels were brought in by the villagers and executed by Captain Adams, Assistant Commissioner, and James Naesmyth, Deputy Commissioner. Most of the party that escaped to Jammu were made over to the British by the then Maharaja's officers, and tried by Lieutenant MacMahon and Captain Adams at Bhiko Chak. Some of them, however, contrived to make their way through the trackless wastes of the Himalayas to Spiti (Himachal Pradesh), where they were beleaguered by the people until the arrival of Knox, Assistant Commissioner of Kulu, who captured the party, most of whom were then executed.

Destruction of a party of the 26th Native Infantry from Lahore.—During the first week in August a remnant, numbering about 25 men of the 26th Native Infantry from Lahore, found their way into the swamps of this district. They were all killed by a party of the new levy under Garbett and Hanna of the Canal Department, and by a separate little party of the 2nd Irregular Cavalry under Major Jackson, who was seriously wounded.¹³

III. The Struggle for Freedom

Namdhari Movement.—With its headquarters at the village of Bhaini Sahib in the Ludhiana District, the Namdhari, or more popularly called

13. *Punjab Government Records, Mutiny Reports* (Lahore, 1911), Vol. VIII, Part I, pp. 289—303, Part II, pp. 237—240

Kuka, movement was started by Guru Ram Singh in 1857. For a few years, it carried on its work quietly. It was not till 1863 that the British Government first became alive to its political implications. From 1863 to 1866, it seems the Government had little to worry about the Kuka movement as it was soft-peddled for some time. However, gradually its activities revived. From 1866 onwards the Kukas were particularly active in their campaign against tombs, graves and cremation marks. The more ardent among them took the law into their hands and committed several acts of aggression in some of the districts including Gurdaspur. Some of them were arrested and awarded varying terms of imprisonment.¹⁴

In course of time, the movement gained momentum. However, it was ruthlessly suppressed by the British with the blowing of a large number of persons from guns at Malerkotla (Sangrur District) in January 1872, arrest of influential members, and deportation of Ram Singh to Rangoon and later on to Mergui, where he died in 1885.

Lahore Session of the Indian National Congress, 1900.—The dawn of the twentieth century saw the Punjab taking long strides to catch up with the national movement in the rest of the country. Delegates from almost all over the Punjab attended the 16th session of the Indian National Congress held at Lahore in December 1900, which demonstrated the enthusiasm of the people for the activities of the Congress.¹⁵

Agitation following the partition of the Bengal in 1905.—There was lull in the political atmosphere of the Punjab after the Congress session of 1900 and no significant activity can be said to have started here before 1905. The agitation that followed the partition of Bengal in 1905 stirred the people all over the Punjab in common with the rest of the country.

Unpopular policies of Government raise a political storm in the Punjab.—The reclamation of desert lands by the extension of canal irrigation, combined with facilities for marketing agricultural produce, ushered in an era of prosperity in the Punjab. But this prosperity brought in its wake other economic changes which radically altered the social fabric of life in the Punjab. A direct consequence of the increase in the earning from agriculture was the increase in the price of land. Land became a valuable commodity, and small farmers were unable to resist the temptation to sell their holdings. The number of landless farmers assumed alarming proportions. The famine of 1869 attended by heavy mortality of live-stock accentuated the problem. Agriculturists were unable to pay revenue due from them and were compelled to borrow.

14. Fauja Singh Bajwa, *Kuka Movement* (Delhi, 1965), pp. 39-55

15. S. L. Malhotra, *Gandhi and the Punjab* (Chandigarh, 1970), pp. 12-14

The 1870's ushered in an era of peasant indebtedness which had never been known in the country before. The elaborate legal system introduced by the British contributed towards the impoverishment of the peasantry and the enrichment of moneylenders and lawyers. Realising the dangers of having disgruntled peasantry, the Government passed the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900, to protect the agriculturists from the clutches of the moneylenders. The Act succeeded in safeguarding the interests of cultivators, but it also sowed the seeds of racial separatism as it adversely affected quite a large number of people. At the same time, although the Act saved agricultural land from passing to the moneylenders, yet it did not solve the problem of rural indebtedness.

The Punjab was visited by a series of calamities like famine and an epidemic of bubonic plague. The administration remained insensitive to these disasters; instead of remitting land revenue, it continued to increase it with each new settlement and inflicted heavy punishment on defaulters. The unpopular policies of Lord Curzon (1899—1905) in the Punjab, thus, caused much discontent which ultimately led to the national awakening in the province.

The immediate cause of unrest was the passage of the Punjab Canal Colonies Act in February 1907. It restricted the rights of the colonizers to make wills and denied them the right to cut trees on their land.

At the same time, the Colonization of Government Lands (Punjab) Bill was passed in February 1907, in order to enhance the rate of water supply from the Bari Doab canals. All these measures were responsible for raising a political storm in the Punjab.

A distressed peasantry made the Punjab fertile soil for revolutionary seed. And the seed blew in profusion from all over India—and indeed from Asia.

Urban politicians took the lead in organizing public meetings to protest against the unpopular measures. By March 1907, the atmosphere in the cities and the affected colonies had become tense. The fiftieth anniversary of the great uprising of 1857 was chosen as the occasion for a province-wide protest.

Despite the repression, criticism of the colonization bill continued unabated. The authorities sensed that the measure had caused uneasiness among Sikh soldiers, many of whom had relatives in the colony areas,

and Governor-General, Lord Minto (1905—1910), vetoed the bill. The land tax and the water-rate were reduced.¹⁶

The Ghadar Movement, 1913—15.—The humiliating and discriminatory treatment meted out to the Indian emigrants abroad, especially in the U. S. A., produced in them a strong urge to free the mother country. The Ghadar Party, with headquarters at San Francisco, was thus formed in 1913 to liberate India by force. A large number of Ghadarites came to India and many of them were able to reach the Punjab. These revolutionaries exhorted the people to rise but not with much success.

The Ghadarites were suppressed with a heavy hand. A large number of them were rounded up and were tried by special tribunals constituted under the Defence of India Act, 1915. The list of revolutionaries belonging to the Gurdaspur District, tried and convicted, is given in the Appendix on page———.

Formation of the District Congress Committee, Gurdaspur, in 1917.—In 1917, District Congress Committees were set up in the Punjab to stimulate political activity. Accordingly, the District Congress Committee, Gurdaspur, was formed in October 1917, with Sheikh Mukhtar Ahmed, Advocate, as its President, and L. Mehr Chand, Pleader, Secretary. It was affiliated to the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee. To begin with, the number of members of the District Congress Committee was 24, which increased as time passed. By the middle of May 1921, twenty-eight Congress Committees, with a total membership of over 1,500 had been established in the district.¹⁷

The delegates of the District Congress Committee, Gurdaspur, attended the Provincial Political Conference held at Lahore in 1917.¹⁸

The passage of the Restriction of Habitual Offenders (Punjab) Act, 1918, provoked much criticism all over the Punjab. On February 26, 1918, the District Congress Committee, Gurdaspur, passed a resolution of protest against it on the ground that the Act curbed individual liberty and placed the honour of every person entirely at the mercy of low-paid police and village officials.¹⁹

16. Khushwant Singh, *A History of the Sikhs*, Vol. II. (London, 1966), pp. 151—159 ;

S.L. Malhotra, *Gandhi and the Punjab* (Chandigarh, 1970), pp. 12-18 ;

Sri Ram Sharma, *Punjab in Ferment* (New Delhi, 1971), pp. 36-56, 117-139

17. *The Tribune, Lahore*, October 12, 1917

18. *The Tribune, Lahore*, May 17, 1921

19. *The Tribune, Lahore*, February 26, 1918

Anti-Rowlatt Act Agitation, 1918-19.—During the World War I (1914—18), the Punjab had extended the maximum co-operation in men and money to the British Government in the gravest hour of its trial. O' Dwyer's administration, on the other hand, had abused the powers given to it by the Defence of India Act in suppressing all opposition to its authority. While the war was still going on, all such restraints and hardships, though felt bitterly, were suffered patiently, because of the common purpose of winning the War. But the consternation and indignation of people became quite acute when, after the war, instead of withdrawing these hard, extraordinary measures, O'Dwyer thought of imposing more stringent measures to curb every type of political activity.

The Rowlatt Act, passed in March 1919, invested the Government with extraordinary powers to suppress any kind of political agitation. As a mark of protest against the Act, Gandhiji announced a general hartal, i.e. suspension of business activity, accompanied by fasting, prayers and meetings all over the country on March 30. The date was subsequently advanced to April 6. A complete hartal was observed at Batala, Dhariwal, Dinanagar, Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Sujanpur while a partial hartal was observed at Aliwal, Qadian and Sohal.²⁰ Protest meetings were held at Batala, Pathankot and Gurdaspur. A remarkable achievement of this programme in the Punjab was the fraternization between the Hindus and the Muslims.²¹ On the occasion of the celebration of the Ram Naumi festival on April 9, 1919, in particular, there was fraternization between the Hindus and the Muslims. In some instances, the words *Allah, Ram* and *Om* were impressed on the clothes of the processionists to be token union.²²

On April 11, 1919, the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, assembled all available members of the local Bar in his court in the forenoon, and asked them in view of the seriousness of the situation, to come out unmistakably on the side of 'law and order'. The response was half-hearted and in one instance churlish. In the evening, there was a joint Hindu-Muslim meeting at the Arainwali mosque.

On April 12, 1919, hartal was observed at Batala and Gurdaspur and the next day (April 13) at Pathankot. At Batala, while the local agitators were being warned by the authorities, the mob which followed threatened to cause riot if the leaders were arrested. At Gurdaspur, as the situation appeared grave, a small force of one officer and 50 men

20. *Punjab Disturbances, 1919-20, Vol. II, British Perspective* (Reprinted : New Delhi, 1976), pp. 238, 241

21. S.L. Malhotra, *Gandhi and the Punjab* (Chandigarh, 1970), pp. 22-23, 38-39

22. *Punjab Disturbances, 1919-20, Vol. II, British Perspective* (Reprinted : New Delhi, 1976), p. 244

arrived from Pathankot to support the local police in case of necessity. At night, a meeting of Hindus and Muslims was held in the Jama Masjid during which a suggestion was made to raid the civil lines.

After the Jallianwala Bagh massacre at Amritsar on April 13, 1919, the demonstrators took an extremely violent form. Between the 13th and 25th April, telegraph wires were cut between Batala and Chhina and Jaintipura, between Gurdaspur and Dhariwal, between Aliwal and Kunjar, between Dhariwal and Kunjar, between Chhina and Dhariwal, between Kaler Kalan and Kunjar, between Sujampur and Madhopur, at Sohal, Ghazikot, Aliwal and also near Tibri, and on the Pathankot-Dalhousie Road, 21 km from Pathankot.

On April 14, 1919, the authorities issued orders under the Punjab Patrol Act for patrolling of railway lines in the district. At Pathankot, an attempt was made to damage the railway track by firing permanent-way sleepers near the station. On April 16, a lighted torch was thrown at an English lady riding in a motor car at Pathankot. On April 21, 1919, the district was proclaimed under section 15 of the Police Act. The General Officer Commanding, Amritsar, and his moveable column arrived at Gurdaspur in the forenoon and in the afternoon General Dyer addressed a meeting of pleaders and local notables in the town hall. On April 22, Batala was visited by the moveable column under General Dyer, who addressed two meetings of the town people and the country people, separately. Dhariwal was also visited by the moveable column under General Dyer, who addressed a meeting of pleaders and local notables. On May 2, 1919, nine persons were arrested at Gurdaspur under the Defence of India Act for attempting to create disaffection towards the Government.²³

The effect that the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy and the martial law administration had on the people of the Punjab can hardly be exaggerated. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, Lt.-Governor, Punjab, who claimed that he had saved the empire, had in fact dealt it the most grievous blow by alienating the people. His claim that the Punjab public supported his policy was severely repudiated as unfounded at a public meeting held at Gurdaspur on August 30, 1920. O'Dwyer's calumnious campaign against educated classes was also condemned and regarded as deliberately mischievous.²⁴

23. *Ibid.*, pp. 255—266

24. *The Tribune, Lahore*, September 1, 1920

Gurdwara Reform Movement.—The awakening brought about by the Singh Sabha movement (started in 1873) had made the Sikhs conscious of their rights. While the educated began to press for their due in services and administrative bodies (municipalities, district boards, provincial and central legislatures), the masses were more anxious to gain control of their *gurdwaras*. There were no rules for the administration of Sikh shrines and over many of them priests (*mahants*) had asserted proprietary rights. For many years, Sikh associations carried on civil litigation against the *mahants*. Then the impatience generated by the Ghadar and the nationalist movements spurred the Sikh masses into jettisoning methods of petition and redress from courts of law followed by the Singh Sabhaites and to adopt instead the non-co-operation and passive resistance of the newly formed party, the Akalis.

The Government was slow to respond to the demands of the Sikhs regarding the transfer of control of the shrines to the representatives of the Sikh community. Many Sikh committees had also tried and discovered the futility of civil action. Therefore, Sikhs had been planning a committee of management of their own. On November 15, 1920, they set up the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee for the management of all the Sikh shrines. The more radical elements organized a semi-military corps of volunteers known as the Akali Dal to raise and train men for 'action' in taking over the *gurdwaras* from the recalcitrant *mahants*.

Under the pressure of Sikh opinion, backed frequently by demonstrations of strength, the *mahants* began to yield control over *gurdwara* properties to the elected committees and agreed to become paid *granthis*.²⁵ In this way, the *mahant* of the Teja Gurdwara in the Batala Tahsil made over its control and properties to the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee in September 1921.²⁶

The *mahant* of Guru Arjan Dev's Gurdwara at Othian, in Batala Tahsil, had absented himself from the *gurdwara*, leaving it deserted. On this, the worshippers of Othian and the surrounding villages, along with some Akalis who had also reached the spot, formally made over in writing the management of the *gurdwara* to the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee, on October 4, 1921.²⁷

Ultimately, in the face of the mounting agitation among the Sikhs, the Sikh Gurdwaras Act, 1925, placed all the important *gurdwaras* in the Punjab under the control of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee.

25. Khushwant Singh, *A History of the Sikhs, Vol. II*, (London, 1966,) pp.193-216

26. *The Tribune, Lahore*, September 28, 1921

27. *The Tribune, Lahore*, October 27, 1921; March 9, 1922; and July 20, 1922

Non-co-operation Movement, 1920—22.—When Gandhiji joined the Indian politics, he had faith in the professed goodwill of the British Government. But the Rowlatt Act and the Jallianwala Bagh incident shattered that faith. Therefore, in alliance with the Khilafat leaders, he started the non-co-operation movement in 1920. Its programme, among other items, included the renunciation of all Government titles, the boycott of legislatures, law courts and Government schools and colleges. The people all over the country enthusiastically responded to the call of Gandhiji. Lawyers suspended their practice, the students in large numbers left schools and colleges and bonfires were made of English cloths. In spite of severe measures taken by the Government to stop the movement, a large number of persons courted imprisonment.

In view of the farceplaying by H. Harcourt, Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, in connection with Gandhiji's personality, ridiculing the purely religious and sacred institution of Khilafat and suffering it to be ridiculed at his durbar at Dinanagar on November 22, 1920, the Gurdaspur Bar Association at its extraordinary meeting held on December 3, 1920, passed a resolution making it incumbent on its members to refrain henceforth from accepting any work and appearing in the court of H. Harcourt during his stay there as Deputy Commissioner so long as the latter did not express his regret in writing. The Deputy Commissioner felt much concerned at this development and addressed two letters, one to the Secretary and the other to the eight members of the District Bar Association, and also personally discussed the matter with them, in which he explained that he had no intention of and never meant to wound their religious and patriotic susceptibilities. In view of this, the said resolution of boycotting his court was dropped.²⁸

From time to time, public meetings were held at different places urging the British Government to redress the Khilafat and Punjab wrongs and grant complete independence to India.²⁹

With a view to popularize *swadeshi* (Indian made) goods, a conference of weavers and managers of *khadies* of the Gurdaspur District was organized at Gurdaspur on August 21, 1921, under the auspices of the local District Congress Committee. On this occasion a *Swadeshi* Exhibition was also organized and all the weavers, carders and managers of *khadies* of the Gurdaspur District in particular and other well wishers of *swadeshi* in general were invited to derive benefit from their

28. *The Tribune, Lahore*, December 11, 1920 ; February 2, 1921, and April 17, 1921

29. *The Tribune, Lahore*, April 17, 1921

experience of *swadeshi*. They were also asked to send their best and highly furnished piece goods, hand-spun yarn or other *swadeshi* articles for display at the exhibition. This exhibition was the first of its kind in the inauguration of the *swadeshi* movement in the province and proved an all-round success. Some 400 exhibits comprising the best cotton and woollen yarn, handwoven and hand-spun cloth, *khaddi* cloth, woollen blankets and coating cloth, dhotis, turbans and *Phulkaries* were displayed.³⁰ At the conference, the people were exhorted to use *khaddi* cloth and do away with foreign made stuffs. This had the desired effect and a large number of persons discarded their clothes made out of foreign cloth. Public meetings for the promotion of the *swadeshi* movement were also organized at Behrampur, Dinanagar and Pathankot.³¹

In the train of the non-co-operation movement, there followed some incidents of violence which perturbed Gandhiji and he called off the movement in February 1922.

Punjab Provincial Conference at Batala, 1922.—A session of the Punjab Provincial Conference was held at Batala on 29-30th April, 1922. One of the resolutions passed there declared the firm adherence of the conference to the principle of non-violent non-co-operation as the only means of attaining political freedom and getting the Khilafat and Punjab grievances redressed.³²

Boycott of the Simon Commission, 1928.—In November 1927, the British Government appointed the Simon Commission to inquire into the working of the reforms introduced by the Government of India Act, 1919. It consisted of 7 British members of Parliament, "all white" including Sir John Simon the Chairman. The exclusion of Indians from a body which was to prepare the future constitution of India was resented by almost all political parties which decided to boycott it. On February 3, 1928, when the Commission landed in India, there was a hartal all over the country and demonstrators marched in procession waving black flags and carrying banners with the words, "Go back, Simon" inscribed on them. The severe police lathi blows received by Lala Lajpat Rai while leading an anti-Simon demonstration at Lahore and his death shortly afterwards shocked deeply the people all over the country.

First Civil Disobedience Movement, 1930-31.—During its Lahore Session in December 1929, the Indian National Congress declared complete independence as its goal. January 26, 1930, was declared the Independence Day and the national flag was hoisted and the independence

30. For the best exhibits displayed at the Swadeshi Exhibition 22 prizes were awarded. 1. *Acharkha* (spinning wheel) having a *pankha* (fan) and *aterin* moving simultaneously by hand attracted the greatest attention. *Gota* machine, an invention of this district, was a marvel.

31. *The Tribune, Lahore*, August 13, 1921 ; August 26, 1921 ; and November 24, 1922

32. *The Tribune, Lahore*, May 3, 1922.

pledge was taken by the people at Gurdaspur and other places in the district³³ as by the people all over the country, and the same was repeated year after year.

The lack of any favourable response from the British Government in the matter led the Congress to launch the civil disobedience movement in 1930. The historic march of Gandhiji to Dandi on March 12, 1930, to break the Salt Laws was a signal for a mass movement all over the country in the form of strikes, boycott of British goods and the like. On the arrest of Gandhiji on May 5, 1930, complete hartal was observed at Gurdaspur, Dinanagar, Batala and Qadian in the Gurdaspur District, on the same day, all over the country.³⁴ The Government took severe steps to crush the movement. The Congress was declared an illegal organization and thousands of persons were imprisoned. A good number of those in the Gurdaspur District were also thrown into jails. Besides these arrests, there were several cases of assaults on peaceful volunteers and innocent members of the public. Special mention may be made of the beating of the *shahidi jathas* (bands of martyrs) at different places in the district.³⁵ On June 8, 1930, a Ladies' Congress Committee was established at Dinanagar and women were exhorted to take their proper share in the national struggle and be ready to suffer for the country. Thereafter, women also began to participate in the Satyagrah movement.³⁶ On the conclusion of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact on March 4, 1931, the civil disobedience movement was called off and all the political prisoners were released.

Second Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932—34.—On his return from the Second Round Table Conference in London, Gandhiji was re-arrested on January 4, 1932. The civil disobedience movement was, thus, restarted and it continued till about the middle of 1934. The wholesale arrest of Congressmen and other severe repressive measures adopted by Government checked the spread of the movement and, naturally, it subsided by the middle of 1934.

Individual Satyagrah, 1940-41.—The Congress refused co-operation in the World War II (1939—45) which was conducted on imperialistic lines. In November 1939, the Congress ministries in the different provinces resigned.

33. *The Tribune, Lahore*, January 30 and February 2, 1930

34. *The Tribune, Lahore*, May 7, 1930

35. *The Tribune, Lahore*, April 9, April 26, June 12, June 24, July 10, July 17 and September 14, 1930

36. *The Tribune, Lahore*, June 12 and June 22, 1930

The rapid success of Germany and the fall of France in the summer of 1940 caused perturbations in India. However, Gandhiji appealed to the people to remain quiet. On August 8, 1940, the Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow, made a statement holding out the prospect of a representative constituent assembly after the war was over. This "August offer" was rejected by the Congress and, as a protest, Gandhiji started the campaign of individual civil disobedience. As all over the province and the country as a whole, a good number of people in the Gurdaspur District signed the Satyagrah pledge and their names were sent from time to time by the District Congress Committee for approval of Gandhiji. Early in January 1941, the District Satyagrah Committee was formed to accelerate the enrolment of Satyagrahis and enlist the sympathy of the masses. The Satyagrah campaign was started in the district in the third week of January.³⁷ The people showed great enthusiasm and a good number of them courted imprisonment.

Quit India Movement, 1942.—From now onwards, the country moved irresistably to a final clash with the British power. As the Cripps Mission (1942) failed to resolve the deadlock, the Congress passed on August 8, 1942, the famous "Quit India" resolution demanding immediate complete and unconditional withdrawal by the British from India. Although the Congress proposed to start a mass struggle on the widest possible scale, yet it had not made actual preparations for the same. However, the Government decided to strike immediately and on 9th August Gandhiji and all the members of the Congress Working Committee were arrested. The Indian National Congress was banned and its offices were taken possession of by the police. The British Government did all in its power to crush the Congress organization. This set off a nation-wide political explosion. The people reacted voluntarily and rose spontaneously for action. A good number of persons in the Gurdaspur District were arrested.³⁸ However, the Government let loose unprecedented repression and the movement gradually lost its momentum.

The Indian Independence Act, 1947.—Although the outward signs of the Quit India movement had gradually subsided, yet the sullen resentment against the foreign domination continued to dominate the thinking of the people. This situation dragged on till 1945, when the Congress leaders were released.

The World War II brought about a radical change. The British Empire was visibly embarrassed and even when it finally emerged

37. *The Tribune, Lahore*, January 12 and February 19, 1941

38. *The Tribune, Lahore*, August 21 and September 13, 1942

victorious it was clearly no longer the invincible leviathan it had appeared to be. The results of the elections held in the beginning of 1946 were over-whelmingly in favour of the Congress.

About this time, the trial of the Indian National Army prisoners created another wave of popular demonstrations. More dangerous still were the mutiny in the Royal Indian Navy, in 1945, and the police strike in Bihar.

These developments in the background made the British Government declare its intention of leaving India and negotiations were started for the transfer of power to the Indians. The British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act on July 1, 1947, in accordance with which the country attained independence on August 15, 1947.

IV. Partition of the Country and Aftermath

As all over the country, the achievement of independence on August 15, 1947, was celebrated in the district with great enthusiasm. But it was marred by the communal riots and the exodus of minority communities from both sides of the border consequent upon the partition of the country. Hitherto part of the Gurdaspur District, the Shakargarh Tahsil was transferred to Pakistan and the refugees therefrom moved to the Indian side of the border to settle in the Gurdaspur District or elsewhere as it suited them. The local people collaborated with the Government to render all possible help to the uprooted people till they were finally settled.

(Vide page —)

Ghadar (Rebellion) of 1915

Revolutionaries belonging to the Gurdaspur District tried and convicted by Special Tribunals

Name	Village	Penalty
Person accused of the Second Lahore Conspiracy Case sentenced to transportation for life with forfeiture of property :		
Udham Singh	Ladhupur	—
Person sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in the Second Lahore Conspiracy Case :		
Sher Singh	Thikriwala	1 year's rigorous imprisonment
Persons sentenced to different terms of imprisonment in the Srigobindpur Conspiracy Case		
Sher Singh	Thikriwala	7 years' rigorous imprisonment
Kesar Singh	"	3 " " "
Gundoo	"	3 " " "
Veer Singh	"	21 " " "
Puran Singh	Kot Todar Mal	21 " " "
Atma Singh	Thikriwala	14 " " "
Santa Singh	Bham	14 " " "
Labhoo	Arjanpur	14 " " "
Munshi	Kot Todar Mal	14 " " "
Tehla	"	14 " " "
Dharam Singh	Bham	7 " " "
Kala Singh	"	7 " " "
Bahadur Singh	"	7 " " "
Bhagat Singh	"	7 " " "
Bela Singh	Thikriwala	7 " " "

39. Khushwant Singh and Satindra Singh, *Ghadar 1915* (New Delhi, 1966), pp. 54, 59—94

CHAPTER III PEOPLE

(a) Population

(i) Total Population :

According to the 1971 Census, the total population of the district was 12,29,249 (comprising 6,50,282 males and 5,78,967 females). Out of these, 9,80,165 persons were rural and 2,49,084 urban.

Growth of Population.—The population of the district increased from 7,05,869 in 1901 to 12,29,249 in 1971. The variation in population during this seventy years' period is shown in the following table :—

Decadal Variation in Population of Gurdaspur District, 1901—1971

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation	Males	Females
1901 ..	7,02,286	..	..	3,78,939	3,23,347
1911 ..	6,21,928	—80,358	—11.44	3,50,649	2,71,279
1921 ..	6,34,314	+12,386	+1.99	3,53,572	2,80,742
1931 ..	7,18,433	+84,119	+13.26	3,97,145	3,21,288
1941 ..	8,54,866	+1,36,433	+18.99	4,63,915	3,90,951
1951 ..	8,51,046	—3,820	—0.45	4,60,952	3,90,094
1961 ..	9,80,879	+1,29,833	+15.26	5,24,748	4,56,131
1971 ..	12,29,249	+2,48,370	+25.32	6,50,282	5,78,967

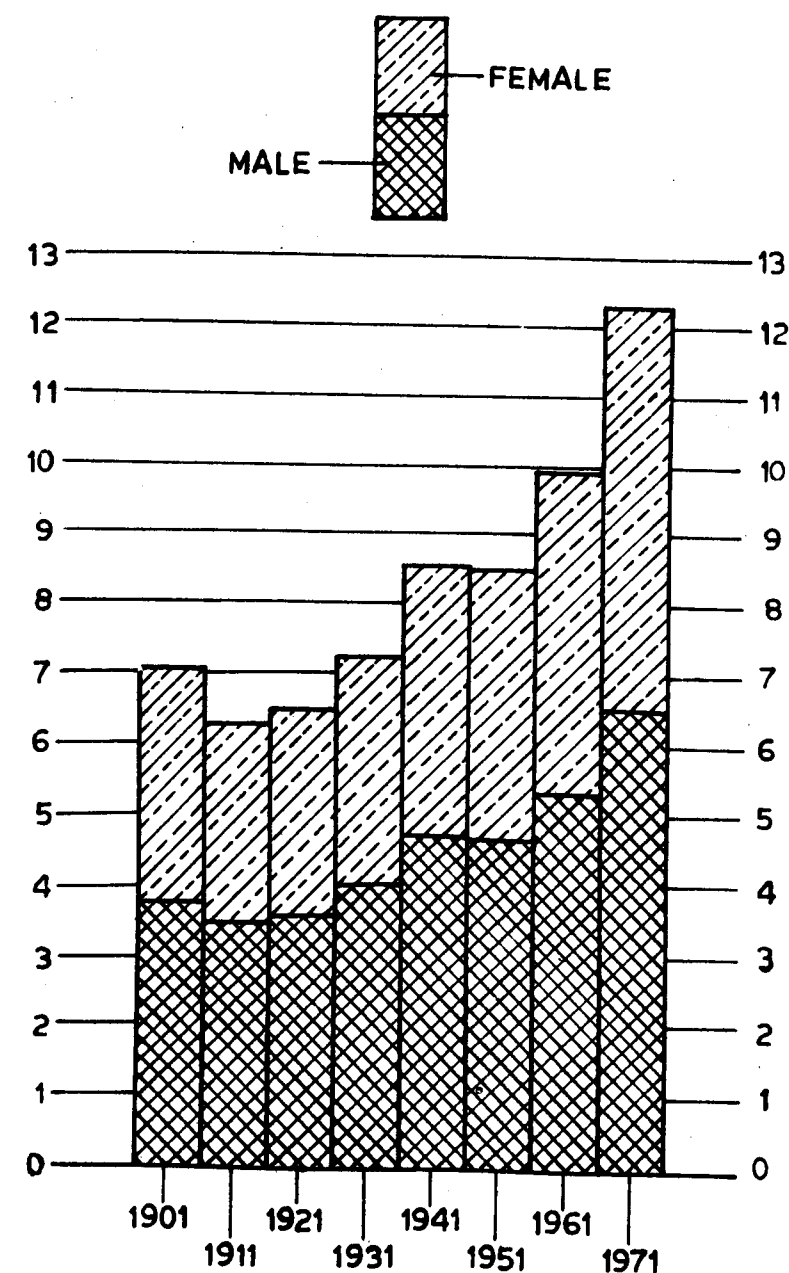
(Census of India, 1971, Series 17—Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables, p. 71)

The period of ten years, 1901-11, was marked by severe ravages of plague and malaria, which took a heavy toll of population. During 1911—21 occurred the great influenza epidemic which almost strangled the normal growth rate. The decade 1921—31 was generally healthy. The population expanded at a faster rate during 1931—41.

The decade 1941—51 bore the holocaust of unprecedented communal trouble and mass migration in the wake of the partition of the country in 1947. Except a few thousand Muslims, the entire Muslim population migrated to Pakistan, but the non-Muslim refugee immigrants preferred to settle in districts removed from the international border except those who had past moorings in Gurdaspur. The Shakargarh Tahsil, which hitherto formed part of the Gurdaspur District, was also transferred to

GROWTH OF POPULATION GURDASPUR DISTRICT 1901 TO 1971

FIGURES IN



SOURCE:— CENSUS OF INDIA, 1971, SERIES-17, PUNJAB, PART II-A, GENERAL POPULATION TABLES, PAGE 71

Pakistan in 1947. In 1941, there were 4,40,323 Muslims in the district, and only 9,284 in 1951. The number of displaced persons in the district recorded in 1951 was 2,97,581 (Gurdaspur Tahsil—1,16,261 ; Batala Tahsil—1,11,500 ; and Pathankot Tahsil—69,820). This big disparity between the out-migrants and in-migrants was responsible for the negative growth of population.

The years 1951—61 were free from disease and the health measures, taken by the Government, considerably reduced the death-rate while the birth-rate remained almost unchanged. On the reorganization of the erstwhile Punjab State on November 1, 1966, the pockets of Dalhousie, Baloon (Dalhousie Cantt.) and Bakloh of Tahsil Pathankot were transferred to the Himachal Pradesh. However, there was 25.32 per cent growth of population during the decade 1961—71.

Emigration and Immigration:¹—According to the 1961 Census, out of 9,87,994 persons enumerated in the district, as many as 5,39,462 or 54.6 per cent were born at the place of enumeration. Among the rural population, this percentage was as high as 58.87, but in the urban areas it was 37.72, denoting a higher degree of mobility in towns population.

Another interesting feature was the difference between the two sexes in this respect. Among males, as many as 62.6 per cent were born at the place they were enumerated as against 45.4 per cent in the case of females. The low figures for females sprang from the extra factor of their leaving ancestral place on marriage.

Another feature was that 14.6 per cent of the population was born at another place within the district. This percentage was 7.5 in the case of males and as high as 22.8 in the case of females, also due to the factor of marriage. Persons born in the Punjab districts other than Gurdaspur numbered 47,995 or 4.9 per cent of the population. Even in this group, the percentage of females was higher than males.

The Punjab-born persons formed 74.1 per cent of the district population. The remaining 25.9 per cent hailed from areas shown below :

Place of birth	Number	Percentage to total population
Other States in India	.. 29,192	2.9
Pakistan	.. 2,20,349	22.3
Other Countries	.. 4,737	0.5
Information not available	.. 1,988	0.2

1. *Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 39*

Persons born in other Indian States were chiefly from Jammu and Kashmir (10,628), Uttar Pradesh (5,497), Himachal Pradesh (3,447), Maharashtra (1,984), Bihar (1,632) and Delhi (1,100). These persons were counted chiefly in urban areas.

The Pakistan-born persons were by and far those who migrated in the wake of the partition of the country in 1947, mostly from the neighbouring tahsil of Shakargarh of Sialkot District (Pakistan). The persons reported to have been born in countries other than Pakistan were mostly from Nepal (3,001). Nepalese were mostly at the military areas. Persons from other countries were those who were mostly children of the Punjabis, who in their youth went abroad and had come back or had sent their children home.

Density of Population.—The following table shows the density of population in the district from 1881 to 1971 :—

Year	Density of population per sq. km.
1881	.. 172
1891	.. 197
1901	.. 200
1911	.. 177
1921	.. 181
1931	.. 205
1941	.. 244
1951	.. 241
1961	.. 286
1971	.. 345

(Census of India, 1951, Vol. VIII, Punjab, Pepsu, Himachal Pradesh, Bilaspur and Delhi, Part I-A—Report, pp. 8-9, 16, 27 ;

Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 34 ; and

Census of India, 1971, Series 17—Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pp. 22-23, 28-29)

According to the 1971 Census, the Punjab had on an average 269 (rural 208, urban 4,650) persons to a square kilometre with the Jullundur District as the most thickly populated (428) and Bhatinda/Ferozepur as the sparsest (188). The number of persons in the Gurdaspur District was 345 (rural 280, urban 4,642) and, in this respect, it ranked 7th amongst the then 11 districts of the Punjab State.

The tahsilwise density of population of the Gurdaspur District, according to the 1971 Census, is given in the following table :—

Tahsil/District	Density of population per sq. km.		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Batala Tahsil	.. 376	294	6,255
Gurdaspur Tahsil	.. 340	305	2,617
Pathankot Tahsil	.. 336	243	5,454
Gurdaspur District	.. 345	280	4,642

(Census of India, 1971, Series 17—Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pp. 28-29)

The reasons for the high density of population in the Gurdaspur District are not far to seek. The district is located in the sub-montane tract, where rainfall is comparatively heavy and the sub-soil water level is high so that returns from cultivation are assured. The land is fertile and the canal irrigation has been extended to vast areas. The density in the southernmost tahsil of Batala is the highest, because of land of better quality. The lowest density obtain in Pathankot Tahsil, a portion of which is hilly and strewn with small rivulets. The Gurdaspur Tahsil, though very fertile, has marshes.

Sex Ratio.—According to the 1971 Census, out of the total population of 12,29,249 of the district, 5,78,967 were females and 6,50,282 males, i.e., a ratio of 47.1 : 52.9.

In the Punjab, there were 865 females per 1,000 males which was lowest figure among the States in India : the corresponding figure for the Indian Union was 930. The Gurdaspur District had a female proportion of 890, only next to that of Hoshiarpur (899), which was the highest among the Punjab districts.

During the last seventy years, there has been a convincing improvement in favour of women, as the following figures show :—

Females Per Thousand Males							
Year	Gurdaspur District			Punjab			
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	
1901 ..	853	851	877	832	836	804	
1911 ..	774	771	798	780	785	740	
1921 ..	794	792	812	799	808	735	
1931 ..	809	813	769	815	832	721	
1941 ..	843	846	816	836	855	750	
1951 ..	846	857	804	844	854	807	
1961 ..	869	886	804	854	865	817	
1971 ..	890	893	881	865	868	856	

(Census of India, 1971, Series 17—Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables, p. 69)

The sex ratio for rural areas of the district in 1971 works out to 893 and for urban areas 881 : the corresponding figures in 1961 were 886 and 804, respectively.

Age Composition.—In the following table, the population of the district, according to the 1961 Census, is distributed into various age groups. With a view to comprehending the comparative strength of these groups, the totals have uniformly been taken as 1,000 :

Distribution of 1,000 Persons of Each Sex by Age Groups, according to the 1961 Census, in the Gurdaspur District

Age Group	Total Population			Rural		Urban	
	Persons	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
All ages ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
0—9 ..	314·2	308·4	320·8	320·3	324·6	263·9	304·9
10—14 ..	121·2	121·7	120·6	125·2	120·8	108·4	119·7
15—19 ..	93·8	92·4	95·5	93·0	94·0	90·4	101·7
20—24 ..	78·5	76·2	81·2	68·7	78·0	104·5	94·6
25—29 ..	75·2	72·8	78·0	67·0	76·7	94·3	83·6
30—34 ..	59·9	58·9	61·1	55·1	60·1	73·0	65·2
35—39 ..	49·8	49·6	50·1	46·2	49·9	62·3	51·2
40—44 ..	46·3	47·0	45·4	45·2	45·3	53·7	45·7
45—49 ..	36·0	37·3	34·4	36·8	34·7	39·3	33·2
50—54 ..	37·3	40·0	34·3	40·7	34·7	37·2	32·6
55—59 ..	20·0	21·4	18·2	22·1	18·8	19·0	16·0
60—64 ..	27·8	31·2	23·9	33·0	24·5	24·4	21·3
65—69 ..	11·4	12·5	10·1	13·2	10·4	9·8	8·9
70+ ..	28·3	30·3	26·1	33·2	27·2	19·6	21·1
Age not stated	0·3	0·3	0·3	0·3	0·3	0·2	0·3

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, pp. 35—37)

Too much reliance cannot be placed on the inferences to be drawn from the figures given above since a district is a small geographical unit so that the inflow and outflow of population, as a disturbing factor, cannot be ignored. With this reservation some inferences are given below:

The age pyramid has a broad base and tapers rather obliquely : 314 persons per thousand of the population are below the age of 10, and only 88 of age 55 and above. Roughly speaking, four out of every ten persons are below the age of 15, 5 in the groups of 15 years to below 55, and only 1 past the age of 55.

Males below the age of 15 years are 430 per thousand males : corresponding figure for females is 441. In ages 55 years and above, the males are 96 and females only 79. In ages 15 years and below 55 years, the males are 474 per thousand but the females are 480. The girls in the rural areas unfortunately still do not receive the same care as the boys, and after the marriage, they have the extra handicap of maternity troubles and stress of domestic life.

It is a daily observation that a large number of persons shift from villages to towns for study and livelihood. The low-paid among them leave their families in their village homes and live in towns by themselves. When they are past the age of useful work, some among them return to their native villages. The effect of this type of movement is reflected in the statistics of rural and urban age composition. For age groups below 15, 15 to below 55 and 55 and above, the distribution among males is 446, 453 and 100 per thousand males in the rural areas, and 372, 555 and 73 in urban areas. The corresponding figures for females in rural areas are 446, 473 and 81, and for urban areas 425, 508 and 67.

Marital Status.—In the following table, persons in different age-groups in the district, according to the 1961 Census, are further classified according to their marital status. To comprehend the significance of these figures, one thousand males and one thousand females for the district as a whole and for rural and urban areas, are distributed according to marital status :

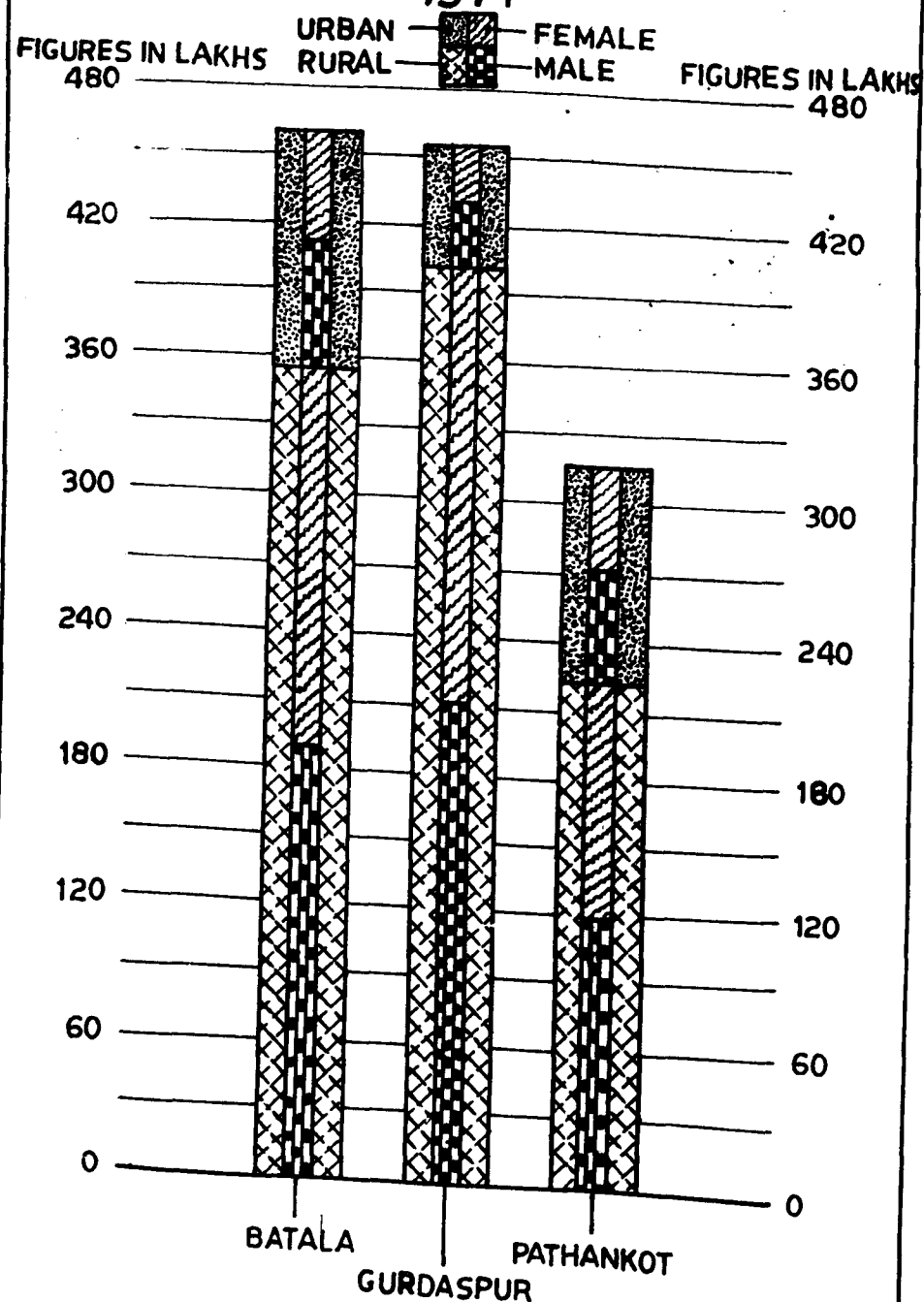
1,000 Males and Females, according to the 1961 Census, in the Gurdaspur District,
Classified according to Marital Status

Marital Status	Total		Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Total ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Never Married ..	597	505	606	503	566	514
Married ..	358	420	347	422	399	413
Widowed ..	43	74	46	75	33	72
Divorced or Separated ..	1	..	1	..	1	..
Unspecified status ..	1	1	..	..	1	1

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 36)

TAHSIL-WISE POPULATION GURDASPUR DISTRICT

1971



SOURCE:- CENSUS OF INDIA, 1971, SERIES-17, PUNJAB, PART II-A
GENERAL POPULATION TABLES, PP. 28-29

It will be noticed that in the district as a whole, in 1961, some 60 per cent of males and 51 per cent of females were unmarried. The higher proportion of unmarried males was due to shortage of females. Correspondingly there was a higher proportion of the married among females than among males.

The proportion of married males was higher in towns than in villages, but the proportion of married females was slightly more in rural areas (42 per cent) than urban areas (41 per cent). This might have been due to better financial position among town people so that fewer persons had to defer marriage because of lack of means.

(ii) Distribution of Population between Rural and Urban Areas :

The following table shows the tahsil-wise distribution of population between rural and urban areas in the district, according to the 1971 Census :—

District/Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Total District	.. 12,29,249	6,50,282	5,78,967
Rural	.. 9,80,165	5,17,827	4,62,338
Urban	.. 2,49,084	1,32,455	1,16,629
Batala Tahsil	.. 4,60,637	2,44,536	2,16,101
Rural	.. 3,55,184	1,88,774	1,66,410
Urban	.. 1,05,453	55,762	49,691
Gurdaspur Tahsil	.. 4,53,914	2,39,003	2,14,911
Rural	.. 4,01,258	2,11,027	1,90,231
Urban	.. 52,656	27,976	24,680
Pathankot Tahsil	.. 3,14,698	1,66,743	1,47,955
Rural	.. 2,23,723	1,18,026	1,05,697
Urban	.. 90,975	48,717	42,258

(Census of India, 1971, Series 17—Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pp.28-29)

(iii) Displaced Persons :

The partition of the country in 1947 was attended by unprecedented migration of the minority communities from either side of the border. The Muslim population from the Gurdaspur District migrated to Pakistan from where the Hindu and Sikh displaced persons settled also in this district.

According to the 1951 Census, amongst the 13 districts of the then Punjab, Gurdaspur ranked third in accommodating the number of displaced persons from Pakistan. The displaced persons in Gurdaspur District were enumerated in 1951 as 2,97,581, comprising 1,16,261 in Gurdaspur Tahsil, 1,11,500 in Batala Tahsil and 69,820 in Pathankot Tahsil. Of these, 2,14,220 (72 per cent) persons settled in rural areas and 83,361 (28 per cent) in urban areas of the district. These originally belonged mostly to the Sialkot District (1,93,182), Shakargarh Tahsil (43,203), Lyallpur District (17,783), Sheikhupura District (8,826), Lahore District (6,357), Gujranwala District (3,872), etc. of Pakistan².

The table given in Appendix I at pages—shows the details of refugee population (according to the 1951 Census) by district of origin in Pakistan which settled in the Gurdaspur District.

(b) Languages

According to the 1961 Census, there was an almost bilateral distribution in the district in regard to the mother tongue : Punjabi led Hindi by a narrow margin. Nepali, Dogri, Urdu, Marathi, etc. were returned by some persons in the defence services. Some Kashmiris and Tibetans were also in the district. The following table shows the distribution of persons by mother tongue according to the 1961 Census :

Mother Tongue	Number	Per 1,000
Total Population	9,87,994	1,000
Punjabi	4,89,286	495
Hindi	4,83,791	490
Nepali	2,317	2
Dogri	2,185	2
Urdu	1,957	2
Pahari - Unspecified	1,763	2
Marathi	1,567	2
Tibetan	1,238	1
Kashmiri	939	1
Others	2,951	3

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 38)

2. Census of India, 1951, Vol. VIII, Punjab, Pepsu, Himachal Pradesh, Bilaspur and Delhi, Part I-A, Report, pp. 3-34; and
Census of India, 1951, Punjab District Census Handbook, Volume 13, Gurdaspur District, Table No. D-V, p. xxiii

The Punjabi language of tahsils Batala and Gurdaspur is the Majhi dialect of Punjabi, which is the spoken form of the standard, literary Punjabi.

The Block Dhar Kalan of Tahsil Pathankot is a mountainous region. The majority of the inhabitants are Rajputs. The language spoken there is Pahari or Dogri, which has slight variations in accent and grammar in different localities—the speech of the western part, around Shahpur Kandi, has influence of the neighbouring language of Jammu, while on the eastern side the language has traces of Kangri. The speech of the southern parts is much nearer to that of the plains, but, as we move from the River Chakki Khad to the northern most point, Dunera, the Dogri (or Pahari) characteristics go on increasing.

The speech of the small pocket of Sub-tahsil Narot Jaimalsingh, across the River Ravi, is much nearer to the Dogri of Jammu, though it has some traces of the tongue of the neighbouring Shakargarh Tahsil (of District Sialkot of Pakistan). Since there is now no contact with the population of the Pakistani territory, the language of the new generation, on either side of the international boundary will naturally drift apart.

The language of the rest of the Tahsil Pathankot is a mixture of Majhi and Pahari—that of the Rajput villages is akin to Dogri while that of the Jat Sikh and Chang villages is closer to Majhi.

There is always an area of mixed speech along the boundary of two languages or dialects. As such, the language of the eastern part of the district should have some traces of Doabi. But the influence of Doabi seems to be quite negligible, because of the natural boundary of the River Beas between the two dialects. Anyhow, the initial 'v' of certain words is pronounced as 'b' at some places near the Beas. This is certainly the influence of Doabi.

The migrants from the West Punjab (Pakistan) have greatly influenced the language of certain parts of the Indian Punjab. But, in the Gurdaspur District, the new settlers have caused no major change in the general character of the language. A great majority of the migrants have come from the Sialkot District of Pakistan, and their original language was quite akin to the language of the Gurdaspur District. Again, most of the migrants, who have come from the canal colonies of the West Punjab (Pakistan), were original inhabitants of the Gurdaspur or Sialkot district. In spite of this, the new population has caused some variations in the phonological patterns of the language of the masses³.

3. The description of the Majhi dialect of the Punjabi language and the Pahari or Dogri language is based on a note supplied by Dr. Harkirat Singh, M.A., Ph.D., Department of Linguistics, Punjabi University, Patiala.

Under the Punjab Official Language Act, 1967⁴, Punjabi in Gurmukhi script was introduced as the official language of the State on April 13, 1968. The Act provides that Punjabi shall be used for such official purpose of the State and from such dates as may be specified by notifications to be issued from time to time. For official work at the district level and below, Punjabi has replaced English in almost all matters except accounts, technical, etc.

The *Gurmukhi* (literally proceeded from the Guru's mouth) script was popularized during the pontificate of Guru Angad Dev (1539-1552 A.D.). Till very recently, the general belief was that Guru Angad Dev invented a new script called Gurmukhi. But now it has been established that this script was known even in the time of Guru Nanak Dev (1469--1539 A.D.), as his *Patti* in the *Adi-Granth* contains all the alphabets of the new script. Though Guru Angad Dev did not invent a new script, yet it was during his pontificate that it was popularized and, in a short time, it replaced the *Landa* (literally clipped) alphabet, hitherto commonly used by the people of the Punjab.

For the promotion of Hindi, Government holds seminars, Kavi Sammelans (poetical symposia), etc., from time to time.

(c) Religion and Caste

Principal Communities :

The total population of the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 12,29,249. The percentage of the Hindus was 48.02 and that of the Sikhs 44.82. The percentage of the Sikhs is substantially higher in Batala Tahsil whereas Hindus predominate in Pathankot and Gurdaspur tahsils. The percentage of Hindus in the urban area is far greater than the Sikhs who are slightly numerous in the villages.

The Christians are the third religious community, found mostly in the Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils.

At the time of the 1941 Census, the Muslims figured 4,40,323 (and constituted 25 per cent of the total population) in the district while in 1951 they were found to be 10,425 only. This vast difference is due to their en-block migration to Pakistan in 1947. At the time of the 1961 Census, there were 5,566 Muslims who either came from Kashmir, Chamba (Himachal Pradesh) or other parts of India. According to the 1971 Census, the number of Muslims in the district was 6,868.

4. The Act of 1967 repealed the Punjab Official Languages Act, 1960.

The religion-wise population of the district, according to the 1971 Census, was as under :—

Religion		Percentage to the total population	Persons	Males	Females
Hindus	..	48.02	5,90,290	3,11,143	2,79,147
Sikhs	..	44.82	5,50,996	2,92,297	2,58,699
Christians	..	6.49	79,732	42,568	37,164
Muslims	..	0.56	6,868	3,540	3,328
Jains	..	0.01	152	97	55
Buddhists	..	..	35	22	13
Other religions and persuasions	..	..	1	1	..
Religion not stated	..	0.10	1,175	614	561
Total	..	100	12,29,249	6,50,282	5,78,967

(Census of India, 1971, Series 1-India, Paper 2 of 1972, Religion, pp. 60-61, 103)

Hindus.—The number of Hindus in the district according to the 1971 Census, was 5,90,290 (3,11,143 males and 2,79,147 females) which formed 48.02 per cent of the total population.

The word Hindu is a geographical expression derived from the River Sindhu (Hindu in Persian and Indus in Greek). Hinduism is one of the oldest religions of the world. Some of its characteristics have been traced to the Harappan culture. Its literary tradition goes back to the Rigveda, which is perhaps mankind's oldest book. It comprises many traditional faiths and would in short refer to the entire range of the civilization of India.

Apart from the four *varnas* (castes) and four *ashramas* (stages of endeavour), Hinduism accepts four *purusharthas* (human aims). These are : *dharma* (duty, morality, religious life or law), *artha* (material

goods including land and money and articles necessary to sustain and promote life and prosperity), *kama* (desires and pursuit of legitimate pleasures) and *moksha* (ultimate liberation from bondage, release from the chain of birth and death or realization of Ultimate Reality).

Another important Hindu doctrine is that of *karma* (deeds) and *punarjanma* (rebirth). The doctrine of *karma* is in fact the moral law of natural justice in the universe⁵.

Caste is a distinctive feature of the Hindus. The castes and sub-castes found in the district are : Brahmins, Khattris, Aroras, Banias, Suds, Rajputs, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, etc.

Rajputs

The hilly tract is peopled almost entirely by Thakkars or spurious Rajputs, the submontane is mainly Rajput, and the plains population is principally Jat. There are very few true Jai Karia Rajputs, as the Pathanias and Manhas, who might lay claim to this rank, have lost grade by turning personally to direct agriculture. Practically, all of these tribes come under the generic term of Salamias, and many of them hardly deserve the name of Rajput at all, and in Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) would be called Rathis who are repudiated by the true blood Rajputs. The lowest clan of all is known Ram Ramrias.

A list of Rajput clans of the Gurdaspur District is given at the end of this chapter in Appendix II at pages——. A brief description of a few of these clans is given below :—

Bajju.—This clan inhabited the eastern portion of the Bajwat, which is named after them, in the Sialkot District of Pakistan up to the partition of the country in 1947, when it migrated to the Gurdaspur District. Their origin has been noticed in connection with their relations the Bajwa Jats. The Bajjus are all Dogras, generally of short stature and weak physique. They revere an ancestor named Baj, a Sidh or saint. Bajjus are Hindus ; Bajwas are Hindu, Sikh or Muslim.

Jamwals and Manhas.—They are said to have a common solar origin. They came originally from Ayodhya. In the Mahabharata War they fought on the side of the Kauravas against the Pandavas and after the fight

⁵. Harbans Singh and Lal Mani Joshi, *An Introduction to Indian Religions* (Patiala, 1973), pp. 12-13, 20-22

at Kurukshetra fled to Kashmir and then to Mankot where their ancestor Jamu Lochar defeated Chander Hans, the ruler of the territory now known as Jammu. The victor founded the city of that name. The Jamwals may not touch the plough, and when one of them took to agriculture he was cast off and founded the Manhas clan.

Salehria.—They claim among their ancestors Raja Sal who is said to be the founder of Sialkot (in Pakistan).

Jats

The Jats are partly Hindu and partly Sikh, the Muslim having migrated to Pakistan on the partition of the country in 1947. They have preserved their racial characteristics. They are brave, fairly open, industrious, frugal in their personal expenditure and hardy. It is somewhat curious and interesting to observe how closely the general boundary between the Rajput and Jat country follows that between the submontane and plain zones ; the inferior race, so far as physique and energy are concerned, being confined to the tract where cultivation is carried on with less labour and more uncertain returns, while the hardier Jats have successfully wrestled with the greater and natural obstacles to agricultural development with far more satisfactory and certain results,

Scheduled Casts

The number of Scheduled Castes persons in the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 2,67,110 (1,41,423 males and 1,25,687 females) which formed 21.73 per cent of the total population. Of these, 2,25,175 were rural and 41,937 urban. These include both Hindus and Sikhs.

The names of the different Scheduled Castes in the district are : Ad Dharmi; Bengali; Barar, Burar or Berar; Batwal; Bazigar, Balmiki, Chura or Bhangi; Bhanjra; Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar, Raigar, Ramdasi or Ravidasi; Chanal; Darain; Dhanak; Dhogri Dhangri or Sigg; Dumna, Mahasha or Doom; Gandhila or Gandil Gondola; Khatik; Kori or koli; Mazhabi; Megh; Nat; Pasi; Sanhai; Sanhal; Sansi; Bhedkut or Manesh; Sikligar; Sonsoi; and Sarera. The more numerous among these castes are : Mahasha, Chamar, Mazhabi, Megh, Kabirpanthi, Balmiki, Sansi, and Batwal.⁶

⁶. *Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District*, pp. 39, 284—301

Sikhs.—The number of Sikhs in the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 5,50,996 (2,92,297 males and 2,58,699 females) which formed 44.82 per cent of the total population.

The Sikhs believe implicitly in the teachings of the Ten Gurus and the *Guru Granth Sahib*. The basic teaching of Sikhism is an uncompromising belief in monotheism. The *Mul Mantra* (preamble to the *Japji*) strikes the keynote of the Sikh religion: "There is but one God. He is the Supreme Truth". God or *Sat Nam* has no form or substance but His grace can be invoked by faith and righteous living. Sikhism believes in the doctrines of the immortality of the soul and transmigration. Meditation on God, utterance of the Name (*Nam*), the guidance of the Guru, the company of saints, righteous living, and the service of humanity (*Seva*) are the means of salvation.

The Sikhs attach great importance to the recitation of the *Guru Granth Sahib*. Ordinarily, the holy Book is opened at any page and the reading starts with any hymn. Sometimes the recitation of the whole book is undertaken by a congregation or a family as *Saptah Path* (a cover-to-cover recitation in seven days) or as *Akhand Path* (uninterrupted recitation of the holy Book in 48 hours).

Amrit-pan ceremony or Sikh Baptism is the ceremony by which a Sikh becomes a member of the Khalsa Brotherhood.

A Sikh temple, called *gurdwara*, is an important centre of Sikh community life. Among the important *gurdwaras* in the Gurdaspur District, mention may be made of the *gurdwaras* at Dera Baba Nanak (Dera Sahib), Batala (Kandh Sahib) and Srigobindpur (Shahidi Gurdwara Damdama Sahib).

Jats

The Jats in the district are mostly Sikhs and are found chiefly in the Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils. Those who migrated from the Sialkot District/Shakargarh Tahsil of Pakistan, on the partition of the country in 1947, also mostly settled here.

The Jat Sikhs racially are of the same stock as the Hindu Jats of Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh and the Muslim Jats of Pakistani Punjab, but the high status the Jat Sikhs enjoy has not been attained by their Hindu or Muslim counterparts. Though about 300 years ago all the Jats were at a low social level, the Jat Sikhs, due to certain

historical, cultural, religious and political reasons, have jumped up many places.⁷

The upward mobility of Sikh Jats had begun in the time of Guru Gobind Singh when a large majority of those baptised were Jats. These were the baptised Keshadhari Jats who had been the Chief instruments of the Sikh rise to power and consequently became the landowning aristocracy during the rule of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Under British rule, Jats maintained their position as the premier caste among the Sikhs.⁸

This ascendancy in the hierarchy of the caste structure, in a country where caste is determined by birth and not worth, is fascinating phenomenon and, in a way, proof of the irresistible vigour and vitality of the Jat Sikh character.

The Chief traits of a Jat Sikh are: love of land, courage—both physical and moral—stamina, strong individualism, pragmatism, love of adventure, spirit of enterprise, common sense, dignity of labour, self-respect, zest for life, straightforwardness, outspokenness, sturdiness, independence, dynamism and toughness.⁹

The chief Jat *gots* in the Gurdaspur District are: Randhawa, Bajwa, Kahlon, Sandhu, Cheema, Riar, Sidhu, Malhi, Dhariwal, Ghuman, Sarai, Sahi, Gill, Basra, Goraya, Mann, Sohal, Sekhon, Virk, Bhullar, Bains, etc.

All these clans, except Her, Bhullar and Mann, claim Rajput origin. These three clans say that they are the "original" Jats, sprung from the *Jatta* or matted hair of Shiva.

The popular story about their origin is that Shiva was married to Parvati, daughter of Raja Daspat. The latter did not like his son-in-law and declined to invite him to his durbar. Parvati took it so ill that she threw herself into the fire and was consumed.

Shiva was furious when he heard of this calamity. He unravelled his *Jatta* and smote the ground, and, from this contact, sprang the ancestor of Bhullar. Then he tore open his breast and a child came out

7. *The Illustrated Weekly of India*, Vol. XCIV, 45, November 11, 1973
8. Khushwant Singh, *A History of the Sikhs*, Vol. II. (London, 1966), p. 120
9. *The Illustrated Weekly of India*, Vol. XCIV, 45, November 11, 1973

from whom descended Mann. Lastly, he clawed open his navel and out came a child who was the progenitor of Her.

Claiming a common descent, these three clans do not intermarry.

A brief description of the Jat *gots* is given below :—¹⁰

Randhawa.—They far exceed any other *got* in Batala Tahsil ; in Gurdaspur Tahsil they are found mainly in the Bangar. Randhawas are chiefly Sikhs. They claim their origin from a Rajput warrior called Randhawa who was famous for his martial prowess. They migrated from Bikaner about 700 years ago.

Bajwa.—The Bajw Rajputs admit their relationship with the Bajwas. Both are singularly unanimous about their origin. They claim to be descended from Ram Chandra of the Suryavanshi line. Their common ancestor was one Shalip, who lived in the time of Sikandar Lodi (A. D. 1489—1517) at Uch in Jhang, which was then part of the Multan Suba. Shalip was a man of some position, as he enjoyed a large *jagir* and paid tribute to Delhi. He quarrelled with the Governor of the Suba, and owing to the intrigues of the latter fell into disfavour. The imperial troops marched against him and when his fort at Uch fell, he poisoned himself. He had a large number of sons, some of whom were killed with their father. Two of them, Kals and Yas or Sis, however, escaped, disguised as falconers. Kals took refuge with a Sindhu Jat of Ban in the Pasrur Tahsil (of Sialkot District in Pakistan), and married a Jat wife. Yas took service with the Rajput chief at Jammu and settled down at Gol, a village on the left bank of the Chenab opposite Hundal in Bajwat (in Sialkot District of Pakistan). Shortly afterwards he crossed the river and settled down in Bajwat, where his descendants, the Bajus, lived up to the partition of the country in 1947 when they migrated to the Gurdaspur District. He put his brother Kals out of caste, as the latter had married beneath him. But Kals was strong enough to found a flourishing family of his own, which has now grown into the Bajwa clan.

The name of the clan is thus derived from Baj, a corruption of *baz* (falcon), in allusion to the disguise adopted by their ancestor.

10. *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer*, 1914, pp. 52-53
Sialkot District Gazetteer, 1920 (Lahore, 1921), pp. 38—48
The Illustrated Weekly of India, Vol. XCIV, 45, November 11, 1973

Cheema.—They claim relationship with Chauhan Rajputs as their ancestor, Cheema, belonged to that clan.

Ghuman.—They are an offshoot of the Janjua Rajputs, and so claims descent from Raja Dalip of Delhi. One of his descendants, Sanpal, married out of caste, took service in Jammu, and founded this clan which has 21 sub-divisions, each representing an alleged son of Sanpal.

They intermarry with all the leading Jats, with the exception of the Manns. They have a few peculiar wedding customs, such as the worship of an idol made of grass tied up with red cloth, and the pouring of water on a lamb's head.

Gill.—The following tradition explains the origin of the name Gill which in Punjabi means 'moisture' :—

Raja Prithipal had no children by his Rajput wives but his Jat wife bore him a son. The former, out of jealousy, threw the infant in a marshy spot, where he was found by the Raja's Munshi, who called the child Gill from the damp nature of the place where he was found. The clan is subdivided into 12 *muhins*, such as Sher-Gill, Asl-Gill, Jholi-Gill, Nijjar-Gill.

Goraya.—They are said to be descended from the Saroha family of Chandravanshi Rajputs and are closely connected with the Dhillon, Metli and Saroha Jats. The ancestor to whom they trace their origin, Rana, came from Sirsa (Haryana) to Jammu and thence to the Sialkot District (in the time of the Emperor Akbar) from where they migrated to the Gurdaspur District in 1947.

Kahloh.—The Kahlon Jats claim descent from Raja Vikramajit, through Raja Jag Deo of Daranagar, of the Lunar dynasty. The home of the clan is Batala. There are three divisions of the clan corresponding with the three sons of Soli, their founder.

Malhi.—They have settled mostly in Batala Tahsil after migration from Shakargarh Tahsil (now in the Sialkot District in Pakistan) in 1947. It is through Ram Chandra of the Suryavanshi family that the Malhis trace their descent. According to the bard Chand (as Major Todd tells) Malli, Malhi or Mohil is one of the 36 royal races of Rajasthan. Malhi was then holder of the Malwa estate, the Capital of which was Udnth Kot, the ruins of which are found the

Multan District (in Pakistan). During his conquests in India, Alexander the Great met and fought with the war like tribe of Malhi, the holder of Multan (Mohilsthan). Prithiviraj, the King of Delhi (12th Century A.D.) the son of Bumhi, the son of Isal, was of the same tribe of Rajputs and was one of the greatest of Malwa princes. He was conquered by Shahab-ud-Din Ghorī (also known as Muhammad Ghorī) and from that time the Malhis have been scattered all over the Punjab, founding villages wherever they settled. There once existed a small state in Rajasthan by the name of Sarobi, the ruler of which was a Malhi.

Mann.—With the Bhullar and Her clans, it forms the “two and-a-half houses” which claim to be the oldest and best of the Jat clans.

Riar.—They are almost confined to the fertile Bangar tract called the Riarki in the east of Batala and the adjoining villages in Gurdaspur Tahsil.

Sandhu.—They claim solar Rajput origin and believe that they came from Ghazni,¹¹ but whether Ghazni in Afganistan or in the Deccan or Bikaner is not certain. Hindu Sandhus revere their ancestor Kala Pir or Kala Mehr of whom various wonderful tales are told.

Sidhu.—They claim to be the descendants of a Rajput named Khiwa, who married a Jat woman by whom he had a son called Sidhu, who gave his name to the clan.

Christians.—The number of Christians in the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 79,732 (42,568 males and 37,164 females) which formed 6.49 per cent of the total population.

Christianity is the religion originally preached by Jesus Christ, who was Jew both by birth and by faith. The scriptures of Christianity include not only the twenty-seven books or writings that constitute the New Testament, but also the sacred books of the Jews known as the Old Testament. The two Testaments together make up the Christian Bible.¹²

The Old Testament is a collection of 39 books of the Bible, recording Jewish history and religion from the beginning down almost to the times of Christ and his apostles.¹³ The *Dramatis Persons* of

11. The Sandhus say that their ancestors accompanied Mahmud to Ghazni and returned during the 13th century.

12. N. K. Devaraja, *Hinduism and Christianity* (Bombay, 1969), p. 61

13. George F. Maine, *Collins New Age Encyclopedia, World Atlas and Sports Supplement* (Glasgow, 1957), p. 799

the Old Testament is God, and the plot from the beginning to the end is the unfolding of the divine purpose.¹⁴

The Christian doctrine, as elaborated in the extensive literature of the New Testament, consists of the following three parts: (1) Belief in God, the Creator of the universe, and his son Jesus Christ, who is both the Son of God and the Son of man; and who acts as an intermediary between God and man; and in the Holy Ghost. (2) Stress on the necessity of Faith in God and his Son; and on obeying the Commandments and Glorifying God. These commandments enjoin both love of God and love of the neighbour. (3) The third part of the doctrine relates to belief in Original Sin and the possibility of Salvation through faith in Christ and the grace of God.¹⁵

The different Christian missions functioning in the district are Salvation Army, Presbyterian Mission, Church Missionary Society, Ceylon Pentecostal Mission, Methodist Mission, Roman Catholic Mission, Seventh-Day Adventists, etc. The Salvation Army started work in the district in the later half of the last decade of the nineteenth century. It is functioning through its three divisional headquarters at Gurdaspur, Batala and Dera Baba Nanak. It runs the Salvation Army MacRobert Hospital at Dhariwal and a high school at Batala. The Presbyterian Mission constitutes the old American United Presbyterian Mission and the new United Church of Northern India. It started its work in the Gurdaspur Tahsil in 1871 and in the Pathankot Tahsil in 1876. Its main centres are located at Dhariwal, Gurdaspur and Pathankot. Sponsored by the Church of England, the Church Missionary Society, Batala, originally carried on its work in the Batala Tahsil. There also existed at Batala the Church of England Zenana Society which commenced its work in 1876. The Baring Union Christian College, Batala, run by the Church Missionary Society, was originally a high school which was established by Revd. F. H. Baring in 1878. The Ceylon Pentecostal Mission is also getting popular among the Christians in the district. The Methodist Church started its work in the Batala Tahsil in 1904. It runs a girls school at Batala. The Roman Catholic Mission started its activities in the district in 1932. It runs an English medium high school at Gurdaspur, an English medium primary school at the village of Sohal and a Purjabi-English medium

14. S. C. Carpenter, *Christianity* (Melbourne, 1953), p. 18

15. N. K. Devaraja, *Hinduism and Christianity* (Bombay, 1969), p. 64

school at the village of Mastkot. The Roman Catholic priests work from their two centres in the district at Dhariwal and Fatehgarh Churian. The Seventh-Day Adventists function at Fatehgarh Churian.

Muslims.—The number of Muslims in the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 6,868 (3,540 males and 3,328 females) which formed 0.56 per cent of the total population.

Prior to the partition of the country in 1947, Muslims constituted about one-fourth of the total population of the district. They migrated enblock to Pakistan in 1947. Most of those enumerated at the time of the 1971 Census had come from other parts of the country.

Almost all the Muslims of the district belonged to the Hanafi sect of the Sunnis. The Shias were to be found in considerable strength only in Batala. The same was the case with the Ahl-i-Hadis. The new sect of Ahl-i-Quran was also represented by a few persons.

The principal difference between Shias and Sunnis consists in the former regarding Ali as the only rightful successor of the prophet Muhammad and the three Khalifas who preceded him as aggressors. This difference has led to the adoption of different interpretations of some of the verses of the Koran and to a difference of opinion regarding the authenticity and interpretation of some of the Hadises or traditions of the prophet. The Hanafi follow Imam Abu Hanifa in his opinions on points of Muhammadan law not covered by the Koran or tradition. The Ahl-i-Hadis refuse to be bound by the opinions of any particular Imam. The Ahl-i-Quran believes that the Koran is complete in itself and the search after traditions is unnecessary and misleading. The birth place of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the founder of the Ahmadiyya sect, is in this district. Having originated here, the sect calls for some special notice.

Ahmadiyyas

The Ahmadiyya movement in Islam was founded in 1889 at Qadian, Tahsil Batala, District Gurdaspur, by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835—1908). He was born at Qadian in 1835 in a family which traced its pedigree to Haji Barlas, an uncle of Emperor Taimur of Samarkand who invaded India in A. D. 1398. The great grandfather of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad founded Islampur Qazi, which, with the passage of time, became Qazian and, finally, the Qadian of today. His father, Mirza Ghulam Murtaza, held a jagir restored by Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the founder of the movement, claimed himself to be the promised Reformer of the age for all the nations of the world

in fulfilment of the prophecies of Holy Prophet Muhammad and other earlier prophets. He declared that he was commissioned by God to demonstrate the truth of Islam to all nations and to bestow the light of faith. In 1891, he declared himself to be the Promised Messiah and Mehdi. This declaration let loose to no end of opposition and persecution which made the remaining years of his life stormy. He wrote some eighty books in Urdu, Arabic and Persian in defence of Islam and his claim. The Mullahs declared him a Kafir (apostate) for claiming to be a prophet and Dajjal (Anti-Christ) for preaching that Jesus died a natural death, lying buried in a tomb in Srinagar and would not return to earth. He was vehemently assailed by the Mullahs for interpreting the meaning of Jihad (holy war) as purification of one's own self and spreading Islam by peaceful persuasion and precepts rather than by the use of arms. According to him, the Holy Quran permits Jihad with arms against armed aggression aimed at destroying Islam and not at all under any other pretence.

Undeterred, he continued his missionary work and the number of his followers swelled. The accounts of his wisdom, miraculous acceptance of prayers and fulfilment of prophecies drew thousands to his unknown village Qadian which in course of time became an important international shrine. When the opposition to Ahmadiyyat rose, the founder urged his followers in 1901 to form a separate community and call themselves Ahmadi Muslims.

After the death of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad on May 26, 1908, the movement came under Khilafat. Hakim Maulvi Noor-ud-Din, his foremost votary, became the First Caliph. He was succeeded by Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad as the Second Caliph in 1914. On his demise in 1965, Mirza Nasir Ahmad became the Third Caliph.

In 1947, the headquarters of the movement were shifted to Rabwah in Pakistan and Qadian continued to be the headquarters for the Indian missions. Mirza Wasim Ahmad, a grandson of the founder, has been in charge of the missionary work in India.

The Ahmadiyya community which has a net-work of over 200 branches in India, is controlled by the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya, Qadian, a registered religious and charitable society functioning since 1906. The activities of its institutions are financed from a central fund which is raised through regular voluntary subscriptions from the members of the community. Generally, every Ahmadi subscribes to the extent of one-tenth of his income.

The educational and charitable institutions run by the Ahmadiyya community in India and abroad are invariably open to all, irrespective

of caste, colour and creed. The community runs two High Schools at Qadian besides a large number of elementary schools all over the country. The schools offer free education. The community also runs a charitable hospital at Qadian.

The Ahmadiyya community has missions all over the world and runs scores of schools, colleges, libraries, medical missions, etc., on purely secular lines.

(d) Social Life

With the passage of time, the caste feeling is by and by lessening and the members of different castes and sub-castes associate freely in everyday life. The measures adopted by Government for the economic and social advancement and uplift of the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes are gradually but definitely raising them in their own estimation as well as in that of the society at large.

The hold of the *bradari* (cast-fellows) over the individual is on the wane, particularly in the urban areas. The joint family system is also crumbling under the stresses and strains of the modern life. The modern spirit of individualism, the growing independence of outlook developing among the Indian women, easy means of transport and communications, and migration of the people from their villages to distant towns in search of living are accelerating the break-up of the system. However, the members of family usually join one another in their joys and sorrows.

The old system of ideas which placed women in an inferior position in the social organization is breaking down. Women are showing competence in all kinds of vocations such as industry, commerce, medicine, law, teaching, politics, etc. The hard shell of custom and prejudice which prevented women from taking occupations outside their home is cracking and they have started working side by side with men. Education is enabling them to throw off shackles of economic dependence and to march in step with men. With the exception of some higher classes among the Muslims, the purdah system has almost disappeared with the spread of education and enlightenment.

(i) Property and Inheritance :

Under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, governing the inheritance among the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Budhists, the property of the deceased is distributed equally amongst sons, daughters, widow and mother. However, during his lifetime, any Hindu may dispose of by will or other testamentary disposition any property, which is capable of being so disposed of by him in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, or any other law for the time being in force and applicable to Hindus. The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956, governs the adoption of the children and maintenance allowance to the wife.

Muslims are governed by the Shariat Act, 1937, under which the sons, daughters and wife inherit the property of the deceased in equal shares. Wife is the sole owner of *mehr* given to her at the time of marriage.

The Indian Succession Act, 1925, governs inheritance among the Christians.

(ii) Marriage and Morals :

Marriage.—Under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, monogamy has become the rule among all sections of the people, with the exception of the Muslims. Generally, arranged marriages are performed. The parents of the marriageable girl or boy look for some suitable match either through their own efforts or through the assistance of their relations and friends or sometimes through advertisement in the newspapers. The parents/guardians of both the girl and the boy see the match personally before the settlement of negotiations. Among the educated sections of the people, the boy and the girl may also be provided with a chance to see each other before the actual engagement. On the day fixed for the engagement, the parents and near relations of the girl come to the boy's house and, after a brief religious ceremony, offer presents to the boy's parents and near relations.

Sometime after the engagement, the date of marriage is fixed. On the day of the marriage, after the *sehra bandhi* ceremony, the marriage party reaches the bride's house which is generally decorated with great pomp and show for its reception (*milni* ceremony). Among the Hindus, the wedding takes place generally at night while that among the Sikhs it is performed in the morning. Among the Christians, the marriage ceremony is performed in the church.

The cases in which civil marriage is performed, under the Special Marriage Act, 1954, are few and far between. It takes place only in exceptional cases when either the parents of the boy or of the girl or of both may be unwilling to the proposal or in case of marriage within a subcaste or between persons belonging to two different communities. From 1960 up to 1973, only 11 civil marriages took place in the district.

Though there is now no bar to inter-caste marriage, yet people prefer to marry within their own castes, particularly if they can find suitable match. However, inter-caste marriages are on the increase.

Under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, (Amended in 1978) the marital age has been raised from 18 to 21 years in case of a boy and 15 to 18 years in case of a girl.

Widow Remarriage

With the passage of time and spread of education and enlightenment, little objection is now raised to the widow remarriage, especially when the widow is of a comparatively young age and is without any child. A widow is, therefore, generally remarried if and when suitable match is found and circumstances otherwise permit.

Dowry System.—The giving of dowry at the marriage of a girl, which has continued all through the past, is one of the greatest social evils in India. It has not only made the marriage of girls, belonging to families with ordinary means, a very difficult affair but has also brought ruination to a large number of girls even after their marriage. Early in 1976, the Government took steps to eradicate this evil through the dowry Prohibition (Punjab Amendment) Act, 1976, amending section 3 of the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961, in its application to the State of Punjab. In pursuance thereof, the village panchayats in the Gurdaspur District as also all over the State, have mobilised public opinion against the dowry system.

Morals.—The moral standards observed in the district are the same as all over this region. The customary conjugal relations prevail. Marriage is universal with the exception of persons with unsound body or mind, any major disability, infectious disease, extreme poverty, bad reputation, etc.

Polygamy is not allowed under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, in case of Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains, except under exceptional circumstances. The Christians also cannot have more than one living wife at a time. Polygamy is, however, recognized by the Muhammadans up to the number of four wives, as allowed by the Muhammadan law, but among the poorer classes, monogamy is imposed by the expense involved in maintaining more than one wife.

Among the Hindus, before the passage of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the custom of divorce did not generally exist, but in certain tribes a wife could be repudiated for immorality or disobedience by the execution of a deed of release; these tribes were the Labanas of the Gurdaspur Tahsil, the Hindu Jats of the Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils, and the Sainis, Bhats, Lohars and Tarkhans of the Gurdaspur Tahsil; among them all except the Labanas and Sainis allowed the woman so repudiated to be taken back by mutual consent. Now, under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, divorce may be allowed by the court in exceptional circumstances. The Muhammadans are guided by the Muhammadan law in all matters connected with divorce.

The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, has virtually put an end to the prostitution. Nevertheless, the growing disregard for the traditional restraints and moral values among the new generation is resulting in a good deal of moral laxity.

Birth and Death Ceremonies:

Birth Ceremonies.—The *reet* ceremony, which is performed in the case of the first pregnancy, is observed only by the Hindus. In the eighth month of the pregnancy, the girl's parents send her some flour, rice, *mash* and clothes along with some money and some articles, namely, almonds, *gari* (the kernel of a coconut) and *mewa* (raisins), etc., collectively known as *bid*. The *bid* and the money are placed in her lap and the remaining things are cooked and distributed to the *bradari* (caste fellows). A good number of customs connected with the birth of a child, which were observed in the past, are going out of vogue. Amongst the Sikhs, there are no recognized ceremonies connected with the birth of a child.

The naming ceremony (*namkaran-sanskar*) as such among the Hindus is formally observed only by a few persons, while among the Sikhs this ceremony is well established. The Holy *Granth Sahib* is opened at random and the child has to be found a name beginning with the first letter of first word on the top of the page.

The *mundan* (Shaving of head) ceremony of a child is invariably observed among the Hindus.

Among the Sikhs, when boys and girls attain puberty and are old enough to understand the obligations of their faith, they are baptized according to the ceremony of *Pahul* as performed by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699. Like the thread ceremony (*yagiopavit*) among the Hindus, the *Pahul* is looked upon as a new birth¹⁶.

Death Ceremonies.—Among the Hindus, death ceremony (*anteshti sanskar*) is the last of the 16 ceremonies (*sanskars*) observed from birth till death. Of the large number of funeral rites observed in the past, only those now generally observed are described below :

Having washed and covered with the shroud, the dead body is placed on a bier (*arthi*) prepared of wood. The bier is carried by four persons and taken to the cremation ground (*shamshan ghat*). When the bier has gone halfway, it is placed on the ground ; all this while the head of the corpse should lie towards the south and the feet towards the north. The *admarg* (halfway) rite is performed there. The

16. Khushwant Singh, *The Sikhs of Today* (Bombay, 1959), p.93

funeral procession then restarts and reaches the cremation ground (*shamshan ghat*) without any further stoppage on the way. There the dead body is placed on the pyre and burnt with ghee and other disinfectants and odoriferous articles. The pyre is lit by the son (the eldest if there are more than one son) or in his absence by the nearest male relation of the deceased. When the body is nearly consumed, the rite of *kapal kriya* (rite of breaking the skull) is performed. Then, the party returns to some well or tank for a bath, etc. After the *tinka torna* (breaking of straw) rite there, the party returns to the house of the deceased. There the funeral party breaks up and every body returns to his own house.

On the fourth day (*chautha*), the male family members and other near relations go to the cremation ground to gather the bones and ashes of the deceased. There they pick up the charred bones, wash them with milk mixed with water and put them in a small bag of red cloth called *guthi*; the remaining ashes are also gathered, and thrown into some stream or river nearby. The Hindus immerse the charred bones in the River Ganga (Uttar Pradesh) while the Sikhs generally immerse these in the River Satluj at Kiratpur (District Rupnagar). The *kriya karam* rite is generally performed on the 13th day but this period differs among different sections of the people.

The funeral rites among the Sikhs differ in some minor details. After gathering the charred bones (*phul*) on the *chautha* (fourth day), these are generally taken to Kiratpur and immersed there at the spot called *patal puri* in the River Satluj. On the evening of the *chautha* day *Khulla path* of *Guru Granth Sahib* is started and it continues for six days. The conclusions (*bhog*) of this *path* falls on the tenth day when *kriya* is performed.

The Muslims and Christians bury their dead in their respective graveyards in accordance with their own rites.

(iii) Home life :

Dwellings.—In Urban areas, the dwellings are almost all pucca and generally double storeyed. The houses constructed during the post-independence period are generally of new designs. The houses of the poor and backward sections of the people may be partly *kachcha* and partly pucca, but the growing tendency is to raise pucca houses as and when means permit.

With the rise in the prices of agricultural produce, the economic condition of the cultivators has improved. This is apparent from

the increasing number of pucca houses coming up in the rural areas. The houses of the well-to-do farmers are all pucca and quite commodious. The cultivators and labourers who are still living in *kachcha* houses hope to convert them into pucca ones as and when they are in a position to do so.

The tahsilwise number of dwellings, shop-cum-dwellings and workshop-cum-dwellings in rural and urban areas of the district, according to the 1961 Census, is given in the following table :

Number of Dwellings, Shop-cum-Dwellings and workshop-cum-Dwellings in Gurdaspur District, 1961

District/Tahsil	Number of Dwellings	Number of Shop-cum-Dwellings	Number of Workshop-cum-Dwellings
Gurdaspur District			
Total	.. 1,66,744	820	92
Rural	.. 1,31,039	517	43
Urban	.. 35,705	303	49
Pathankot Tahsil			
Total	.. 45,553	379	20
Rural	.. 31,238	217	13
Urban	.. 14,315	162	7
Gurdaspur Tahsil			
Total	.. 59,760	199	45
Rural	.. 61,455	143	14
Urban	.. 8,305	56	31
Batala Tahsil			
Total	.. 61,431	242	27
Rural	.. 48,346	157	16
Urban	.. 13,085	85	11

(Census of India 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook, No. 14 Gurdaspur District, pp. 276-77)

Furniture and Decorations.—The items of furniture differ from person to person according to his means and social status. The poor may hardly have cots and a few minor other items like *pihri*, *muhra*, stool or a chair or so. The middle class persons may have some or almost all necessary items of furniture like cots, beds, dressing tables, sofa-set, dining table and chairs, floor carpet or drugget especially for the drawing-room, steel almirah, etc. The upper class people may have all these and many other items of better quality and latest designs, costing much more. These days, the items of furniture are almost the same in urban and rural areas, though the people in rural area may do without certain items which may be considered essential in urban area.

Dress and Ornaments.—A peasant's dress generally consists of a *tahband*, *kurta* and *pagri*, and a *chadar*. The *tahband* which is worn round the waist is made of two strips of cloth sewn together. The *chadar* is similarly made and is wrapped around the body. The *pagri* is generally of muslin and the other articles of dress of ordinary type of cloth. In winter, the *chadar* is replaced by a *dohar*, *dotahi*, *bhura* or *loi*. A *lungi* is sometimes worn instead of a *tahband*. A *kachha* or *langota* or *sutna* is generally worn under the *tahband*, which is usually put off when work has to be done in the field. The Rajputs of the Pathankot Tahsil usually wear trousers or *dhoti* instead of *tahband*.

The trading community put on *pyjama*, shirt, coat and *pagri*. In winter pullover and muffler are also used. The educated people in urban as well as rural areas put on Western type of dress including pant, shirt, bushirt, coat, pullover, etc. Whereas at home, they put on *pyjama* and shirt. With the exception of the Sikhs, use of headgear like *pagri*, etc. has generally gone out of fashion among the educated persons. Among the males, Muhammadans wear no ornaments, but Hindu villagers sometimes wear *budkis*, *kanthas* and *karas*.

Women generally wear a shirt of plain or patterned cloth extending below their knees, and a *salwar*. They cover their heads with a muslin *dupatta* which is coloured in the case of married women, and is plain in the case of widows. In the urban areas, sari is getting popular among the married women in literate and well-to-do families.

Women are very fond of jewels and ornaments. They wear *chaunk*, *phul*, *dauni ticca*, *tawitri* on the head, *bugtis*, *mohrs*, or ducats, *hamel*, *kantha*, *malla* and *janjiri* on the neck, *churian*, *band*, *gokhru*, *paunchian* and *chhankangan* on the arms, *dandian*, *balian*, *bunde* and *jhumke* on the ears, and *tore*, *pazebs*, *bankan*, *karian*, *lacchche*, *mahndi* and *chhale* on

the feet. Besides these, there are numerous other ornaments as well. Heavy ornaments are, however, getting out of vogue these days. Women may possess different types of ornaments and jewellery according to their economic position and may wear a good number of these on the occasions of marriage, etc., but, in day-to-day life, they normally wear bangles, ring, ear rings, topaz, necklace, etc.

Food.—In the plains portion of the district, bread is generally of wheat, but in the hills maize is the staple article of diet. In rice-producing tracts, rice is generally eaten at night with a kind of sauce known as *mahni* made of the dried pulp of mangoes fried in oil and mixed with pepper, salt, etc. In the rainy season *puras*, made of flour, sugar and ghee, are much prized as food. In cold weather, a pudding made by boiling rice in cane-juice and the *sag* of *sarson* are considered choice dishes. As everywhere else tea has become very common with all the sections of the people. On the other hand, the use of *chhach* or *lassi* (butter-milk) has much decreased.

The settling of the refugees from Pakistan in the district (which according to the 1951 Census formed nearly one-third of the total population), consequent upon the partition of the country in 1947, led to change in the food habits of the local population. Vegetarianism gradually eroded and the use of meat, fish and eggs became popular.

(iv) Communal Life :

Fairs and Festivals.—Fairs and Festivals play an important part in the social life of the people. These draw together people of the neighbourhood and community ties are strengthened by common participation. Fairs spring up when thousands of people assemble on a prescribed day at a particular place. They attract merchants and artisans and good business is done. Among Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, etc. there is a continuous chain of fairs and festivals all the year round at one place or the other. A good number of the festivals celebrated in the district are local while the others like Lohri, Basant, Shivratri, Holi/Hola, Baisakhi, Dussehra and Diwali are common all over the region. The Sikhs also celebrate the birth and martyrdom days of the Gurus.

Among the Muslims, the important festivals are Id-al-Fitr and Id-al-Azha. The Christians celebrate the festivals of New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter and Christmas.

Games, Sports and Recreations.—Recreation is organised both in villages and towns in various ways like games, dramas, dances and shows. Games and sports, both indigenous and those introduced

from the west, are quite popular. Among the indigenous games, wrestling and *Kabaddi* are common in rural as well as urban areas. Games with balls of various kinds like football, volleyball, basket-ball, hockey and cricket have become fairly common, though these are mostly confined to schools and colleges. Kite-flying is a favourite pastime with the masses. The skill with which one kite-flier tries to cut the thread of another provides ample excitement to the numerous spectators who patiently watch the game. Playing-cards, chess and *chaupat* are common pastimes.

Dramas, cultural shows including *bhangra* and dance, cinema, etc. are sources of entertainment.

Folk Songs and Cultural Life.—The folk songs are sung on different occasions. These express the ideas and sentiments of the people. Brief extracts from a few of the folk songs, common in this region, are given below :

Bhain Bhra da Pyar

Vir langhia pehar de tarke,

Faujaan hun langhiaan.....

Teri fauj nun karaan vira roti
*Sas bhaawen deve gaaliaan.*¹⁷

Main Majhe di Jatti

Main Majhe di jatti Gulaabu Nikha jiha,

Kaul katori dudh di peenda, main dudh peendi vatti.....

Rus rus behnda mange reori, naale ganne di matti,
*Gulli-danda khelan sikhya, khaawaan kis di khatti*¹⁸.

Baabe Gal Tal

Baabe gal tal pa deo,

*Wehre warda khabar nahin karda*¹⁹

17. M. S. Randhawa, etc., *Punjabi Lok Git* (Punjabi), (Delhi, 1950), p. 64

18. *Ibid.*, pp. 237-38

19. *Ibid.*, 397

Wagdi Si Ravi

Wagdi si Ravi wich nahaun ni kuariaan,
Kanni bunde ni saiyo Akhaan lohre maariaan.]

Wagdi si Ravi wich ghugiaan da jora we,
Ik ghugi uddi lamman pai gia wichhora we,

Wagdi si Ravi wich rang kinhe dolhia ?
Chandri da put kade has ke na boliya.

Wagdi si Ravi kandhe Shahpur da Shehr we,
Wasie shehr bhaawen piya hove kehr we.

Wagdi si Ravi, wich sutdiaan pakhiaan,
Aap ruhia jave, saanun maarda si akhiaan.

Wagdi si Ravi, wich sutdi saan anna,
*Khol ke jaavin we, saada shagnaan da gaana*²⁰.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Affection of Brother and Sister

My brother passed by early in the morning,
Whereas his regiment has passed by just now.

O brother, I would serve your regiment with meals,
Let the mother-in-law abuse me.

I am Jatti of the Majha

I am Jatti of the Majha and (my husband) Gulabu is quite young,
He takes only a cup of milk, whereas I take five seers of it.

He gets vexed off and on and asks for a *reori* (a kind of crisp sweet)
and along with it sugarcane piece.

He has learnt only playing *guli-danda* ; on whose income should
I subsist ?

Bell round the neck' of Baba

(The daughters-in-law suggest to) bell the father-in-law,
As he makes no indication while entering the courtyard of the house.

20. *Ibid.*, pp. 227-28

Ravi River Flowing

In the flowing Ravi virgins are bathing,
They have put on ear-rings and their eyes are fascinating.

In the flowing Ravi, there is a pair of doves,
One of the doves flew away and the long separation set it.

Who has pouted colour in the flowing Ravi ?
(The wife says that her paramour) the son of the accursed lady never
speaks to her affectionately.

On the bank of the flowing Ravi is situated the town of Shahpur
Kandi.

One should live in a town even in distressing circumstances.
In the flowing Ravi I throw fans,

He himself is being swept away but is still winking at us.

In the flowing Ravi I used to throw an anna,
Before leaving, you (husband) should untie the sacred thread
(tied around the wrist).

Khabraan Liya Kaawaan

*Chunjh teri we kaalia kaawaan, sone naal marhaawaan,
Ja aakhin mere dhol sipaahi nun, nit main aunsiaan paawaan,
Khabraan liya kaawaan, tenu gheo di churi paawaan*²¹,

Channaan, Dur Wasendia

*Channaan dur wasendia, chham chham warsan nain,
Tenu takkan waaste, nis din tarle lain,*

*Phul khire sabh baag de, aai rut bahaar,
Pat-jhar saade waaste, lokaan lai bahaar*.....

*Ki kalhiaan da jiwanaan, ki kalhiaan di kaar ?
Charhi jawaani kukdi, duja hai darkaar,*

*Sufniaan tun sultaan hain, uttam teri zaat,
Sau warhiaan de wichhre, tun aan milaave raat.*²²

21. *Ibid.*, p. 207
22. *Ibid.*, pp 348-49

Naukar Rakh Lai Chhare te Kuare

*Chand charha ke charhiaan chubaare,
Wekhaan chufere jaani nazar na aawe.*

*Saada sabar Farangiaan nun maare, na denda chhutiaan,
Na talbaan taare.*

*Naukar rakh lai tun chhare te kuare,
Naanh hon rannaan na pain puare.*²³

Raj Farangiaan Da

*Rab moya devate bhaj gai,
Raaj Farangiaan da.*

*Vekho tur pai gilt de anne,
Raaj Farangiaan da,*

*Sir utte ve tokra narangiaan da,
Kadon javega raaj Farangiaan da.*²⁴

ENGLISH TRANSLATION**Crow, Bring News**

Your beak O crow, is black ; I would get it gilded,
Go and tell my soldier husband that I always miss him,
Bring news, O crow, I would serve you with bread soaked in
ghee and sugar.

Husband, Residing Far Away

O' husband, residing far away, tears flow continuously from my eyes,
To have a glimpse of you, these (eyes) always look for eagerly.

All the flowers of the garden have blossomed, the spring season
has set in,

It is autumn for me, but spring for others.

What is the life of a lonely woman ? What has she to do ?
Youth in full swing wishes for a companion.

O' dream you are a sovereign, you are of superior kind,
To those parted for a century, you re-unite at night.

23. *Ibid.*, p. 488

24. *Ibid.*, p. 90

Employ Only Single Men and Bachelors

Moon having risen, I have come to the attic.
I look around but don't find the husband.

May our patience curse the English (masters),
They neither grant leave (to my husband) nor fulfil our wishes.

Better employ only single men and bachelors,
So that neither there may be wives, nor any trouble may arise.

Regime of the British

God is dead and the deities have fled,
It is the Ferangi's regime.

Look, nickel annas have been introduced,
It is the Ferangi's regime.

A basket of oranges is on the head,
When would the British regime end ?

(e) Rehabilitation

The partition of the country in 1947 and the attendant communal riots led to the mass migration of the minority communities from both sides of the border. The Gurdaspur District being situated on the border of Pakistan, non-Muslim refugees came here in large numbers. About three-fourth of the refugees, who settled in the district, belonged to the Sialkot District (including the Shakargarh Tahsil) of Pakistan. Hitherto part of the Gurdaspur District, the Shakargarh Tahsil was transferred to Pakistan, under the Radcliffe Award, on the partition of the country.

To begin with, the refugees were housed in camps, established for the purpose, and provided with food, clothing, bedding, medical aid, etc. Simultaneously, steps were taken for their rehabilitation.

Rural Rehabilitation

Temporary Allotment of Agricultural land.—The Agricultural land left by the Muslim evacuees was first allotted to the non-Muslim refugees on temporary basis. All those who were either landowners or cultivators or had been at any time cultivating land in Pakistan were eligible for the allotment of land.

Quasi-Permanent Allotment of Agricultural Land.—The displaced persons from the District Sialkot and the Tahsil Shakargarh besides its own colonists (from the districts of Lyallpur, Sheikhpura, Montgomery, etc.) were settled in the Gurdaspur District. The temporary allotment of agricultural land, made prior to April 1948, was replaced by the quasi-permanent allotment with a view to giving a sense of permanence to the allottees. The allotment of land was made against the claims filed by the displaced persons in respect of the agricultural land left by them in Pakistan. The land left by the Muslim evacuees in the East Punjab was barely 62% of the area left by the non-Muslim migrants in Pakistan. A formula of graded cuts on the area of land due for allotment was, therefore, evolved whereby the small landowners were less affected while the bigger landlords were subjected to drastic cut.

Taccavi loans were also advanced for the purchase of bullocks, agricultural implements, fodder, seeds, tractors, installation of tubewells and for repairs of wells and houses. As far as possible, loans were advanced in kind to eliminate misuse. The total amount of loans, thus advanced, from 1947-48 to 1953-54, was Rs 33,02,223.

The work of conferring proprietary rights to the quasi-permanent allottees of agricultural land was taken up in September 1955 and it was nearly completed by 1963-64. The following rural evacuee land was, however, still lying undisposed in the district by December 31, 1973 :—

Type of land	Area	
	(standard acres)	
Cultivable land	..	3,544
Banjar land	..	4,049
Ghair mumkin land	..	15,589

Garden Colonies.—A part of the general rural resettlement plan, the garden colonies scheme was introduced by the Government to add more area to that already under gardens. These colonies were established on fertile blocks of evacuee lands on the road side. Each allottee was given either a unit of 20 acres or half a unit of 10 acres. Allotment in the garden colonies was made in lieu of the area allotable under the quasi-permanent allotment scheme.

Rural Housing.—The problem of rural housing was rather complicated. Some of the houses had become dilapidated due to the incessant rains in 1947. In some cases, *kachcha* houses had been deliberately demolished by indiscreet people with a view to making money out of the sale of the timber taken out therefrom. In certain villages, the number of houses was in excess of the requirements of the allottees while, in some others, the number of houses available for residential purposes fell short of the requirements of the settlers.

Each allottee of agricultural land was permitted to have one house and one site free of cost. The additional houses/sites retained by an allottee, if not wanted by any other, were to be disposed of to him at the reserve price. In the event of his refusal to have the houses at the reserve price, these were to be put to open auction and sold to the highest bidder.

Each family of the Scheduled Castes, who wanted to settle in villages, was given a house/site free of cost. Being economically very poor, they were also given small grants to undertake repairs of the houses allotted to them to make these habitable.

Urban Rehabilitation :

The rehabilitation of the urban displaced persons proved to be more difficult than that of the rural. Most of these immigrants were shopkeepers and traders. On the other hand, the Muslims who had migrated from this district to Pakistan were mostly petty traders, labourers and artisans. Consequently, there arose the problems of shortage of artisans and petty technical workers and excess of shopkeepers. The urban rehabilitation programme comprised the allotment of evacuee houses, shops, and industrial concerns left by the Muslim and launching of schemes for the construction of new ones.

Allotment of Urban Immovable Property.—The urban immovable properties, i.e., houses, shops, industrial establishments, etc., left by the Muslim evacuees were first allotted to the displaced persons on temporary basis. The work of their permanent allotment and disposal was taken up in 1953-54. The properties of the value of less than Rs 10,000 (Rs 50,000 in the case of industrial establishments) were allotable whereas those above Rs 10,000 were to be disposed of by auction.

Urban Housing.—The residential accommodation, shops, etc., left behind by the Muslim evacuees were far short of the number required to rehabilitate the immigrant urban displaced persons. The different schemes undertaken, for the construction of houses and laying out of

plots for houses and shops in the district were, 350 houses (200 at Pathankot and 150 at Batala) under the 8 *marla* cheap housing scheme ; 400 tenements at Pathankot under the 4 *marla* cheap tenements scheme ; 156 plots for houses at Pathankot under the 4 *marla* plots scheme ; 303 plots for houses at Pathankot for the displaced Kashmiri families from the Pakistan-occupied area of Jammu and Kashmir under the 5 *marla* plots scheme ; 40 shops at Pathankot under the new shopping centre scheme ; 70 shops (30 at Pathankot and 40 at Batala) under the shopping centre scheme ; 71 plots for shops at Pathankot under the scheme of plots for shops on Dhangu Road, Pathankot ; and 1,350 mud huts (900 at Batala, 200 at Dinanagar and 250 at Pathankot) under the mud huts colonies scheme.

Grant of compensation.—Under the Displaced Persons Claims Act, 1950, the displaced persons were required to file claims for payment of compensation in respect of urban immovable properties left by them in Pakistan. After the verification of claims, under the Displaced Persons (Verification of Claims) Act, 1950, payment of compensation to certain high priority categories of displaced persons was started in 1954 under the Interim Compensation Scheme, sanctioned in 1953. The Interim Compensation Scheme was later on replaced by the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954. The scale for payment of compensation approved in 1955, was so devised as to pay proportionately more to the smaller claimants and less to the bigger claimants. According to this scale of payment, the lowest categories of claimants, i.e., those up to Rs 2,000 were to get compensation equal to 66.6 per cent of the amount of their verified claims, those between Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 from 51 to 41 per cent, those between Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000 from 39 to 33 per cent, those between Rs 20,000 to Rs 50,000 from 33 to 20 per cent, and those between Rs 50,000 to Rs 1,00,000 only 20 per cent. Thereafter, the percentage decreased progressively down to 11.11 per cent of verified claim of Rs 18 lakhs. Beyond 18 lakhs, irrespective of the value of verified claim, the ceiling of Rs 2 lakhs of compensation was operative.

Applications were invited in 1955 from all the remaining claimants who had not been paid compensation on priority basis under the Interim Compensation Scheme in 1954. The payment of compensation started in 1957 and, by 1964, most of the cases had been settled.

Advance of loans.—Under the East Punjab Refugee Rehabilitation (Loans and Grants) Act, 1948, the scheme for advancing loans and grants was introduced in 1948 to enable the poor and middle class persons (like traders, shopkeepers, artisans, industrialists, students, lawyers, medical

practitioners, etc.) to restart their business, trade and other professions. The amount of loan to be advanced to an individual was limited to Rs 5,000 whereas a group consisting of four or more displaced persons could collectively get a loan of Rs 20,000. Thus, a sum of Rs 14,51,110 was advanced as loans, from 1948-49 to 1956-57, to 2,304 persons in the district.

Similarly, loans amounting to Rs 71,350 were advanced to 18 displaced persons in the district against their verified claims. The Kashmiri displaced families from the Pakistan-occupied area of Jammu and Kashmir were advanced loans amounting to Rs 2,84,000 and Rs 1,04,650 for restarting their business and for construction of houses, respectively.

Educational Grants and Loans :

The educational institutions in the Punjab had to be closed for housing in their buildings the displaced persons who migrated from Pakistan on the partition of the country in August 1947. A large number of school and college going students were deputed for social service in the refugee camps, in recognition of which they were awarded matriculation certificates and higher degrees and, in case of those who preferred to appear in the examination, exemption from appearing in one of their papers was allowed, if they so desired.

The schools and colleges reopened in March 1948. No fees were charged in schools. Regular grants were given to the students. In colleges, the refugee students were advanced loans to enable them to prosecute their studies. Such loans were badly needed in case of students admitted to the professional and technical institutions. The loans were to be repaid in easy instalments after the completion of the courses of studies. The total grants and loans, distributed to the deserving students in the district, during 1948-49 to 1960-61, amounted to Rs 27,973.

Vocational Training.—In 1951, the Government Industrial Training Institute, Pathankot, was established to impart vocational training in different trades to the displaced persons.

Rehabilitation of Unattached Women and Children :

The rehabilitation of unattached women and children was essentially an urban phenomenon, and the peculiar nature of the groups required a different way of handling their rehabilitation. A majority of them were illiterate and did not possess any hereditary skills with which they could earn their living. They represented the most helpless victims of the tragedy of the partition and needed urgent and immediate relief.

These women could be classified into two categories : (i) those whose husbands, sons and other bread-winners were killed during riots, (ii) those who, though unattached, had still some relatives alive; but being out of job, they could not take up the responsibility. The responsibility for the 1st category was taken entirely by the Government and of the 2nd category, only up to the time till their relatives became self-supporting. In case some of the women were not prepared to lead a regimented life, they were to be given an allowance to maintain themselves. The Government, therefore, opened a number of homes and infirmaries in the State to accommodate these women.

The education of the destitute children demanded immediate attention. Arrangements were made with certain private institutions in the State for their maintenance, for which necessary grants were given to them²⁵.

25. Satya M. Rai, *Partition of the Punjab* (Bombay, 1965), p p. 142—144

(Vide page—)

Displaced persons from Pakistan, etc. who settled in Gurdaspur District on the Partition of the Country in 1947

District of Origin (Pakistan, etc.)	Persons	Males	Females
Lahore	6,357	3,638	2,719
Sialkot	1,93,182	1,00,750	92,432
Gujranwala	3,873	2,436	1,437
Sheikhupura	8,826	5,275	3,551
Gujrat	1,845	962	883
Shahpur	3,477	1,976	1,501
Jhelum	364	119	245
Rawalpindi	1,000	544	456
Attock	420	195	225
Mianwali	1,125	153	972
Montgomery	4,321	2,993	1,328
Lyallpur	17,783	9,855	7,928
Jhang	841	120	721
Multan	3,872	2,361	1,511
Muzaffargarh	342	306	36
Dera Ghazi Khan	3,263	2,027	1,236
Baluchistan	121	41	80
Gurdaspur (Shakargarh Tahsil transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	43,203	24,535	18,668
Dadu	3	..	3
Hyderabad (Sind)	34	27	7
Karachi	374	47	327
Larkana	47	..	47
Nawab Shah	40	28	12
Sukher	9	2	7
Tharparker	4	..	4
Sind Frontier	1,190	543	647

District of Origin (Pakistan, etc.)	Persons	Males	Females
Sind (D.N.R.)	23	14	9
Sanghar	3	..	3
Hazara	27	17	10
Mardan	130	93	37
Peshawar	516	234	282
Kohat	101	54	47
Bannu	326	21	305
Dera Ismail Khan	235	201	34
Quetta	84	14	70
Bahawalpur	214	133	81
Dacca	2	2	..
Balauch Frontier Tract	1	..	1
Bengal	3	..	3
Grand Total	2,97,581	1,59,716	1,37,865

(Census of India, 1962, Punjab District Census Hand Book, Volume 13, Gurdaspur District, Table No. D-V, p. xciii)

APPENDIX II

Rajput Clans of the Gurdaspur District

(vide page——).

The following list of Rajputs, taken from the Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District, 1891-92 (pages 68—71), has been amended in the light of observations made in the Gurdaspur District Gazetteer, 1914 (pages 49—52). A number of clans enumerated herein are, however, not found in the district :—

<i>Chandravanshi</i>	<i>Suryavanshi</i>
<i>Pathania</i>	<i>Jasrotia</i>
<i>Chibh</i>	<i>Janglotia</i>
<i>Guleria</i>	<i>Jamwal</i>
<i>Jarral</i>	<i>Manhas</i>
<i>Sin</i>	<i>Harchand</i>
<i>Bagal</i>	<i>Indauria</i>
<i>Tangral</i>	<i>Saroeh</i>
<i>Thakkar</i>	<i>Bhadiar</i>
<i>Thakial</i>	<i>*Manj</i>
<i>*Salehria</i>	<i>Manjrial</i>
<i>Gohotra</i>	<i>Rial</i>
<i>*Malhotra</i>	<i>Sanauria</i>
<i>*Jhaggi</i>	<i>Mahotra</i>
<i>Samrial</i>	<i>Katal</i>
<i>Khokhar</i>	<i>Lalotra</i>
<i>Kohal</i>	
<i>Bhatti</i>	
<i>Bhamrotra</i>	
<i>Lamin</i>	
<i>Kakotra</i>	
<i>Naru</i>	

Ladit

Ghandar

*Makhotra

Rakwal

Chohan

Madar

Kanauch

Awan

Samanch

Jhanjua

Dhamdial

Balim

To the above list may be added the name of Bajju which, along with Manhas, Salehria, and Khokhar clans already mentioned, migrated here from the Sialkot District of Pakistan on the partition of the country in 1947. Against this, the wholly Muslim clans migrated en bloc to Pakistan alongwith the other Muslim population.

Those shown in italics call themselves *Jaikarias*, but except the first two Chandravanshi and the first three Suryavanshi, the other clans have really lost their claim to the sabutation of *Jaideya* in this district. The rest are known as *Salamias*.

The clans before whose names an asterisk has been placed are all locally known as "Kahri", or those who do not take wives from any of the clans to which they give them; and the other as "Dohri", or those who, on the contrary, take wives from the same clan as that to which they give them. The former class is considered superior. The terms 'Kahri' and 'Dohri' are apparently merely local designations. The five true *Jaikaria* classes give and take in marriage amongst themselves, and take from the other *Jaikarias* and Kahri clans. The 'Dohri' clans intermarry, except with their own clan or that of their mothers and paternal or maternal grandfathers.

The fact is that many of the ancient customs of the Rajputs are in a state of solution and practice is not in accord with precept among many clans and even among different members of the same clan.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Agriculture plays a vital part in the reconstruction of rural economy of a region. An increase or a decrease in agricultural production directly affects the economy of the region and the welfare of its population, which is mainly agricultural. Systematic efforts to achieve and maintain an optimum level of agricultural production, therefore, assume greater importance. Development of irrigation facilities, conservation of soil resources, adequate supply of fertilizers, improved seeds, pesticides, implements, etc. and provision of timely credit and extension services are the chief measures to increase agricultural production.

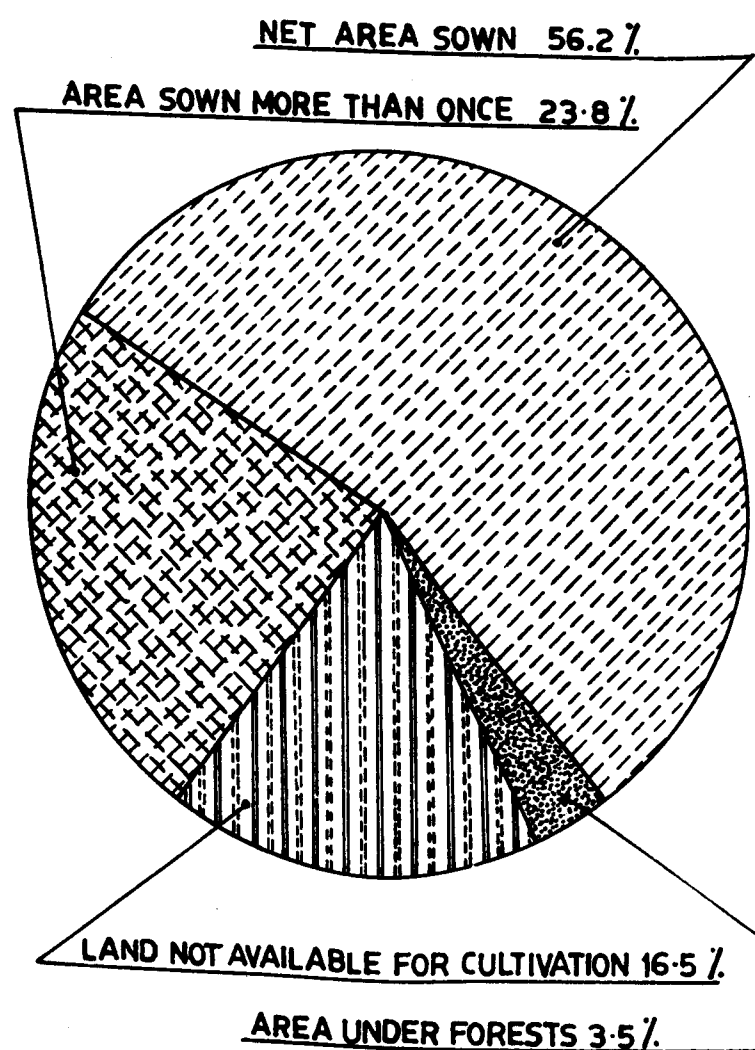
(a) Land Reclamation and Utilization

(i) Land Utilization.—The utilization of land resources forms a major item in any programme of economic planning, especially in an economy which is predominantly agricultural. It reveals the various uses to which land is put and also indicates improved ways of exploitation of its resources for better production.

During the olden days when land was plentiful and the population sparse, fields were allowed to lie fallow every third year. However, as the pressure of population on land increased, methods for better utilization of land resources were thought of. As the land could not be left fallow, to prevent exhaustion, it was manured and a rotation of crops was practised.

The following table gives the classification of area by land use in the Gurdaspur District, during 1962-63 to 1971-72 :—

LAND UTILIZATION GURDASRUR DISTRICT 1972



SOURCE:- STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF PUNJAB, 1972

Classification of area by land use in the Gurdasrur District during 1962-63 to 1971-72

(thousand hectares)

Particulars	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
1. Total area according to village papers	345	345	345	345	344	344	344	350	350	350
2. Area under forests	12	12	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16
3. Land not available for cultivation	80	80	80	79	79	78	76	78	76	76
4. Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Fallow land	40	36	23	(a)	1	1	(a)	..	(a)	..
6. Net area sown	213	217	227	251	249	250	253	256	258	258
7. Area sown more than once	86	85	92	77	99	95	92	100	105	109
Total cropped area (6+7)	299	302	319	328	348	345	345	356	363	367

(Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1972, pp. 50-57)

(a) Means below 500 hectares.

Area, according to village papers is based on returns of area prepared by village staff for revenue purposes in the district. Area under forests includes actually forested areas on the lands, classed or administered as forest under any legal enactment dealing with forests whether State owned or private except in areas not cadastrally surveyed.

The total area under forests in the Gurdaspur District in 1971-72 was only 16 thousand hectares.

Land not available for cultivation includes absolutely barren and unculturable land like mountains, deserts, etc., which cannot be brought under plough except at exorbitant cost, or land covered by buildings, roads and railways and water or otherwise appropriated for non-agricultural purposes. The total area of land not available for cultivation in the district was 76 thousand hectares in 1971-72.

Other uncultivated land, excluding fallow land denotes land available for cultivation, either not taken up for cultivation or abandoned later on for one reason or the other and includes culturable waste, permanent pastures and other grazing lands and lands under miscellaneous tree crops and groves.

Fallow lands are of two types : lands which have remained out of cultivation for a period not less than one year but not more than four years are called 'old fallows' and lands which are left fallow up to one year only are called 'current fallows'. The area under fallow lands in the Gurdaspur District during 1965-66 to 1971-72, was almost negligible.

Net area sown is the area on which sowing is actually done during the course of a year. Area sown more than once is that portion of the net sown area which was sown more than once in a year. Total cropped area is the gross area under all crops in a year, and is the total of net area sown and area sown more than once. Such area in the Gurdaspur District, during 1971-72, was 367 thousand hectares. The cultivable area and also the net area sown per agricultural worker in the district during 1971-72, was 1.30 hectare. The percentage of the area sown more than once to the net area sown in the district, during 1971-72, was 42.25.

(ii) **Cultivable Waste.**—This category includes land available for cultivation, whether actually cultivated or not, for one reason or the other or once taken up for cultivation but not cultivated again for more than 5 years in succession. Such land may be fallow or covered with bushes or jungle which may not be put to any use. Lands under thatching grass, bamboo, bushes, miscellaneous tree crops, etc.,

which are not included under forests have been considered as cultivable waste. All grazing lands which are permanent pastures, meadows, village common lands and grazing lands within the forests have also been covered under this classification.

Most of the cultivable waste is the village common land in the possession of the village panchayats. The panchayats are gradually making efforts to bring such land under cultivation and, for this purpose, they are being advanced loans to enable them to purchase tractors and implements and sink wells and tube-wells for irrigation. Since the available irrigation facilities are adequate, only a small area is left fallow.

(iii) **Reclamation of Waterlogged Area, Swamps, etc.**—Due to excess rains every year resulting in floods and overflowing of the rivers and *nalas*, the problem of waterlogging is taking a serious form slowly and slowly. Canal irrigation also causes waterlogging and salt infestation in several areas, especially on both sides of the canals. Water level has risen high and large fertile lands are becoming waterlogged. While the reclamation of saline, alkaline and waterlogged areas is the responsibility of the Irrigation Department, the reclamation of other types of culturable waste lands is handled by the Department of Agriculture.

The area under *thur* and *sem* in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is shown below :

(hectares)

Year	Thur	Sem	Total
1967-68	1,008	1,290	7,298
1968-69	736	1,216	6,952
1969-70	32	1,196	6,828
1970-71	249	1,040	6,289
1971-72	5,249	1,040	6,289

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

(b) Irrigation

(i) **Rainfall.**—Rainfall in the Gurdaspur District is uncertain and erratic. The monsoons generally start late ; sometimes these are heavy and cause floods ; and some times they recede early, making it difficult for *rabi* crops which are sown in the months of October and November,

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In fact, in the rain-fed areas, the extent of sowing is largely dependent upon the onset and close of monsoon rains. Similarly, the yields of rain-fed *rabi* crops of wheat, gram, barley and mustard are determined to a great extent by the December and January rains.

The average annual amount of rainfall in the district during the five years from 1968 to 1972 is 100.41 centimetres. About 70 to 80 per cent of the total rainfall is during the months of July, August and September, when the monsoon winds blow from the south-east ; and the rest comes during the winter season. The number of rainy days corresponds to the amount of rainfall. About one-third of the total rainy days are during the month of August alone. July and September come next ¹.

With the extension of irrigation facilities after the independence (1947), the failure of crops for want of rains in the district is becoming a thing of the past. This fact is well borne out by the following statement :—

Rainfall in the Gurdaspur District, 1968—72

Year	Annual Rainfall (cm.)	Rainfall during months of				Area under crops failed for want of rains (hectares)
		July (cm)	August (cm)	September (cm)	October (cm)	
1968	.. 105.71	32.64	37.48	0.69	2.71	..
1969	.. 76.83	21.38	31.69	6.16	1.91	..
1970	.. 92.63]	16.02	31.89	17.83	1.05	..
1971	.. 155.29	36.77	59.76	28.70	0.08	..
1972	.. 71.60	24.48	20.67	2.75	0.42	..

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1969 to 1973)

(ii) **Irrigation Facilities.**—The success of agriculture depends in a very large measure *inter alia* upon adequate and regular water supply. The rainfall is not only inadequate but it is also unequally distributed throughout the seasons. This shortage is made good from other water resources, i.e., canals, wells including percolation wells, tube-wells

¹M. S Randhawa, *Green Revolution, A Case Study of Punjab* (Delhi 1974) pp. 25-26

and pumping-sets. In 1971-72, the area irrigated by canals and wells was 52 per cent of the net sown area in the district. The gross area of crops irrigated as percentage to the total cropped area, during 1970-71 and 1971-72, was 55.1 and 56.1, respectively.

The following table shows the area irrigated through different sources of irrigation in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Net area under irrigation in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72

(thousand hectares)

Source	GURDASPUR				
	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Government Canals	33.2	33.2	39.5	39.5	50.1
Private Canals	4.7	3.9	5.1	5.7	5.2
Wells	65.9	74.3	80.9	88.4	79.6
Other sources	0.1	..	..	0.1	0.1
Total	103.9	111.4	125.5	133.7	135.0

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

Canals

Canal irrigation is the most important form of irrigation because of its cheapness, and the ease and certainty with which water is supplied. The Gurdaspur District has been the seat of very early attempts in canal irrigation. The Badshahi Nahar was constructed in about 1633 A. D. during the reign of Shah Jahan for carrying waters to the Shalimar Gardens at Lahore (Pakistan). The second canal known as Hansali (also called Hasli) so called from its lying like a silver streak on the fair bosom of the Doab, was constructed by Maharaja Ranjit Singh to carry waters to the tank of the Golden Temple, Amritsar. The Britishers started the construction of the present Upper Bari Doab Canal in 1851 and opened it for irrigation in 1859.

The Upper Bari Doab Canal takes off from the left bank of River Ravi at Madhopur, immediately after it debouches from the hills. It has the first claim on the free flow of the River Ravi up to its full supply discharge. It has four branches which carry its waters : the Sabraon Branch, the Kasur Branch, the Main Branch Lower and the Lahore Branch. Besides, a large number of distributories and minors take off from the above branches to provide irrigation to the tract lying in the Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts.

The following statement shows the area irrigated by the different branches of the Upper Bari Doab Canal in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Year	Area irrigated (hectares)	
1967-68	..	95,308
1968-69	..	1,08,805
1969-70	..	1,02,613
1970-71	..	98,520
1971-72	..	98,725

(Source : Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar)

Wells (including Tube-wells and Pumping-sets)

Next in importance to canals are wells as source of irrigation. Well irrigation in the Punjab is very old. The bullocks and camels provide the main source of power for running the persian wheel. However, in recent years pumping-sets run by diesel oil and hydro-electric power have replaced the traditional sources of energy in the State. These minor irrigation works are very useful, as the water is rich in soda, nitrates, chlorides and sulphates which make the land more fertile. Moreover, there is no danger of waterlogging as in the case of canal irrigation. The number of wells (percolation) and tube-wells and pumping-sets installed in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 is given hereunder :

Wells and tube-wells and pumping-sets in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72					
Item	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Wells (percolation)	8,440	8,440	8,329	8,334	8,334
Tube-wells and pumping-sets	2,276	2,433	3,373	4,691	4,711

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

The amount of loans granted by the Government for minor irrigation works in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below:

Loans advanced for minor irrigation works in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72					
Item	1967-68 (Rs)	1968-69 (Rs)	1969-70 (Rs)	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)
Wells (percolation)	2,45,775	3,21,200	1,00,000	3,000	..
Tube-wells and pumping-sets	34,31,500	6,25,000	4,41,000	1,50,000	..

(Source : Director, Agriculture, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(c) Agriculture including Horticulture

(i) Set-up and Activities of the Agriculture Department

The department is represented in the district by the Chief Agricultural Officer, Gurdaspur, who is under the control of the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Chandigarh. The Chief Agricultural Officer is overall incharge of the entire, agricultural operations in the district. He is wholly responsible for the preparation and execution of district agricultural plans and is assisted by 1 Agricultural Information Officer, 1 District Training Officer, 1 Seed Development Officer, 1 Statistical Officer, 61 Agricultural Inspectors and 56 Agricultural Sub-Inspectors, besides ministerial and Class IV staff. Moreover, 1 Assistant Agricultural Engineer (Implements), 1 Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy),

1 Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture), 1 Training Officer (Male), 1 Training Officer (Female), 1 Radio Contact Officer and 1 Assistant Project Officer, all posted at Gurdaspur, also assist the Chief Agricultural Officer.

To look after plant protection, an Assistant Plant Protection Officer is posted at Gurdaspur under the direct control of the Deputy Director (Locust Control and Plant Protection), Chandigarh. He is assisted by 5 Plant Protection Inspectors posted at Gurdaspur, Batala, Pathankot, Dera Baba Nanak and Kahnuwan.

There are two Assistant Soil Conservation Officers, one each posted at Gurdaspur and Pathankot. They are under the control of the Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, Hoshiarpur. Each Assistant Soil Conservation Officer is assisted by 5 Soil Conservation Inspectors.

The Agriculture Department guides the farmers in the lay out of gardens, in the extension of new orchards, in solving problems relating to the maintenance and establishment of gardens and nurseries, in controlling various pests and diseases affecting agricultural crops and gardens, in the management and procurement of fertilizers and good seeds, and in laying out demonstration plots to bring home to the cultivators the superiority of varieties recommended for cultivation in the district. It also helps the fruit-growers in getting enhanced supply of canal water for establishing and developing new orchards.

The Government takes keen interest in increasing agricultural production by popularizing improved agricultural practices and implements. Loans are advanced to the cultivators for repairing old wells and constructing new ones and installing tube-wells and pumping-sets under the development of irrigation programmes. Besides, *taccavi* loans are advanced for the development of horticulture at the rate of Rs 300 per acre of plantation. Loans for the reclamation of land are also given. Loans for grape cultivation at the rate of Rs 3,000 per acre are advanced to the cultivators.

(ii) Soils, Climate and Crops

Soils.—Soils, in a general sense, refer to the upper layer of loose matter that covers the earth's crust. But, from the agricultural point of view, these may be defined as the material comprising more or less weathered rock minerals which, together with organic matter, water and air, provide a medium for the growth of plant. This medium is the basic source of all human and animal food. The soils are loamy with a

clay content below 10 per cent. They contain small quantities of lime but the magnesia content is high. They are well supplied in total potash and phosphoric acid but the quantities available are low.³

The agriculture of a country is dependent to a large extent on the nature of its soils, which in turn, is influenced materially by climatic factors.³

The soil of the district is quite alluvial and fertile. It is divided into three parts by nature, viz. sub-mountainous, Kandi and plain, which are described below :

(i) Sub-mountainous

The Dhangu, which starts from Pathankot and continues to the bank of the River Chakki and becomes a part of the Dalhousie mountain at the end, contains bushes.

(ii) Kandi

The Kandi area is suffering from the lack of rainfall and the supply of water is quite difficult. There are a few wells which hardly meet the requirements of water supply for the public.

(iii) Plain

The rest of the district besides the above-mentioned kinds of soil, consists of five kinds of soil, viz. Andhar, Pathanti, Riarki, Bangar and Bet.

Andhar.—This area is found between the rivers Ravi and Chakki in Tahsil Pathankot. Paddy is the major crop of this area.

Pathanti.—It is that part of the Pathankot Tahsil which is irrigated by Badshahi Canal. Paddy is the important crop of this area.

Riarki.—The area of Dhariwal, Ghuman, Qadian, Harchowal and Srigobindpur is called Riarki. The main crops of this area are wheat, barley, *moth*, maize, potatoes and *gur-shakar*.

Bangar.—The area at the western side of Kahnuwan lake up to the Aliwal canal, which goes to Pakistan, is called Bangar. Melon, wheat, barley, mustard, potatoes and watermelons are the main crops of this area.

2. M.S. Randhawa, etc. *Farmers of India, Vol. I* (New Delhi, 1959), p. 35
3. M.S. Randhawa, *Agriculture and Animal Husbandary in India* (New Delhi 1962), p. 22

Bet.—The area between the rivers Beas and Ravi is called *bet*. Paddy sugarcane, wheat, maize and *jowar* are the main crops of this area.

Major and Subsidiary Crops.—There are two main harvests, the *rabi* (*hari*) or spring harvest, and the *kharif* (*sawani*) or autumn harvest. The *rabi* crops are sown in October-November and harvested from mid-March to mid-May; the *kharif* sowings take place from June to August and harvesting lasts from early September to late December. Sugarcane and cotton are counted among the autumn crops though sown earlier. The cultivation of some crops falls in between the *kharif* and *rabi* seasons and these are classed as *zaid* (extra) *kharif* and *zaid* (extra) *rabi*. Thus *toria*, which matures late in December, is a *zaid kharif* crop, and tobacco and melons, which are harvested late in June, are among the *zaid rabi* crops.

The principal *rabi* crops are wheat, barley and gram, while minor ones or subsidiary crops are oil-seeds (*sarson*, *taramira*, *alsi* and *toria*) and winter vegetables such as peas, cabbage, turnip, carrot, cowpea (*lobia*), etc. The principal *kharif* crops are paddy, sugarcane and maize, while *kharif* crops are vegetables, such as tomato, cauliflower, lady finger, *kharif* pulses and fruits.

The detailed particulars regarding the area under different crops and their total production in the district from 1967-68 to 1971-72 are given in Appendices I and II at the end of this chapter.

Wheat

It is the most important major *rabi* crop of the district which covers the largest area. It is the staple diet of the people and its cultivation is keeping pace with the growing demand. It is sown a few weeks after the retreat of the summer monsoons, generally in early November. At that time the soil is most easily worked and sufficient moisture is usually present to foster growth until the light winter showers. It requires about four to five months to mature and is harvested between April and May.

Paddy

It is an important major *kharif* crop of the district. Next to wheat, it occupies the largest area among the cereals. A marked change in the agroclimatic conditions, viz., increased rainfall causing floods and waterlogging conditions, have enhanced the scope of the rice cultivation in the district. Its nursery is sown in May and June and the transplantation is done in the end of June and July.

Bajra

Bajra is also a major *kharif* cereal crop of the district. It is sown with the beginning of the summer rains early in July and is harvested in October-November.

Maize

It is also an important major *kharif* crop of the district. It is sown in June—August and harvested in October—December. It serves as an ideal food for cattle, piggery and poultry and it is also the staple food of the people of the Pathankot Tahsil. It is also used in starch factories for preparing custard powder, starch, alcohol, toffees, sweets, corn flakes, soaps, cosmetics, glucose and gun powder, etc.

Cotton

It is a *kharif* crop, sown between April and June after the first showers. It is not an important crop of the district.

Jowar

Jowar is the least important cereal crop of the *kharif* season. It is suitable for low rainfall areas, and can withstand drought to a considerable extent. It is generally raised for fodder, and is sown mostly on irrigated lands in early April. For grain, the crop is sown mostly in unirrigated tracts with the outbreak of monsoon, any time from the middle of June to the middle of August.

Barley

It is a *rabi* cereal, sown from October to early January and harvested in early April. It requires less water than wheat does.

Pulses

Pulses are the main source of proteins in the food of the poor people and are the substitute for vegetables rather than a supplement. The principal pulses grown in the district are *mash*, gram, *massar* and *moong*. The most important of these is *mash*. It is generally raised with maize on stiff loamy soils. Gram is a *rabi* crop, grown chiefly on *barani* lands. Its sowing lasts from September to the end of October, and harvesting takes place mostly in the later half of March.

Bariscem

It is a *rabi* fodder crop, sown between the last week of September and the first week of October. It has the ability to provide high yield of very nutritious food palatable fodder in repeated cuttings throughout

the winter and early summer, i.e., from November to May. The crop is ready for first cutting in about 60 days after sowing. Subsequent cuttings are taken at 40 days' intervals during winter and 30 days' intervals in spring, getting 4—6 cuttings in all.

Sugarcane

This is the major cash crop of the district and is grown mostly in the Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils. Subject to variations necessitated by local conditions of rainfall, irrigation facilities, climate, etc., cane is planted from the middle of February to the end of March and harvested between November and April. The sugarcane crop needs a fairly large quantity of water during the periods when there is no rain. It needs a well-drained medium loam soil which is neither too acidic nor too alkaline for optimum conditions of growth.

Oil-seeds

Among the oil-seeds grown in the district, the most important are sesamum and rape and mustard. Sesamum is sown either as a pure crop or mixed with other crops, particularly cotton, *jowar*, *bajra* and *mash*. It is sown in June-July and harvested in October-November.

Vegetables.—Agro-climatically, the Gurdaspur District is most suitable for the production of almost all the vegetables. Being near to the hilly areas, the weather is comparatively mild as compared to the rest of the Punjab districts except Hoshiarpur and Ropar. This mild temperature is conducive for the better quality of vegetables that are grown in the district. In order to increase the area and production of vegetables, a Potato and Vegetable Seed Farm was started by the Government at Gurdaspur in the district in 1974-75.

The total area under vegetables in the district, in 1971-72, was 1,344 hectares. The following vegetables are sown in the district :—

Summer Vegetables .. Musk-melon (*sarda kharbuza*), water-melon (*tarbuz*), long-melon (*tar*), bitter-gourd (*karela*), bottle-gourd (*ghia kaddu*), brinjal (*baingan*), lady finger (*bhindi*), squash melon (*tinda*), ash-gourd (*petha*), pumpkin (*halwa kaddu*), vegetable marrow (*chapan kaddu*), cucumber (*khira*), sponge-gourd (*ghia*), ridge-gourd (*kali tori*) and chilli (*mirch*).

Winter Vegetables .. Radish (*muli*), carrot (*gajar*), turnip (*shalgam*), peas (*matar*), onion (*piaz*) cauliflower (*phul gobhi*), cabbage (*band gobhi*), knol-khol (*gandh gobhi*), potato (*alu*) and spinach (*palak*).

Fruit Crops and Gardens.—Importance of fruits in the human diet is universally recognized. These are the chief sources of vitamins without which the human body cannot maintain proper health and resistance to diseases. Cultivation of fruit, thus, contributes to the health, happiness and prosperity of the people. From the economic point of view too, fruit-growing is of a considerable importance. With a small area devoted to the growing of fruits, the farmers can earn a better living than by putting it under farm crops.

Fruits like mango, loquat, litchi and grapes are grown in the district. The area under fruits in the district, during 1971-72, was 116 hectares.

To encourage grape cultivation, loans upto Rs 3,000 per acre are advanced to the cultivators. The amount of loans, thus, advanced in the district, from 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given hereunder :

Year	Amount of loans advanced for grape cultivation (Rs)
1967-68	.. 3,000
1968-69	.. 12,000
1969-70	.. 18,000
1970-71	.. 30,000
1971-72	.. 25,000

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

(iii) Improved Agricultural Practices

Improved agricultural practices such as Japanese method of rice cultivation, crop rotation, better use of fertilizers and manures, deep ploughing, sowing of crops according to *pura* method, trench-sowing of

sugarcane, use of improved furnaces for *gur* making, etc., and installation of tube-wells and pumping-sets play a vital role to augment production.

Another important innovation in the agricultural sector for achieving a rise in agricultural production is the introduction of high-yielding varieties of various crops. The high-yielding varieties of different crops sown in the district are given below :

Name of crop	Variety
Paddy	.. Jaya, I.R.-8, Palman-579, Basmati-370
Wheat	.. Kalyan Sona-227, S-308, P.V. 18, R.R. 21
Maize	.. Vijay, Hybrid Maize
Sugarcane	.. Co. J.46, Co. L.29, Co. 1148, Co. 312
Gram	.. C-235
Potato	.. Up-to-date

The area under high-yielding varieties of rice, maize and wheat in the district, during 1971-72, was 50, 1 and 84 thousand hectares respectively.

The percentage of area under high-yielding varieties to total cropped area in the district for rice, maize and wheat, during 1969-70 to 1971-72, is given below :

Name of crop	Percentage of area under high-yielding varieties to total cropped area in the Gurdaspur District		
	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Rice	.. 21.33	28.75	60.98
Maize	.. 6.25	5.56	2.78
Wheat	.. 57.55	64.54	59.57

(Statistical Hand Book, Punjab, 1972-73)

(iv) **Farmers Training Camps.**—Farmers Training Camps are organised for *kharif* and *rabi* seasons every year at district, block and village levels, where farmers are trained in modern scientific methods of agriculture. Besides, agricultural shows are held on the occasions of block *melas* and on the arrival of distinguished visitors.

(v) **Agricultural Co-operatives.**—The Government of India appointed in 1901 a committee under the presidentship of Edward Law to study the question of starting co-operative societies in India. The committee recommended the formation of co-operative societies on the Raiffeisen model. The Famine Committee of 1901 also recommended the organization of Mutual Credit Associations. It was in pursuance of these recommendations that the Co-operative Credits Societies Act, 1904, was passed by the Government of India. Its main object was to tackle the problem of agricultural credit. But the Act gave no legal protection to societies for purposes other than credit or to the central agencies, banks and unions which were gradually coming in to existence to finance and supervise the primary credit societies. To remedy these defects, the Co-operative Societies Act of 1912 was passed. This Act authorised the formation of societies other than credit, and also the formation of central financing agencies with limited liability.⁴

(1) **Primary Agricultural Credit /Service Societies.**—The agriculturist requires funds for three reasons ; firstly, to meet the expenses of cultivation and to support himself and his family till harvesting and sale of his produce ; secondly, for purchasing his cattle and farming implements ; and, thirdly, for purchasing costly agricultural machines, land and for the redemption of his prior debts. These are respectively called short-term, medium-term and long-term loans, for, in the first case, the debts can be paid off soon after the sale of his produce ; in the second case, it is convenient for him to pay it off gradually in a few years time say three to five ; and, in the third case, the loans are comparatively large and may run for decades. In the Punjab State, the short-term and medium-term credit structure is based on a three tier system, i.e., Apex Co-operative Bank at the State level, Central Co-operative Banks at the district /tahsil level and Primary Agricultural Credit/Service Societies at the village level. The major objectives of the primary agricultural credit/service societies are to supply agricultural credit, to meet the requirement of funds for agricultural production, distribution of essential consumer commodities, provision of storage and marketing facilities and for light agricultural implements and machinery.

4. K.P. Bhatnagar, *Co-operation in India and Abroad* (Kanpur, 1958), pp. 255—258, 327

The Punjab State Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank at the State level and the primary co-operative and mortgage banks at the district/tahsil level advance loans to the farmers for long-term purposes.

The first Agricultural Co-operative Credit Society in the Gurdaspur District was registered in 1906 in the village of Bhaini Milwan (Tahsil Gurdaspur). By March in that year, there were 65 societies at work and from the beginning they promised well, their foundation being in all cases due to the intelligent and spontaneous approval of the people. The Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils led the way and the history of their societies was one of unbroken progress. Up to 1909 the societies, though among the best in the then province, did not increase in number. In the year 1909-10, however, no less than 97 new societies were founded. By July, 1911, the number of societies in the district had reached 202. After the independence, the movement gained momentum with the passage of the Punjab Co-operative Societies Acts of 1954 and 1961. On June 30, 1972, there were 1,238 agricultural co-operative credit societies in the district, with a membership of 119,186. The loans advanced during the same year amounted to Rs 328.37 lakhs and the deposit to Rs 43.02 lakhs.

(2) **Agricultural Non-Credit Societies.**—The Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1912 brought the non-credit side of the movement also into its fold and thus non-credit co-operatives were brought into existence. The agricultural non-credit societies encourage a spirit of mutual help, fellowship and co-operation among their participants and also serve the non-credit needs of the rural community. The World War II (1939—45) came as a heaven-sent boon in regard to the development of non-credit aspect of the co-operative movement.

The principal forms of agricultural non-credit societies are ; co-operative marketing societies, better farming societies, consolidation of holdings societies, co-operative farming societies, joint farming and collective farming societies, co-operative milk supply societies, poultry societies, fisheries societies, piggeries societies and miscellaneous agricultural societies.

The number of agricultural non-credit societies in the district was 162 in 1971-72.

Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Societies

Co-operative marketing constitutes a significant part of agricultural co-operation. To a farmer, who is conscious of his economic interest, a marketing co-operative is as important as a co-operative providing

agricultural production credit. The need for co-operative marketing arises from a variety of factors. In the first place, various malpractices prevail in the system of agricultural marketing, such as arbitrary deductions from the price of the produce, manipulation of weights and scales and collusion between the broker and the buyers. In the past, some of these malpractices were rampant on a wide scale and in 1938 the Royal Commission on Agriculture was constrained to refer to them as, "nothing less than theft". Since then, the situation has somewhat improved on account of various measures such as the introduction of statutory regulation of markets.⁵

There is the Punjab State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation (MARKFED) at the State level, whole-sale societies at the district level and marketing societies at the market level.

In 1971-72, there were 8 agricultural co-operative marketing societies in the district, with a total membership of 4,368 (3,223 individuals and 1,145 societies).

Co-operative Farming Societies

A co-operative farming society is a voluntary organisation based on the ideals of self-help and mutual aid. The main features of co-operative farming are that (a) land is formed into single unit; (b) proprietorship rests with the individuals; (c) Management is carried on jointly; (d) the members are paid for their work; and (e) the net profits are distributed among the members after withholding something for building up resources. This facilitates a more rational use of resources, economies of scale and adoption of scientific methods of agriculture.⁶

Co-operative farming is, in a sense, an extension of the concept of joint-family system to agriculture. The members come forward to organize the society of their own free will. Even though the members work together, they retain the individuality of their family and kitchen. In 1971-72, there were 87 co-operative farming societies in the district.⁷

Other Societies

Besides the above, there are a number of other co-operative societies

5. *Sahakari Samaj, A Symposium on the Co-operative Movement in India* (Issued in 1962 on behalf of the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation, Government of India, Delhi), p.113

6. *Ibid.*, p. 99

7. P.C. Jain, *Agriculture and Co-operation in India* (Allahabad, 1959), p. 80

in the agricultural and allied fields. Their number in the district in 1971-72 was as under :

Serial No.	Type of Societies	Number (1971-72)
1.	Co-operative Poultry Societies	.. 54
2.	Co-operative Piggeries Societies	.. 1
3.	Co-operative Collective Farming Societies	.. 3
4.	Co-operative Better Farming Societies	.. 2
5.	Co-operative Milk Supply Societies	.. 31
6.	Co-operative Irrigation Societies	.. 7
7.	Co-operative Housing Societies	.. 47

(Source : Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur)

(vi) Progress of Scientific Agriculture

Agricultural production can be increased either by extensive cultivation or by intensive cultivation. Extensive cultivation is possible by bringing larger areas under cultivation by claiming waste lands, fallow lands, etc. Intensive cultivation consists of applying scientific methods in cultivation, provision of better seeds evolved through agricultural research, and use of improved implements, chemical fertilizers, etc.

Agricultural Implements.—Improved agricultural implements play a vital role in increasing agricultural production. Through the operation of the schemes of demonstration and popularization of agricultural implements, quality marking of agricultural implements, and concession and loans allowed on implements and big machines, there has been a significant increase in the adoption of improved implements. The wooden plough has been completely replaced by the iron plough, the pneumatic tyre cart has taken the place of the wooden wheel. Improved types of implements like furrow-turning-ploughs, *kisan-hoe*, single row cotton drill, disc-harrows, bar-harrows, corn-planter, etc., have become very popular among the farmers. The increasing demand for the power

wheat thrashers of different types has almost revolutionized the traditional system of thrashing of wheat under the feet of bullocks. The tractors are also replacing the bullocks. There has been a great spurt in the demand for tractors in the Gurdaspur District where their number (as on June 30) rose from 234 in 1966 to 1,637 in 1972.⁸

The old types of agricultural implements still in common use are *desi* plough, *sohaga* (wooden plank), *ramba* (hoe), *datri* (sickle), *kassi* (spade), and *panjali* (yoke).

The main agricultural implements produced in the district are wheat-thrasher, maize-thrasher, disc-harrows, seed-cum-fertilizer drills and ploughs of various kinds.

Seeds.—The development of agriculture depends to a great extent on agricultural inputs of which seeds form the most important part. Improved seed is defined to be one that gives a minimum higher yield of at least 10 per cent to 15 per cent over the local seed. An improved seed possesses high-yielding propensity and superiority over the local variety. The Punjab Improved Seeds and Seedlings Act, 1950, provides for the use of pure and certified seeds and seedlings recommended by the Department of Agriculture and makes it incumbent on cultivators in any notified area, to use only improved varieties of seeds stored by the authorised agents.

In 1971-72, there were seven seed farms in the district at Gurdaspur, Sohal, Thanewal, Hayat Nagar in Tahsil Gurdaspur and Kishankot, Chandke, Ghaniya Ki Bangar in Tahsil Batala.

Crop Rotation.—If the same crop is grown in the same field, it exhausts the soil of particular nutrients taken up by the crop and the soil becomes deficient in that particular constituent. If another crop which uses different type of nutrients is sown, the fertility of that field will not go down and the new crop will give good yield. Suitable crop rotations thus help in maintaining the soil fertility.

The crop rotations generally followed are : maize-wheat-fodder; maize-gram-cotton; maize-wheat-bajra or guara; paddy-wheat; bajra-gram; guara-wheat; *senji*-sugarcane; and fallow-sugarcane.

8. *Economics of Tractor Cultivation and Economics of Production and Cultivation Practices of High Yielding Varieties of Wheat, Maize and Paddy in Punjab (Combined Report), 1969-70 to 1971-72* (Issued in 1974 by the Economic Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh)

The village of Naushchra Maja Singh, Chubar Chak and Chhina of Chhawal Block of Gurdaspur Tahsil were included in the survey conducted for the preparation of the above report.

Fallow Cultivation.—By fallow land is meant the land from which one crop has been harvested and is left to rest until the next sowing. Such lands are of two kinds, viz., 'old fallows' and 'current fallows'. Lands which, after abandonment, remain uncultivated over a long period are called 'old fallows', while those kept uncultivated during the current year are called 'current fallows'. Therefore, fallow cultivation means the cultivation of land which has thus rested. In the absence of organic manures and fertilizer, fallow cultivation is very important for replenishing the soil fertility reduced by the previous crop.

With the extension of irrigation facilities and owing to the pressure on land, not much area is left fallow. The extent of current fallows, however, depends on rains. If rains are timely, maximum area is sown and a little is left fallow.

Fertilizers and Manures.—Supply of suitable fertilizers and manures is one of the principal requirements for increasing the production by scientific methods. With every crop removed from the land, the soil is depleted of its fertility and this deficiency is made good by the supply of plant nutrients, such as nitrogen, phosphorus and potash in balanced proportions.

Chemical Fertilizers

Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are important elements and are required in large quantities by crops. These are most commonly deficient in soils. Therefore, concentrated fertilizers of each of these nutrients and mixtures of single nutrient fertilizers are manufactured and applied to the soil to raise the fertility of the land. In 1971-72, 32,767 tonnes of chemical fertilizers were sold in the Gurdaspur District.

Local Manurial Resources

Rural Compost and Cattle-Dung Manure.—Farmyard manure is the oldest manure used by man ever since he took to agriculture. It has stood the test of time and is still the most popular of all manures. It consists mainly of vegetable substances mixed with animal dung and urine. It, therefore, contains all the elements present in the plant itself and affords a very suitable means of restoring to the soil the ingredients removed from it by the crop. The East Punjab Conservation of Manures Act, 1949 (Amended in 1950), provides for the setting up of Manure Conservation Committees and empowers the State Government to notify particular areas for the purpose of conserving of manure and makes it incumbent on cultivators to take such measures as may be necessary for the purpose. The Rural Compost Scheme was made permanent in the State in October 1966.

In 1971-72, 8,89,120 metric tons of rural compost was prepared in the district.

Green Manuring.—Green manuring is the only cheapest and the best practice for building up soil fertility. Green manure supplies organic matter and nitrogen to the soils and is within the easy reach of farmers, particularly when other organic manures are scarce and costly. The other advantages, which may be attributed to green manuring are improvement of the physical properties of the soil and conservation of moisture. The most popular green manure crop is *guara* of cluster-bean, which flourishes in areas of low rainfall and poor fertility. The other green manure crops are *dhaincha* and sann-hemp. *Senji* and *berseem* are also used as winter green manuring crops. The scheme for the extension of green manuring in the State was initiated in April 1961. It aims at popularising the use of green manuring. The area under green manuring in the district in 1971-72 was 28,904 hectares.

Town Compost and Sullage Utilization

Town Compost.—Human excreta, both solid and liquid, have high fertilizing value, greater than that of animal dung and urine. Under town compost method, all towns wastes, like sweepings garbage, household rubbish, night-soil, etc. are collected and allowed to decompose in trenches. All these wastes when composted in trenches yield a first class, bulky, organic manure of high quality. The manure so obtained is quite innocuous and safe to handle and apply to the soil. Town compost gives very high yields of crops grown under irrigation, e. g. vegetables, potatoes, sugarcane, rice, etc. The scheme was introduced in the State in 1944. In 1971-72, the municipalities in the district prepared 17,673 metric tonnes of urban compost.

Sullage Utilization.—Sewage or sullage is also used for irrigating crops either as such or after dilution with water depending on the amount of solids in solution and suspension the raw sewage contains. Almost all crops have been found to benefit by sewage irrigation. The benefit derived by crops is due to the water as well as the plant nutrients and organic matter supplied by the sewage.

(vii) **Agricultural Insect-pests and Diseases and Obnoxious Weeds**
Insect-pests and Diseases.—Crop damages caused by natural calamities like floods, storms and severe droughts are occasional. Stray cattle that cause damage can be prevented by proper fencing. But pests and diseases are responsible for considerable loss of agricultural produce which must be controlled by scientific methods to relieve the acute shortage of food in the country.

The scheme of plant protection was launched in the district in 1964-65. Under the scheme, Plant Protection Inspectors, Agricultural Sub-Inspectors, Beldars and Mechanics are employed to guide the cultivators as to how to escape from these diseases which mitigate agricultural productivity.

The following are the major pests and diseases which damage crops, fruits and vegetables in the district :—

Crop pests and diseases ..	Sugarcane top-borer, sugarcane Gurdaspur-borer, sugarcane stem and root-borer, sugarcane pyrilla, rice grass hopper, rice bug, rice hispa, rice <i>pansukh</i> , cotton jassid, <i>toka</i> , white ants, aphids, loose smut of wheat, yellow rust of wheat, bunt ear cockle, caterpillar and cut worms, kutra hairy, maize borer, etc.
Fruit pests and diseases ..	Mango-hopper, citrus psylla, citrus white-fly, citrus leaf miner, citrus caterpillar, guava fruit fly, citrus canker, citrus dieback, etc.
Vegetable pests ..	Potato and <i>bhindi</i> jassid, white fly, tuber moth and cutworms, cabbage butterfly caterpillar, tobacco caterpillar, cabbage aphids, brinjal <i>hadda</i> , brinjal and <i>bhindi</i> fruit borer, tomato caterpillar, etc.
Store grain pests ..	<i>Khapra</i> , <i>susri</i> , rice moth, grain moth, <i>dhora</i> , etc.
Miscellaneous pests : ..	field rats, jackals, sparrows, etc.

Obnoxious Weeds.—Weeds are plants which grow in places where they are not wanted. They compete with crop plants for moisture, light and food nutrients, and, thus reduce the yield of the main crops. They block drainage and irrigation channels and impede the flow of water in rivers and canals. Weeds also add to the cost of cultivation, impair the quality as well as reduce the market value of the farm produce and harbour insect, fungal, and virus pests that attack crop plants. Some weeds are poisonous to human beings and livestock. The weeds which grow during summer are called *khariif* weeds, as *motha* or *dila*, bark grass, *dabh* or *kusser* grass, *itset*, *bhakhra*, and the weeds which grow during winter are called *rabi* weeds, as *piazi*, *bathu pohli*, *maina*, etc.

Legislation has been enacted by the Government of India under the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1941, for the protection of crops, seeds, seedlings, etc. from destructive insect-pests and fungal diseases, both indigenous and imported. The Act also empowers the Government to prevent the introduction and transport, from one State to another, of any insect, fungus or other pest destructive to crops. Under the East Punjab Agricultural Pests and Diseases and Obnoxious Weeds Act, 1949, offenders can be punished on conviction by a Magistrate with fine which may extend up to Rs 50, or in default a simple imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten days. Notices are issued by Agricultural Inspectors to those cultivators who do not eradicate *pohli* weed by persuasion before its maturing and defaulters are reported for legal action whenever necessary.

(viii) **Regional Research Station, Gurdaspur.**—In order to satisfy the technological requirements of various agro-climatic regions in the State, the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, has set up a network of regional research stations and sub-stations. Of the present five regional research stations of the University, the one at Gurdaspur was inherited by it at its formation in 1962.

The Experimental Station at Gurdaspur was established in 1910 for the needs of the submontane region extending from the Gujrat District in Pakistan to the Ambala District in India. This region has high-rainfall and high-humidity conditions which are very congenial for the development and spread of fungal diseases of crops. The research activities for about three decades were limited to the testing of crop varieties developed at Lyallpur (now in Pakistan), production of foundation seed and determination of agronomic and other cultural practices best suited for this area.

To strengthen research on the development of disease-resistant and high-yielding varieties of wheat and *mash*, a Cereal Breeding Sub-Station was started in 1941. The work on crop improvement was progressively extended to rice, sugarcane, pulses, oilseeds, maize and *desi* cotton. A skeleton staff representing soil science, entomology, pathology and horticulture was also provided in the 1930s and 1940s. The research pertaining to different disciplines was under the technical control of the respective specialists. However, the administrative control of the station remained with the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Punjab, till the establishment of the Punjab Agricultural University in 1962.

A new era in the history of the Research Station, Gurdaspur, began when it was upgraded to the status of a Regional Research Station and provided with a new building complex for office and laboratory work in 1974.

The main objective of this Regional Research Station is to develop improved varieties and practices for various field and horticultural crops for the submontane zone of the Punjab, comprising the districts of Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and Ropar. The salient features of research carried out at this station are the development and release of a number of improved varieties of field crops, selection and introduction of some promising varieties of fruit trees, classification of the soils, determination of the fertilizers needs and development of cultural practices for the important crops of the region. The farmers of this region have been greatly benefited by these findings.

(d) **Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries**

Outside the farmer's family, there is nothing that fills so large a share of his thought as his holding and livestock. The importance of livestock in Indian agriculture is of great significance, as the land is of little use to the cultivator without the poor creatures that draw the plough and scratch the soil. They are keystone in farming. Therefore, in addition to crops, drought and milch stock are raised and maintained by an individual farmer.

Cattle are overwhelmingly the most important livestock. Bullocks are the main source of motive power in agricultural operations and cows provide milk which is the main source of animal protein in the diet of the majority of the vegetarian ruralities. Cattle are used for many functions such as ploughing, harrowing, threshing, harvesting, lifting water and transporting the produce to the market. Besides, they replenish the field with organic manure and yield hides and skins which earn a good amount of foreign exchange⁹.

The following table shows the number of livestock in the district from 1920 to 1972:—

9. Jasbir Singh, *An Agricultural Atlas of India, A Geographical Analysis* (Kurukshetra, 1974) pp 263, 274

Livestock and Poultry in the Gurdaspur District, 1920 to 1972

(hundreds)

Particulars	1920	1940	1961	1966	1972
1. Livestock	7,333	7,944	5,262	6,577	6,761
Cattle	4,037	3,761	2,863	3,444	3,414
Buffaloes	1,995	2,763	1,931	2,452	2,582
Horses and Ponies	164	160	84	87	93
Donkeys	117	124	40	20	34
Mules	13	12	14	12	24
Sheep	50	236	139	260	269
Goats	954	876	177	287	325
Camels	4	5	1	2	2
Pigs	..	6	12	13	18
2. Poultry	..	943	1,091	1,662	1,966

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab, District Census Handbook, No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 77; Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1972 and 1974)

At the district level, there is a District Animal Husbandry Officer at Gurdaspur who is under the administrative control of the Project Officer, Intensive Cattle Development Project, Amritsar. The office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Gurdaspur, was established in about 1947.

(i) Animal Health Wing and Animal Breeding Wing

At the district level, the Animal Husbandry Department comprises two wings, viz. Animal Health Wing, under the charge of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Gurdaspur, and Animal-Breeding Wing, under the charge of the Assistant Director, Key Village Scheme, Amritsar.

Animal Health Wing.—It is under the charge of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Gurdaspur, who is assisted by 26 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 16 Veterinary Compounders, 8 Stock Assistants and 30 miscellaneous Class IV employees.

The main activities of this wing are: treatment of sick animals; control and prevention of contagious diseases amongst animals; castration of useless male stock for the improvement of breeds; supply of bulls

of improved breeds; maintenance of stallions for horse and mule breeding in the district and holding of cattle shows and awarding of medals, prizes and certificates to top quality animals for the encouragement of improved breeding. These activities are carried out through 21 veterinary hospitals and 19 permanent outlying veterinary dispensaries.

Animal Breeding Wing.—The breeding work in the Gurdaspur District is looked after by the Assistant Director, Key Village Scheme, Amritsar. In order to improve the indigenous cattle in their milk production and quality, the breeding operations are carried out by obtaining fresh semen from the artificial insemination centres where tested bulls are kept.

The main activities of this wing are: provision of fresh semen of exotic Jersey bulls and local breeds of cattle from the Batala, Fatehgarh Churian and Gurdaspur Artificial Insemination Centres; establishment of Key Village Blocks with a number of Key Village Units for the improvement of cow-breeds through artificial insemination, supply of seeds to the *bona-fide* breeders at subsidized rates for the improvement of fodder crops; and provision of funds for organising calf rallies for giving incentive to the breeders to look after their young calves. These activities are carried through 3 Key Village Blocks, under the charge of trained Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, and 26 Key Village Units, under the charge of trained Stock Assistants. Top quality bulls are maintained at the Key Village Blocks and Key Village Units for natural service. The particulars of these institutions for artificial insemination in the district are as under :

Key Village Block/ Artificial Insemination Centre	Date of opening	Key Village Units attached	Villages covered
Batala	9th March, 1955	1. Dabhawala 2. Hardo Jhanda 3. Masanian 4. Jaito Sarja 5. Satkoha 6. Pakharpurah (Amritsar District)	49

Key Village Block/ Artificial Insemina- tion Centre	Date of opening	Key Village Units attached	Villages covered
Fatehgarh Churian ..	1960	1. Khera 2. Kala-Afghanan 3. Dhianpur 4. Willa Teja 5. Raliali 6. Nikko-Sarai 7. Bhoma 8. Dargawal 9. Wiram (Amritsar District) 10. Mohan Bandari (Amritsar District)	100
Gurdaspur ..	1st June, 1967	1. Hayatnagar 2. Jaura Chatran 3. Babri 4. Babbe Mali 5. Bhumbli 6. Kahnuwan 7. Gohot Pokhar 8. Dhamral 9. Paniar 10. Tibri	51

Development of Gaushalas.—Each *Gaushala* is provided by the Government with a certain number of animals of improved breed and is required to secure an equal number from its own resources. This scheme was introduced in the Punjab during 1956-57 under the Second Five-Year Plan. There are two *gaushalas* in the district at Batala and Talibpur Pindori.

Cattle Fairs and Shows.—In 1967, the Punjab Government nationalized the cattle fairs throughout the State by promulgating the Punjab Cattle Fairs (Regulations) Ordinance, subsequently replaced by the

Punjab Cattle Fairs (Regulation) Act of 1967. In each district, a Cattle Fair Officer with necessary supporting staff has been provided to organise cattle fairs in the district. These fairs and shows serve a very useful purpose by bringing the breeders and buyers in direct touch, besides bringing handsome income to the authorities. In the Gurdaspur District, cattle fairs and shows are held at Batala, Gurdaspur, Fatehgarh Churian, Dinanagar and Malikpur. Of all these, the Batala cattle fair is the most important one. It is a good source of income to the State.

Castration

Castration is one of the most feasible means of controlling the reproductive ability of cattle. Breeding through inferior bulls causes deterioration in the genetic potential of the progeny. Therefore, elimination of undesirable male calves, not required for breeding, through castration is commonly practised all over the world. In India, where other channels of eliminating inferior animals are not available, castration is perhaps the only means of checking their indiscriminate breeding. During the 1971-72, 6,517 cattle were castrated in the district.

Control of Menace of Wild and Stray Cattle.—An aspect of the problem of surplus cattle is the menace of wild and stray cattle. In order to control this menace, the State Government launched the Wild and Stray Cattle Catching Scheme in 1962-63. Under the scheme, cattle-catching parties have been organised to round up wild and stray cattle.

Gosadans.—This scheme was introduced to remedy the seriousness of the problem of surplus and uneconomic cattle. It envisages the segregation of useless cattle so as to avoid their further multiplication and the resultant damage to crops. There is no *gosadan* in the district.

(ii) Area under Fodder Crops

The food of animals may be broadly grouped into concentrates, that is grain, oilcake, cotton seed, etc., and roughages (fodders). The concentrates are more nutritious than roughages. *Jowar*, *berseem*, *senji*, turnips, oats, *guara* and *bajra* constitute the main fodder crops grown in the district. The following table shows the area under fodder crops in the district from 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Area under Fodder Crops in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72

Fodder Crops		Year				(Area in hectares)
		1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	
Kharif Crops						
Jowar (chahi)	..	16,957	16,485	15,037	19,582	20,117
Guara	..	..	114	..	..	..
Other fodders	..	3,202	3,073	2,996	2,524	4,121
Total	..	20,159	19,672	18,033	22,106	24,238
Rabi Crops						
Berseem	..	13,178	10,528	16,909	14,015	14,013
Senji	..	2,289	1,882	1,741	1,256	2,080
Oats (javi)	..	..	..	80	104	79
Other fodders (turnips)	..	1,718	2,309	1,867	804	147
Total	..	17,185	14,719	20,597	16,188	16,319
Grand Total	..	37,344	34,391	38,630	38,294	40,557

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

(iii) Dairy Farming

Buffaloes and cows constitute the main source of the supply of milk. There are also a good number of sheep and goats, but their milk yield is small and is of no commercial importance. In 1972, the number of cattle and buffaloes in the district was about 3,41,400 and 2,58,200, respectively.

Dairy farming can be a quite remunerative occupation with milch cattle of good quality provided there is an outlet for sale of milk. Economically unviable small farmers can advantageously go in for cattle rearing on exclusive basis while on large and medium farms, dairying can well be a subsidiary or supplementary occupation. With the setting up of a milk plant at Gurdaspur and a chilling centre at Kalanaur, dairy farming is getting more and more popular.

There is no regular dairy farm in the district, but a large number of people in villages and towns maintain small dairies for supply of milk to the townfolk.

(iv) Sheep Breeding

A Sheep Breeding Farm has been established in Dhar area of the district to meet the requirements of rams in the semi-hilly areas.

During 1972, the number of sheep and goats in the district was about 26,900 and 32,500, respectively.

(v) Poultry Farming

The Government Poultry Farm, Gurdaspur, is the oldest poultry breeding farm in the State. It is under the control of the Assistant Poultry Development Officer, Gurdaspur. The main activities of this farm are to supply day-old chicks of proven performance; to provide technical know-how to the poultry farmers; to supply poultry birds under the applied nutrition programme to the various blocks in the Amritsar, Firozpur and Gurdaspur districts, and to assist the poultry farmers in the development of the poultry industry in the State. During 1971-72, 1,37,859 chicks were produced, 13,482 kids (1—8 weeks-old) were supplied to the various blocks under applied nutrition programme, and 1,248 persons were trained in poultry at this farm and other poultry service centres.

There are five Poultry Extension Centres in the district at Batala, Pathankot, Dhar Kalan, Kahnuwan and Srigobindpur.

(vi) Piggery

Pig being prolific breeder and quick grower, can solve the shortage of protective foods to some extent. In order to improve the indigenous pigs through cross breeding, a Pig Breeding Farm was established at Gurdaspur in August 1969. There are 60 male and 127 female pigs in the centre.

During 1972, the number of pigs in the district was about 1,800.

(vii) Fisheries

The District Fisheries Officer, Gurdaspur, is incharge of the fisheries Department in the district from June 1974 when his office started functioning. He is under the administrative control of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Amritsar Circle, Amritsar. Prior to March 1973, the administration of the Fisheries Department in the district was under the control of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Jullundur Division, Jullundur.

Under the District Fisheries Officer, Gurdaspur, there are five Fisheries Officers one each at Pathankot, Batala and Dera Baba Nanak and two at Gurdaspur.

The Gurdaspur District has the natural gift of vast riverine and confined resources for fisheries exploitation and pisciculture. The River Beas comprises a total approximate length of 48 kilometres and the River Ravi of about 37 kilometres in the district. Along with these two rivers, the total canal water length is about 176 kilometres in various regions of the district.

In 1971-72, the area stocked with fish in the district was 28 hectares and the income from fisheries during the year was about Rs 24,000.

The different varieties of fish found in the Gurdaspur District are mentioned in Chapter I, 'General', in its section on 'Fauna.'

(viii) Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals

Animal Diseases.—Animals suffer from a number of diseases such as *mogh wah* (rinderpest), *muh-khur* (foot-and-mouth disease), *gal ghotu* (haemorrhagic septicaemia), *phar sujan* (black-quarter) and parasite diseases. Of these, rinderpest is the most destructive virus disease of cloven-footed animals, such as cows and buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, etc. The disease is usually spread by contaminated feed and water. The foot-and-mouth disease is a highly contagious disease of cattle and buffaloes, and breaks out in the threshing seasons of the crops. It spreads very commonly by direct contact or indirectly, through infected water, manure, hay and pastures. Haemorrhagic septicaemia is an acute and most serious infectious disease of cattle and buffaloes. The disease is mostly prevalent in low-lying lands subject to periodical inundation. Black-quarter is an acute, infectious and highly fatal disease of cattle. It generally appears during the monsoon season.

Veterinary Hospitals.—The district is fairly well served by 21 veterinary hospitals, 19 permanent outlaying dispensaries and 3 artificial insemination centres, as per details given below :

Veterinary Hospitals, Permanent Outlying Dispensaries and Artificial Insemination Centres in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Zila Parishad	Veterinary Hospitals			Permanent Outlying Dispensaries			Artificial Insemination Centres	
	Municipal Committee	Government	Panchayat Samiti	Government	Government	Government	Government	Government
1. Gurdaspur								1. Gurdaspur
2. Dorangla								Bhaini Mian Khan
3. Kalanaur								Bhattyan
4. Kahnuwan •								Nowsherah Majja Singh
5.								
6. Dhariwal								
7.								
8. Batala								2. Batala
9. Bham								Madrah
10. Willa Bajju								Dhandoi
								Ball-Purian
								3. Fatehgarh Churian
11. Dera Baba Nanak								Udanwal

Protected Forests

These forests are situated along the roads, rails, canals and bunds and have been declared as protected forests under Section 29 of the Indian Forests Act, 1927. These are mostly man made forests and mainly comprise trees like *shisham*, *kikar*, mulberry, mango, willow, etc. The protected forests also include demarcated protected forests and undemarcated protected forests. The demarcated forests are situated in the Dhar Block of Pathankot Tahsil and are commonly known as Shahpur Kandi forests. The legal status of these forests is that the soil supporting the vegetation belongs to the local people and the spontaneous vegetation growing over the tract belongs to the Government. The rights of the local people are admitted in the settlement of these forests and the principal rights admitted are grazing, trees for building and other purposes, i.e. agriculture and domestic implements, marriages and funeral ceremonies; cutting of brush wood for fencing, collection of fuel, stones and medicinal roots, etc. The undemarcated protected forests are also situated in the protected forests of Shahpur Kandi. The only difference between these forests is that the demarcated protected forests have been demarcated with suitable boundary pillars and the condition of the growing stock is comparatively poor, being situated mostly near the habitations.

Unclassed Forests

These are mostly those forests which have been raised on the areas recently transferred to the Forest Department from the Revenue and Rehabilitation Departments. These plantations mostly comprise trees like *shisham*, eucalyptus, *kikar*, mulberry, poplar, etc.

As a result of the re-organization of the erstwhile Punjab State on November 1, 1966, the forest wealth of the present Punjab State received the greatest set-back as practically all the good natural forests have gone to the share of the Himachal Pradesh. The forests have further been subject to indiscriminate felling due to the process of consolidation of holdings and widening, remodelling and extension of various roads, canals and bunds. Under the Grow More Food campaign, most of the culturable waste land has been reclaimed and brought under plough. Thus, there had been a great pressure on the forest wealth whatsoever was left after the re-organization of the State.

To meet the ever increasing demand of timber as well as firewood, the State Government have launched special schemes for increasing the production of wood. The main concentration is along the roads, railway lines, canals and bunds. All out efforts are also being made to develop

Block Forests by introducing economical species like *cheel*, *khair*, bamboos, etc.

The area under forests in the district, in 1971-72, was as under :

Particulars	(Area in hectares)
(i) Reserved Forests ..	123.84
(ii) Protected Forests ..	3,667.73
Rail-strips ..	874.93
Road-strips ..	534.65
Canal-strips ..	2,258.15
(iii) Demarcated protected forests ..	3,135.46
(iv) Undemarcated protected forests ..	8,134.88
(v) Unclassed forests ..	615.55
(vi) Area closed under section 38 of the Indian Forests Act, 1927 ..	166.33

(iii) **Forest Produce.**—The forest produce is classified into major and minor produce. The major produce includes timber, bamboos and firewood whereas minor produce includes rosin, grasses, *kana*, fruit, bark and leaves of various trees.

The annual income from the sale of forest produce in the district, from 1968-69 to 1971-72, was as under :

Year	Major produce		Minor produce	
	(Rs)		(Rs)	
1968-69 ..	4,68,489		45,807	
1969-70 ..	3,29,315		54,681	
1970-71 ..	4,98,750		73,482	
1971-72 ..	87,874		62,563	

(Source : Divisional Forest Officer, Gurdaspur Forest Division, Pathankot)

(f) Floods :

These are caused by overflowing of rivers or by excessive rains. Until recently, floods had become almost an annual feature in the Punjab. Their intensity varies from year to year and from place to place. In fact, the floods have proved a major stumbling-block in the overall progress of the State. In the Gurdaspur District, the floods of 1961, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1971 and 1973 had caused extensive damage to life, property and crops.

The Government affords relief to the flood-stricken people generally in the shape of gratuitous grants and *taccavi* loans; remission of land revenue/*abiana* and electricity charges to the tube-well owners; and postponement of recoveries of previous *taccavi* loans, etc. in accordance with the magnitude of the calamity. Besides, test relief works are undertaken to provide gainful employment to the flood-affected persons.

Besides the above, the Drainage Department executes various flood control and drainage schemes under the master plan on flood control. The anti-flood works, including construction of spurs, studs and drains to save the *dhusi* bund and dozens of villages from Beas and Ravi floods, have proved a boon for the villagers.

The following table shows the damage caused by floods and heavy rains in the district, during 1961 to 1973 :—

Damage caused to private property and area under crops, produce and its value due to floods during rainy season in the Gurdaspur District, 1961—1973

Year	Number of villages/towns affected	Area affected (sq. km.)	Human lives lost (Number)	Cattle heads lost (Number)	Houses damaged (Number)	Damage to crops		
						Area affected (Hectares)	Produce damaged ('00' Qtls.)	Value ('000' Rs)
1961	589	672	2	11	1,951	72,877	2,864	10,965
1962	893	1,191	6	45	13,305	87,752	1,183	4,939
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1964	8	1,147	..	..	29	158	7	42
1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1966	211	101	2	12	2,511	9,664	180	1,789
1967	6	9	..	..	..	23	..	..
1968	2	1	..	..	2,000	..	..	..
1969	..	..	..	..	13	..	..	..
1970	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1971	689	80	77	26	6,331	8,013	1,113	4,932
1972	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1973	..	153	11	131	14,933	10,817	..	11,276

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1967 to 1974)

(g) Famine :

Famines have been known to India from time immemorial. In 1880, the Government, out of the experiences of famines, evolved a famine relief policy for the country. In course of time, the administration has got fully equipped to deal with famines and takes adequate measures to give relief to the famine-stricken people, whenever and wherever the contingency arises.

The Gurdaspur District has never suffered from famine properly so-called. The Bharrari of Shakargarh Tahsil (now in Pakistan) was the only really insecure tract in the then district¹⁰.

10. Sir James' Lyall noted in the orders on the Shakargarh Assessment Report of 1891 that he had himself twice seen something like famine in the Bharrari tract of the Shakargarh Tahsil, now forming part of the Sialkot District of Pakistan. *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer*, 1914, pp. 158-59)

APPENDIX I

Area under principal crops in the Gurdaspur District (Vide page—)

(thousand hectares)

Crops	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Cereals—					
Rice	73	79	75	80	82
Wheat	123	127	164	141	141
Bajra	3	1.8	1.6	2.9	2.9
Maize	33	29	32	36	36
Jowar	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Barley	11	8.1	8.1	6.0	5.9
Pulses—					
Gram	8	8	7	4	4
Moong	0.40	0.97	0.20	0.15	0.17
Mash	10.65	11.30	10.23	11.51	9.96
Massar	5.02	4.49	4.53	2.56	2.42
Oil seeds—					
Groundnut	(a)	(a)	0.2	..	(a)
Rape and mustard	3.8	4.0	4.7	4.1	4.0
Sesamum	6.6	5.5	4.6	8.3	8.6
Linseed	1.6	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.6
Other crops—					
Sugarcane	21	24	23	21	21
Cotton American	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Cotton desi	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4
Potatoes	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.6
Chillies	0.01	..	(a)	..	..

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1968 to 1972)

(a) Denotes less than 50 hectares.

(Vide page—)

Production of principal crops in the Gurdaspur District

(thousand metric tons)

Crops	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Cereals—					
Rice	95.0	109.0	105.0	131.0	139.0
Wheat	162.0	248.0	321.0	295.0	293.0
Bajra	2.0	0.9	0.8	3.0	3.0
Maize	42.0	29.0	33.0	40.0	37.0
Jowar	..	0.1	0.1	..	(b)
Barley	7.0	4.9	4.9	5.0	7.0
Pulses—					
Gram	4.0	4.0	5.0	4.0	5.0
Moong	0.14	0.34	0.07	0.1	0.06
Mash	3.87	4.69	4.30	5.3	4.69
Massar	2.45	1.85	1.65	1.1	0.91
Oil seeds—					
Groundnut	(b)	(b)	..	..	..
Rape and mustard	1.9	2.1	3.0	2.4	2.5
Sesamum	2.06	1.70	1.70	3.1	3.2
Linseed	0.57	0.45	0.28	0.3	0.3
Other crops—					
Sugarcane	54.0	65.0	94.0	88.0	80.0
Cotton American	0.07	..	..	0.05	0.05
Cotton <i>desi</i>	0.63	0.56	0.58	0.61	0.62
Potatoes	5.4	2.0	4.8	2.6	6.2
Chillies	0.01	..	(b)	..	..

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

(b) Denotes less than 50 metric tons.

(a) Old-Time Industries and Industrial Development

Industrially, Gurdaspur has not been quite important district till recently. The old-time industries were few and their growth was limited to local needs. People needed then, as they do now, necessities of life like cloth, oil, iron, utensils, agricultural implements, house fitting and furniture, etc. The main occupations of the people were blacksmithy, goldsmithy, carpentry, pottery, handloom weaving, shoe-making, rope-making and cattle *nalband* (shoeing). Besides, brick making, grinding of flour by *gharats* (water mills), hand pounding of rice, etc., can also be counted as the ancient type of industries in the district. Sheep rearing, breeding of milch cattle, flaying of leather and tanning with crude processes, etc., were also occupations of the different communities in the district. Women used to do embroidery work such as *kaseedukari*, etc. These industries exist mostly in the rural areas even to this day. But unable to compete with factory products, these are gradually disappearing.

Among the old-time industries, mention may also be made of cotton weaving, embroidery, oil extraction, silk-weaving, bamboo articles, *lac*, sugar, *belna* and *kharas*, carpets, etc. Spinning and weaving were also important industries. Families of *julahas* (weavers) were found in nearly every village and a whole family worked together. Hand-spun yarn, or the coarse yarn of the Punjab mills, was used for the weaving and the tools were extremely cheap. Cotton was also used in the manufacture of *garbi lois*, the thread being of English make. These were made at Sujampur, Dinanagar and Pathankot, where these were known as *jora*.

At Dera Baba Nanak, about 100 families of Kashmiris and others were engaged in weaving and embroidery work. A flourishing outpost of the Amritsar silk-weaving industry was situated at Batala. The different designs of *azarbands* or trouser-strings of this place were well known. The workers employed in the industry were mostly women, mainly of the *kakkezai* caste. Bamboo factories flourished in Pathankot, where there were six of these factories. Bamboos were brought from Kathuha (Jammu and Kashmir State) and Nurpur (Himachal Pradesh) as well as from the low hills and submountane area of Pathankot Tahsil and were put to various uses. These formed the poles of *doolies*, shafts of *ekkas*, supports for thatching, the frame work of lattices, lances for cavalry regiments, weapons for Chowkidars, etc. Batala Tahsil used to export about 100 maunds of *lac* annually. A great deal of *lac* used to be collected during the months of January and February in the Berian Bagh near Dinanagar.

The only modern sugar factory in the then Punjab Province was at Sujanpur. Attached to the factory, there was a workshop for making soda-water machines, as well as plant for generating carbonic acid gas from *gur* and molasses, which were bought for the purpose.

Batala was noted for the manufacture of iron *belna* and *kharas* which was done with the aid of steam-power. *Belna* manufacture was obviously prospering and was the most thriving industry in Batala. One firm was also manufacturing rice-hullers and flour-mills. Carpet factories also existed in the district. There were some *thathiars* in the Batala town, who used to prepare brass and bronze utensils. People used to prepare *gur* and *rab* out of sugarcane in the villages to meet their local requirements. The *tel* community used to extract edible and non-edible oils from *sarson*, *toria*, *alsi*, etc., with the help of old type bullock driven *kohlus* (presses). Stitching of garments, without sewing machines, used to be done both by men and women. Cotton ginning/carding were also done with the old type small hand-driven machines.

The district exercised an attraction upon the supporters of sericulture as a cottage industry and various attempts were made during the British rule to encourage the systematic rearing of the silk-worm. A lengthy history of sericulture in the district is given at pages 130—138 of the *Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District*, 1891-92; pages 141—145 of the *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer*, 1914; and also in Mr. Hailey's *Monograph on the Silk Industry of the Punjab*, 1899.

In 1854, an advance was given to a resident of Pathankot for establishing a silk factory. About the same time, some persons for the last eight or ten years had raised silk worms at Sujanpur and obtained silk, disposing of it at Batala at the rate of Rs 11 a seer. Sericulture became quite popular round Nainakot in Tahsil Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947), but it was found that the native rearers habitually endeavoured to rear a much larger number of silk worms than they could either house or feed. The result was, of course, deterioration in quality. In 1873, Mr. F. Halsey commenced rearing operations on an extensive scale at Sujanpur and at his suggestion, the local Government sanctioned the grant of Rs 1,000 in prizes from the Gurdaspur District Funds for the best cocoons of local production. From this originated a series of annual exhibitions, the first of which was held at Gurdaspur in 1876. There were exhibitions at Gurdaspur in 1877 and 1878 but not in 1879 which year was marked by the death of F. Halsey, who had been the chief mover in the Gurdaspur exhibitions. He had also given a large number of prizes at the exhibitions, and had further encouraged the cause of silk

culture by large donations of young plants of the Chinese mulberry. His filature was bought for £ 600 by an agent sent out by Messrs Lister and Co.—Silk Spinners of Manningham, Yorkshire (U.K.)—who announced their intention of attempting silk culture on a large-scale in the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh). The firm was, after some negotiations, given a lease of the mulberry trees on the Gurdaspur-Amritsar Road. The fourth exhibition was held at Gurdaspur in 1880 and the fifth at Madhopur in 1881; in subsequent years one was held annually at Pathankot up to 1890 when these exhibitions were discontinued owing mainly to the disappointing nature of the exhibits and malpractices on the part of the exhibitors.

Messrs Lister & Co. maintained their silk filature in the old Government Workshops at Madhopur from 1880 to 1892. The best appliances were imported from France and the firm arranged for supplies of disease-free seed to be sent annually from the same country; this was distributed to native growers who reared the worms in their own houses and brought the cocoons to the filature. An attempt was made to keep the seed obtained from the moths through the hot weather in a house rented on the top of Bakrota in Dalhousie (Himachal Pradesh). The outturn of cocoons returned by the rearers, however, grew less and less; the fatal disease of pebrine continued to spread. Messrs Lister considered that the Irrigation Department was unfairly raising the rent of the old Workshops at Madhopur against them, and finally, after continued loss and disappointment, they transferred the whole filature to Dehra Dun (U.P.).

After 1892, sericulture continued to be carried on in a desultory way at various centres such as Sujanpur and Narot Jaimalsingh in the Pathankot Tahsil, Bahrapur in the Gurdaspur Tahsil and round Nainakot in Shakargarh Tahsil (Pakistan), until, in 1909, Government, encouraged by the success of the industry in Kashmir once more attempted to revive it in the Gurdaspur District. The experiment took the old form of distribution of disease-free seed, obtained from the Sericulture Department Kashmir, but it was not very successful. For a few years from 1910 onwards, a resident of Amritsar endeavoured to raise silk in the district for his filature at Amritsar, but his enterprise also did not meet with success.

The industry of stamping patterns on cloth, which used to be carried on to a considerable extent in Bahrapur, practically disappeared about the end of the nineteenth century. The profits being very small, the population of *Chimbas* almost died out.

As pointed out by Latifi in *The Industrial Punjab*, the importation of synthetic dyes drove the indigenous dye-stuffs almost entirely out of the Indian market. Even the cultivation of *kasumbha* (safflower), which used to be a good deal grown in Chak Andhar, had almost died out early in the twentieth century. The Dhariwal Mills employed a dyeing expert and had a very well-equipped dyeing department. Elsewhere the *rangrez* was found scattered about in various parts of the district, but doing an insignificant trade.

Dinanagar used to be a centre for the manufacture of country harness and saddlery, but the products of Kanpur and Meerut (U.P.) had superseded the local industry early in the present century. A few *kathis*, a native form of saddle, continued being manufactured by two or three *mochis* (cobblers) in Dinanagar and sold locally; there was no export. A few *mochis* in Pathankot and Gurdaspur made boots in the European style for native wear, but elsewhere in the district only that native shoe was made.

Early in the present century, certain branches of the fibre industry were monopolised almost entirely by members of particular castes. Thus *munj* twine was made by the Hindu Labanas and Jat *zaminqars*, and the long narrow strips of sack-cloth, or *pattis*, and bags, or *thailis*, by the Musalman *telis*, while the grain-sieves, called *chhaj*, were the speciality of Changars. *Munj*-matting was principally manufactured by boatmen, and *tappars* of *tat* or sack-cloth by a clan which called themselves Turks of Gharota Kalan in the Pathankot Tahsil and Dhamrai in the Gurdaspur Tahsil. Gharota Kalan was a well-known centre of the fibre industry and was, in 1913, said to send out every year Rs 2,000 worth of twine, and Rs 1,000 worth of an inferior grade of sack-cloth, made of *san*, brought from the Nurpur Tahsil of the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh). Shahpur Kandi also obtained the raw material from the surrounding villages and yearly exported Rs 5,000 worth of twine, in addition to a quantity of the fibre.

Munj serves a multiplicity of purposes; cords and ropes, packing cloth, drying-sheets for grain, flooring and roofing pieces and nets for holding chopped straw are all manufactured from *munj*. A long fibre suitable for rope making is derived from a shrub called *sankukra* (*Hibiscus cannabinus*). The *kana* reed yields another useful fibre. The *dib* bulrush can be applied to the manufacture of *safs* or coarse kinds of matting. Date-palm leaf is woven into matting and the branches of *dhamman* (*Grewia Elastica*), a characteristic tree of the Outer Himalayas, yield a rope fibre after the sticks have been well soaked in water.

Khas, the root of *panni* (*Vetivera zizanioides*), obtained from the *chambh*, used to be exported from Kahnuwan to Amritsar, its oil being extracted as a perfume and for flavouring *sherbet*; but the export ceased early in the present century.

With the passage of time, developed means of communications, construction of roads and provision of rail links, the district has become an important engineering centre. The general awakening among the masses and the introduction of mechanical and electric power in recent times have also led to the rise of new industries. The present century has, thus, witnessed a lamentable regression from old time industries to engineering industries in the livelihood pattern of the district.

The engineering industry of Batala has been known all over the country. Prior to the partition of the country in 1947, this industry was mostly in the hands of the Muslims. The void created by their mass migration to Pakistan in 1947 was, however, soon filled. Besides agricultural implements, which is the speciality of this district, the manufacture of various types of machine tools such as lathe machines, planners, shapers, drills, power presses, hand presses, 'woodworking machinery, etc. is also equally important industry, mainly centralized in Batala. Cast iron castings of numerous types are also manufactured in the foundries being run with the aid of copulas and pit-furnaces. The woollen textiles of Dhariwal Mills have a good name throughout the country and abroad. The other industries being run are cycle parts, pattern making, conduit pipes, nut and bolts, railway sleepers, cast iron sanitary pipes, manhole covers, brass-wares, rubber goods, sports goods, etc. Rice husking and woodworking industries also form an important part of the industrial set-up of the district. There were more than 1,700 industrial units, inclusive of family concerns, representing different industries in the district. During 1954-55, these afforded employment to 8,946 workers and produced goods estimated at Rs 52,16,000.

Being a border district with the ever existing danger of outbreak of hostilities with Pakistan, capital investment here has been somewhat shy. Naturally, economic activity, particularly in the field of industry, has remained somewhat erratic. No new large-scale industrial unit has been set up. Instead, there has been flight of capital from places like Batala to safer places like Faridabad, Sonapat, etc. in Haryana.

(b) State Aid to Industries

To meet the credit needs of the industry, the State Government has set up the Punjab Financial Corporation, which advances loans up to Rs 10 lakhs to private limited companies and up to Rs 20 lakhs to the

public limited companies and co-operative societies. Smaller loans are also advanced by the State Industries Department under the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, for the development of industries. In line with the policy adopted throughout the country, credit and other financial assistance are also available to small units through the State agencies of the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board. Besides, nationalised commercial banks also advance working capital and other loans to the industry. The Punjab Financial Corporation provides finance to the medium and large-scale industrial units, whereas the commercial banks offer loans to the small-scale units for short period.

The State Industries Department has several attractive schemes to encourage industrialists in setting up new industrial units. These include concessions regarding land, finance and capital, power, taxation, and in procuring of raw material, etc. The following table shows the amount of financial assistance granted in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72:—

Financial Assistance Granted by Government for Development of Industries in Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72

Year	Loans		Grants in Aid and Subsidy	
	No. of units	Amount (Rs)	No. of units	Amount (Rs)
1967-68	188	7,07,291	4	3,195
1968-69	118	4,80,700	4	1,700
1969-70	136	4,81,800	49	53,275
1970-71	109	3,50,000	4	5,275
1971-72	239	14,85,000	—	—

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1969 to 1972)

Other measures taken for the promotion of industries in the district are discussed below :

(1) **Supply of Machinery on Hire-Purchase Basis.**—Evolved by the Government of India, this scheme is to assist the educated unemployed persons, particularly the engineers, with the supply of machines on hire-purchase basis. The scheme has been entrusted by the State Government to the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation. Machines are supplied to educated unemployed persons who have passed at least basic school-leaving examination and to those who have undergone courses in the Industrial Training Institutes. Those with a degree or diploma in engineering and having done entrepreneurship training courses recognised by the Punjab Government or who have undergone the courses of the Industrial Training Institutes with some additional experience in industry are given preference. No single small-scale unit is supplied machines of the value of less than Rs 500 and more than Rs one lakh at a time. The cost of the machinery is recoverable in convenient instalments spread over a number of years.

(2) **Supply of Raw Materials.**—To supply various services and facilities to the industry, especially to the small-scale units, the State Government set up the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation in 1962. The Corporation procures and distributes essential raw materials and organises sale and marketing of industrial products. Besides, the industrial units obtain supplies of iron and steel from the stockyards opened by M/S Tata Iron and Steel Company, and M/S Hindustan Steel Ltd., Calcutta, at Jullundur, which is much nearer to the industry of this district.

(3) **Marketing Assistance.**—Besides providing raw materials, machines and other equipment, the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation also implements other useful schemes like provision of setting up of factories, registration of small-scale units, marketing of the products of the small-scale industries, and sale of handicrafts and products of cottage and small-scale industries through its own emporia set up at various places. The State Government also organises industrial exhibitions in and outside the State, in which the products of cottage and small-scale industries are displayed to the public.

(4) **Quality Marking Scheme.**—The introduction of quality marking is another measure taken by the State Government for the development and growth of small-scale industries. It provides testing and inspection facilities to the manufacturers and is a source of guidance to them in improving the quality of manufactured goods and in standardization. Qualified and experienced technical staff is employed, which assist the manufacturers in introducing modern techniques of production.

The following Quality Marking Centre has been set up at Batala under the Quality Marking Scheme :—

Government Quality Marking Centre for Engineering Goods, Batala

A scheme was undertaken for quality marking of agricultural implements and machine tools by the State Government for which a well-equipped Quality Marking Centre for Engineering Goods was established in 1956 in the premises of the industrial estate at Batala. Nominal fee is charged for the service rendered by the centre to the industrialists. There are 42 units registered with this centre under the different schemes. Technical guidance and testing facilities are also provided to these units.

The progress of work of the centre, from the inception of the quality marking scheme in 1956-57 to 1971-72, is shown in the following table: —

Year	Total No. of parties registered under the Quality Marking Scheme from its inception in 1956-57 to date	No. of tests performed	Value of goods quality marked (Rs in lakhs)	Value of goods tested for export (Rs in lakhs)
1956-57 to 1969-70	37	3,726	34,50,698	90,175
1970-71	40	794	16,94,532	4,860
1971-72	42	1,278	25,09,400	—

(Source : Quality Marking Centre for Engineering Goods, Batala)

(5) **Common Facility Service Development Schemes.**—These provide facilities to small-scale manufacturers in heat treatment, electroplating, wood seasoning, electronic components and testing facilities for radios, electrical appliances and engineering parts. The following centre provides technical advice, assistance and common facility services to the various industries :—

Industrial Development Centre, Batala

With a view to improve the quality of the semi-finished pro-

ducts and achieve certain mechanical properties in steel, heat treatment and sand blasting processing services to engineering units of Batala and the surrounding areas, the Industrial Development Centre was set up at Batala by the State Government in January 1969. The centre provides technical know-how to the industrialists in the standardization of their products. The amount realised by the centre as service charges during 1969-70 to 1971-72, was as under :

Year	Processing charges realised (Rs)
1969-70	3,294
1970-71	14,150
1971-72	31,940

(Source : Industrial Development Centre, Batala)

(6) **Other Organisations for the Development of Industries.**—Besides the above mentioned common service facility/development centres, there exist the following organisations for the promotion of industries :—

(i) **The Punjab State Small Industries Corporation Ltd., Chandigarh.**—With a view to aid, counsel, assist, finance, protect and promote the interest of small-scale industries in the State, the Punjab State Small Industries Corporation was set up as a plan scheme during the Third Five-Year Plan, 1961—66, and it started functioning at Chandigarh from October 1962. The main functions of the corporation comprise procurement, storage and distribution of all categories of industrial raw materials whether imported or indigenous, viz., ferrous and non-ferrous metals, coal, molasses, yarns, oils, dyes, leather, timber, chemicals, etc. The raw materials are distributed to those industrial units whose names are recommended by the Director of Industries, Punjab, Chandigarh, through its offices opened in various towns. The corporation office was established at Batala in 1962. During 1971-72, it distributed raw materials worth Rs 1,72,50,000. The corporation also gives facility of purchasing machinery on hire purchase basis to the small-scale industries. Besides, it undertakes the sales of handicrafts and products of cottage and small-scale industries through its own emporia set up at various places.

(ii) **The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Chandigarh.**—To cover the gap in terms of entrepreneurial financial and organisational resources, the State Government set up the Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation in 1966 as a wholly State-owned undertaking. It performs the role of an entrepreneur and assists in the setting up of medium and large-scale units, manufacturing sophisticated products and involving latest technology. As a matter of policy, the corporation implements projects in the joint sector through public limited companies. The corporation invests to the extent of 26 per cent in the equity capital, the private entrepreneur is expected to invest 25 per cent and the rest is made available for public subscription. The facilities of financial assistance from National Finance Corporation are being availed of in the form of term loan and underwriting of capital.

(iii) **Small Industries Service Institute, Batala.**—An extension centre for the service of the small industries was opened by the Government of India in 1957 at Batala. It renders free technical advice to the small entrepreneurs and undertakes jobs on nominal charges. Apart from this, demonstration parties have also been set up. The main function of these parties is to give guidance to village artisans to enable them to set up their own small industries in the rural areas. The centre is equipped with modern machinery and has been very helpful in extending technical guidance to the industries.

(iv) **National Metallurgical Laboratory, Batala.**—The small-scale foundries producing non-ferrous, iron, steel and malleable iron castings generally do not have adequate facilities for testing and improvement of their products. As a result, these are often handicapped in producing quality castings to compete in the market. The Government of India have, therefore, set up National Metallurgical Laboratories at different places in the country where small-scale foundries are concentrated, to enable them to produce quality castings with the resources at their command. One such laboratory was set up at Batala in 1964 in collaboration with the Department of Industries, Punjab. It has taken up an active programme to look into the difficulties of the small-scale foundries by way of periodical visits, advising on the spot regarding operational problems, testing their raw materials and suggesting methods of improvement for production of quality castings.

The laboratory is equipped with adequate facilities for testing of foundry sands and bonding clays used by the local foundries and also of nearby available deposits, so as to find out their suitability for specific casting purposes. It is also equipped to undertake chemical analysis of both ferrous and non-ferrous metals, moulding sands and other foundry raw materials.

Since the setting up of this laboratory, good many all round developments have been made by the foundry industry of this region.

(v) **Industrial Training Institutes.**—There are four Government Industrial Training Institutes in the district, functioning at Batala, Qadian, Gurdaspur and Pathankot. These impart training in different trades/jobs to cater to the needs of artisans required by the foundry and engineering units. There is also a Government Polytechnic functioning at Batala which provides training facilities to the young talents in the various trades.

(vi) **Rural Industrial Development Centres.**—With a view to assist the artisans and to provide common service facilities to small units in the rural areas, two rural industrial development centres are functioning at Dhariwal and Ghuman. Besides providing these facilities, the centres also meet the demands of various items of leather goods, wooden furniture, agricultural implements, etc.

(c) Industrial Training

In a developing economy like that of India, industrial training has a vital role to play, especially in the context of our urgent need for accelerated industrial growth. It ensures speedy flow of technicians to man the ever-growing industrial activities. With the rapid industrialisation, training of young men and women has helped to relieve unemployment, to a considerable extent. The Department of Industrial Training, Punjab, is engaged in the implementation of the various schemes concerning craftsmen training apprenticeship training, and special training in Industrial Schools for Boys and Girls and Special Trade Institutes.

Craftsmen training was originally started in the pre-independence period as an emergency measure to produce suitable technicians required by the Defence Services and Defence Industries. After the World War II (1939—45), the scheme was continued in order to rehabilitate ex-servicemen after imparting them technical training. On the recommendations of Shiva Rao Committee, set up by the Government of India, the scheme was brought on permanent footing in 1956 because it was felt that, without producing technicians at home, industrial set-up of the country could not be widened. The Government of India decided in November 1966, to share the expenditure with the State Governments on 60 : 40 basis. From April 1, 1969, the entire expenditure is being met by the State Government.

The industrial training programme in the Punjab received an impetus under the Government of India's programme. The Department of

Industrial Training, Punjab, imparts industrial, technical and vocational training to boys and girls through its various industrial training schools/institutes/centres.

There are four Government Industrial Training Institutes in the district at Batala, Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Qadian, where training in engineering and non-engineering trades is given to the students. Besides, there are three Government Industrial Training Schools for Girls at Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Fatehgarh Churian, which impart technical training to the deserted widows in tailoring, cutting, needle work and embroidery. Deserving candidates are also awarded stipends. There are also two private recognised Industrial Schools for Girls at Batala and Qadian, which impart training in cutting, tailoring, embroidery and needle work. Apart from these, there is a Government Industrial Training Centre for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes at Fatehgarh Churian for imparting industrial training to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.¹

The detailed particulars regarding the different Government Industrial Training Institutes are given in the following statement :—

1. Previously this centre was located at Dinanagar, from where it was shifted to Fatehgarh Churian on November 1, 1966.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES IN GURDASPUR DISTRICT

Number of Seats Sanctioned Trade-Wise with effect from the Session Starting during August 1972

Serial No.	Name and Location of Institute	Year of Establishment	Engineering Trades					Non-Engineering Trades				
			Two years' duration		One year's duration		Number of Seats	One year's duration		One year's duration		Number of Seats
			Name of Trade		Name of Trade			Name of Trade		Name of Trade		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
1.	Industrial Training Institute, Batala	1962	Fitter	16	Welder (Gas & Electric)	24	Stenography (English)	32				
			Turner	24	Moulder	16	Stenography (Punjabi)	16				
			Machinist (Composite)	24	Mechanic Motor Vehicle	32						
			Wireman	16	Mechanic Tractor	48						
			Electrician	48	Mechanic Diesel	16						
			Draftsman (Mechanical)	16	Mechanic Refr. and Air-conditioning	16						
			Pattern Maker	16								
			Mechanic Radio and Television	16								
			Fitter	32	Blacksmith	16	Stenography (Hindi)	16				
			Turner	24	Welder (Gas & Electric)	12	Stenography (Punjabi)	32				
2	Industrial Training Institute, Gurdaspur	1965	Machinist (Composite)	24	Sheet-Metal Worker	16						
			Electroplator	32	Carpenter	16						

GURDASPUR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3. Industrial Training Institute, Pathankot	1958	Electrician	Mechanic Radio and Television	32	Mechanic Motor Vehicle	32		
				32	Mechanic Tractor	32		
					Mechanic Diesel	16		
				64	Blacksmith	16	Stenography (English)	32
				36	Welder (Gas & Electric)	36	Stenography (Punjabi)	16
				24	Moulder	16		
				32	Carpenter	32		
				16	Mechanic Motor Vehicle	32		
				64	Mechanic Diesel	32		
				32	Mechanic Refr. & Air-conditioning	16		
4. Industrial Training Institute, Qadian	1963	Fitter	Turner	32	Welder (Gas & Electric)	12	Stenography (Punjabi)	16
				36	Sheet Metal Worker	16	Cutting and Tailoring	16
				24	Mechanic Motor Vehicle	16		
				76	Mechanic Tractor	32		
				32				

(Source: Industrial Training Department, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(d) Industrial Areas and Estates

The scheme for the establishment of industrial estates to provide sheds for factories, was started in the State in 1959. To popularise it, sheds constructed in the industrial estates are given to the allottees on hire-purchase basis. The rent paid by them is adjusted towards the cost of sheds which is, thus, recovered in 15 equated instalments.

The Industries Department, Punjab, has set up four industrial estates in the district at Batala, Sohal, Ghuman and Fatehgarh Churian, besides an urban industrial estate at Gurdaspur proper. The detailed information in respect of these is given below :

Industrial Estate, Batala.—The industrial estate at Batala, with 50 sheds, was set up during 1963-64. The main industrial activity in these sheds is machine tools, steel furniture and water pumps and other agricultural implements.

Industrial Estate, Gurdaspur.—Twelve sheds have been provided in the estate wherein conduit pipes, rubber goods and cardboard units are running.

Industrial Estate, Fatehgarh Churian.—Covering an area of 43 *kanals* and 8 *marlas*, this estate has 8 sheds.

Rural Industrial Estate, Sohal.—Covering an area of 43 *kanals* and 8 *marlas*, this estate has 8 sheds.

Rural Industrial Estate, Ghuman.—The total area of the estate is 33 *kanals* and 4 *marlas* in which there are 8 sheds.

(e) Sources of power

Power.—manual, coal or diesel—is the bloodstream of the economic and industrial development. The presence of water power is also an industrial asset. The old-time industries were cottage, traditional and hereditary, for which no electric power was used, and the work was done with manual and animal power. Even the New Egerton Woollen Mills at Dhariwal, established in 1880, was run with water power. Similarly, flour mills were operated with the help of *gharats* and animals. Later on, some oil engines were put to use to run flour mills, cotton ginning, rice husking and other such industries.

In 1889, a thermal plant steam engine was installed by the New Egerton Woollen Mills, Dhariwal.

The pioneer in bringing electric energy in the district was also the New Egerton Woollen Mills, Dhariwal, which installed the first thermal

power generating unit in 1925. The electric power generated there was, however, exclusively meant for the industrial use of the woollen mills and for its employees.

With the construction of a hydro-electric power station at Jogindernagar, 132 KV transmission lines and the two main 132 KV grid sub-stations at Pathankot and Dhariwal, under the Punjab P.W.D. Electricity Branch, the electric energy was made available for the use of the people in general in the district for the first time in 1933. In the preliminary stage, there was not much demand for electricity and, in spite of considerable canvassing, people were not keen to make use of it. The pace of progress was, therefore, slow. At the time of the partition of the country in 1947, only 7 towns and 11 villages were electrified in the district. Since then tremendous progress has been made under the various rural electrification projects.

The advent of the hydro-electric power in 1933 gave impetus to the setting up of new industries and development of the existing ones. Slowly and steadily, electricity replaced the other sources of power. Gurdaspur being predominantly an agricultural district, breakthrough in agriculture with its corresponding optimism in industry has put new demand for power.

The electrification projects remained under the Punjab P.W.D. Electricity Branch from 1933 up to January 31, 1959, when the Punjab State Electricity Board was formed and the whole of the administration along with all its assets and liabilities was transferred from the Government to the newly constituted board.

The Gurdaspur District is served by three electrical divisions, viz., Gurdaspur Division, Gurdaspur; Batala Division, Batala; and Pathankot Division, Pathankot. These are under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Gurdaspur.

During 1971-72, the Diesel Power House at Fatehgarh Churian, with installed capacity and firm capacity of 4.6 thousand kilowatts each, as on March 31, 1972, came into operation. The number of villages/towns electrified in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 921, forming 14.11 per cent of the total number of villages/towns in the district. This number rose to 981, as on March 31, 1974, forming 63.87 per cent of the total number of villages/towns in the district. The total number of consumers of different categories, during 1971-72, was 94,337, comprising 69,470 domestic, 12,675 commercial, 2,982 industrial, 9,156 agricultural, 17 bulk, and 37 public lighting. The total units sold to different categories of consumers, during 1971-72, was 1,139 lakh K.W.H., comprising 112 lakh K.W.H. domestic, 43 lakh K.W.H. commercial, 303 lakh K.W.H.

industrial, 589 lakh K. W. H. agricultural, 87 lakh K. W. H. bulk, and 5 lakh K.W.H. public lighting. The per capita consumption worked out to be 92 units (K.W.H.). The length of L.T. and 11 K.V. transmission lines in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 1,867 kilometres which worked out to be 0.89 km. per sq. km. of area. The number of transformers installed in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 1,590. The total connected load during 1971-72, was 1,11,497 K.W., comprising 17,782 K.W. domestic, 4,956 K.W. commercial, 41,430 K.W. industrial, 43,690 K.W. agriculture, 3,432 bulk and 207 public lighting. In 1971-72, the average number of units sold per consumer were 1,207 and the average connected load per consumer was 1.2 K.W.²

(f) Growth and Development of Industries

Although the Gurdaspur District is predominantly agricultural, nevertheless certain industries did exist in the 19th and the early part of the 20th centuries which gave employment to a large number of persons. The chief of these is the large-scale textile concern known as the British India Company Ltd., New Egerton Woollen Mills Branch, Dhariwal, which was established in 1880.

The industries received fillip from the demand created by the World War I (1914-18), the Swadeshi Movement (boycott of foreign goods), a change in Government's laissez faire policy and the grant of tariff protection since 1923. The agricultural implements industry at Batala came into existence in 1924. Its main items of production at that time were chaff cutters and sugarcane crushers. Later on, it started manufacturing farm machinery, like wheat and maize thrashers, disc harrows, seed cum fertilizer drills, etc. In 1933, the Batala Engineering Company Ltd., was started at Batala. The engineering works developed first as a result of railway construction, but were later on extended to other fields. In course of time it has become the most important industry of the district.

The cycle and cycle parts industry was established in the district in 1943 when a concern at Batala started the production of saddles. The World War II (1939-45) gave a fillip and a number of concerns started manufacturing cycle parts. The partition of the country in 1947 gave a severe set back to the industry which, however, revived subsequently.

2. *Electricity Statistics of Punjab, 1971-72*, pp. 36-37, 54-55, 72-73, 86-87, 88-91, 94-95, 96-97, 130-131, 160-163 (Issued in 1972 by the Economic Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh);
Statistical Hand Book, Punjab, 1972-73, p. 54; and
Statistical Hand Book, Punjab, 1974-75, p. 61

The rubber goods manufacturing industry was started in the district in 1952 when its first factory was established at Dinanagar for manufacturing canvas rubber belting.

There are also cottage and village industries like handloom weaving, leather tanning, shoe-making, *ban* and rope making, soap making, sericulture, spinning, *gur* and *khandsari* making, pottery, etc. Such industries have an important and vital role to play in the economy of an agricultural district like Gurdaspur.

The partition of the country in 1947 caused a set-back to the industries due to the migration of skilled Muslim labour to Pakistan. The gap was, however, filled up by the refugees who migrated from Pakistan. This was a period of industrial crisis and production in most of the industries was below the average level. But the post-partition era showed a tremendous progress in the expansion of industries despite Gurdaspur being a border district. The number of industrial units in the district at the end of the First Five-Year Plan, 1951—56, was estimated at 1904. These units included industries like machine tools, agricultural implements, brass utensils, electrical goods, leather and leather goods, sports goods, woollen textiles, food production, radio and radio parts, handlooms, cycle parts including cycle rims, sewing machines, furniture, rubber goods and conduit pipes.

The number of industrial units and their production in the district, increased further during the Second Five-Year Plan, 1956—61. By the end of the plan period in 1961, the number of industrial units was 3,227. The Batala Co-operative Sugar Mill, Ltd., Batala, in the large-scale sector, came into existence in 1956. The production of agricultural implements—speciality of this district—modern machine tools, cycle parts, steel springs, pattern making, conduit pipes and sports goods, etc. has expanded fast. The important industrial focal points in the district are Batala, Pathankot, Dhariwal, Dinanagar and Gurdaspur.

In 1971-72, there were as many as 8 units in the large-scale sector, engaged in textile, sugar, flour and agricultural implements; 1,103 units in the small-scale sector, engaged mainly in the production of machine tools, agricultural implements, cycle parts, utensil making, sports goods, rubber goods, conduit pipes, radio and sound equipments, steel furniture and wood furniture, washing soap, etc. and 3,963 units engaged in the cottage and village industries. These employed 4,273 persons in the large-scale sector, 11,117 in the small-scale sector and 5,936 in the cottage and village industries.

(g) Industries and Manufactures of the District³

The present day industries in the district may be classified under three broad heads, viz. large and medium scale, small-scale and cottage and village industries. A few industries, which fall partly in the large-scale sector and partly in the small-scale sector, have been discussed as a whole among those in the large-scale sector. The jail industries have been mentioned separately.

(i) Large and Medium-Scale Industries

(1) **Textile Industry.**—Woollen textiles industry in the large-scale sector is most important industry of the district. There is only one large-scale textile concern, known as the British India Company Ltd., New Egerton Woollen Mills Branch, situated at Dhariwal. Established in 1880, it is a prominent and the oldest woollen textile unit in northern India. During 1971-72, the unit employed 3,307 workers and produced 6,570 quintals of goods worth Rs 4,32,89,256. Its exports to the foreign countries were worth Rs 7,32,569.

The entire textile industry is controlled by the Government of India through the Textile Commissioner. The allocation of woollen worsted yarn—controlled item, to the hosiery industry is made by the State Department of Industries. Prior to the partition of the country in 1947, this industry was mostly in the hands of Muslims, who migrated to Pakistan.

(2) **Engineering Industry.**—Engineering industry in the large-scale sector is the most important industry of the district. It has been localised at Batala, where it was established long before the partition of the country in 1947. In private sector, a large-scale Beco Engineering Company Ltd. (formerly the Batala Engineering Company Ltd., and now popularly known as 'Beco') was established in 1933. As a result of the partition of the country, the industry had been altogether crippled, but gradually it has revived and developed and gained considerable prominence. This unit manufactures machine tools and agricultural implements and is also running steel re-rolling mills. These products are supplied to the various parts of the country.

In 1971-72, four other units, in large/medium scale sectors, were engaged in the manufacturing of agricultural implements and machinery, which produced goods worth Rs 1,59,67,832 and gave employment to 665 persons. The value of goods exported during the year was worth Rs 1,82,574.

(3) **Sugar Industry.**—This is one of the most important rural industries of the district. Since there was no sugar mill in this area, the Batala

3. Report on the Industrial Survey of Gurdaspur (Chandigarh, 1959)

Co-operative Sugar Mill Ltd., Batala, was established in 1956 to help the growers of sugarcane. It went into production during the crushing season of 1963-64. This is the only unit of its kind in the district in the large-scale sector. The main raw material, i.e. sugarcane, is produced by growers of the Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts. The growers are provided with many facilities to ensure regular growing of cane to meet the requirements of the mill.

The mill crushes about 800 to 1,000 tonnes of cane daily during the crushing season which lasts for three to four months. The sugar produced is stored in the mill's godown. The monthly allotment of its sale is made by the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Directorate of Sugar and Vanaspati). The mill has also appointed accredited sugar agents in various towns to sell sugar on the rates approved by it. In 1971-72, this industry gave employment to 235 persons and its production was worth Rs 98,76,328.

All the affairs of the mill are managed by a Board of Directors, which includes five Government nominees and ten from the general public.

(4) **Flour Mills.**—Power driven *chakkies* and roller flour mills have almost replaced the indigenous *chakkies* worked manually or through animals or water power for grinding of corn, etc. The industry is perennial by nature and work is carried on throughout the year. In 1971-72, two units of roller flour mills in the large-scale sector were engaged in the industry which employed 66 persons and produced goods worth Rs 1,42,85,638.

(5) **Rice Mills.**—Commercial rice production is becoming increasingly important in the Punjab. Though Punjab is predominantly wheat consuming area, the farmers have found it profitable to grow high-yielding paddy varieties during the *kharif* season before growing wheat during *rabi*. In view of the importance of rice production on commercial basis, a study of the modernization of the paddy rice system, particularly at the procurement and processing stages, in the Punjab, was undertaken by the Centre for Management in Agriculture, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, and its report was submitted in October 1974. The report summarises the market arrival patterns, prices, facilities for storage and milling in the vicinity of *mandis* (markets), and other structural aspects of six *mandis* in the three paddy growing districts of Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Patiala. The report also analysed the extent of modernization in the existing sheller mills, based on 27 mills in these districts.

Out of the six *mandis* on which study was undertaken two viz.

Gurdaspur and Dhariwal, fall in the Gurdaspur District. The observations of the study team about these two *mandis* are given below.

In 1971-72, there were 55 sheller mills in the Gurdaspur District. The milling capacity and paddy arrivals in the district, during the same year, was as under :

Capacity of mills per hour (metric tons)	..	52
Paddy arrivals (thousand metric tons)	..	230
Average number of days required for milling in three shifts		184

On an average, the mills worked at full capacity (three shifts) for about five months in a year. But, actually the mills worked for more than five months as these operated at only two shifts a day. Power cuts, absence of mechanical drying facilities, and labour conditions forced the mills to run under capacity.

The annual arrivals of paddy and the storage facilities available at the Gurdaspur and Dhariwal *mandis*, during 1971-72, were as under⁴ :

Market	Annual arrivals (metric tons)	Total storage space (metric tons)
Gurdaspur	.. 40,382	77,232
Dhariwal	.. 18,481	6,835

(ii) Small-Scale Industries

While greater emphasis is being laid on the development of large and medium-scale industries, there can be no underrating of the importance of small-scale industries, constituting as they do the mainstay of the State's industrial economy. These also help in improving the economic condition of the people and provide sound foundations for a more balanced development of the State. This sector, therefore, receives constant attention of the State Government under various schemes.

4. Gupta, V.K., and George, P. S., *Modernization of Rice Processing Industry in Punjab* (Cyclostyled report issued in 1974 by the Centre for Management in Agriculture, Indian Institutes of Management, Ahmedabad)

The role of small-scale industries has been fully recognised for ensuring diffusion of ownership, dispersed growth of industries, benefit of modern scientific technology and supply of standard quality of consumer goods. A number of products have been exclusively reserved for production in the small-scale industries sector. The district has a network of small-scale industries, catering mainly to a large variety of engineering goods like machine tools, agricultural implements, cycles, consumer goods, sports goods, hand tools, rubber goods, sewing machines, conduit pipes, etc.

The different small-scale industries existing in the district are given below :

(6) **Machine Tools.**—Engineering is the most important industry of the district. Originally started in 1945, it is mainly centralised at Batala. The industry was greatly facilitated by the availability of evacuee buildings and the necessary raw material, coupled with the suitable soil and climatic conditions for foundry units. Its main products are lathes, shapers, planners, drill machines, spinning lathes, power presses, fly presses and hacksaw machines, woodworking machinery, etc. In the beginning, it could hardly meet the local requirements, but, with the passage of time, it started attracting customers from all over the country as most of the factories started production of graded machines.

(7) **Agricultural Implements.**—This industry came into existence in 1924. Chaff cutters and sugarcane crushers were the main items of production up to the partition of the country in 1947. Later on, the production of farm machinery like wheat and maize thrashers, disc harrows, seed cum fertilizer drills, etc. also started. The units engaged in the industry are mostly equipped with a foundry section. The development of the foundry industry in the district is mainly due to the availability of suitable clay at Batala for moulding purposes. Some units have taken up the manufacture of diesel engines and centrifugal pumps, reflex valves and bends, etc. which are being marketed not only for local consumption but also to meet demand from other States. These products are being mainly used for facility of irrigation.

In 1971-72, 784 units were engaged in the production of machine tools and agricultural implements, which employed 8,702 persons and produced goods worth Rs 4,97,04,745.

(8) **Trunks and Balties.**—This is an old industry of the district and its important centres are Gurdaspur, Batala, Dinanagar and Pathankot. The products include trunks, pails, bath-tubs and pans. The essential raw materials consumed by the industry are G.P. sheets and black sheets.

(9) **Utensils Making.**—This industry was originally started in the times of Maharaja Ranjit Singh when the *thathiars* used to prepare guns and also brass utensils of the old type to meet the local needs. The *thathiar* community have concentrated their residence in a part of the Batala town, known as the Thathiari Gate. They have adopted this industry as a hereditary occupation and have developed their work in course of time. The manufacturing is carried on by manual as well as machine processes. Brass/bronze utensils prepared at Batala have market all over the country. The important raw materials consumed by the industry are brass ingots and scrap.

During 1971-72, 114 units were engaged in this industry which employed 438 persons and produced goods worth Rs 33,14,614.

(10) **Conduit Pipes.**—The industry was started at Dinanagar a few years before the partition of the country in 1947 when demand for conduit pipes arose for electrical fittings. Originally, only one unit at Dinanagar was engaged in the industry. After the partition, when the demand for its products increased, a few more units came into existence at Dinanagar and Gurdaspur. The main raw material required for the industry is black sheets of 16 to 22 gauge.

In 1971-72, 10 units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 432 persons and produced goods worth Rs 87,38,000.

(11) **Saw Milling and Woodworking.**—This important industry of the district exists at Pathankot, Dinanagar, Dhariwal and Batala. Its products include planks and shooks, *takhties* (school boys' boards to write on), *pawas* (legs of cot), harmoniums, furniture, tonga and rickshaw hoods, *tokas* (chaff-cutters) handles, etc. Timber is the main raw material which is available in abundance in the district. Pathankot is the biggest timber market in the State. Quite a large quantity of wood is also available at other places in the district.

In 1971-72, nine units were engaged in manufacturing steel furniture and wooden furniture which gave employment to 72 persons and produced goods worth Rs 6,45,000.

(12) **Soap Making.**—Soap manufacturing units exist at Pathankot, Dhariwal, Dinanagar, Gurdaspur and Batala. Only washing soap is manufactured here. The equipment used in the industry is very simple and does not require much investment. The main raw materials required are oil, soda caustic and soda silicate.

Besides local consumption, the soap manufactured in the district is also sent to the neighbouring areas of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir States. In 1971-72, 57 units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 84 persons and produced soap worth Rs 12,80,314.

(13) Sports Goods.—This is a post-partition industry established by the displaced industrialists from Sialkot in Pakistan. It is confined to the manufacture of various types of sports goods, viz., rackets, volleyballs, footballs, leather covers, shuttlecocks, cricket bats, hockey sticks, etc.

The main raw materials consumed by the industry are mulberry wood, cane, rubber sheets, leather, etc. Originally, about 150 units were set up at Batala, but by and by most of these have shifted to Jullundur which offers a better market. The industry is facing a crisis due to the non-availability of special type of raw material for manufacture of hockey sticks and cricket bats.

In 1971-72, 32 units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 116 persons and produced goods worth Rs 1,39,500.

(14) Cycle Parts.—Cycle and cycle parts industry was established in the district in 1943, when a concern at Batala started the production of saddles. The World War II (1939—45) gave a fillip to the industry and a number of concerns started manufacturing cycle parts. The partition (1947) gave a severe set-back to the industry but the position improved later on. The raw materials used by the industry are of a varied type, viz., plain sheets, flats, angles, rounds, pipes, rubber tyres, paints, varnishes and nuts, etc.

Another concern at Batala started the production of rims in 1954 and has made good progress.

In 1971-72, eight units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 288 persons and produced goods worth Rs 17,09,000.

(15) Sewing Machines.—This is an important light engineering industry. Due to keen competition in the market, the industry remained more or less static. A unit manufacturing sewing machines at Gurdaspur could not progress much and consequently changed its line of production. However, a firm at Batala undertakes job work for assembling complete sewing machines, stands, etc.

In 1971-72, two units were engaged in the manufacture of sewing machines and parts. These gave employment to 89 persons and produced goods worth Rs 4,95,000.

(16) Rubber Goods.—This industry was established in the district in 1952. It is centralised at Dinanagar, where two units are engaged in the manufacture of rubber beltings, which are commonly used by all factories for running their machines. Another unit at the same place is engaged in the manufacture of rubber canvas shoes, saddles, horns, etc. The essential raw materials required by the industry are raw rubber, canvas and chemicals. The goods are readily saleable in view of their cheapness and good demand.

In 1971-72, 12 units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 315 persons and produced goods worth Rs 92,82,000.

(17) Radio and Radio Parts.—The import restrictions imposed during the World War II (1939—45) and the Government policy thereafter gave an impetus to the industry. The number of units engaged in it increased from 3 in 1954-55 to 12 in 1971-72. In 1971-72, the industry gave employment to 40 persons and produced goods worth Rs 4,39,000.

The raw materials required by the industry are confined to electrical goods and radio parts.

(18) Steel Re-rolling.—There is a great market for the re-rolled steel due to an overall spurt in the construction work. It meets the demand of the district and also some other parts of the State. The main raw materials required for the industry are scrap iron, billets and steam coal.

In 1971-72, two units were engaged in the production of rounds square flat bare, strip angles, etc. These units employed 135 persons and their production was worth Rs 27,01,000.

(19) Bolts and Nuts.—In 1971-72, four units were engaged in the production of bolts and nuts in the district. These employed 26 persons and their production was worth Rs 59,000. The main raw materials used are steel rods and strips.

(20) Electrical Motors and Other Goods.—In 1971-72, there were 2 units producing electrical motors in the district. These employed 21 persons and produced 104 motors during the year. The raw materials used are stamping (lamination), bearing, enamelled copper wire, mild steel, etc.

Besides, there were 9 units engaged in the production of other electrical goods. In 1971-72, these employed 82 persons and produced goods worth Rs 2,05,000.

(21) Surgical Instruments.—Stainless steel is mainly used for the manufacture of surgical instruments. In 1971-72, eight units were engaged

in the industry in the district which employed 33 persons and produced goods worth Rs 1,53,000.

(22) Automobile Parts.—The industry offers a good scope for expansion, especially in view of the increasing vehicular traffic on roads. The main raw material required by the industry is high carbon steel including steel springs.

In 1971-72, three units were engaged in the industry which gave employment to 45 persons and produced goods worth Rs 3,28,000.

(23) Plastic Goods.—The production of plastic goods has gone up in the district. In 1971-72, two units were engaged in the industry which employed 12 persons and produced goods worth Rs 1,02,000.

(24) Batteries and Plates.—There is one unit in the district producing batteries and plates. In 1971-72, it employed 17 persons and produced goods worth Rs 95,000.

(25) Food Products.—This is an important industry of the district. During 1971-72, 10 units were engaged in it which employed 125 persons and produced goods worth Rs 20,31,000.

(iii) Cottage and Village Industries

The cottage and village industries play a significant role in the rural economy of the district. These provide vocations to the rural masses to supplement their income. The improvement of the agriculture largely depends upon the resuscitation of small-scale village industries. Since Gurdaspur is primarily an agricultural district and most of its population lives in villages, these industries provide part-time jobs to the agriculturists in the off season and, thus, help in removing unemployment to some extent.

Owing to marketing and transport difficulties, there are very few organised industries in the rural areas. The important cottage and village industries, which all function almost on a small-scale or as family units, are described below:

(26) Hand Spinning.—Previously, spinning of cotton yarn was done by hand driven *charkhas* to meet the local needs only. Recently, Amber *charkha* has been introduced to increase the production of yarn. Centres have been opened in various villages for imparting training in the working of the Amber *Charkha*. The All-India Khadi Board, the Punjab Charkha Sangh and the Punjab Khadi Gram Udyog Sangh purchase hand-spun yarn and supply it to weavers for production of *khadi* cloth.

(27) Handloom Weaving and Khadi.—This is an important village industry. It received a great set-back on the partition of the country in 1947 when the Muslim artisans migrated to Pakistan. The gap was, however, filled up by the refugee artisans, who migrated to the district from Pakistan. The Punjab Khadi Gram Udyog Sangh has taken effective steps to encourage the industry. Yarn is supplied to weavers who undertake weaving on wage basis. In many villages, the Co-operative Department has also organised weavers' handloom co-operative industrial societies which undertake work on an organised basis.

In 1971-72, there were 1,225 units engaged in the industry which gave employment to 2,257 persons and produced goods worth Rs 5,19,385.

(28) Shoe-Making.—It is an old traditional industry. The partition of the country in 1947 adversely affected it as the Muslim artisans migrated to Pakistan. Their place was, however, taken up by refugee artisans from Pakistan. The shoe-makers in rural areas generally produce shoes for local needs. To encourage the industry, the Co-operative Department has set up shoe-making co-operative societies at some places. Besides, training centres are functioning at various places for imparting training to artisans. A Rural Industrial Centre for Leather Goods is functioning at Dhariwal.

In 1971-72, 1,535 units were manufacturing leather goods including shoes in the district. These employed 1,778 persons and produced goods worth Rs 7,36,100.

(29) Carpentry and Blacksmithy.—These are also traditional industries carried on in the rural areas. Blacksmith acts as useful link in the rural economy like the carpenter. He undertakes repairs of agricultural implements besides doing household jobs. The goods produced by such artisans are *khurpas*, sickles, wooden ploughs, etc. The payment of wages in some cases is made in kind during the crop seasons.

(30) Flaying/Leather Tanning.—This traditional industry, though important and beneficial for the country, was neglected by the people and very useful national resources had been allowed to be wasted by using old methods. The industry is carried on by the Chamar (Scheduled Caste) community. In 1971-72, 154 units were engaged in it in the district. These employed 399 persons and produced goods worth Rs 99,050.

(31) Ban and Rope Making.—*Ban* and rope making is also one of the traditional industries carried on by the villagers on primitive basis. The products are manufactured from sunn-hemp, *munj* and *kai*, which are mostly available near the *bet* areas of the rivers Beas and Ravi. The village folk have mostly been doing the job on part-time basis by hand process.

It was during the First Five-Year Plan (1951—56) when *ban* and rope manufacturing machines (both operated by hand and power) were introduced and the Industries Department as well as the Punjab Khadi and Village Board extended financial help with a view to uplifting the artisans engaged in the line. The State Co-operative Department has also helped the industry by organising co-operative societies at some places in the district.

In 1971-72, 510 units were engaged in the industry which employed 625 persons and produced goods worth Rs 3,50,000.

(32) **Rice Husking, Flour Milling and Oil Extracting.**—These industries received a serious set-back at the time of partition of the country in 1947 when Muslim artisans, known as *telis*, etc. migrated to Pakistan. The waterlogging, which adversely affected the production of oil seeds, caused further set-back to the oil extracting industry. However, the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board is taking keen interest in the revival of the industry by setting up oil industrial co-operative societies at various places in the district, by imparting training and by providing financial facilities. Besides, modern type machinery (Wardha type *kohlus*) is distributed in villages and facilities are provided for construction of sheds and godowns. In 1971-72, 45 units were engaged in the village oil industry in the district. These employed 90 persons and their production was worth Rs 1,15,000.

Originally, flour milling was done on hand-driven domestic *chakkies*, bullock-driven *kharases* and water operated *gharats*, but, with the advent of diesel engine and electric power, composite units for flour milling, rice husking, cotton ginning, cotton carding, etc. came into existence.

Due to waterlogging in the district, paddy is grown in abundance, with the result that about 17 rice shellers, each with a capacity of 1 to 4 metric tonnes per day of eight hours, are functioning at Pathankot, Dinanagar, Gurdaspur, Batala, Dhariwal and Dera Baba Nanak.

For the facility of rice shellers, run with the aid of electric power, at various places of the district, some units in the engineering industry have taken up the manufacture of rubber rolled rice huskers and paddy driers which have attracted orders from the rice shellers of other places too.

(33) **Baskets, Chicks and Straw Bottle Covers Making.**—These are also traditional industries, carried on in most of the villages in the district. Bamboo and mulberry sticks are the main raw materials used in the manufacture of *chicks* and baskets, respectively. These are available in plenty in Tahsil Pathankot.

The demand for articles like cycle baskets, waste paper baskets, vegetable baskets and even articles of furniture made from bamboo is on the increase. There is, therefore, considerable scope for further development of the industry, provided adequate financial assistance is afforded to the manufacturers engaged in it.

Straw covers for bottles are manufactured at Dinanagar and its surrounding villages and in the villages near Pathankot. These are supplied mostly to the breweries for packing purposes.

(34) **Sericulture.**—Sericulture is a useful part-time occupation for the tillers of land. This industry is mainly concentrated in the Pathankot Tahsil and the surrounding areas where mulberry trees are available in abundance and rearing of silk seed on these trees is facilitated. The Industries Department has set up a sericulture organisation and a sericulture experiment laboratory at Sujanpur. At Dinanagar, the department has set up a big sericulture farm where mulberry trees have been grown. Training is imparted in rearing of silk worms and cocoons. The Government provides cocoons to the silk rearers at subsidised rates for the development of this industry. Financial assistance is also provided by the Government.

(35) **Gur and Khandsari Making.**—The industry exists almost in every village where sugarcane is grown. This is a seasonal industry and is mostly adopted by the cultivators. With the establishment of the Batala Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd., Batala in 1956, restrictions were imposed on the manufacture of *khandsari*.

In 1971-72, 17 units were engaged in the production of *gur* and *khandsari*. These gave employment to 70 persons and produced goods worth Rs 1,50,000.

(36) **Pottery.**—Pottery is an important village industry. It received a serious set-back on the partition of the country in 1947 when the Muslim artisans migrated to Pakistan and there was low influx of refugee potters in this district. However, in course of time, the industry got re-established.

(37) **Ivory and Inlay Goods.**—Only one unit is engaged in the production of ivory and inlay goods in the district at Qila Darshan Singh, Tahsil Batala. In 1971-72, it gave employment to 10 persons and produced goods worth Rs 12,380. Besides, one unit in the small-scale sector manufactures plastic novelties and consumer goods.

(iv) Handicrafts

No special type of handicrafts exists in the Gurdaspur District. *Phulkari* and *baag* making was an important handicraft in the past, but

gradually, with the advancement of mechanism, this work has almost been neglected by the village women. Hand knitting and embroidery work is, however, still carried on. This is also called *topa* work. During the Second Five-Year Plan (1956---61), industrial training institutes were established at various places in the district to impart training to women in embroidery, tailoring, knitting, etc. The dealers from Amritsar and Ludhiana supply cloth through their middlemen and get the work done from the village women. Remuneration being not attractive, the industry is on the decay.

(v) Jail Industries

The industries carried on in the District Jail, Gurdaspur, are: carpentry, *munj* and hemp, *ban*, cane, *chick* making, *niwar* making, basket, *tat* (sack-cloth), *gur*, cotton-teasing, book-binding, poultry, etc. The production and gross profit of these industries is given in the section on 'Jails and Lock-ups' of chapter XII, 'Law and Order and Justice.'

(h) Industrial Potential

As regards the industrial potential of the district and plans for future development, the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, suggested in 1961 that a new cement factory be started at Pathankot. The Council further suggested a programme for dairy development at Batala of a composite milk plant of 750 maunds (about 28 metric tons) capacity per day at a cost of Rs 49.5 lakhs and at Gurdaspur of creameries of 250 maunds (about 9.30 metric tons) capacity per day at a cost of Rs 10.2 lakhs.⁵

(i) Role of Industrial Co-operatives

The earliest attempt to introduce the co-operative method for solving rural economic problems was made in 1904 when the then British Government passed the Co-operative Credit Societies Act. The object of the Act was to encourage thrift, self-help and co-operation amongst agriculturists, artisans and persons of limited means. However, in the industrial field also the principle of co-operation has been accepted as a method to help small industrialists, artisans, craftsmen, etc. in increasing their productive capacity and financial resources.

Industrial co-operatives are generally formed by artisans, craftsmen, industrial workers and small industrialists. These are limited liability concerns, the liability normally extending to the value of the shares. During the first two Five-Year Plans, 1951-56 and 1956-61, the industrial

⁵ Techno-Economic Survey of Punjab (New Delhi, 1962), pp. 173-174 and 220-221

co-operatives made a definite progress. Weavers co-operatives have been established on a firm footing under the guidance of the All-India Handloom Board. The latter provides the co-operatives with Government grants and loans and helps in strengthening the marketing organisation. It further helps the movement in building up its internal resources by increasing the share capital.⁶

Most of the funds for industrial co-operative societies are available from co-operative banks. Credit facilities are also given by private entrepreneurs. The co-operative societies also get subsidies, grants-in-aid and loans from Government for the purchase of machinery, equipment, raw materials, etc.

Considerable attention is being paid to the introduction of improved tools and techniques amongst industrial co-operative societies by different all-India and State organisations. Co-operative Industrial Estates are also being developed where sites are made available to members with common facilities like workshops, exhibition houses, industrial museums, quality marking units, testing and finishing units, godowns, sample rooms and similar services. Thus, the industrial co-operatives play a vital role in the development of village industries.

The particulars regarding the industrial co-operative societies in the district, during 1970-71 to 1971-72, are given in the following table:—

⁶ Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation, (Issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation, New Delhi, in 1964), pp. 45—47

Number and Membership of the Industrial Co-operative Societies and the Value of Goods Produced by These in the Gurdaspur District, 1970-71 to 1971-72

172

Serial No.	Name of Industry	No. of Industrial Co-operative Societies		Membership		Value of Goods Produced	
		1970-71	1971-72	1970-71	1971-72	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)
1.	Handloom Weaving	..	64	66	1,130	8,88,799	3,43,643
2.	Small-Scale Industries						
	Leather Goods	..	32	33	434	458	
	Engineering Goods	..	74	69	851	815	
	Woodwork	..	31	31	390	409	
	Brick-kiln	..	14	15	300	323	32,33,785
	Hosiery	..	..	4	..	53	27,87,723
	Miscellaneous	..	47	44	610	573	
3.	Khadi and Village Industries						
	Khadi Spinning and Weaving	..	1	1	21	21	
	Non-edible Oil and Soap and <i>Ghani</i> -oil	..	38	38	508	506	
	Pottery	..	4	2	64	34	
	Hand Pounding of Rice	..	10	10	151	151	
	<i>Gur</i> and <i>Khandsari</i>	..	13	13	158	159	1,61,817
							809,090
4.	Handicraft and Sericulture						
	Hand-made Paper	..	1	1	17	17	
	Soap	..	..	3	..	36	
	Match	..	..	5	..	62	
	Palm <i>Gur</i>	..	..	2	..	51	
	Miscellaneous	..	47	39	567	517	
		..	..	13	..	155	7,348

GURDASPUR

(Source : Industrial Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Amritsar)

INDUSTRIES

173

The industrial co-operatives in the State were under the Co-operative Department up to April 1963, when the industrial co-operative wing was transferred to the Industries Department. The Industrial Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Amritsar, is in charge of the industrial co-operative societies in the Gurdaspur District.

The amount of loans and subsidies given by the Government to the industrial co-operative societies in the district, during 1969-70 to 1971-72, is given below :

		1969-70 (Rs)	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)
Loans Advanced	..	3,07,027	3,29,024	3,71,346
Subsidies Given	..	3,223	2,947	2,827

(Source : Industrial Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Amritsar)

The following table shows the progress made by the industrial Co-operatives in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Particulars	Year				
	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
No. of Industrial Co-operative Societies	.. 376	378	384	394	390
Membership	.. 5,266	5,282	5,436	5,561	5,576
Share Capital (in Rs)	11,00,315	11,68,043	13,71,382	14,49,322	15,27,365
Working Capital (in Rs)	.. 40,31,374	42,23,009	46,90,027	45,50,957	48,68,882
Production (in Rs)	35,31,104	35,44,890	39,91,802	44,85,157	39,47,804
Sales (in Rs)	.. 35,10,478	38,04,569	38,96,574	46,04,422	39,12,724

(Source : Industrial Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Amritsar)

A comparison of the figures given above indicates that there has been little improvement in the working of industrial co-operatives in the district during the period. This is mainly due to the fact that Gurdaspur, being a border district, has suffered a great set-back during the Indo-Pak Conflicts of 1965 and 1971. Though the Government has initiated a number of schemes to provide financial help to these co-operative societies, yet these have hardly met their requirements.

(j) Labour and Employers' Organizations

Labour Organizations.—For the protection of workers against oppression or exploitation by capitalist organizations or employers without sentiment, the institution of the trade union is a powerful weapon of defence. Exploitation of the workers led to dissatisfaction, which, in turn, led to the workers forming unions for the protection of their own interests.

For a considerable period trade unions were regarded as illegal bodies and their members were rendered liable to punishment. But in spite of all the hardships against the trade unionists, they continued their efforts which ultimately led them to success and legal recognition of trade unions. The law ultimately came to realize that trade unions serve a useful social and economic purpose, in so far as they were meant for settling wages and bringing about harmonious relations between capital and labour. The law ultimately allowed the workers to improve conditions of their employment.

Under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, a trade union is an association for the purpose of regulating the relations between employers and employees and between employees *inter se* and for imposing conditions on the conduct of any trade or business. It includes federation of two or more unions also. Under the Constitution of India also, citizens of India have the fundamental right to form associations or unions, in a legitimate manner, as provided under Article 19(1)(c).

Since the independence, there has been a considerable growth of trade union movement in the Gurdaspur District and, as a result, there has been a constant increase in the number of registered trade unions. The particulars of trade unions, registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, functioning in the district are given in the Appendix at pages 177-78.

Manufacturers' Associations.—These associations play an important role in the development of industries and in looking after the interests of their respective members. These also help in removing other difficulties of the members and in procurement of raw materials. A list of the manufacturers' Associations existing in the district is given below :

1. The Batala Factories Association, Batala
2. The Small-Scale Industries Association, Batala
3. The Northern India Engineering Association, Batala
4. The Batala Utensils Manufacturing Association, Batala
5. The Batala Industrial Estate Factories Association, Batala
6. The Batala Soap Manufacturers' Association, Batala

(k) Welfare of Industrial Labour

An important feature of the introduction of industrialization in India was the eagerness of the employers for the quick return and easy profits. Due to the employers' desire to extract work from the labourers for as long a time as possible under conditions most intolerable, various efforts were made to improve the conditions and organize labour in the country and the Government also interfered by passing various labour laws from time to time. It was, however, after the World War I (1914—1918) that the industrial labour in India became conscious of its strength and rights. The influence of the International Labour Organization also tended in the same direction. The appointment of the Royal Commission on Labour (report submitted in 1931) and subsequently other committees (e.g., Labour Investigation Committee whose report was submitted in 1946) to enquire into the conditions of labour aroused a general interest in labour during the subsequent period. Since the independence, the Government has shown a definite bias for social and economic welfare of the masses and, thus, the importance of the industrial labour class and their problems have been considerably enhanced.⁷ The Government has passed various labour laws mainly with a view to making the lives of the industrial workers happier and healthier.

Employers have a significant role in providing welfare facilities in their work places, over and above what is laid down by law and the work done by the public authorities. The welfare measures have been increased gradually partly through statutory provisions and partly through the employers' realisation that welfare is an important aspect of human relations and as much beneficial to the interest of industry as to that of workers. However, most of the facilities for workers' welfare, provided by employers such as dispensaries, canteens and creches, are in the implementation of statutory provisions. Special attention is paid to the preparation of nutritive food which is made available to the workers at cheap rates. In regard to medical facilities also, many employers have instituted a well-planned medical-care programme, even though sickness insurance has been introduced for industrial workers under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme.

In the Gurdaspur District, there are three labour welfare centres in the important towns of Dhariwal, Pathankot and Batala, which provide training and recreational facilities to the workers and their families. These include organization of indoor and outdoor games, conducting of sewing, knitting and embroidery classes and arranging programmes like dramas, music classes, radio broadcasts, etc.

7. Bhagoliwal, T.N., *Economics of Labour and Social Welfare* (Agra, 1966), p.21

APPENDIX

(Vide page 175)

List of Registered Trade Unions in Gurdaspur District
as on March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Name of the Union	Date of Registration
1.	Dhariwal Mills Mazdoor Union, Dhariwal	.. 28-8-1949
2.	Municipal Employees' Union, Pathankot	.. 7-8-1952
3.	Trade Employees' Union, Pathankot	.. 17-10-1955
4.	General Factory Workers' Union, Pathankot	.. 25-11-1955
5.	Glacier Factory Workers' Union, Pathankot	.. 7-12-1955
6.	Railway Licensed Porters' Union, Pathankot	.. 5-6-1956
7.	Suraksha Karamchari Union, Pathankot	.. 8-7-1957
8.	All Hill Motor Transport Workers' Union, Pathankot	.. 10-10-1957
9.	Gorkha Guards' Union, Dhariwal	.. 16-10-1957
10.	Dhariwal Karkhana Workers' Union, Dhariwal	.. 24-3-1958
11.	Swarankar Karamchari Union, Pathankot	.. 7-7-1958
12.	Municipal Safai Karamchari Union, Pathankot	.. 11-1-1960
13.	Ara, Chaki and General Labour Union, Pathankot	.. 16-12-1960
14.	Municipal Employees' Union, Gurdaspur	.. 28-10-1961
15.	Bhartiya Textile Mazdoor Sangh, Dhariwal	.. 5-10-1963
16.	Co-operative Sugar Mill Mazdoor Union, Batala	.. 3-1-1964
17.	Conduit Pipe and Rubber Mazdoor Sangh, Dinanagar	.. 14-1-1964
18.	Press Workers' Union, Pathankot	.. 23-10-1964
19.	District Fire Brigade Workers' Union, Pathankot	.. 4-3-1965
20.	Transport Employees' Union, Pathankot	.. 4-3-1965
21.	Ordinance Employees' Union, Pathankot	.. 14-9-1965

Serial No.	Name of the Union	Date of Registration
22.	Cheeni Mill Workers' Union, Batala	.. 25-4-1967
23.	District Transport Workers' Union, Batala	.. 25-4-1967
24.	District Engineering Workers' Union, Batala	.. 25-4-1967
25.	Mechanical Karamchari Sangh, Batala	.. 14-8-1967
26.	Batala Fire Brigade Workers' Union, Batala	.. 2-2-1968
27.	Rickshaw Mazdoor Sangh, Pathankot	.. 2-2-1968
28.	Municipal Karamchari Sangh, Batala	.. 17-8-1968
29.	Fruit and Vegetable Commission Agents' Union, Pathankot	.. 27-8-1968
30.	Nagar Palika Karamchari Union, Pathankot	.. 19-10-1968
31.	Western Command, MES, Employees' Union, Pathankot	28-3-1969
32.	Pathankot Municipal Workers' Union, Pathankot	2-4-1969
33.	Rickshaw Mazdoor Sangh, Batala	12-6-1969
34.	Municipal Employees' Union, Dinanagar	8-7-1969
35.	Hydel Workers' Union, Pathankot	27-10-1969
36.	Jal Khoza Vibhag Karamchari Union, Gurdaspur	11-3-1970
37.	Gurdaspur Central Co-operative Bank Employees' Union, Gurdaspur	10-7-1970
38.	Karkhana Industrial Workers' Union, Pathankot	21-9-1970
39.	Galla Mandi Mazdoor Sangh, Pathankot	1-5-1971
40.	Irrigation Workers' Union, Gurdaspur	16-11-1971
41.	P. W. D. (B&R) Labour Union, Punjab, Gurdaspur	16-11-1971
42.	Co-operative Store Workers' Union, Batala	1-2-1972
43.	Municipal Employees' Union, Batala	2-6-1966

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

(A) Banking and Finance

(a) History of Indigenous Banking

Banking has been practised in India since time immemorial. The Vedas, Manusmritis and Kautilya's Arthashastra bear good testimony to the existence and efficient working of banking in India in those good old days. The methods of banking in force were old and partook more of money-lending, money-changing and the *hundi* business, but they served the agriculture of India quite adequately. In the 11th and 12th centuries, *hundis* were extensively used by Indian businessmen. The ancient Indian banking system was very much different from the modern banking system. It was carried on by individuals known as *Shreshtis* and later on as *Sahukars*. Their business was quite flourishing and they enjoyed good and reputable position in the society.¹

During the medieval age also, there was neither any change nor any development in the banking practices for which the political insecurity was mainly responsible. *Sahukars* continued to carry on banking business in the same old manner. They occupied a very honourable position in society and were in close contact with the rulers.

With the advent of the British rule, the indigenous banking system declined. The *Sahukar's* methods became outmoded and were by and by replaced by the modern system of banking. Since then the Indian banking has made many strides with occasional set-back.²

The indigenous system of banking was full of malpractices like high rate of interest, defective accountancy, etc. The money-lender used to safeguard the debt by keeping with him the agricultural land, ornaments, houses, etc. of his clients. The result was that once a borrower got into the clutches of the money-lender, he would live in debt and die in debt, leaving the debt to his next generation. Moreover, the land of the agriculturists went on passing in the hands of the non-agriculturists moneyed men.

The various malpractices in the business of the money-lending attracted the attention of the Government. To safeguard the interests of the cultivators, the Government passed the Punjab Alienation of Land

1. Sharma, A.G., *State in Relation to Commercial Banking in the Developing Economy of India* (Delhi, 1968), pp. 53-54

2. *Ibid*

Act, 1900. The Act, however, failed to improve the lot of the tillers. Though the money-lender had now to be content with the produce, yet a new class of agriculturist money-lenders came to the fore. According to the Act, credit could be given by the *Sahukar* up to the limit of the produce raised on the land, but the agriculturist money-lender, to whom the Act did not apply, could lend up to the value of the land. Thus, the Act merely changed the name of the money-lender from *Sahukar* to agriculturist money-lender and aggravated the difficulties of the borrowers instead of lessening them.

The passing of the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Act, 1930, the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1934, the Punjab Debtors' Protection Act, 1936, and the Punjab Registration of Money-lenders' Act, 1938, adversely affected the village money-lenders. This created a scare in the minds of the money-lenders who restricted their credit operations.

Need was, therefore, felt to create some agency for providing finance to the agriculturists. The Royal Commission on Agriculture, published in 1928, had recommended the development of co-operation as the only hope of rural India. The first Co-operative Societies Act was passed in 1904. The co-operative movement in Gurdaspur District started in 1906, when a Co-operative Agricultural Credit Society was registered in village Bhaini Milwan (Tahsil Gurdaspur). By March in that year, there were 65 societies at work and from the beginning they promised well their foundation being in all cases due to the intelligent and spontaneous approval of the people. The Batala and Gurdaspur tahsils led the way and the history of their societies was one of unbroken progress. Up to 1909, the societies, though among the best in the then Punjab Province, did not increase in number. In the year 1909-10, however, no less than 97 new societies were founded, and a District Central Co-operative Bank was started to give them financial assistance. By July 1911, the number of societies in the district had reached 202, the largest being Bham (Tahsil Batala) started with a capital of Rs 49,000. But their expansion was considerably retarded by unfavourable harvests and the difficulty of financing the youngest even with the help of the Central Bank. Hence the next year was marked by the foundation of the four Union Banks at Gumthala, Kala Afghanan, Bham and Bhaini Milwan. In 1912-13, there were 277 new societies formed in the district.

The co-operative movement went on pacing ahead despite the great opposition from the money-lenders. Three full-fledged Central Co-operative Banks were established at Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot.

Among these, the Gurdaspur Central Co-operative Bank is the oldest which was formed in 1909. The Batala Central Co-operative Bank Ltd. traces its origin to the year 1918, when it was registered in the form of small co-operative credit union with its headquarters at village Mamrai, about 8 km east of Batala, with a membership of 24 societies. In 1929, its headquarters were shifted to Batala.

The passage of the various enactments by the Government also affected the agriculturist money-lender. He, therefore, explored other channels to invest his surplus funds, and, finally, he was effectively checked when the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900, was repealed with the enforcement of the Constitution of the Republic of India on January 26, 1950.

A working class family living survey was conducted at Dhariwal in 1965-66.³ According to its findings, especially the families falling in the lower income ranges find it necessary to supplement their meagre current incomes to make both ends meet with loans, etc. Religious ceremonies, ill-health in the family, educational needs and social obligations are a few occasions which force workers to go under debt. The percentage of families reporting debt decreases with the increase in income. About 45 per cent of the families at Dhariwal reported debt between Rs 250 to less than Rs 500.

Loans taken for different purposes may be classified as productive and unproductive. The former are taken to create or purchase assets like buildings or to purchase the assets or loans used on enterprise or other purposes account. The latter are used to meet current deficit, to celebrate marriage, to education expenditure or any other consumption expenditure on family account.

About 2 per cent families at Dhariwal took loans on enterprise and other purposes account. Forty-three per cent loans at Dhariwal were taken from friends and relatives. No loan was taken from banks. From 50 to 94 per cent of loans were taken at 'no security'. About 35 per cent of loans taken had not been reported about regarding the nature of security. About 36 per cent of loans were taken at 'no interest'. The loans taken at more than 6 per cent rate of interest were the highest (about 55 per cent). Majority of the loans were repaid in quarterly, half-yearly and yearly instalments. About 9 per cent of the loans had not been reported to be repaid in any of the instalments.

3. *Report on the Working Class Family Living Survey, 1965-66*, pp. 109-119 (Publication No. 82, issued in 1968, by the Economic and Statistical Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(b) General Credit Facilities

(i) Indebtedness, Rural and Urban :

Indebtedness means the amount borrowed by the people from various sources for investment in various fields. Rural indebtedness is the amount borrowed by the agriculturists from various sources. This amount is to be used for the improvement in agriculture, for the purchase of improved agricultural implements, better seeds, fertilizers, etc. But the amount, thus borrowed, is not generally used for the purpose for which it is borrowed. The funds are utilised for unproductive purposes such as orthodox customs, heavy expenditure on ceremonial activities, weddings, festivals, etc.

By urban indebtedness is meant the amount borrowed by the industrialists, traders and other business community. Their business needs are met to some extent by the commercial banks and government agencies, but, for incurring non-productive expenditure, they have to resort to borrowing from the money-lenders. Contrary to the rural indebtedness, the amount borrowed is generally utilised for the proper use in the respective establishments.

Rate of Interest.—There is no uniformity of rates of interest so far as private lending is concerned. These vary from place to place and depend upon the borrowing and lending position of the parties concerned. The rates of interest vary according to the means and the position of the borrower and the security offered.

The commercial banks in the district generally charge interest from 7 per cent to 13 per cent, according to the amount advanced and security offered. The banks advance loans on the pledge of goods movable or immovable. The movable goods are kept in the custody of the banks. The average lending rate in the Central Co-operative Financing Institutions ranges in between 6 to 8 per cent, depending upon the nature and purpose of loans. The co-operative societies advance loans at the rate of interest ranging from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Loans advanced, under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, carry interest from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The indigenous money-lenders charge interest varying from 12 to 25 per cent. The loans advanced by the unregistered money-lenders carry much higher rate of interest, usually ranging from 60 to 100 per cent, per annum. The indigenous bankers are either going out of the picture or they are trying to fall in line with the modern banking institutions. There is hardly any case where usury is noticed these days.

The interest is sometimes calculated in kind, too, in rural areas. It is done only in cases where loan is advanced in kind. Such interest varies from 25 to 50 per cent on the loan advanced in kind, i.e., if one quintal of wheat is advanced as loan, it will fetch one quintal 25 kilos or one quintal fifty kilos to the creditor, as the case may be. Such loans are advanced by landlords, but this practice is by and by disappearing because of the coming up of co-operative institutions which extend financial assistance liberally to the people in rural areas.

(ii) Role of Private Money-lenders and Financiers

Money-lenders.—Though the institution of private money-lending has lost its importance, yet it has not been completely eliminated. It is regarded as a necessary agency where the modern banking has not developed. The illiterate and conservative people, who have not been fully acquainted with the modern banking practices or have not brought themselves into the co-operative fold, still go to the doors of the private money-lenders.

The money-lender or the Banian still dominates the rural sector of the district economy. His supremacy in the field of rural finance is still unchallenged. The business of the money-lender is generally a family concern. His working capital is his own. He grants loans against all kinds of securities such as gold, jewellery, land, promissory notes, *hundis*, etc. He lends against personal credit of the borrowers. He does not distinguish between short-term and long-term finance and also between the purposes of finance. He follows indigenous methods of keeping accounts, does not give receipts in most cases and the interest which he charges is out of proportion to the rate of interest charged by the other banking institutions.

In the primitive agricultural society, the indigenous money-lender constituted the main and only source of finance to a large section of population. He served in many ways the agriculturist who required money for the purchase of food and other necessities of life, for social and religious ceremonies and for securing agricultural requisites such as seeds, bullocks, etc. In times of drought and famine, agriculturists used to borrow heavily from the money-lender against the security of agricultural lands and return the debts at harvest time. These debts, not regularly repaid by the farmers, piled up through generations and created in succeeding years the problem of rural indebtedness. In the absence of any adequate protection to the debtor in the form of State regulation, the

money-lender indulged in a number of malpractices and caused hardships to the debtors. The Government had, therefore, to intervene to prevent money-lenders from indulging in malpractices. The various Acts passed by the Government checked the activities of the money-lenders. The rise and growth of modern banking institutions also affected their business adversely.

Till recently, private money-lending was regarded as a hereditary profession. There was a separate class which was having money-lending as its regular profession. The children of this class generally used to adopt the same profession in turn. The passing of the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Act, 1930, affected the private money-lending business adversely. Though the class of professional money-lending still exists, yet it has either left money-lending as a profession or has refined this profession in line with the modern practice of money-lending. Now the money-lenders are required to get themselves registered with the concerned Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) and get a licence under the provisions of the Punjab Registration of Money-Lenders Act, 1938. Besides, they are required to maintain regular accounts in the books prescribed under the Act. The number of registered money-lenders in the district in 1972 was 5, besides a number of unregistered money-lenders.

(iii) Government and Semi-Government Credit Agencies

Till recently, the system of indigenous money-lending as a source of finance, both in rural and urban areas, was much common. But the development of Government/Semi-Government credit agencies gave a death blow to it. The Government/Semi-Government agencies are : (i) The Punjab Financial Corporation. It was established in 1953 under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951, with the object of providing medium and long-term loans to industrial concerns located in the Punjab State to the extent of Rs 20 lakhs in the case of a public limited company or a registered co-operative society and Rs 10 lakhs in other cases, at a rate of interest of 3 per cent above the bank rate, with a minimum of 9 per cent per annum. This amount is repayable in 10 years. The loans are advanced on the security of land, buildings, plant and machinery, by way of first registered mortgage, with a margin of 40 per cent of the net assessed value. In case of Government guarantee, the margin is reduced to 25 per cent. ; (ii) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission. It caters to the financial needs of the khadi and village industries for short-term loans; (iii) Joint Stock Banks ; and (iv) Co-operative Banks.

Financial assistance is also rendered by the State Department of Industries under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1935, for setting up new industrial units and for expansion/modernisation of existing units. The Government also advances *taccavi* loans to the agriculturists for agricultural purposes such as purchase of fertilizers, seeds, cattle, tractors, agricultural implements, etc.

The co-operative societies also advance loans against promissory notes. After the nationalisation of 14 banks in July 1969, joint-stock banks have extended the loan facilities to the agriculturists, industrialists, traders and consumers against personal sureties, shares, agricultural commodities and other easily marketable goods.

(iv) Joint-Stock Banks

The banks registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1913, come under this head. Organised on modern lines of joint-stock companies with limited liability, the joint-stock banks are usually referred to as commercial banks.

The modern banking institutions in the country had a very chequered history. The beginning of the 20th century was a turning point in their development. The Swadeshi movement gave a great fillip to the banking industry. A good number of banks were started by enterprising Indian businessmen and capitalists. However, there were several banking failures. The first two decades of the 20th century were characterised by progress of banking as well as bank closures. The World Wars I (1914—18) and II (1939—45) brought accelerated progress. During the thirties also there was a banking crisis. The passage of the Banking Companies Act, 1949, in the post-Independence era, is an important landmark in the banking legislation in India. This Act was amended from time to time.

In the Gurdaspur District, in the beginning, there was at Gurdaspur a branch of the Doaba Bank Ltd., but it had a very short life. Thereafter, a branch of the People's Bank of Northern India Ltd. was opened. Though for sometime it had a good business, yet it also went into liquidation. Batala had a branch of the Sahukara Bank Ltd. The Amrit Bank Ltd., with its Head Office at Amritsar, opened a branch at Gurdaspur in 1939 and another one at Batala. The Batala branch was closed after about a year but another one was opened at Dinanagar. At that time, the Amrit Bank was the only commercial bank at Gurdaspur. Later on, the Central Bank of India Ltd., and the Imperial Bank of India (now the State Bank of India) also opened their branches there, but these closed soon after. After the lapse of some period, the Bharat Bank Ltd. and the Punjab National Bank Ltd. opened their

branches at Gurdaspur (in 1944), Pathankot (in 1944) and Dinanagar, while the New Bank of India Ltd. opened its branch only at Gurdaspur. The Bharat Bank Ltd. was amalgamated with the Punjab National Bank Ltd., and the New Bank of India went into liquidation. Thereafter, only the Punjab National Bank Ltd. and the Amrit Bank Ltd. remained at Dinanagar and Gurdaspur. The State Bank of India opened its branch at Gurdaspur in 1952. The Amrit Bank Ltd. was amalgamated with the State Bank of Patiala in 1968.

The number of banking offices at various places in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was as under :

	No. of Banking Offices		
	Total	Located in rural area	Located in urban area
State Bank of India ..	7	2	5
State Bank of Patiala ..	1	..	1
Punjab National Bank ..	14	5	9
Other Commercial Banks ..	25	11	14
Co-operative Banks ..	22	10	12
Total	69	28	41

(Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1973)

The different leading joint-stock banks, which have their business in the district, are given below :

1. State Bank of India
2. State Bank of Patiala
3. Punjab National Bank
4. Central Bank of India
5. Allahabad Bank
6. United Commercial Bank
7. Bank of India
8. The Punjab & Sind Bank Ltd.
9. The Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd.
10. The New Bank of India Ltd.
11. The Gurdaspur Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.
12. The Batala Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.
13. The Pathankot Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.

The total deposits and bank credit in the district, as on June 30, 1972, amounted to Rs 2,302 lakhs and Rs 995 lakhs, respectively.

(v) Post Office Savings Bank Account

In 1971-72, the number of depositors who opened new accounts with the post office savings bank in the district was 973. The gross

deposits in all the accounts with the post office savings bank in the district, as on March 31, 1972, amounted to Rs 3,76,08,000.

(vi) Co-operative Credit

The co-operative movement in the country may be said to have begun with the passing of the first Co-operative Societies Act in 1904. Though the movement made steady progress till 1911, yet it was simply a credit movement as the Act permitted the formation of only credit societies, both urban and rural. As the Act of 1904 was found deficient to meet the growing needs of the movement, a new Act was passed in 1912. This gave a fresh impetus to the movement, especially to the formation of non-credit societies and central institutions.

The co-operative movement was introduced in the Gurdaspur District in 1906, when an Agricultural Co-operative Credit Society was registered in village Bhaini Milwan (Tahsil Gurdaspur). In the course of time, a number of co-operative societies came into being at various places in the district. After the independence, the movement gained momentum with the passage of the Acts of 1954 and 1961. On June 30, 1972, there were 2,336 Co-operative Societies in the district, of which 1,383 were Co-operative Credit Societies (1,238 agricultural and 145 non-agricultural)⁴. Besides, two Central Co-operative Banks function at Gurdaspur and Batala, with branches at different places in the district.

Co-operative Credit Societies.—A co-operative credit society (bank) can be started with ten or more persons, normally belonging to a village. The value of each share is generally nominal, so as to allow even the poorest farmer to become a member. The members have unlimited liability, that is, each member is fully responsible for the entire loss of the society in the event of its failure.

The usual sources of short-term finance for the farmers were the money-lenders who charged high rates of interest and practised fraudulent methods to deceive the ignorant and the illiterate cultivators. The Punjab Registration of Money-Lenders Act, 1938, curtailed to some extent the powers of money-lenders. But the organisation of co-operative societies aims at the elimination of the money-lenders as a class.

On June 30, 1972, there were 1,383 Co-operative Credit Societies (1,238 agricultural and 145 non-agricultural) in the district. Their function is to mobilize savings to the members and to advance loans at reasonable rates of interest for productive purposes.

4. Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1972, p. 405

The details pertaining to the membership and the working of Agricultural and Non-agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies, functioning in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given in Appendices I and II at pages 203-204.

(c) Insurance and Small Savings

Insurance.—The agencies doing insurance business play an important role in tapping a portion of the public savings in the form of insurance premia. With the nationalisation of life insurance business in 1956, the Life Insurance Corporation of India has become the foremost and the largest single agency doing life insurance business in India.

Prior to the formation of Life Insurance Corporation of India in 1956, there were several insurers transacting life insurance business all over India, including the district of Gurdaspur. Though there was no insurer having its registered office in the district, yet the life insurance business was being done by the agents of the different companies.

The Life Insurance Corporation of India opened its first branch office at Gurdaspur on September 1, 1956, to cater to the insurance needs of the people. Later on, other branches were opened at Batala and Pathankot on March 21, 1960, and March 30, 1960, respectively, to cover the whole of the district. To expand the business to the rural areas, the Life Insurance Corporation appointed Development Officers and agents for doing business on its behalf. The number of Development Officers and agents in the different branches of the Life Insurance Corporation in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 29 and 468, respectively.

The Life Insurance Corporation advances loans to the policy holders and government and semi-government concerns. It charges 6 per cent and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent rate of interest against policies and houses, respectively.

The following statement shows the business secured by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72 :

Business secured by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72

Name of Branch	Year						
	1966-67		1967-68		1968-69		
	No. of Policies	Amount (Rs)	No. of Policies	Amount (Rs)	No. of Policies	Amount (Rs)	
Gurdaspur	..	1,211	68,39,000	1,373	81,30,000	1,343	1,01,40,000
Pathankot	..	1,579	93,56,000	1,750	1,26,20,000	1,349	1,00,81,000
Batala	..	893	68,70,000	1,170	89,68,000	987	95,15,000
Total	..	3,683	2,30,65,000	4,293	2,97,18,000	3,679	2,97,36,000
						3,940	3,71,78,000

1970-71

No. of Policies	Amount (Rs)	No. of Policies	Amount (Rs)
1,482	1,28,70,000	1,968	1,98,24,000
1,582	1,64,34,000	1,724	1,91,47,750
904	1,19,04,000	1,260	1,38,66,500

3,968 4,12,08,000 4,952 5,28,38,250

(Source : Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Divisional Office, Jullundur)

Before the nationalisation of the general insurance companies on January 1, 1973, the Life Insurance Corporation had also started the general insurance business on January 1, 1964, in addition to the life insurance. On January 1, 1973, the general insurance companies were also nationalised and an apex body, known as the General Insurance Corporation, came into existence. Under the General Insurance Corporation, four general insurance companies, viz. the Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Ltd., the New India Assurance Company Ltd., the National Insurance Company Ltd. and the United India Fire and General Insurance Company Ltd., are working.

The general insurance policies of every type are issued for only one year and are renewable every year. The risks covered under the general insurance are broadly of three types, viz. fire, marine (transportation of goods) and miscellaneous insurance. Under the miscellaneous insurance, there are about 20 to 25 types of insurances including motor and all other types of insurances like fidelity guarantee, aviation insurance, burglary, personal accidents, etc. Besides the above, cattle insurance has also been introduced from 1974. It is also proposed to introduce crop insurance on experimental basis.

Small Savings.—Small Savings Scheme has been devised by the Government of India mainly with a view to mobilise public savings and to raise funds for financing development projects and at the same time to encourage the habit of thrift among the people. Out of the money invested by the people in small savings, two-third is available to the State Government as interest bearing loan from the Government of India which is used for development activities within the State.

The scheme dates back to the World War I (1914—1918), when the Government of India introduced the postal cash certificates for the first time. During the World War II (1939—45), the Government of India started in 1943 the Post Office National Savings Certificates Scheme with a view to withdraw excess purchasing power of the people, generated on account of increased war expenditure and also to check the inflationary spiral created by war conditions. After the independence (1947), the Government of India introduced a wide range of securities under the Small Savings Scheme at attractive rates of interest, as it saw great potentialities for developing them to finance its diverse activities, including the schemes under the Five-Year Plans.

Small Savings is a Centrally sponsored scheme, controlled by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), Government of India. The National Savings Commissioner, Government of India,

with his headquarters at Nagpur, heads the National Savings Organisation and looks after the small savings work in the country. Under his direct control, there are Regional Directors, National Savings, posted in the different States. In the Punjab, the Regional Director, National Savings, is posted at Chandigarh. He has under him four Assistant Regional Directors, National Savings, at Amritsar, Jullundur, Ludhiana and Chandigarh. In each district, there is a District Savings Officer, National Savings Scheme. In some of the important districts, however, there are two District Savings Officers. In Gurdaspur District, there is one District Savings Officer. All these officers are under the direct control of the National Savings Commissioner.

The Directorates of Small Savings have been set up in the States in order to have better co-ordination between the Central Organisation and the State Governments. The Director, Small Savings, Punjab, Chandigarh, is the head of the State Government Small Savings Department. At the district level, the District Savings Officer is the co-ordinating agency between the Central Organisation and the district authorities. He provides necessary assistance to the district authorities in the promotion and growth of the movement.

The number of agents, who canvassed and propagated for the Small Savings Scheme on commission basis in the Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972, was 36.

The gross and net investments under the Small Savings Scheme since its inception in the district are given below :

Year		Gross Investments	Net Investments
		(Rs)	(Rs)
1968-69	..	2,65,34,000	2,40,000
1969-70	..	3,33,13,000	46,13,000
1970-71	..	3,85,81,000	58,89,000
1971-72	..	4,15,25,000	54,35,000

(Source : District Savings Officer, Gurdaspur)

(d) Currency and Coinage

With a view to bring about some uniformity with the currencies of other countries and also to make accounts keeping more easy and understandable, the new decimal coinage system was introduced in India in April 1957. The old rupee was divided into half a rupee (*Dheli* or *Athani*), one fourth of a rupee (*Pauli* or *Choani*), one eighth of a rupee (*Dvani*), one sixteenth of a rupee (*anna*). The rupee had 32 *takkas* and 64 *paisas*. Now a rupee consists of 100 paise, with different coins of the denominations of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 paise. Currency notes are issued in the denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 100 and 1,000⁵ rupees. The decimal coinage completely replaced the old prevalent coinage with effect from April 1, 1964. *Naya paisa*, named in the beginning, is now called *paisa*. On the withdrawal of the old coinage from circulation, the prefix *naya* became redundant and was dropped with effect from June 1, 1964.

In the initial stages of the introduction of the new currency, the public in general and the rural masses in particular experienced some difficulty over the conversion of the old currency into the new one. However, the wide-spread propaganda and publicity through the press, the platform and the radio, etc., by the officials and non-officials made the new system popular and understandable among the general public. The decimal coinage system has made the accountancy and book-keeping much easier, quicker and simpler. It has also facilitated the internal as well as external trade and foreign exchange.

(B) Trade and Commerce

Agriculture is the mainstay of the people of the district and the majority of the population depends directly or indirectly on it for livelihood. Paddy is the bumper crop of the district and it is produced on commercial scale.

Pathankot and Batala are the most important centres of trade and commerce in the district. The major items of exports from the district are industrial machinic goods (chiefly machine tools and agricultural implements), paddy and timber. Industrial products are sent out mostly from Batala and Dhariwal, whereas timber is exported from Pathankot. Pathankot is the premier market for timber which comes from the forests of Jammu and Kashmir, Chamba and Kangra. The Dhariwal Mills obtain wool from Kulu, Manali, Jammu and Kashmir and Sonapat and also from Australia and New Zealand. The principal industrial exports items from the Gurdaspur District are machine tools, woollen fabrics, lathes and bandsaw auto-parts, engineering

5. 1000—Rupee-Note has been demonetised.

goods and textile goods. These valued Rs 16.10 lakhs in 1971-72 and Rs 27.25 lakhs in 1972-73.

The major items of import into the district are salt, coal, gunny bags, kerosene, cloth, iron and steel.

(a) Course of Trade

The usual course of trade in agricultural produce in the district is from the producer to the consumer via the middleman. There is no direct link between the producer and the consumer. The main types of middlemen are wholesalers, retailers and commission agents or *arhtias*. The individual growers bring their surplus agricultural produce for sale to a nearby *mandi* (market) and the dealers sell it to the traders who send it by road and rail to other *mandis*. The village traders also collect agricultural commodities from different cultivators and take them to the *arhtias* for sale.

The purchasers of the grain market gather at the shop of *kutchra arhtia*, and then the sale of the commodities is started in open auction, under the supervision of the auctioneers appointed by the market committee, through the commission agents turn by turn. Such sales are daily conducted during the hours fixed for this purpose. *Kutchra arhtias*, who sell the commodities, on behalf of the cultivators, receive commission on fixed rates permissible under the bye-laws of the market committee. The delivery of the goods is made at the shop of the *kutchra arhtia* and the purchaser himself arranges for their carriage to his premises at his own cost. The *kutchra arhtia* pays the sale price to the seller immediately after the transaction is completed.

This procedure is usually considered favourable because the cultivators and the village traders get reasonable prices for their commodities when sold in open auction, whereas in villages in the absence of competition, the cultivators do not get fair price for their commodities.

There are eleven grain markets in the district at Gurdaspur, Batala, Dinanagar, Pathankot, Dhariwal, Qadian, Kalanaur, Fatehgarh Churian, Dera Baba Nanak, Srigobindpur and Sarna. Of these, Batala is the biggest wholesale business centre where large quantities of paddy, wheat, *massar* and oil-seeds are marketed.

(b) Trade Centres

(i) **Regulated and Unregulated Markets.**—To save the cultivator from the evils of unhealthy market practices and to ensure a fair price for his produce, the State Government passed the Punjab

Agricultural Produce Markets Act in 1939. The Act provides for the regulation of markets through market committees which represent growers, commission agents and traders, local bodies and the State Government. The market committees standardise various market practices and charges and enforce the use of standard weights, thus ensuring a fair deal to the cultivators.

The regulated markets play an important role in helping the sale of commodities at the most fair and reasonable prices. The cultivator is now much safeguarded against the underhand and illegal practices which previously used to be adopted by the traders (*beoparis*) and other intermediaries. The charges and deductions are quite reasonable, uniform and well standardized.

In the regulated markets, all the commodities brought by the growers, village traders, etc., are sold in open auction in the presence of most of the dealers, under the supervision of the auctioneers appointed by the market committee. Auction is held during the market hours at each shop, turn by turn. When the auction is over, a receipt showing the weight, rate and net price after making necessary deductions is issued to the cultivator, who, later on, on showing the same, receives payment from the *arhtias*.

There are six regulated markets in the district at Gurdaspur, Batala, Dinanagar, Pathankot, Dhariwal and Qadian. The main commodities for which transactions usually take place in the different markets are given below :

Batala	.. Paddy, wheat, <i>gur/shakkar</i> , maize and barley.
Qadian	.. Paddy, wheat, <i>gur/shakkar</i> , and maize.
Dhariwal	.. Paddy and wheat.
Gurdaspur	.. Paddy, wheat, barley, maize and gram.
Dinanagar	.. Paddy wheat, barley and maize.
Pathankot	.. Wheat, potatoes, paddy, maize, gram and <i>gur/shakkar</i> .

There is no unregulated market in the district as the whole of the Punjab State has been brought under the regulated markets.

(ii) Fairs, Melas and Other Rural Marketing Centres

Fairs and Melas.—There are numerous places in the district where fairs and melas are held. The important fairs are : Chola Sahab

(held at Dera Baba Nanak), Baisakhi (held at Dera Baba Nanak and Talabpur Pindori), Shivratri (held at Kalanaur and Talwandi), Basant (held at Batala at the Samadhi of Sati Lakshmi, wife of Veer Haqiqat Rai), and Guru Nanak Dev's marriage (held at Batala). Of these, the fairs of Chola Sahab held on Phagan 20 (in March) and Baisakhi (in April) held at Dera Baba Nanak are the biggest and attract a large number of visitors from far and wide. The religious, seasonal and recreational fairs and festivals held in the district are mentioned in Chapter III 'People'.

The fairs and festivals which have some trade significance are mentioned in Appendix III at pages 205—207.

Cattle Fairs.—These are held in the district every month at Batala, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar, Dera Baba Nanak and Fatehgarh Churian, on different dates. Of these, that held at Batala is the most important. The cattle fairs serve a very useful purpose by bringing the breeders and buyers in direct touch. These are also a source of income to the Government which charges fee on the sale/purchase of cattle and other animals.

(c) Co-operation in Trade

Co-operative Marketing.—Marketing represents not only the sale of produce in the *mandi*, but also includes all the stages and processes it has to undergo in order to reach the consumer. It, in fact, represents the whole pipe line between the producer's field and the consumer's store room. Marketing process, therefore, starts in the field, where commodities of good quality may be produced in order to get a better price.

In the sale of his produce, the cultivator has always remained weak bargainer. The malpractices in *mandis*, including under weighments, delayed payments, unauthorised deductions, etc., are proverbially damaging to the growers. Moreover, absence of storage arrangements and lack of funds compel the farmers to sell their produce immediately after the harvest. To combat the difficulties and to bring fair return to the cultivators, co-operative marketing societies have been organized.

At the district headquarters, there is a District Wholesale Co-operative Marketing and Supply Society at Gurdaspur. It was registered on September 30, 1953. Though it does not undertake trading operation like the private *arhtias*, yet it assists the consumers in supplying certain consumers goods like sugar, kerosene, soaps, etc., and also other requirements of the agriculturists like fertilizers, implements, seeds,

insecticides, etc. Besides, the following are the registered co-operative marketing societies in the district :—

Name of Society	Date of Registration
1. The Pathankot Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Pathankot ..	19-4-1951
2. The Batala Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Batala ..	6-2-1954
3. The Dhariwal Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Dhariwal ..	16-1-1957
4. The Gurdaspur Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Gurdaspur ..	23-7-1958
5. The Dera Baba Nanak Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Dera Baba Nanak ..	13-5-1959
6. The Dinanagar Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Dinanagar ..	21-11-1959
7. The Fatehgarh Churian Co-operative Marketing -cum-Processing Society Ltd., Fatehgarh Churian ..	21-12-1962
8. The Qadian Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Qadian ..	25-6-1965

The co-operative marketing societies have the primary co-operative credit societies, formed amongst the agriculturists in the rural areas, and also the individuals, as their affiliated members, who contribute shares and market their produce through the society. These societies are duly registered under the Punjab Co-operative Societies Act, 1954. The markets, other than the co-operative markets, are registered under the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1939, and are managed by the market committees duly constituted under the said Act.

The Central Co-operative Banks are the main financing agencies for the co-operative marketing societies. These societies, like other trading groups and agencies, undertake the marketing operation. The difference between the two is that the co-operative marketing societies are not allowed

to enter into outright purchase, whereas the other trading groups and agencies can do so. The profit earned by the other trading groups and agencies goes directly into the pockets of the individual traders whereas it is shared by all the members of the co-operative societies. Besides this, the latter also receive rebates on the basis of commission paid by them and it is a great attraction and lurement to them. The growers find full satisfaction so far as the rates, weighment and other dealings with the societies are concerned. A number of godowns have been constructed by the co-operative marketing societies—both in rural and urban areas—where storage facilities are provided to the members. The number of godowns owned by these societies in the district, as on June 30, 1972, was 33. These godowns help in collecting the produce of the cultivators in villages and arranging for its transportation to the nearest marketing society. The storage charges in these godowns are quite nominal.

The work done by the co-operative marketing societies in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, is shown in Appendix IV at page 208.

Co-operative Consumers' Stores.—A consumers' co-operative store is a business enterprise owned and managed by the consumers' association to supply them pure, unadulterated and good quality stuff, in correct weight and measure, at reasonable prices.

Prior to the introduction of the centrally sponsored scheme for the organisation of co-operative consumers' stores in big cities, primary co-operative consumers' stores were organised. These primary stores did not make any appreciable progress due to inadequate active membership, meagre share capital, lack of business experience and weak organisational structure. Consequently, a scheme was prepared by the Government of India, under which a number of primary consumers' stores around separate wholesale stores were to be opened in all towns and cities with a population of 50,000 or above.

There are two central co-operative consumers' stores in the district, viz., the Batala Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Ltd., Batala, and the Pathankot Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Ltd., Pathankot. Their main aims are to ensure equitable distribution of various kinds of articles to the consumers at competitive rates. The Batala Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Ltd., Batala, was registered on July 19, 1963. On June 30, 1972, it was running 8 branches (7 at Batala and 1 at Qadian). The membership of the store on June 30, 1972, stood at 5,087, with a paid up share capital of Rs 1,77,762. The Pathankot Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Ltd., Pathankot, was registered on June 22, 1963. On June, 30 1972, it was running 8 branches (7 at Pathankot and 1 at Gurdaspur). The membership of the store on June 30, 1972, stood at 4,801 with a paid up share capital of Rs 3,11,605.

(d) State Trading

The State Trading Scheme was introduced in the Punjab in 1958-59 to provide essential commodities to the people at reasonable rates. The need for fair price shops was felt in 1960, when there was scarcity of wheat flour, sugar and rice. Fair price shops were, therefore, opened to ensure fair prices to consumers and to check the spiral of rising prices. On March 31, 1972, there were 230 fair price shops (including co-operative stores) functioning in the urban areas and 428 shops in the rural areas of the district.

The State Trading in foodgrains (wheat) was introduced in the State during 1959. The total quantity of foodgrains purchased by the Food and Supplies Department from the important markets in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	Quantity purchased (Tonnes)
1966-67	.. 2,257
1967-68	.. 4,558
1968-69	.. 4,630
1969-70	.. 15,052
1970-71	.. 68,483
1971-72	.. 85,267

(Source.—District Food and Supplies Controller, Gurdaspur)

(e) Merchants' and Consumers' Associations and Organs for the Dissemination of Trade News

There are no merchants' or consumers' associations functioning in the district.

Market Intelligence.—Dissemination of market intelligence among the people operating on the markets goes a long way in generating competition and promoting fair-play and justice in market transactions. There is no regular agency for the dissemination of market news in the district. The public, in general visits the market centres periodically and keeps itself

in touch with the market affairs. The village traders who are in regular touch with the market conditions often communicate the market news to the public. In some of the regular markets, the market committees exhibit the market news on a board for the public to know the market fluctuations. Market news are also communicated to dealers at different places through correspondence and trunk-calls. The co-operative marketing societies receive market information cards from allied societies. The All India Radio, Jullundur, broadcasts daily the news of the various markets in the State.

(f) Weights and Measures

According to the *Ain-i-Akbari*, the need for standardisation of weights and measures in India was felt as early as the end of the 16th century. The Emperor Akbar is said to have introduced the *Ilahi gaz* (33"—34") with the object of standardisation of the then prevailing three *gaz* (yard) systems, but the result only was to add a fourth one. Repeated and varied efforts have been made in modern times also to remove this widespread impediment to honest and smooth trading.⁶

Prior to the introduction of metric system, *pucka* and *kutchi* systems of weight were in vogue in the district. The *kutchi* seer was prevalent usually in rural areas. Two and a half *kutchi* seers were equal to one *pucka* seer, that is of 80 *tolas*. The details of the weights and measures, which were in use in the district are given below⁷ :

Gold Weight	.. 8 <i>Ratties</i>	= 1 <i>Masha</i>
	12 <i>Mashas</i>	= 1 <i>Tola</i>
	5 <i>Tolas</i>	= 1 <i>Chatak</i> or <i>Sarsai</i>
	16 <i>Chataks</i>	= 1 <i>Ser</i>
Grain Weight	.. 2 <i>Sers</i>	= 1 <i>Batti</i>
	4 <i>Sers</i>	= 1 <i>Dhari</i>
	40 <i>Sers</i>	= 1 <i>Man</i>
Note	.. 1 <i>Kacha Ser</i>	= 32 <i>Tolas</i>
	1 <i>Kacha Man</i>	= 16 <i>Sers</i>
Grain Measure	.. 1 <i>Paropi</i>	= 32 <i>Tolas</i>
	4 <i>Paropi</i> or	= 1 <i>Topa</i>
	128 <i>Tolas</i>	
	4 <i>Topas</i>	= 1 <i>Pie</i>
	50 <i>pies</i>	= 1 <i>Mani</i> or 8 <i>Maunds</i>

6. A.S. Srivastava, *Agricultural Marketing in India and Abroad*, pp. 62-64

7. *Gazetteer of the Gurdaspur District*, 1891-92, pp. 140-41

GURDASPUR

Cloth Measure	.. 3 <i>Jaus</i>	= 1 <i>Angusht</i> Finger
	3 <i>Angushts</i>	= 1 <i>Girha</i>
	16 <i>Girhas</i>	= 1 <i>Gaz</i>
In the hill tract	.. 4 <i>Angusht</i>	= 1 <i>Chharik</i>
	8 <i>Chhariks</i>	= 1 <i>Gaz</i> (3/4 English yard)
Timber measure	.. 24 <i>Taswasa</i>	= 1 <i>Tassu</i>
	24 <i>Tassus</i>	= 1 <i>Gaz</i> (yard)
Land measure	.. 3 Feet	= 1 <i>Gaz</i>
	1½ <i>Gaz</i>	= 1 <i>Karam</i>
	3 <i>Karams</i>	= 1 <i>Kan</i>
	3 Square <i>Kans</i>	= 1 <i>Marla</i>
	20 <i>Marlas</i>	= 1 <i>Kanal</i>
	8 <i>Kanals</i>	= 1 <i>Ghamaon</i>
	9 <i>Kanals</i> 12 <i>Marlas</i>	= 1 <i>Acre</i>
	4 <i>Kanals</i>	= 1 <i>Bigah</i>

To standardise weights and measures throughout the country, the Government of India passed the Standards of Weights Act, 1939, which came into force in 1942. Under the Act, both the systems were prescribed, viz., the Indian system, i.e., *tola*, seer and maund, and the avoirdupois system, i.e., *lb.*, *cwts.*, and tons.

The passage of Punjab Weights and Measures Act, 1941, brought some uniformity in the system of weights and measures. The metric system of weights and measures was introduced with effect from October 1958, in accordance with the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956, passed by the Parliament, and the Punjab Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958, framed thereunder. In the case of weights, the use of old weights too was allowed for a period of two years and, from October 1960, the use of metric weights was made compulsory. In the case of measures, a period of one year was allowed for the measures previously in vogue and, from April 1962, metric measures were made compulsory. The use of metric units also became obligatory from April 1962.

In Gurdaspur District, Batala is the main centre for manufacturing weights. Only those factories which have received licences, under the

Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958, are allowed to manufacture weight series.

The public in general and the rural masses in particular did experience difficulty in understanding the new weights and measures system, but, in course of time, they got accustomed to it.

There are 4 Inspectors, Weights and Measures, who verify weights, scales, etc., used in the district. One of these is posted at Gurdaspur, two at Batala and one at Pathankot.

(g) Storage and Warehousing

Prior to the formation of the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation in 1958, the method of storage in villages was very rough and unscientific. The storage was generally done in the back rooms of residential houses in cells (*bharolas*) or in open form or in bags. The floors and walls were not cemented.

The method of storage in *bharolas* still exists in the villages. However, the co-operative agricultural societies have built up their godowns with Government assistance to facilitate storage in rural areas. The cultivators can store up their produce in such godowns during the slack season and can wait for fair price subsequently. They can also get advances on the basis of their produce stored in the godowns. The marketing co-operative societies also get loans and subsidies from the Government for the construction of godowns. In the *mandis*, the commission agents arrange the back rooms of their shops for storage purposes. Such rooms are cemented and the commodities are safe from any kind of damage. On almost all important railway stations in the district, godowns or sheds have been provided for temporary storage of goods and parcels.

The Warehousing Corporation came into being as a result of the recommendations made in 1954 by the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee. The Agricultural Produce Development and Warehousing Corporation Act, 1956, pioneered the formation of the Central Warehousing Corporation and a network of State Warehousing Corporations, with the avowed object of providing scientific storage at low charges and arranging for cheap and quick credit facilities against the stored produce. The Punjab State Warehousing Corporation, initially set up in January 1958, was re-established after the re-organisation of the erstwhile Punjab State on November 1, 1966. The Punjab Government and the Central Warehousing Corporation are the two equal share-holders of the State Corporation.

The functions of the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation are : to acquire and build godowns and warehouses at such places within the State as it may, with the previous approval of the Central Warehousing Corporation, determine ; to run warehouses in the State for the storage of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilizers and notified commodities; to arrange facilities for the transport of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilizers and notified commodities to and from warehouses ; and to act as an agent of the Central Warehousing Corporation or of the Government for the purchase, sale, storage and distribution of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilizers and notified commodities.

The corporation also undertakes fumigation of stocks under the Technical Advisory Scheme on payment of the fumigation charges. The working of the corporation is not with a profit motive and charges are very moderate. The existing rates are 25 paise per bag of one quintal of foodgrains per month. The co-operative societies are given a rebate of 10 per cent. The scheduled banks make advances to the depositors on the pledge of warehouses receipts, according to the credit restrictions of the Reserve Bank of India. The stocks stored in warehouses are guaranteed against damages by pests, theft, fire, flood, etc. The corporation stores the produce in hired as well as own constructed godowns.

The Corporation has seven centres in the district at Gurdaspur, Dhariwal, Dinanagar, Batala, Qadian, Fatehgarh Churian and Ghuman. The warehouses at Fatehgarh Churian and Ghuman were opened during the year 1972-73. The total capacity of storage accommodation available with the corporation, as on September 30, 1972, was 12,167 metric tonnes.

APPENDIX I
Work Done by the Co-operative Agricultural Credit Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72
(Vide page 188)

Co-operative year ending June	Membership			Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Loans advanced during the year (Rs in lakhs)	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
	No. of Co- operative Societies at the end of the year	Societies	Individuals			
1966-67	..	..	1,06,163	45.38	162.52	28.28
1967-68	..	..	1,10,581	52.48	216.01	33.61
1968-69	..	..	1,14,295	59.35	294.02	43.29
1969-70	..	..	1,16,333	64.28	311.06	37.26
1970-71	..	..	1,17,729	67.93	298.52	39.42
1971-72	..	..	1,19,186	73.60	328.37	43.02

(Source : Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur)

(Vide page 188)

Work Done by the Co-operative Non-Agricultural Credit Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72

Co-operative Year ending June	No. of Co-operative Societies at the end of the year	Membership		Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Loans advanced during the year (Rs in lakhs)	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
		Societies	Individuals			
1966-67	..	150	8,118	4.18	5.99	2.23
1967-68	..	149	8,111	4.22	7.46	2.68
1968-69	..	147	8,130	4.30	6.00	2.50
1969-70	..	147	8,180	4.39	6.39	4.39
1970-71	..	146	8,133	4.44	5.71	4.30
1971-72	..	145	8,097	4.55	6.63	5.52

GURDASPUR

(Source: Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur)

APPENDIX III

Fairs and Festivals of Trade Significance held in the Gurdaspur District

(Vide page 195)

Town/Village	Fair/Festival	Date and duration	Significance and legend	Approximate No. of visitors and radius covered	Castes—Communities	Commodities sold
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Tahsil Gurdaspur						
Chitti	.. Mela Baba Kesar Singh	Asarh 3 and 4 (June-July) Two days	Religious The fair was started by Baba Kesar Singh for propagating religion	2,000 48 km	Sikhs	Earthen pots, agricul- tural implements
Jhwar	Jor Mela	Poh 7 (December-January) Three days	Religious Associated with Guru Gobind Singh's birthday	5,000 48 km	Sikhs and Hindus	General merchandise, articles of decoration for cattle
Naushehra	Hola Mohalla	March Two days	Religious	3,000 8 km	Hindus	Utensils, general merchandise
Pindori	Baisakhi	Baisakh 1 (April 13) One day	Seasonal and religious	Several thousand 16 km	Sikhs and Hindus	Toys, ploughs, earthen vessels
Kotli Harchandan	Baisakhi	Baisakh 1 (April 13) One day	Seasonal and religious	7,000 16 km	Sikhs and Hindus	General merchandise, agricultural imple- ments, sticks, baskets
Rauwal	Mela Pir	Sawan 20 (July-August) Two days	Religious	3,000 19 km	All	Agricultural imple- ments, general merchandise

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

205

GURDASPUR

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Kahtuwan	Dussehra	Asoj Sudi 10 (September-October) One day	Religious	10,000 16 km	All, especially Hindus	General merchandise, agricultural imple- ments, toys
Talibpur	Baisakhi	Baisakh 1 (April 13) Three days	Seasonal and religious	40,000 13 km	Hindus and Sikhs	General merchandise, toys, utensils, animals
Talibpur	Janam Ashtami	Bhadon Badi 8 (August-September) Three days	Religious	6,000	Hindus	Ditto
Dinanagar	Cattle fair	Every month	Commercial	1,000	All, men only	Cattle and other animals
Gurdaspur	Cattle fair	Every month	Commercial	15,000	All, men only	Cattle and other animals, agricultural implements
Dhariwal	Amavas Mela	On Amavas of each Bikrami month One day	Religious	2,000 16 km	Sikhs and Hindus	Utensils, toys
Dhariwal	Baisakhi	Baisakh 1 (April 13) One day	Seasonal and religious	4,000 32 km	Sikhs and Hindus	Toys, utensils
Dhariwal	Dussehra	Asoj Sudi 10 (September- October) One day	Religious	4,000 24 km	All, especially Hindus	Toys, utensils

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Tehsil Batala						
Ghuman	Swami Nam Dev fair	From Lohri to Magh 6 (January-February) One week	Religious	5,000	Hindus, especially followers of Swami Nam Dev	Cloth, brass and bronze utensils, leather goods, crockery, pictures
Dhianpur	Mela Baba Lalji	February 6 One day	Religious	10,000	Sikhs and Hindus	Cloth, toys
Dera Baba Nanak	Chola Sahib	Phagan 20 (February-March) Three days	Religious In memory of Guru Nanak Dev whose chola (cloth) was brought from Persia to this place	1,00,000	Sikhs and Hindus	Cloth, leather goods, cosmetics, bangles, general merchandise
Dera Baba Nanak	Baisakhi	Baisakh 1 (April 13) Two days	Seasonal and religious	75,000	Sikhs and Hindus	Ditto
Fatehgarh Churian	Cattle fair	Every month	Commercial	..	All, men only	Cattle and other animals
	Cattle fair	Every month	Commercial	2,000 24 km	All, men only	Cattle and other animals, agricultural imple- ments
Batala	Cattle fair	1st of every month One week	Commercial	2,000	All, men only	Cattle and other animals, fodder, arti- cles of decoration for animals, agricultural implements

APPENDIX IV
Work done by Co-operative Marketing Societies in Gurdaspur District, 1966-67 to 1971-72

(Vide page 197)

Co-operative Year ending June	No. of Societies	Membership			Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Working Capital (Rs in lakhs)	Value of goods marketed (Rs in lakhs)
		Societies	Individuals	Total			
1966-67	8	1,128	2,127	3,255	8.52	28.85	92.45
1967-68	8	1,116	2,378	3,494	8.52	45.82	265.04
1968-69	8	1,184	2,569	3,753	9.39	95.69	732.86
1969-70	8	1,201	3,046	4,247	9.39	128.24	748.80
1970-71	8	1,135	3,109	4,244	9.65	139.04	1,057.29
1971-72	8	1,145	3,223	4,368	9.78	191.90	1,046.62

GURDASPUR

(Source : Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur)

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

(a) Old-Time Trade Routes and Highways and Modes of Conveyance

The economic development of a region largely depends *inter alia*, on the infra-structure of means of communication and transport. Roads are essential for the development of industries and agriculture, and help to solve other economic problems. Road development also promotes a change in the type of agricultural production by diversion of cultivation from food crops to commercial crops. Indian history is full of references to the construction of roads in the past and to the road policy adopted by different rulers from time to time. Chandragupt Maurya, Ashoka, Muhammad Tughlaq and Sher Shah Sur are particularly known for the construction and maintenance of roads. The enthusiasm for road construction and road maintenance continued under the Mughals during the sixteenth to the eighteenth century. Most of the Mughal roads were macadamized and surfaced.

The roads thus developed provided the foundations of the present road system. It was only after the World War I (1914—1918) that mechanized road transport started assuming importance in the country's economy. Since then it has made rapid strides both in the terms of road kilometrage and the number of vehicles plying on the roads.

Prior to the advent of automobile vehicles and railways, bullock-carts, beasts of burden like bullocks, camels and donkeys, and wherever possible, indigenous boats were utilized for the movement of agricultural produce and finished goods. With the development of network of railways, roads, waterways and airways, these old means of transport are being gradually replaced by the modern means of transport.

(b) Road Transport

With the advent of the British rule in this region in the middle of the nineteenth century, the pace of road development was accelerated. In the beginning of the twentieth century, the principal roads in the district were : Batala to Dera Baba Nanak, Batala to Srigobindpur, Batala to Aliwal, Batala to Qadian, Zafarwal to Gurdaspur, Gurdaspur to Naushera Majja Singh, Ganji to Dorangla and Pathankot to Madhopur.

The road transport system in the district, except Narot Jaimalsingh side in the Pathankot Tahsil, is quite satisfactory. As the following figures

show, there has been a considerable expansion in roads since the attainment of independence in 1947 :

Year		Metalled Roads (km)	Unmetalled Roads (km)	Total Road Length (km)
1950-51	..	256	685	941
1960-61	..	466	537	1,003
1972-73	..	1,389	..	1,389

In 1972-73, the metalled road length in the district was 1,389 km. This road length per 100 sq. km. of the area of the district works out to 39.05 and per lakh of population to 108.02.

(i) Classification of Roads

The roads in the district may be broadly classified into national highways ; provincial highways including State highways, district major roads, other district roads (excluding local bodies roads), and village approach roads; and local bodies roads. Out of their total length of 1,389 km in the district, as in 1972-73, the length of the national highways was 98 km, provincial highways 1,233 km and local bodies roads 58 km. The national highways and the provincial highways (excluding local bodies roads), with a total length of 1,331 km, are maintained by the Public Works Department (B & R), and the local bodies roads, with a total length of 58 km, are maintained by the local bodies.

A detailed description of each category of roads in the Gurdaspur District is given below :

National Highways.—These constitute the framework which eventually becomes a network of modern roads for communication. These highways traverse the length and breadth of the country, connect ports, foreign highways, capitals of large States, large towns and industrial areas. The national highways are constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department out of the Central Government funds. A strip of Jullundur-Tanda-Dasuya-Mukerian-Pathankot up to the border with the Jammu and Kashmir State of the national highway lies in this district.

State Highways.—These are the main arteries of commerce and industry within a State and are connected with the national highways or

with the highways of adjacent States. The important cities within the State are linked by them. The State Government is responsible for their construction and maintenance. The State highways passing through the district are : Amritsar-Pathankot (State boundary), Amritsar-Ajnala-Dera Baba Nanak, Amritsar-Ramdas -River Ravi Road, and Amritsar-Srigobindpur Road.

District Major Roads.—These roads serve areas of production and markets, connecting them with one another or with the highways or the railways. These are maintained by the Public Works Department (B & R).

Other District Roads.—These roads serve as important arteries of communication among the different parts of the district. These are also maintained by the State Public Works Department.

Village Approach Roads.—Last in the category are village approach roads connecting villages and groups of villages with one another and with the nearest district roads, highways, railways or river ghats. Some of these roads have been constructed through the co-operative efforts of the villagers also. The construction of these link roads has been going on in rural areas quite vigorously since the launching of this project in the State on January 21, 1968.

Municipal Roads.—These roads connect the local markets, streets, State Highways, National Highways, railway stations and other roads in the municipal area of a particular town. These are constructed and maintained by the concerned municipal committees out of their own funds.

(ii) Vehicles and Conveyances

In spite of the development of various means of transport, the old type of vehicles and conveyances such as bullock-carts, tongas, wooden *rehris* and animals are still quite popular in the district. The bullocks, which are used for agricultural work, are also yoked to the carts and bullock-cart remains the most important means of transport even up to this day. The four-footed pack animals like donkeys, mules, camels, etc. are also used for transportation of foodgrains and vegetables from the nearby villages to the markets in the towns. The animal transport provides services where no other means are available or are economical. The wooden *rehris*, driven by men, are used to carry raw materials, cloth, cotton, bricks, wood and other goods from one locality to another within a town. Tongas are also used in transporting passengers between villages and towns. The cycle has become an essential means of conveyance in these days. Motor vehicles such as tampos, motor-cycles, motor

taxis, scooters, trucks, cars, etc. provide means of quick transport and have become very popular. The number of different types of motor vehicles registered in the district, during 1967 to 1971-72, is given in Appendix I on page 219.

Automobiles.—Motor taxis, motor rickshaws, motor-cycles, scooters, jeeps, trucks and cars are becoming popular in the cities. Motor taxis are hired in big towns where the distance to be covered in individual journey is sufficiently long, and passengers have better paying capacity. These prove very convenient and efficient and their rates and fares are generally fixed by the local authorities. The passengers are charged according to the number of kilometres travelled, which are accurately indicated over a meter. Motor rickshaws are a good combination of rickshaws and motor-cycles. Their charges are usually more than those of the ordinary cycle-rickshaws, but much lower than those of motor taxis.

Cycles.—Cycle has become very popular as a means of conveyance of individual passengers for short distances. It is an essential means of conveyance in big cities, especially for middle-class persons. The dairy-men and villagers have found in cycle an easy means of transport which can help them disposing of their surplus milk in the neighbouring towns. The cycle has also, in a way, increased the mobility of Indian labour. A large number of students and teachers have found in cycle a companion. The various advantages of the cycle are flexibility, cheapness, good speed and the absence of any standing charge, if kept properly.

Cycle-Rickshaws.—The number of cycle-rickshaws has increased much during last few years. Its charges are rather low and it has not to wait for passengers for long as only two persons make the full load of a rickshaw. It is more convenient than *ekkas* or tongas as it can reach the narrow streets also. The initial outlay and the cost of maintenance of rickshaws are also lower than those of horse-carriers. Some pullers purchase their own rickshaws, while others ply these on hire.

The Punjab Government have framed bye-laws for rickshaw-pullers. Boys below 18 years and men above 45 years are not allowed to pull rickshaws.

Horse Carriages.—With the introduction of cycle-rickshaws, horse driven vehicles like tongas have become less important as a means of transportation in towns and cities. The rates of horse-driven vehicles are, however, fairly low and are within the means of everybody.

Boats.—The river transport of passengers and goods through boats, which was quite popular in the past, has been discontinued with the development of modern means of transport through rail and road. It is now

confined only to the crossing of rivers at the ferries from one side to the other where bridges don't exist.

(iii) Public and Private Transport

Prior to June 1969, the Transport Department was under the control of Provincial Transport Controller who was the Head of the Department. He used to deal with the enforcement of the Motor Vehicles Act and the Rules made thereunder as well as the Commercial Wing of the Transport Department. It was felt necessary for public convenience that the two wings should be separated and controlled by two different Heads of Departments, to give equal justice to the private operators and Government transport undertakings. The Transport Department was, therefore, bifurcated into two wings, viz. Commercial Wing and Non-Commercial Wing, in June 1969. The former is under the charge of Director, State Transport, Punjab, and the latter under the State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, as Heads of Departments, respectively. The Director, State Transport, being the overall incharge of Commercial Wing, is concerned with the operation of State transport buses on commercial basis. The State Transport Commissioner is concerned with the work of issuing of route permits and the enforcement of Motor Vehicles Act and the rules framed thereunder.

Before the achievement of independence in 1947, road transport was mostly in the hands of private owners who never cared for the attainment of fair standard of efficiency or passenger amenities. Their only motive was large profits. With the rapid development and extension of roads after the independence, coupled with the development of industries and agriculture, road transport, both passenger and goods, considerably increased. The Government, therefore, started gradual nationalisation of this public utility service. Although most of the bus routes are operated by Government Roadways, yet a good number of these are still operated by private transport companies. The Punjab Government have liberalized the policy for the grant of public carriers permits. Any body, who produces a mechanically fit vehicle, is issued a truck permit. Apart from it, the State Government have entered into reciprocal transport agreements with the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir so that facilities for the transportation of public goods be extended throughout the country.

State Owned Services.—Most of the important major bus routes in the district are operated by the Punjab Roadways, Pathankot and Batala. The details of these are given in Appendix II on pages 220—222.

Besides, a night service has been started by the Punjab Roadways and the PEPSU Road Transport Corporation between Chandigarh and Batala. Moreover, all places within a radius of 16 km from the district and sub-divisional headquarters have been connected by local bus service to provide extra transport facilities to the general public.

Private Bus Services.—A number of bus routes in the district are operated by private transport companies. The particulars regarding these routes are given in Appendix III on pages 223—225.

(c) Railways

Railways occupy the premier place amongst modern means of transport. They are most advantageous in the movement of heavy and bulky traffic, like the raw materials of industry over long distances. The economic development of a region is very largely dependent on the provision of cheap and efficient railway services. Railways have brought about many political, social and economic changes in the life of the country. The system of administrative machinery has been centralized. In the pre-railway period, disruptive tendencies used to prevail among the various sections of the people and now a sense of nationality has developed. At any emergent time, troops can be mobilized to the places of disorder and the frontier posts to put down insurrection. Railways have mitigated the horrors and severities of famines. By the transport of raw materials such as coal, etc. railways have stimulated the growth of manufacturing industries. Railways have encouraged speedy movement of people from the areas of congestion. Mobility of labour is a pre-requisite of industrial development.

Gurdaspur District is connected by rail with the important stations located in and outside the State. The district lies in the Firozpur Division of the Northern Railway. The Amritsar-Pathankot broad gauge line was opened in 1884. It enters the district just near the Jaintipur station and passes through the tahsils of Batala, Gurdaspur and Pathankot. The railway stations located on it are : Batala, Batala Sugar Mills, Chhina, Dhariwal, Sohal, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar, Parmanand, Jhako Lahri, Sarna, Bharoli and Pathankot. The Batala-Qadian section serves the Batala Tahsil up to Qadian. The stations located on it are : Vadala Garanthian and Qadian. The Amritsar-Dera Baba Nanak section branches off from Verka and serves the western part of Tahsil Batala. Before the partition in 1947, this line joined Sialkot (Pakistan), but now Dera Baba Nanak is the terminus. The stations falling on this line in the district are : Fatehgarh Churian, Hardo Rawal, Ratar Chhatar and Dera Baba Nanak. The Jammu-Tawi-Pathankot-Mukerian-Jullundur City section, which is a broad gauge line, serves the Pathankot Tahsil. The

stations falling on this line in the district are : Madhopur, Sujampur, Bharoli, Pathankot, Chakki Bank, Ghiala and Mirthal. The Jogindernagar-Pathankot section is a narrow gauge line and serves a small part of the Pathankot Tahsil.

The Appendices IV and V on pages 226-227 show the monthly average railway passengers and goods traffic and earnings in the district, during 1971-72.

Rail-Road Competition.—The problem of competition among the various means of transport arises only when some means of transport extend their activities and cut into the sphere of the other means of transport. The main complaint of the railways against the competing road vehicles is that on account of the flexible character of their services, the road vehicles are free to choose the best paying traffic. Railways have no such flexibility and as they are the common carriers, they have to accept whatever is offered to them. Further, the railways have to bear the expenditure for the construction and maintenance of their permanent way while the road vehicles have the roads provided and maintained by the State authority for their use.

The problem of rail-road competition in India is of comparatively recent growth. The main reason for this was that the road system of India was not properly developed and it was only in the nineteen-twenties that the Government took up road development seriously. The Railway Board Report of 1926-27 pointed out that the Indian railways had begun to feel the pressure of competition from motor vehicles. The economic depression of 1930 affected the railways adversely because the traffic decreased to a very great extent. The road services on the other hand did not feel the effects of the depression. In 1939, the Motor Vehicles Act was passed for regulating motor transport. In 1950, the Government appointed the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee. However, with the vast development of agriculture and industry in the country and the consequent increase in traffic, the rail-road competition has become a thing of the past and the two systems of transport have become complementary rather than competitive.

(d) Waterways, Ferries and Bridges

Waterways.—The district boundaries are circumscribed to a great extent by the rivers Chakki, Ravi and Beas. With the introduction of rail and road transport, water transport has received a set back. However, timber is transported through the rivers Ravi and Beas.

Ferries.—Ferry-crossings are maintained wherever necessary.

Bridges.—For smooth running of road traffic, bridges exist on the roads wherever necessary.

(e) Air Transport

There is an aerodrome at Pathankot. It serves the tourists coming from the various parts of the country as well as from abroad for visiting Kashmir, Kulu, Manali and other hill stations.

(f) Travel and Tourist Facilities

An attempt for taking up the work relating to the development of tourism in the Punjab was first made in 1951, when a State Level Committee, headed by a former Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, was formed. The aim of the committee was to plan and advise on the development of important tourist centres all over the State.

The Punjab Government is making serious efforts to develop tourist facilities at the existing places with a view to ensuring that the available potential for the growth of tourist industry is fully exploited. New spots for tourist attraction are being developed and tourist facilities at the existing places are being increased. Shahpur Kandi, hitherto an unknown but beautiful tourist spot on the banks of River Ravi in the district, is being developed. A tourist bungalow has been constructed here. It provides all the modern facilities including air-conditioning, catering, etc. at reasonable rates. A visitor can also spend his leisure time at Malakpur—Asia's foremost Hydraulic Research Station at the Upper Bari Doab Canal or at Madhopur known for the famous headworks on the River Ravi. Besides, there are a number of dharmshalas, serais and hotels in the district for travellers, tourists and visitors. Accommodation is also available for tourists, who are *bona fide* railway passengers, in the Railway Retiring Rooms at the Railway Station, Pathankot.

Pathankot has become a centre of transport to and from Jammu and Kashmir, Chamba Hills, Kangra Hills and the plains of the Punjab. All tourists to Jammu and Kashmir, Dalhousie, Kulu and Manali pass through it. A Tourist Information Office of the Punjab Government is located here.

Dak Bungalows and Rest Houses.—Accommodation is provided to the tourists in dak bungalows and rest houses, if it is available. These are maintained by the different Government departments for the use of their employees during their visit to the different places. A list of dak bungalows and rest houses in the district is given in Appendix VI on pages 228—230.

(g) Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones

Posts.—The post offices in the district are under the control of the Superintendent, Post Offices, Gurdaspur Division, Gurdaspur. To provide posting facilities to the public, letter boxes have been affixed at important centres in the towns which are cleared at fixed timings, twice or thrice a day. In 1,084 villages in the district, dak is delivered daily, in 318 villages tri-weekly and in 104 villages bi-weekly. There is no weekly or no-dak village in the district.

The Postal Index Number (PIN) Code was introduced into the country on August 15, 1972. It is a six digit code that identifies and locates every departmental delivery service. It provides with a built-in routing information for postal sorting.

On March 31, 1972, there was 1 Head Post Office, 46 Sub Post Offices, 186 Branch Post Offices and 2 Extra Departmental Sub-Offices in the district. A list of these is given in Appendix VII on pages 231—236.

Telegraphs.—The Telegraphs Office at Pathankot was converted from combined office to a departmental office on September 1, 1962. This office has direct communication links with Jullundur, Amritsar, Jammu, Dharmasala, Dalhousie, Chamba and Ambala. It also serves almost all the important towns of the Gurdaspur District as well as of the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh). There are also combined post and telegraph offices in the district. The important among these are at Batala, Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Dhariwal, Dera Baba Nanak and Fatehgarh Churian. There are 18 key fitted sub-offices and 2 phone-cum-sub-offices and 2 phone-cum-extra departmental sub-offices in the district.

On March 31, 1972, telegraph facilities were available in 26 post offices in the district, as given in Appendix VIII at the end of this chapter on page 237.

Telephones.—There are 8 telephone exchanges in the district located at Gurdaspur, Dinanagar, Pathankot, Dhariwal, Batala, Srigobindpur, Qadian and Dera Baba Nanak. These are functioning under the Telegraphs Engineer, Amritsar Division, Amritsar. The total number of connections and extensions provided by these exchanges, as on December 31, 1972, was 2,487 and 135, respectively. Besides, there are 11 public call offices functioning in the district.

Radio and Television.—Radios and transistors have become quite popular in the urban as well as rural areas. As on December 31, 1973, as many as 79,011 broadcasting receiving licences had been issued in the district. Under the Community Listening Scheme, 853 radio sets had

been installed in the rural areas in the district up to March 31, 1973. Since the establishment of the Amritsar Doordarshan (Television) Station in 1973, television is also becoming popular day by day. Up to March 31, 1973, as many as 1,471 television licences had been issued in the district.

(h) Organizations of Owners and Employees in the Field of Transport and Communications

There is no organization of owners in the field of transport and communications in the district. The transport workers/employees working in various transport companies have, however, formed their unions to look after their service interests. The unions functioning in the district are given hereunder :

Serial No.	Name of the Union	Date of Registration
1.	Railway Licensed Porters' Union, Pathankot ..	5th June, 1956
2.	Transport Employees' Union, Pathankot ..	4th March, 1965
3.	All Hill Motor Transport Workers' Union, Pathankot ..	10th October, 1957
4.	District Transport Workers' Union, Batala ..	25th April, 1967
5.	Rickshaw Mazdoor Sangh, Batala ..	12th June, 1969
6.	Rickshaw Mazdoor Sangh, Pathankot ..	2nd February, 1968

APPENDIX I

Number of Different Types of Motor Vehicles Registered in the Gurdaspur District, 1967 to 1971-72

(Vide page 212)

Year	Cars	Jeeps	Trucks	Taxis	Tractors	Buses	Motor Cycles	Auto-Rickshaws	Miscellaneous
1967	..	6	56	1	33	35	120	2	11
1968	..	19	84	1	120	30	239	18	12
1969	..	34	148	..	97	103	321	24	12
1970	..	44	196	..	243	27	336	53	3
1971-72	..	1	36	1	132	3	143	17	3

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 213)

Bus Routes Operated by the Punjab Roadways in the Gurdaspur District, as on
March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Name of Route	No. of Daily Trips	Route Length (Km)	Total Daily Service (Km)
Punjab Roadways Pathankot				
1.	Pathankot—Amritsar	.. 41½	108	8,964
2.	Amritsar—Batala	.. 5	38	380
3.	Pathankot—Mukerian	.. 1	42	84
4.	Pathankot—Jullundur	.. 13	114	2,964
5.	Pathankot—Jammu	.. 4	113	904
6.	Pathankot—Chandigarh (via Jullundur)	.. 6	270	3,240
7.	Pathankot—Kalka (via Hoshiarpur)	.. 1	270	540
8.	Pathankot—Dalhousie	.. 1	80	160
9.	Amritsar—Dalhousie	.. 1	188	376
10.	Pathankot—Bajjnath	.. 1	142	284
11.	Pathankot—Dharamsala	.. 1	90	180
12.	Pathankot—Shahpur Kandi	.. 3	13	78
13.	Shahpur Kandi—Balsua	.. 1	24	48
14.	Pathankot—Nurpur	.. 1	26	52
15.	Pathankot—Firozpur	.. 1	236	472
16.	Pathankot—Kapurthala	.. 1	129	258
17.	Pathankot—Talwara	.. 2	69	276
18.	Talwara—Amritsar	.. 1	177	354
19.	Pathankot—Amritsar (via Dera Baba Nanak)	.. 2	138	552
20.	Pathankot—Taragarh	.. 1	84	168
21.	Taragarh—Chak Sharif	.. 1½	67	201
22.	Gurdaspur—Chak Sharif	.. 1	24	48
23.	Pathankot—Delhi (via Jullundur)	.. 1	484	968
24.	Pathankot—Delhi (via Hoshiarpur—Chandigarh)	.. 1	484	968
25.	Pathankot—Jullundur	.. 2	114	456
26.	Pathankot—Jammu	.. 1	113	226

27.	Jammu—Delhi	.. 1½	597	1,791
28.	Pathankot—Katori Bangla	.. 1	45	90
29.	Pathankot—Dera Baba Nanak	.. 4	77	616
30.	Pathankot—Dorangla	.. 2	14	56
31.	Pathankot—Ludhiana	.. 3	175	1,050
32.	Pathankot—Dera Baba Jaimalsingh (Radha Swami)	.. 6	115	1,380
33.	Pathankot—Bhatinda	.. 2	308	1,232
34.	Pathankot—Dharamsala	.. 1	90	180
35.	Dharamsala—Chandigarh (via Una—Nangal)	.. 1	249	498
36.	Pathankot—Pindori Mahantan	.. 1	50	100
37.	Gurdaspur—Dorangla	.. 3	14	84
(Local Bus Routes)				
38.	Sujanpur—Badhani (Bungal)	.. 5	22	220
39.	Pathankot—Madhopur	.. 8	16	256
Punjab Roadways Batala				
40.	Jullundur—Qadian	.. 1	98	196
41.	Jullundur—Harchowal (via Qadian)	.. 1	108	216
42.	Jullundur—Batala	.. 26	81	4,212
43.	Jullundur—Butala	.. 1	53	106
44.	Jullundur—Srigobindpur	.. 1	79	158
45.	Jullundur—Gurdaspur (via Srigobindpur)	.. 1	121	242
46.	Batala—Chandigarh	.. 1	233	466
47.	Batala—Dera Baba Nanak	.. 7	30	420
48.	Batala—Fatehgarh Churian	.. 4	26	208
49.	Batala—Harchowal	.. 1	27	54
50.	Batala—Bhadpatan	.. 2	35	140
51.	Batala—Qadian	.. 6	17	204
52.	Batala—Srigobindpur (via Harchowal)	.. 1	36	72
53.	Batala—Pindori Mahantan	.. 1/2	59	59
54.	Batala—Srigobindpur	.. 4	30	240
55.	Batala—Ghuman	.. 2½	30	150
56.	Batala—Kahnuwan	.. 1	30	60
57.	Batala—Gurdaspur	.. 2	32	128
58.	Batala—Kalanaur	.. 4	22	17

GURDASPUR

59.	Gurdaspur—Chandigarh	..	2	265	1,060
60.	Gurdaspur—Srigobindpur	..	4	42	336
61.	Gurdaspur—Kahnuwan	..	4	18	144
62.	Srigobindpur—Ghuman	..	1	9	18
63.	Batala—Mahta	..	6	16	192
64.	Batala—Kotli Thaptan	..	6	16	192

(Source :—General Managers, Punjab Roadways, Pathankot, Batala and Jullundur)

APPENDIX III

(Vide page 214)

Bus Routes Operated by Private Transport Companies in the Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Name of Transport Company	Name of Route	No. of Daily Trips	Route Length (km)	Total Daily Services (km)
1.	The New Janata Bus Service (P) Ltd., Batala	Amritsar—Pathankot	3	108	648
		Batala—Srigobindpur	3	30	180
		Batala—Dera Baba Nanak	7	30	420
		Batala—Ghuman	2½	30	135
		Batala—Harchowal	1	27	54
		Batala—Qadian	1	17	34
		Batala—Kotli Thaptan	1	16	32
		Batala—Udhowali	1	26	52
		Batala—Mahta	2	16	64
		Srigobindpur—Gurdaspur	2	42	168
		Gurdaspur—Dorangla	2	14	56
		Pathankot—Chak Sharif (via Bahrampur)	1	74	148
		Pathankot—Dera Baba Jaimalsingh (Radha Swami)	1	115	230
		Batala—Gandeki Chandu	1½	19	57

COMMUNICATIONS

Serial No.	Name of Transport Company	Name of Route	No. of Daily Trips	Route Length in (km)	Total Daily Services (km)
GURDASPUR					
2.	The New Midh Bhabra Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Batala	.. Amritsar—Pathankot	2½	108	594
		Dera Baba Nanak—Fatehgarh Churian (via Batala)	3	56	336
		Batala—Kalanaur—Gurdaspur—Pindori Mahantan	1	59	118
		Batala—Fatehgarh Churian	4	26	208
		Batala—Kalanaur	2	22	88
		Batala—Dera Baba Nanak	1	30	60
		Batala—Ajnala	½	45	45
		Batala—Kahnuwan	1	30	60
		Batala—Kahnuwan—Gurdaspur	1	48	96
		Pathankot—Gurdaspur—Kahnuwan—Kot Todar Mal—Qadian	1	67	134
		Batala—Amritsar	½	38	38
3.	The New Himalya Transport (P) Ltd., Batala	.. Amritsar—Pathankot	3	108	648
		Pathankot—Dera Baba Jaimalsingh (Radha Swami)	1	115	230
		Gurdaspur—Srigobindpur	2	42	168
		Batala—Srigobindpur	2	30	120
		Batala—Ghuman	1	30	60
		Batala—Bhet	3	35	210

COMMUNICATIONS

4.	The New Jhang Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Batala	Batala—Dera Baba Nanak	4	30	240
		Batala—Fatehgarh Churian	5	26	260
		Batala—Pindori Mahantan	1½	59	177
		Batala—Gurdaspur	1	32	64
		Gurdaspur—Srigobindpur (via Bhumbli)	1	42	84
		Amritsar—Pathankot	1	108	216
		Amritsar—Batala	1	38	76
COMMUNICATIONS					
		Ajnala—Fatehgarh Churian—Batala	1/2	45	54
		Pathankot—Dera Baba Jaimalsingh (Radha Swami)	1/2	115	115
5.	The Asiatic Transport Service (P) Ltd., Pathankot	Batala—Kotli Surat Malli	2	16	64
		Pathankot—Dalhousie	1½ in summer, 1 in winter	80	240
		Jullundur—Dalhousie	½	194	160
6.	The Atlas Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Pathankot	Pathankot—Dalhousie	1	80	160
		Jullundur—Dalhousie	½	194	194
7.	The Gulnarg Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Pathankot	Pathankot—Amritsar	1	108	216

APPENDIX IV

(Vide page 215)

Railway Passengers Traffic in the Gurdaspur District, 1971-72

Station	Monthly average traffic		Monthly average earnings	
	Outward (Nos.)	Inward (Nos.)	Passengers (Rs)	Parcels (Rs)
I. Pathankot-Batala-Amritsar Branch Line				
1. Pathankot ..	1,17,570	89,571	20,77,349	96,798
2. Bharoli ..	26,734	1,612	8,174	1,154
3. Sarna ..	2,400	1,900	2,500	100
4. Jhako Lahri ..	2,996	2,259	1,852	4
5. Parmanand ..	4,708	3,722	2,218	..
6. Dinanagar ..	1,68,035	1,37,073	2,20,055	25,428
7. Gurdaspur ..	21,126	17,876	43,011	1,488
8. Sohal ..	3,024	940	2,242	10
9. Dhariwal ..	16,563	9,260	15,976	1,640
10. Chhina ..	5,822	5,135	4,738	600
11. Batala Sugar Mills ..	601	796	945	1,059
12. Batala ..	48,461	45,904	56,166	11,172
II. Dera Baba Nanak-Verka-Amritsar Branch Line				
1. Dera Baba Nanak ..	2,774	2,396	5,964	230
2. Ratar Chhatar ..	1,593	1,068	1,443	..
3. Hardo Rawal ..	3,845	2,747	2,674	100
4. Fatehgarh Churian ..	20,537	12,938	10,354	205
III. Qadian-Batala Branch Line				
1. Qadian ..	7,601	6,413	6,009	464
2. Vadala Garanthian ..	2,169	1,341	742	1
IV. Jammu-Tawi-Pathankot-Mukerian-Jullundur City Branch Line				
1. Madhopur ..	258	80	18,148	2,012
2. Sujanpur ..	30	..	25	5
3. Chakki Bank ..	1,342	298	113	1,254
4. Ghiala ..	2,280	1,772	1252	20
5. Mirthal ..	1,538	1,008	4,357	16

(Source : Station Masters)

APPENDIX V

(Vide page 215)

Railway Goods Traffic in the Gurdaspur District, 1971-72

Station	Monthly average traffic		Monthly average earnings	
	Outward (Qts.)	Inward (Qts.)	Outward (Rs)	Inward (Rs)
I. Pathankot-Batala-Amritsar Branch Line				
1. Pathankot ..	61,07,441	1,51,03,706	2,75,644	3,51,431
2. Bharoli ..	2,109	46,042	21,962	..
3. Sarna ..	146	2,388	1,500	4,800
4. Jhako Lahri ..	464	..	2,264	..
5. Parmanand ..	..	..	..	..
6. Dinanagar ..	2,59,918	55,610	3,51,129	1,66,557
7. Gurdaspur ..	40,758	18,785	40,604	70,896
8. Sohal ..	..	..	..	..
9. Dhariwal ..	18,92,108	16,25,787	6,84,529	3,97,391
10. Chhina ..	..	..	..	..
11. Batala Sugar Mills ..	..	..	..	..
12. Batala ..	11,99,872	1,65,65,268	1,36,056	3,89,380
II. Dera Baba Nanak-Verka-Amritsar Branch Line				
1. Dera Baba Nanak ..	1,475	1,970	1,924	3,729
2. Ratar Chhatar ..	..	..	..	..
3. Hardo Rawal ..	..	..	..	..
4. Fatehgarh Churian ..	85	61	826	19,392
III. Qadian-Batala Branch Line				
1. Qadian ..	7,50,736	4,40,934	5,035	9,808
2. Vadala Garanthian ..	..	..	..	..
IV. Jammu-Tawi-Pathankot-Mukerian-Jullundur City Branch Line				
1. Madhopur ..	215	24,415	4,050	1,09,246
2. Sujanpur ..	84	1,063	449	5,271
3. Chakki Bank ..	5,415	7,856	1,583	6,046
4. Ghiala ..	..	..	..	..
5. Mirthal ..	5,148	191	252	2

(Source : Station Masters)

APPENDIX VI

(Vide page 216)

Dak Bungalows, Inspection Bungalows and Rest Houses in the Gurdaspur District,
as on March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Place	No. of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
Tahsil Gurdaspur			
1.	P.W.D. (B & R) Rest House, Gurdaspur	3	Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D. (B & R), Gurdaspur
2.	Police Rest House, Gurdaspur	2	Superintendent Police, Gurdaspur
3.	Sainik Rest House, Gurdaspur	7	Secretary, District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Gurdaspur
4.	Health Rest House, Gurdaspur	2	Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Division, Gurdaspur
5.	Electricity Rest House, Gurdaspur	2	Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Gurdaspur
6.	Civil Rest House, Dinanagar	2	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Gurdaspur
7.	Civil Rest House, Kalanaur	2	Ditto
8.	Canal Rest House, Nano Nangal	2	Executive Engineer, Gurdaspur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur
9.	Canal Rest House, Tibri	2	Ditto
10.	Canal Rest House, Dhariwal	3	Ditto
11.	Canal Rest House, Kunjar	2	Ditto
12.	Canal Rest House, Sathiali	2	Executive Engineer, Jandiala Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar
13.	Canal Rest House, Athwal	2	Executive Engineer, Madhopur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Pathankot
14.	Dak Bungalow, Singhpura	1	Secretary, Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur

Serial No.	Place	No. of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
Tahsil Batala			
15.	Dak Bungalow, Batala	4	Secretary, Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur
16.	Civil Rest House, Qadian	2	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Batala
17.	Civil Rest House, Dera Baba Nanak	2	Officer Commanding, 16th Platoon with Army
18.	Civil Rest House, Srigobindpur	2	Executive Engineer, Madhopur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Pathankot
19.	Civil Rest House, Harchowal	2	Ditto
20.	Civil Rest House, Panjgirain	2	Ditto
21.	Civil Rest House, Aliwal	2	Executive Engineer, Majitha Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar
22.	Civil Rest House, Fatehgarh Churian	2	Ditto
Tahsil Pathankot			
23.	P.W.D. (B & R) Rest House, Pathankot	4	Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D. (B & R), Gurdaspur
24.	Tourist Bungalow, Pathankot	13	Tourist Officer, Pathankot
25.	Tourist Bungalow, Pathankot	15	Ditto
26.	Forest Rest House, Pathankot	1	Divisional Forest Officer, Pathankot
27.	Electricity Rest House, Pathankot	2	Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Gurdaspur
28.	Dak Bungalow, Dunera	1	Secretary, Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur
29.	P.W.D. (B & R) Rest House, Dunera	4	Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D. (B & R), Gurdaspur
30.	Civil Rest House, Shahpur	1	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Pathankot
31.	Civil Rest House, Dhar Kalan	2	Ditto
32.	Civil Rest House, Mirthal	1	Ditto

Serial No.	Place	No. of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
33.	Civil Rest House, Narot Jaimal-singh	1	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Pathankot
34.	Canal Rest House, Madhopur	2	Executive Engineer, Gurdaspur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur
35.	Canal Rest House, Bhimpur	3	Ditto
36.	Canal Rest House, Malakpur	4	Director Irrigation/Secretary, Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur

(Source : District Statistical Officer, Gurdaspur)

APPENDIX VII

(Vide page 217)

Post Offices in the Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972

Head Post Office	Branch Post Offices
Gurdaspur	1. Hemrajpur 2. Magar Mudian 3. Hayatnagar
Sub Post Offices	
1. Androon Bazar Pathankot	
2. Batala Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office-II	1. Adda Umarpura 2. Aliwal 3. Ballpurian 4. Bhullar 5. Chahal 6. Chaudhariwala 7. Dhadiala 8. Dadayala Nat 9. Dharam Kot Bagga 10. Fazalabad 11. Ghoga 12. Hardo Jhanda 13. Harpura Dhandoi 14. Jeta Sarja 15. Jaura Singha 16. Kucha Din Muhammad 17. Marrar 18. Panjgirain 19. Raliati 20. Gujarpura 21. Rangar Nangal 22. Sarupwali 23. Shankarpur 24. Vadala Bangar 25. Talwandi Lal Singh 26. Udanwal
3. Batala City Public Call Office, Non-Delivery	
4. Bahrampur	1. Bharth 2. Bhariai 3. Dodwan 4. Jhabkara 5. Marara

5. Bhagowala

1. Akarpura
2. Athwal
3. Bhadal
4. Bangowali
5. Mirza Jan
6. Rai Chak
7. Sarwali
8. Dargawal
9. Dalam

6. Bhattian

1. Alman
2. Ghorewal
3. Bhaini Mian Khan
4. Kot Todar Mal

7. Civil Courts, Pathankot,
Non-Delivery8. Dalhousie Road, Pathankot,
Non-Delivery9. Dera Baba Nanak, Lower Selection Grade,
Public Call Office-II

1. Dharamkot Randhawa
2. Dharowali
3. Dhianpur
4. Khushalpur
5. Ghanike Bet
6. Kotli Surat Malli
7. Pakhiwan
8. Ratar Chhatar
9. Shahpur Goraian
10. Shikar
11. Singhpura
12. Shahpur Jajan
13. Talwandi Raman
14. Udhowali Khurd

10. Dhaki Road, Pathankot,
Non-Delivery11. Dhangoo Road, Pathankot,
Non-Delivery12. Dhariwal, Lower Selection Grade,
Public Call Office-II

1. Fateh Nangal
2. Kaler Kalan
3. Khunda
4. Kot Santokhrail
5. Zafarwal

13. Dinanagar, Lower Selection Grade,
Public Call Office-II

1. Awankh
2. Bhotoa
3. Dholowal
4. Parmanand
5. Pindori Bainsan
6. Paniar
7. Sahowal
8. Talibpur Pindori

14. Dorangla

1. Islampur
2. Dostpur
3. Dugri
4. Galri
5. Hardo Chhani
6. Saleh Chak

15. Dunera Public Call Office

1. Bhandhani
2. Bhanguri
3. Chakral
4. Jandwal

16. Fatehgarh Churian, Public Call Office-II

1. Hardo Rawal
2. Khera
3. Man
4. Parowal
5. Sarchur

17. Gharota

1. Chaunta
2. Jangal

18. Government Polytechnic, Batala

1. Batala Sugar Mills
2. Extension Training Centre, Batala
3. Masanian
4. Simbal
5. Vadala Granthian

19. Ghuman, Public Call Office-II

1. Bhoman
2. Bolewal
3. Dokoha
4. Ladda Manda
5. Villa Bajju
6. Choneh

20. Gurdaspur City, Public Call Office-II, Non-Delivery
21. Gurdaspur Kuchery, Public Call Office-II, Non-Delivery
22. Gurdaspur Mandi, Public Call Office-II, Non-Delivery
23. Gurdaspur G.T Road, Batala, Non-Delivery
24. Gurdaspur Road, Pathankot, Non-Delivery
25. Harchowal Public Call Office-II

1. Aulakh Kalan
2. Basrai
3. Beri
4. Bhambari
5. Bharth
6. Bham
7. Pindori
8. Tuglwala

26. Kahnuwan, Public Call Office-II

1. Chak Sharif
2. Saidowal Khurd
3. Jagowal
4. Nainu Kot

27. Kala Afghanan, Public Call Office-II

1. Bholeke
2. Ghaniya ki Bangar
3. Raimal
4. Sirhe
5. Teja Kalan
6. Vila Teja

28. Kalanaur, Public Call Office-II

1. Delelpur
2. Fattupur
3. Barila Kalan

29. Madhopur, Public Call Office-II

1. Shahpur Kandi

30. Malakpur

1. Bharoli
2. Bhoa
3. Faridanagar
4. Narot Mehra
5. Naushehra Nalhandan
6. Sarna
7. Sunder Chak
8. Chashma

31. Mirthal

1. Nangal
2. Gurah
3. Ghiala

32. Mission Road, Pathankot, Non-Delivery

33. Model Colony, Pathankot, Public Call Office-II

34. Narot Jaimalsingh, public Call Office

1. Bamial
2. Janial

35. Nowsherah Majja Singh, Public Call Office

1. Deriwala
2. Dialgarh
3. Faizulla Chak
4. Ghuman Kalan
5. Khokhar
6. Satkoha
7. Sekhwan
8. Pasnanwala

36. Nehru Gate, Batala, Non-Delivery

37. Pathankot, Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office-II

1. Daulatpur
2. Glacier Product Factory
3. Jhako Lahri
4. Mamun Skaroli
5. Mamun
6. Sailli
7. Sionti
8. Tarhari

38. Pathankot Camp, Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office-II

39. Qadian, Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office-II

1. Dhapai
2. Khojala
3. Kandila
4. Lilkalan

40. Railway Road, Batala, Non-Delivery

41. Srigobindpur, Public Call Office II-B

1. Chiman Khudi
2. Kishan Kot
3. Mari Buchian
4. Mari Panwan
5. Tanda

42. Sohal, Public Call Office-II

1. Bhopur
2. Shidhwan
3. Gurdas Nangal
4. Jaura Chhitran
5. Bibri
6. Pakhowal

43. Sujanpur, Public Call Office-II

1. Firozpur
2. Ghoh
3. Ranipur

44. Taragarh

1. Baknor
2. Kathlaur
3. Lahri Gujran
4. Rattangarh
5. Saiddipur
6. Sohaora Khurd

45. Tibbar, Public Call Office-II

1. Beri
2. Bhumbli
3. Sidhwan

46. Tibri

1. Babbe Hali
2. Chhawla
3. Gahot
4. Gazi Kot
5. Saidowal Kalan
6. Kotli Sainian

1. Anarkali, Batala, Extra Departmental Sub-Office, Non-Delivery

2. Dhar Kalan, Extra Departmental Sub-Office

Total Head Post Offices	..	1
Total Sub Post Offices	..	46
Total Extra Departmental Sub-Offices	..	2
Total Branch Post Offices	..	186

(Source : Superintendent, Post Offices, Gurdaspur Division, Gurdaspur)

APPENDIX VIII

(Vide page 217)

Combined Post and Telegraph Offices in the Gurdaspur District,
as on March 31, 1972

1. Anarkali, Batala (Extra Departmental Sub-Office)
2. Batala City
3. Dera Baba Nanak
4. Dhariwal
5. Dhar Kalan (Extra Departmental Sub-Office)
6. Dhianpur
7. Dinanagar
8. Dunera
9. Fatehgarh Churian
10. Ghuman
11. Gurdaspur
12. Gurdaspur City
13. Gurdaspur Kuchery
14. Gurdaspur Mandi
15. Harchowal
16. Kala Afghanan
17. Kalanaur
18. Kahnuwan
19. Madhopur
20. Model Colony, Pathankot
21. Narot Jaimalsingh
22. Naushehra
23. Qadian
24. Srigobindpur
25. Sujanpur
26. Tibri

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In view of the predominance of population in rural areas, the main profession of the inhabitants of the district is agriculture. According to the 1971 Census, 79.74 per cent of the total population live in villages and 20.26 per cent in towns, as against 76.27 per cent and 23.73 per cent, respectively, in the State as a whole. The economy of the district continues to be predominantly agricultural. About 59 per cent of the total working force of the district is dependent on agriculture. Most of the persons, who report for seeking employment assistance in the employment exchanges in the district, are from the agricultural profession. The main communities engaged in cultivation are the Sikh Jats, Rajputs, Sainis, Brahmans, Mahashas, etc.

The urban population in the district is mostly non-agriculturist and depends upon industries, transport, construction, trade and commerce and other miscellaneous occupations. Besides, there are some persons employed in allied trades such as commission agents and traders, engaged in sale and purchase of crops, etc. Persons in services and earning through miscellaneous sources form a very small proportion of the total population of the district. They include Government or semi-Government servants and persons employed in education, law, medical, engineering, personal and domestic services, etc. Besides, a good number of people come from rural areas to urban areas either to join the Armed Forces or to get unskilled jobs in factories, etc.

The total population of the district, according to the 1971 Census, was 12,29,249 (6,50,282 males and 5,78,967 females) as against 9,87,994 (5,30,107 males and 4,57,887 females) in 1961. The total number of workers in 1971 was 3,24,852 (2,59,759 rural and 65,093 urban) of which 1,91,163 were cultivators and agricultural labourers and the remaining 1,33,689 other workers. Of the total working force of the district, 54,901 persons were engaged in 'other services', which included services like generation and supply of electricity and water besides sanitary, medical and public health, legal, business, recreational and personal services. These also included general labourers engaged in other miscellaneous occupations.

After the independence, the developmental activities in various fields opened new avenues of employment and, consequently, there has been an appreciable increase in employment in the different occupations. The main reason for increase in employment in these occupations is the general facilities available in cities, where these occupations are

concentrated. The rapid industrial growth in the district, especially since the partition of the country in 1947, has provided good scope for the people to take up different occupations like manufacturing of machine tools, agricultural implements, sports goods, cycle spare parts, etc. On account of the growth and expansion of these industries, the pressure on land, which would have otherwise increased, has remained checked to some extent.

Apart from those engaged in industries, trade and commerce, transport and communications, agriculture, etc., a part of the population is engaged in other avocations, such as education, law, medical, engineering, personal and domestic services, etc. Besides, there are Government or semi-Government employees but they form a very small proportion of the total population of the district.

(a) Public Administration

Central, State and Local Government Services.—After the independence, all-round expansion in various sectors, particularly the agricultural sector, has led to increased employment opportunities in the country. In the agricultural sector, employment opportunities have expanded enormously through increased production and expansion in marketing, storage and transportation of produce. There has been a considerable increase in the number of Government employees due to the expansion of different departments and creation of new ones. Major contribution in providing additional employment opportunities in the services sector has come from the expansion of educational facilities, opening of primary schools and upgrading of other schools.

According to the 1961 Census, the number of Government employees in the district was 13,155 (13,113 males and 42 females). These comprised 11,175 (11,166 males and 9 females) Central Government employees, 416 (412 males and 4 females) State Government employees, 1,440 (1,411 males and 29 females) village officials and 124 miscellaneous workers.

The number of municipal employees in the district, in 1968, was 3,594.

As a matter of policy, every Government servant is entitled to security of service, pension and Government built accommodation on rent. Besides, the Central, State and local Governments provide various other facilities to their employees in the form of dearness allowance, provident fund benefit, loans for building of houses and purchase of vehicles, etc. In addition to this, Government also pays house-rent allowance to the

employees who do not get Government accommodation. Police employees are provided with rent-free residential accommodation. The railway authorities provide quarters on nominal rent and issue free and privilege passes for travel to the employees and their families. Uniforms are also provided to the railway employees. Class IV employees, under the State and Central Governments, are also given free liveries.

All Government servants and their dependents are allowed free medical aid. Leave, casual and earned, is allowed to every Government employee in times of need. Female employees are entitled to maternity leave. The State Government have allowed additional financial relief to its employees so as to bring them at par with the Central Government employees in regard to grant of dearness allowance/interim relief, etc. On superannuation, Government employees are entitled to the benefits of compassionate gratuity and pension.

Public Employees' Organizations.—The following public employees' organizations which exist in the district have been formed by the employees to look after their interests :—

1. Suraksha Karamchari Union, Pathankot
2. Municipal Safai Karamchari Union, Pathankot
3. Municipal Karamchari Sangh, Batala
4. Municipal Employees' Union, Pathankot
5. Municipal Employees' Union, Gurdaspur
6. Pathankot Municipal Workers' Union, Pathankot
7. District Fire Brigade Workers' Union, Pathankot
8. Municipal Employees' Union, Batala
9. Nagarpalika Karamchari Union, Pathankot
10. Batala Fire Brigade Workers' Union, Batala
11. Press Workers' Union, Pathankot
12. Western Command M.E.S. Employees' Union, Pathankot
13. Municipal Employees' Union, Dinanagar
14. Hydrel Workers' Union, Pathankot
15. Jal Khoj Vibhag Karamchari Union, Malakpur
16. Gurdaspur Central Co-operative [Bank Employees' Union, Gurdaspur

(b) Learned Professions

The learned professions include teaching, medical, legal, engineering, etc. The part played by each of these in the life of the district is detailed below :

Educational Services.—Education plays an important role in the life of a community. It enables to bring out inherent qualities in a man and makes him rational, reasonable and self-confident. The Gurdaspur District is well advanced in the field of education.

The number of college teachers in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 108. The number of teachers working in high/higher secondary, middle, primary (including basic primary) schools in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 5,456. The grades of teachers are now better and attractive. However, there is an acute shortage of trained teachers. The non-availability of residential accommodation of teachers in rural areas greatly hampers the extra-curricular activities of the schools.

Medical and Health Services.—There has been a continuous expansion of medical and health services in the district. The old concept of providing partial curative services through the dispensaries has changed. Emphasis is now laid on providing both curative and preventive services through a single co-ordinated source of the primary health centre. With the spread of education and scientific treatment of human ills coming near the reach of the people, the methods of faith-cure and quackery are taken resort to by a few people. The homocopathy is practised by a few practitioners in towns. The Ayurvedic and Unani systems are liked by the people because of the simpler and familiar medicines prescribed. The State Government is also encouraging these indigenous systems of medicine. The number of Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district increased from 18 in 1965 to 45 in 1975.

In olden days, people living in remote and far-flung villages could not get medical aid at the time of illness. But, with the spread of education and better provision of health and other medical facilities, large number of people visit hospitals and dispensaries to seek necessary medical aid. The number of patients treated in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the district rose from 3,42,630 in 1951 to 68,84,005 in 1972. The number of hospitals, dispensaries and primary health centres in the district as on January 1, 1972, was 45.

The members of medical profession in the district have formed an association which is accredited to the Indian Medical Association. The annual meetings of the association are held in which grievances of the

members are discussed. The Vaidis in the district have also formed a separate union of their own.

The medical profession includes persons employed in medical services rendered by organisations and individuals such as hospitals, nursing homes, maternity and child welfare clinics, as also by Unani, Ayurvedic, allopathic and homoeopathic practitioners and persons employed in maternity services.

The total number of persons involved in medical and health services in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 1,580 (1,217 males and 363 females). These included physicians, surgeons, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, midwives, health visitors, nursing attendants and allied workers, etc. Besides, there are also a large number of private medical practitioners who generally have their small clinics and dispense their own prescriptions.

On the veterinary side, the district is fairly well served by 22 veterinary hospitals and 20 permanent outlying dispensaries to control contagious diseases among the animals and to improve their breeds.

Legal Services.—In the present day complex life when countless laws govern the society, legal profession has an important role to play. The profession includes barristers, advocates, pleaders and *munshis*. This is a paying occupation and attracts good number of persons. Lawyers plead for the fundamental rights of the individuals and serve as a link between the litigant public and the Government officers. According to the 1961 Census, the number of legal practitioners and advisers in the district was 113.

There are three bar associations in the district, one at the district headquarters and two at the tahsil headquarters at Batala and Pathankot. These associations render useful service and are responsible for maintaining professional conduct and discipline among the public.

Engineering Services.—The engineering services are fairly well-represented in the district. The engineers contribute a good deal in the construction plans at the district headquarters as well as at the sub-divisional levels. They attend to various development works like opening of canals, construction of buildings and roads and installation of electricity. The details of the persons employed in engineering services in various Government departments have been given in Chapter XIII, 'Other Departments'. Besides, a good number of persons have adopted the profession of contractors and architects or consulting engineers. According to the 1961 Census, the number of overseers, architects, engineers and surveyors in the district was 305.

Artists, Writers and Related Workers.—According to the 1961 Census, the number of artists, writers and related workers in the district was 321.

(c) Personal and Domestic Services

Personal Services.—These Services include barbers, washermen, launderers, tailors, water-carriers, weavers, cobblers, carpenters and the like and employ a considerable number of persons as detailed hereunder :

Barbers.—The total number of barbers including hair-dressers and related workers in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 1,226.

The practice of family barber (*nai*) is still in vogue in most of the villages in the district, but it is no longer prevalent in urban areas. In rural areas, besides haircutting and shaving, barbers are engaged for conveying messages on the occasions of marriage and death, etc.

In the urban areas, hairdressing saloons or beauty shops are becoming popular. These are well equipped with modern implements for haircutting and dressing. The old practice of barbers visiting the house of their customers is fast disappearing. The customer also finds it more convenient and cheaper to visit the saloon. Generally, the barbers charge Re 1 to Re 1.25 paise for a haircut and 25 to 30 paise for a shave. There is no lady hairdressing saloon in the district.

In the rural areas, the practice of barbers visiting the houses of their clients is still in vogue. The wife of barber, called *nain*, does some sort of periodical hair-cleaning and hairdressing of the womenfolk of the families to which the barber is attached.

The barbers in the towns have formed unions to look after their interests and for their social and economic welfare. Tuesdays are usually observed as holidays by them.

Washermen.—The total number of launderers, dry-cleaners and pressers in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 795. These also included laundrymen, washermen and dhobis.

The good laundries are mostly located in urban areas. This business is becoming popular since launderers are more prompt and efficient as compared to washermen. The laundries generally employ washermen for washing the clothes while pressing is done at the shops.

The laundry business has adversely affected the washermen. The average rate per cloth charged by washermen is 25—30 paise for washing and 10—15 for only pressing. Some washermen do washing work of families on monthly basis also.

There are also a good number of dry-cleaning shops in the towns. Their charges vary from Rs 3 to Rs 4.50 for the dry-cleaning of woollen/terelene suit.

Tailors.—The total number of tailors, cutters, furriers and related workers in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 3,846. Out of these, 835 were working in the urban areas.

The tailors in urban areas prepare clothes according to the tastes and fashions prevalent in towns and cities while those in rural areas prepare ordinary types of clothes worn by the villagers. The stitching charges naturally vary in urban and rural areas.

Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work independently. There are also some big concerns, which get the work done on commission basis. In rural areas, the old practice of *darzi* (tailor) going to different houses for stitching clothes still continues.

Self-employed persons.—The persons engaged in these services include weavers, shoemakers, potters, sweepers, handcart pedlars, railway station or bus stand porters and vendors, hosiery weavers, etc. Some of them also assist the farmers in agricultural activities at the harvesting time.

Domestic Services.—These services include cooks, house-keepers, maids and other indoor servants. According to the 1961 Census, their total number in the district was 2,461.

For sometime past, the number of domestic servants is decreasing. The households which used to keep them as an essential part of their living, have been giving a second thought to their continuance. The persons of mediocre means now find it difficult to afford domestic servants. Some of the households, which used to keep domestic servants on permanent basis, have started engaging part-time servants. These part-time servants work as utensil cleaners, washermen/washerwomen and *malis* (gardeners) etc. The wages of domestic servants in wholetime employment are Rs 25 to Rs 40 per mensem in addition to free meals and clothing. Majority of the domestic servants hail from Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) and Hoshiarpur districts.

In urban areas, female domestic servants (*mais*) are engaged for wholetime or part-time employment. Generally, women belonging to poor families adopt this profession to supplement their income. They are engaged in washing of clothes, sweeping of houses, cleaning of utensils, cooking, etc. Such part-time female servants are paid Rs 10 to Rs 30 per mensem in addition to sundry facilities provided by their employers.

There is no association of domestic servants in the district.

(d) Miscellaneous Services

Transport Services.—Road transport plays a vital role in the economic, social and commercial development of a country. The position of these services has improved much with the expansion of roads after the independence. The industrial growth has also given a considerable fillip to the goods transport. There are two Punjab Roadways Depots in the district at Pathankot and Batala. Besides, there are eight private transport companies operating in the district.

According to the 1961 Census, 5,934 persons were engaged in transport and communication occupations in the district. These included drivers, conductors, etc.

Besides the above, a good number of persons are engaged as rickshaw-pullers, tonga drivers, scooter-rickshaw drivers, etc. Some persons invest money on the purchase of vehicles and give these on hire to others. In 1973, the State Government introduced a scheme under which loans are advanced to rickshaw-pullers to purchase their own rickshaws. Besides, the banks, advance loans to scooter-rickshaw drivers to purchase their own vehicles. The number of cycle rickshaw pullers in the district, according to the 1961 Census, was 848. Animal driven carts and hand-driven carts also ply in large numbers. The business of tonga drivers is, however, declining with the increase in the number of rickshaws and scooter-rickshaws.

Private cars and jeeps also cater to the needs of the people in their day-to-day avocations. The number of such vehicles has been gradually on the increase. Some of the owners of these vehicles keep a driver while others drive themselves.

The persons employed by the transport companies include drivers, conductors and cleaners. They are provided with various facilities such as free uniforms, bonus, allowances for over-time work, etc. Their income and social status is better than that of the rickshaw-pullers and tonga drivers. They have formed unions to look after their interests.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

The economic progress of a region depends on a number of factors such as the availability of the requisite infrastructure comprising the natural resources like agriculture, minerals, forests, etc. and necessary facilities for their exploitation by setting up different types of industries. Availability of technical know-how, and financial and political stability are the other essential factors for the economic growth of a region.

(a) Livelihood Pattern and General Level of Prices and Wages and Standard of Living

Livelihood Pattern.—The livelihood pattern of the people of a region and the nature and variety of occupations followed by them are conditioned by the stages of economic development and the extent to which all available resources are utilized for socio-economic growth of that region.

According to the 1971 Census, 26.43 per cent of the population of the district is engaged in various economic pursuits, of which agriculture and allied activities alone accounted for 58.84 per cent. The economy of the district, therefore, continues to be predominantly agricultural.

On the basis of economic activity pursued, the workers are further classified into nine industrial categories as under:

Classification of Workers in the Gurdaspur District according to the 1971 Census

Classification of workers according to their professions	Number of persons according to the 1971 Census					
	Rural		Urban		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. Cultivators ..	1,25,854	289	2,537	7	1,28,391	296
2. Agricultural labourers ..	59,803	662	1,991	20	61,794	682
3. Livestock-keeping, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities ..	2,316	75	361	2	2,677	77
4. Mining and quarrying ..	66	..	11	..	77	..
5. Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs—						
(a) Household industry ..	7,303	546	1,009	41	8,312	587
(b) Manufacturing other than household industry ..	10,472	302	13,249	163	23,721	465
6. Construction ..	5,472	43	1,800	10	7,272	53
7. Trade and commerce ..	9,576	95	15,724	75	25,300	170
8. Transport, storage and communications ..	4,149	6	5,903	19	10,052	25
9. Other services ..	31,333	1,397	19,942	2,229	51,275	3,626
Total workers ..	2,56,344	3,415	62,527	2,566	3,18,871	5,981
10. Non-workers ..	2,61,483	4,58,523	69,928	1,14,063	3,31,411	5,72,986
Total population ..	5,17,827	4,62,338	1,32,455	1,16,629	6,50,282	5,78,567
Total population ..						

(Census of India, 1971, Series-17-Punjab, Part X—A & B Gurdaspur District Census Handbook, pp. 126-25)

According to the above table, out of the total population of 12,29,249 persons in the district, 3,24,852 were engaged in some kind of economic activity. The number of non-workers was 9,04,397. The ratio of workers to non-workers varied from 26.43 to 73.57 as against the corresponding ratio of 28.87 to 71.13 for the Punjab State. These figures indicate that the proportion of economically active population in the district was lower by 2.44 per cent than the State average.

The standard of living of a community is, apart from other things, also judged from the way its members are housed. The provision of cheap and decent housing accommodation is the primary need of a human family in civilised life. This means the provision of comfortable shelter and such surroundings as would keep the worker healthy, fit and cheerful. It also includes proper arrangement for water supply, drainage, lighting and means of communications in every village and town of the district. In the urban areas of the district, the dwellings are almost entirely pukka and double storeyed, and are provided with modern amenities such as kitchen, bathroom, latrine, etc. Houses constructed in the new townships are also provided with all such amenities. But, in the rural areas, people are not provided with all such facilities. Under the Model Village Scheme, 3 villages in each block are selected as model villages and are provided with all types of amenities, including sanitation. According to the 1971 Census, the total number of dwellings in the district was 1,90,535 (rural 1,48,825 and urban 41,710). The total number of households was 1,96,070 (rural 1,52,965 and urban 43,105). The number of persons per household was 6.19. The break up of the households, classified by number of members and by number of rooms is given in Appendix I on pages 265-266.

In 1971-72, the per capita income of the Gurdaspur District at the then current prices was Rs 921 as compared to Rs 1,054 for the Punjab State as a whole. It is an indicator of the standard of living of the people residing in the district.

Prices and Wages.—The level of prices has a bearing both on the real income and standard of living of the people because it is not the money income but the purchases therefrom that matter.

Prices

Price mechanism is influenced by the laws of demand and supply. Its impact is felt on the entire economy of a region and is reflected in the levels of living of the people of that region. The role of prices is not merely passive, i.e. reflecting only the changes in the price levels, but is

active and causes far-reaching changes in the entire economy and may either cause inflation or recession or may help recovery of the economic growth of a region. A brief history of the price fluctuation during the past century or so is as under :

Prior to the great rebellion of 1857, before the construction of roads and railways in India, prices were ruled by custom. There were big variations from season to season and place to place, with the construction of roads and railways, the isolation of the Indian village was gradually broken. Custom and status, however, prevailed in the rural areas for a long time, while competition and contract ruled only in the big towns. The period 1893—1913 saw a rapid rise in prices. Prices rose during the World War I (1914—1918), but these showed downward trend from 1920—1929. This downward trend was further accelerated by the great depression of 1929—1933. In 1931, prices actually fell below the 1913 level. The prices were the lowest in 1934.

After 1934, prices started improving, except during 1937-38, when there was a recession and a set-back. It was only in 1939, with the onset of the World War II (1939—45), that the prices finally started recovering. In 1942, there was a heavy increase in the prices of goods, and, in 1943, prices rocketed sky-high bringing untold suffering to the poor. The end of the World War II in August 1945 did not relieve the strain on India's economy. Wholesale prices did not register a fall; on the other hand, there was a constant rise.

There was a heavy decline of prices in mid-April of 1952. Prices further rose till September 1952, registered a fall till December 1952, and then resumed their upswing throughout 1953 and then gradually falling till March 1954.¹ But again from June 1955, prices started rising and remained high except 1957-58, when these declined. The price situation continued to cause anxiety during 1958—61. During the emergency period of the Chinese aggression in 1962, prices went up like anything. The upward trend in prices continued during the sixties and thereafter.

The retail prices of foodgrains from 1861—1931 and the prices of food-grains per quintal during 1961-62 and 1971-72, prevalent at Gurdaspur, are given in the following tables :—

1. Kewal Krishan Dewett and Gurcharan Singh, *Indian Economics* (Delhi, 1954), pp. 517—24

Retail prices of foodgrains at Gurdaspur on the 1st January, each year in sers and chhataks per rupee

Year	Average	Wheat		Barley		Gram		Maize		Jowar		Bajra	
		S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.
1861-65	"	33	8	44	3	25	6	..	..	32	0	22	15
1866-70	"	23	14	29	15	24	6	..	..	20	11	26	5
1871-75	"	25	7	34	12	27	10	30	0	27	0	23	0
1876-80	"	17	2	19	10	22	8	20	5	21	3	16	8
1881-85	"	27	6	35	7	30	1	28	3	26	14	13	14
1886-90	"	19	11	25	3	22	7	23	1	19	1	13	3
1891-95	"	18	9	24	9	23	6	23	0	25	9	19	9
1896-1900	"	13	10	20	3	14	13	17	11	16	6	8	6
1901-05	"	16	5	24	6	21	6	23	12	24	0	..	..
1906-10	"	11	13	15	0	13	6	14	9	12	6	..	..
1911-15	"	13	17	0	14	8	0	4	6	0	13	6	0
1916-20	"	8	4	10	5	8	11	10	11	9	3	..	..
1921	"	7	4	10	0	6	8	10	0	8	0	..	..
1926	"	6	8	9	0	7	8	7	8	..	..	..	..
1931	"	20	0	30	0	14	0	29	0	15	0	..	..

(Punjab District Gazetteers, Vol. XIV, Part B, Gurdaspur District, Statistical Tables, 1936 (Lahore, 1936), pp. cxii-cxiii)

Prices of foodgrains per quintal at Gurdaspur, during 1961-62 and 1971-72

Year	Wheat		Gram		Maize		Jowar		Bajra		Paddy		Barley	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)
1961-62	37		35		22		26		22		37.75		25	
1971-72	78		85		55		57		60		49		48	

(Source : District Statistical Officer, Gurdaspur)

Wages

Wages generally signify all remunerations capable of being expressed in the terms of money paid to a person for the work done by him. The level of wages obtaining at a particular period throw sufficient light on the prevailing economic conditions of a region and living standards of its people. Variations in prices on account of fiscal policies and other factors such as the rise in demand, shortage of goods, insufficient production, etc. generally influence the wage level.

The wage level over a period of time has undergone somewhat similar fluctuations as the price level. In the early days, wages, especially in the agricultural sector, were determined by custom and tradition. The agricultural labourers and artisans were generally paid either in cash or in kind or in both. The characteristic phenomenon of wages in the later part of the nineteenth century as in the case of prices was that of a general rise. The wage rates of labour prevalent in the Gurdaspur District, from 1870-71 to 1930-31, are given in Appendix II on pages 267—268. The rates of pay fixed for the Class IV Government servants working in the different offices in the Gurdaspur District, during 1971-72, are given in Appendix III on page 269.

Standard of Living.—Information about the standard of living of the various strata of society is useful in understanding the general economic condition of the people. The standard of living of the people is dependent on two factors, namely, the total income that a family earns and the total expenditure that it incurs for maintaining a comfortable standard of living.

A working class family living survey was conducted in Dhariwal (Gurdaspur Tahsil) in 1965-66². It was started on July 1, 1965, and ended on June 30, 1966. Prices for the base period were, however, collected for the calendar year 1966. The number of factories being small, all the units were taken for coverage. According to the 1961 Census, out of the total population of 9,601 of Dhariwal, the estimated number of working class families was 2,342, the estimated population of the working class families was 14,965, and the estimated number of employees in working class families was 2,809.

The percentage distribution of employees (including apprentices) by industry was : 74.35 in manufacture of textile-wool; 3.26 in manufacture of wood and wood products; 0.77 in manufacture of chemicals and

2. *Report on the Working Class Family Living Survey, 1965-66*, (Publication No. 82, issued by the Economic Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh, in 1968), pp. 1, 4—7, 10-11, 26, 38, 82-83, 95-96

chemical products; 1.46 in manufacture of transport equipment; 1.39 in construction; 0.91 in electricity, gas, water and sanitary services; 3.00 in commerce; 3.16 in services and 11.70 in the rest.

The industry-wise average monthly family income per employee was : Rs 105.01 manufacture of textile-wool; Rs 123.68 manufacture of wood and wood products; Rs 88.36 manufacture of chemicals and chemical products; Rs 146.17 manufacture of transport equipment; Rs 122.89 construction; Rs 125.42 electricity, gas, water and communication; Rs 106.12 commerce; Rs 116.14 services; and Rs 79.78 of the rest.

The percentage distribution of families by their income was : 5.05 in income groups below Rs 90, 21.80 in income group Rs 90—120, 30.8 in income group Rs 120—150, 29.91 in income group Rs 150—210, 8.14 in income group Rs 210—300 and 4.52 in income group Rs 300—450.

The percentage distribution of families by per capita income was : 10.08 in income groups below Rs 15, 24.46 in income group Rs 15—20, 22.52 in income group Rs 20—25, 21.34 in income group Rs 25—35, 12.92 in income group Rs 35—50, 4.44 in income group Rs 50—65, 0.73 in income group Rs 65—80, and 3.51 in income group Rs 80 and above.

The average monthly per capita income by income classes was : Rs 16.69 in income groups below Rs 90, Rs 20 in income group Rs 90—120, Rs 20.46 in income group Rs 120—150, Rs 26.90 in income group Rs 150—210, Rs 30.33 in income group Rs 210—300, and Rs 34.76 in income group, Rs 300—450, and Rs 24.18 in all the above income groups.

A comparison of consumption expenditure pattern in terms of percentage expenditure on groups/sub-groups of items is given below :

Group and sub-group of items	Percentage expenditure
Food	57.26
Pan, supari, tobacco and alcoholic beverages	1.44
Fuel and light	5.25
Rent for house and water charges	5.88
House repairs and upkeep, household appliances and utilities, furniture and household services	3.11
Clothing, bedding, footwear, headwear and miscellaneous	16.21
Personal care	2.08
Education and reading	2.81
Recreation and amusement	0.21
Medical care	2.47
Other consumption expenditure	3.28
Total	100.00

As regards the distribution of employees by social security benefits, 93.33 per cent contributed towards Provident Fund Scheme and 100 per cent contributed towards the Employees' State Insurance Scheme.

The average amount of savings and assets per reporting family by income classes was as under :

Monthly income class ³	Average amount of savings and assets per reporting family
(Rs)	(Rs)
Below 90	2,232.61
90—150	4,770.60
150—210	5,703.11
210 and above	5,848.00
All :	4,398.76

The Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab, conducted a survey regarding the family budgets of twelve cultivators in the Punjab for the year 1969-70.³ It aimed at finding out the returns to the farmers for their work on the holdings. The inquiry revealed that the budget of the family in the village of Badowal Khurd in the Batala Tahsil was surplus. The annual income of the family in Badowal Khurd was Rs 8,337.23 and expenditure Rs 5,908.11. The study also showed that, on an average, a peasant proprietor's family in the Punjab spent 62 per cent of its income on food, 10 per cent on clothing, 7 per cent on housing, 7 per cent on fuel, 3 per cent on travelling and 11 per cent on other items. The goods consumed worth Rs 3,391.04 (57 per cent), by the family in Badowal Khurd were furnished by the farm, while those worth Rs 2,517.07 (43 per cent) were purchased from outside.

(b) Employment Situation

In the review of economic resources, an important factor that has to be taken into account is the utilization of human resources, as determined by its working force in the different economic activities. A study of changes in their distribution in different sectors of economy is helpful in the assessment of progress made in various sectors.

3. Family Budget of Twelve Cultivators in the Punjab for the year 1969-70 (Publication No. 125: issued by the Economic Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh, in 1971)

The inhabitants of the district are primarily engaged in agriculture which, however, provides employment for about 6 months in a year. On December 31, 1972, there were 39,397 labourers employed in the district as compared to 36,358 in the previous year. The employment increased by 7.8 per cent in 1972 and the index rose from 123.3 on December 31, 1971 to 131.1 on December 31, 1972 (with March 1966 as base-100). On December 31, 1972, the employment of women was 10.3 per cent of the total employment, whereas they constituted 9.4 per cent of the total employment on December 31, 1971.

The number of persons waiting for employment in the district at the close of the year 1971 was 12,390 which rose to 15,592 in 1972. There was a shortage of veterinary compounders, jail warders, teachers in Punjabi, Sanskrit, science, mathematics, and agriculture, overseers (civil), steno-typists (Punjabi), patwaris and plumbers. However, there was a surplus of trained dais, primary school teachers, drivers, bus-conductors, sweepers, chowkidars, motor mechanics and unskilled workers.⁴

Employment Exchange.—Employment exchanges were first started throughout the country to provide employment to the demobilized persons of the World War II (1939—45). Even after this problem was solved, the exchanges were continued to tackle the greater problem of general unemployment in the country. In order to make the employment exchanges more purposeful, the system of registration and placements of all categories of employment seekers was introduced in March 1948. With effect from November 1, 1956, the administrative control of the employment exchanges was handed over to the State Governments. The District Employment Exchange at Gurdaspur was started in 1947. Later on, as a result of the increase in the volume of work, employment exchanges were also opened at Pathankot and Batala in 1960 and 1961, respectively.

The main functions of an employment exchange are : to register applicants and to provide employment assistance; to impart vocational guidance to the youth and adults, to choose a better career; and to collect employment market information to assess the employment trends, impact of Government plans on the employment situations and to collect employment statistics for the Planning Commission of India.

4. *Employment Market Report of District Gurdaspur for the Quarter Ending December 31, 1972* in Punjabi (issued by the Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Amritsar)

The overall level of employment in the Gurdaspur District has shown an upward trend in both the private and public sectors. The number of employees working in both the sectors, as on December 31, 1972 was 39,397, out of which 27,204 were in public sector and 12,193 in private sector. The number of employees in the previous year was 36,358.

The work done by the District Employment Exchanges, Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Batala is shown in Appendix IV on page 270.

The number of unemployed persons aged 15 and above by sex and educational levels, both in the urban and rural areas of the Gurdaspur District, as per 1961 Census is given below :

Unemployment in the urban areas by sex and educational levels

	Total unemployed		
	Persons	Males	Females
Total	1,632	1,587	45
Illiterate	301	298	3
Literate (without educational level)	76	76	..
Primary or Junior Basic	551	547	4
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	609	584	25
Technical diploma not equal to a degree	10	7	3
Non-technical diploma not equal to a degree	15	9	6
University degree or post graduate degree other than a technical degree	64	61	3
Technical degree or diploma equal to a degree or post graduate degree	6	5	1
(i) Engineering	1	1	..
(ii) Medicine	..	..	..
(iii) Agriculture	..	..	..
(iv) Veterinary and Dairying	..	..	..
(v) Technology	..	..	..
(vi) Teaching	3	2	1
(vii) Others	2	2	..

Unemployment in the rural areas by sex and educational levels

	Total unemployment		
	Persons	Males	Females
Total	2,757	2,749	8
Illiterate	780	778	2
Literate (without educational level)	181	181	..
Primary or Junior Basic	905	904	1
Matriculation and above	891	886	5

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook, No.14, Gurdaspur District, pp. 234-35)

Tahsil-wise unemployment in the rural areas by sex and educational levels in the Gurdaspur District, 1961

District/Tahsil	Total unemployed						Illiterate			Literate (without educational level)			Primary or Junior Basic			Matriculation and above		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
Gurdaspur District	..	2,757	2,749	8	780	778	2	181	181	..	905	904	1	891	886	5		
Pathankot Tahsil	..	805	803	2	240	238	2	37	37	..	334	..	..	194	194	..		
Gurdaspur Tahsil	..	1,291	1,288	3	385	385	..	106	106	..	365	1	1	435	433	2		
Batala Tahsil	..	661	658	3	155	155	..	38	38	..	206	206	..	262	259	1		

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook, No. 14, Gurdaspur District, pp. 234-35)

Employment Market Information Scheme.—The aim of this scheme is to watch the trends of employment in the State so as to make available to the Government and to the Planning Commission information on the periodical expansion and contraction of employment in various industries and occupations in each district and in the State as a whole. The information thus collected is also used for determining the location of the industrial training institutes and the trades to be taught therein.

Introduced into the State in 1957-58, the Employment Market Information Scheme is operated under the Director of Employment, Punjab, Chandigarh. Initially, it covered only the public sector, but from 1960-61, it was also extended to the private sector.

Under the scheme, the employment exchange is responsible for collecting regularly information about the employment in the private sector as well as in the public sector. This is done by what is known as "Establishment Reporting" system. Under this scheme, all establishments in the public sector and selected establishments in the private sector engaged in non-agricultural activities are asked to give details regularly about the number of persons they are employing, the vacancies that have occurred therein and the type of persons they find to be in short supply. The information is collected from all establishments in the public sector and those employing 25 or more persons in the private sector under the provision of the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, which makes it obligatory on them to submit it to the local employment exchange. Information from smaller establishments in the private sector is, however, collected on voluntary basis. The information which is processed at the district level is finally tabulated at the State and the National levels respectively to know precisely the employment potential at these levels. An Employment Market Unit in the Employment Exchange, Gurdaspur, has been functioning since 1958. The following statement clearly shows

the changes in the volume of employment both in the private and public sectors in the district as on December 31, 1971 and December 31, 1972:—

Industrial Division	Number of establishments		Number of employees	
	December 31, 1971	December 31, 1972	December 31, 1971	December 31, 1972
Agriculture ..	8	6	502	519
Mining and quarrying ..	..	1	..	45
Manufacturing ..	248	256	8,417	9,271
Construction ..	49	59	4,471	4,717
Electricity, water supply and public health ..	23	25	1,400	1,543
Trade and commerce ..	37	40	1,135	1,172
Transport, storage and communication ..	21	21	3,606	3,677
Other Services ..	240	258	16,827	18,453
Total :	626	666	36,358	39,397

[*Employment Market Reports of District Gurdaspur for the Quarter Ending December 31, 1971 and December 31, 1972 in Punjabi (issued by the Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Amritsar)*]

The above table indicates that during the period the employment increased in almost all the industrial divisions.

Vocational Guidance Scheme.—The vocational guidance and employment counselling programmes are designed to give intensive vocational guidance to those who seek such assistance. The term vocational guidance more appropriately connotes assistance to youth, whereas employment counselling refers to the assistance given to adults.

The programme is jointly operated by the Directorate of Employment Exchanges of the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Union Ministry of Labour and Employment, and the Directorate of Employment, in the State. The Ministry of Labour and Employment, through the Director of Employment Exchanges, is responsible for the general policies and procedure which are devised in collaboration with the State Government through the National Working Group of the Employment Service. The State Directorate of Employment administers the service through the Employment Exchanges, coordinating it with the guidance service of the Education Department of the State Government.

The Officer-in-charge of the Employment Exchange, Gurdaspur, is responsible for the efficient working and general supervision of this scheme in the district. The functions of a Vocational Guidance Unit are to provide vocational guidance and employment counselling to youth (boys and girls) and adults (men and women) in groups as well as individually ; assist in the placement of youth in institutions or inplant training centres or in entry jobs ; follow up and review the progress of guided youth and adults ; review the records of applicants on the live register and to give them such guidance as would lead to early and suitable placement ; assist other sections of the exchanges in improving the quality of registrations and submissions, assist in the collection and compilation of up-to-date information on occupations, training facilities, educational courses, employment trends and employment outlook for youth and adults, scholarships and sources of financial assistance ; maintenance of regular information for the use of applicants and visitors seeking information ; maintenance of up-to-date library on occupation literature, ; and educate the public by undertaking publicity measures in vocational guidance with a view to encouraging community consciousness. The guidance procedure at an Employment Exchange, with a Vocational Guidance Unit, consists of group guidance comprising invitational talks, group discussions and invitational talk-cum-group discussions according to the needs of the groups ; individual guidance ; and giving information individually.

A Vocational Guidance Unit was started in the District Employment Exchange, Gurdaspur, in January 1962.

The following table shows the work done by Vocational Guidance Unit, Gurdaspur, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Year	Number of individuals provided		
	Group guidance talks	Individual guidance cases	Individual information
1967-68	915	70	836
1968-69	432	41	308
1969-70	704	79	373
1970-71	1,163	58	1,288
1971-72	1,187	39	1,340

(Source : District Employment Officer, Gurdaspur)

Another Vocational Guidance Unit was started at the Employment Exchange, Pathankot, in November 1969. The work done by it, during 1969-70 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	Number of individuals provided		
	Group guidance talks	Individual guidance talks	Individual information
1969-70	1,359	108	963
1970-71	344	12	147
1971-72	2,154	101	725

(Source : Assistant Employment Officer, Pathankot)

(c) Planning and Community Development

Planning.—Planning is necessary to achieve a balanced growth of different sectors of the economy of a region as also in raising the standard of living of the people. It brings about socio-economic advancement of the people by formulating definite schemes, fixing up of targets of progress in various sectors of the economy and in directing efforts to achieve them within a stipulated period of time.

The First Five-Year Plan (1951—56) was launched in 1951-52. It aimed at achieving a balanced growth within a stipulated period of time by raising the necessary resources for implementation, the underlying idea being to improve the standard of living of the people at large. It was followed by the Second (1956—61), the Third (1961—66) and the Fourth (1969—74) Five-Year Plans, interspersed by three Annual Plans (for 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69) between the Third and the Fourth.

Under these plans, the State and district plans have been formulated keeping in view the concept of Welfare State and implemented through the district administrative machinery, which has been expanded and strengthened from time to time for undertaking the tasks of development. For each scheme of development, there is a fixed target and estimates of expenditure have been worked out to achieve the desired social and economic goals.

Community Development.—The Community Development Programme is a bold effort to mobilize public enthusiasm and co-operation and to raise the standard of living of the people. It was introduced with a view

to enlisting popular participation in the implementation of the development programmes in the blocks. It is altogether a unique and scientific endeavour for an integrated approach to the problems of rural development, based on public participation and working through representative institutions of the people.

The Community Development Programme was started in the Gurdaspur District as early as in 1952 with the inception of 'Batala Community Project'. The project was known as 'Trial Project' and the programme sprang up gradually when Intensive Development Blocks were set up. The Batala Community Project was subdivided into three blocks, viz. Batala, Srigobindpur and Dera Baba Nanak. Dera Baba Nanak Block was further slashed into two in 1961 when a new unit, known as the Fatehgarh Churian Block, came into being straight away in stage II.

In the beginning, three types of development blocks such as the National Extension Service, Community Development and Post-Intensive Stage blocks were conceived. These marked three different phases of development of the rural areas. The National Extension Service (N.E.S.) was taken to be the preparatory period, when the area was prepared for receiving a heavy dose of development during the next stage of community development. It was envisaged that the development tempo generated would be maintained then and further progress ensured. However, the Community Development Programme could not evoke and enlist sufficient co-operation of the people in implementation of the development schemes. Therefore, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Balwantrai Mehta Committee appointed by the Planning Commission in 1957 organizational and structural changes were made in the programme. Thus, the distinction between the N.E.S. stage, intensive development stage, and the post-intensive stage was abolished from April 1, 1958, and all blocks under the all-India programme, except those in the community development stage which had then not completed three years of existence, were classified into stage I and stage II blocks, with revised financial pattern and periods of operation. The Community Development Blocks on completing stage I period would enter stage II. A stage I block has five years of operation with the ceiling of expenditure of Rs 12 lakhs. It is the intensive development phase in which the people's participation is to be promoted by a closer association of people's institutions, like the gram panchayats. The degree of success attained during the first stage would be evidenced by the growth and functioning of self-reliant rural communities which was the basic objective of the programme. After completing stage I, the blocks would enter stage II and then the post-stage II of the programme.

Each community block is intended to be an area of intensive effort in which all development agencies of the Government work together as a team in concert with the local leadership and talent, represented in the panchayats.

The block programmes have an important bearing on the preparation of the State Plan in the fields of agriculture, minor irrigation, co-operatives, communications, village industries, education, rural amenities and the utilization of available man-power resources. The block plans include all social and economic activities undertaken for the benefit of the people.

The Community Development Programme covers the entire district of Gurdaspur comprising 11 Community Development Blocks⁵, viz. Gurdaspur, Kalanaur, Kahnuwan, Dorangla (with headquarters at Dinanagar (in Tahsil Gurdaspur), Batala, Dera Baba Nanak, Srigobindpur, Fatehgarh Churian, (in Tahsil Batala), Pathankot, Narot Jaimalsingh and Dhar Kalan, (in Tahsil Pathankot). On March 31, 1972, these blocks covered 1,526 inhabited villages with a total population of 9,80,165.

The people in the district have extended commendable co-operation and have also contributed liberally as and when they were required to do so.

Community Development Training Centre, Batala

The Community Development Training Centre, Batala, is situated at a distance of 3 km from the Batala town on the Amritsar-Pathankot road. It was named as Extension Training Centre, which was changed in 1952 to Gramsevak Training Centre. Later on, in March 1969, it was converted into Intermediate Level Composite Training Centre and again, in 1973, its name was changed to Community Development Training Centre.

The Community Development Training Centre, Batala, is the only centre in the Punjab State which caters to the training of the higher officers of the Development Department. All probationers, above the level of Village Level Workers in the Development Department, undergo a training for a specific period. The centre is designed to enable the participants to know about themselves and about their work so that they may develop techniques of enlisting support of the people with whom they have to work. The training is imparted to the various categories of functionaries, including non-officials engaged in the development work. The centre imparts elementary training and field education in the various subjects, viz. community development, agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, health, education, industry, etc.

5. In 1974, another separate block, viz. Dhariwal Block, was created, thus raising the total number of the Community Development Blocks in the Gurdaspur District from 11 to 12.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 248)
Sample household classification by the number of members and by the number of rooms occupied in the Gurdaspur District, 1971

Rural/ Urban Total	Total number of census households	Total number of members		Total number of rooms	Households with one room		Households with two rooms		Households with three rooms		No. of Number of members								
		Males	Females		No. of house- holds	Number of members		No. of house- holds	Number of members		No. of house- holds	Number of members							
						Males	Females		Males	Females		Males	Females						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14						
Rural	1,52,965	5,11,515	4,51,440	3,03,795	67,410	1,89,365	1,65,665	49,500	1,69,935	1,50,665	20,595	80,745	72,240						
Urban	43,105	1,37,310	1,13,150	94,310	17,220	44,550	34,625	13,600	42,440	37,120	6,650	21,350	19,020						
Total :	1,96,070	6,48,825	5,64,590	3,98,105	84,630	2,33,915	1,99,690	63,100	2,12,375	1,87,185	26,645	1,02,075	91,260						(contd.)

(contd.)

APPENDIX I—concl'd.

(continued from pre-page)

Rural/ Urban Total	Households with four rooms		Households with five rooms and above		Households with unspecified number of rooms		Number of households with de-tails un-specified			
	Number of households	Number of members		Number of households	Number of members					
		Males	Females		Males	Females				
Rural ..	8,820	38,455	34,040	6,620	32,965	29,405	20	50	25	..
Urban ..	3,330	13,175	11,590	2,900	15,770	11,395	5	5	...	..
Total : ..	12,150	51,630	45,630	9,520	48,735	40,800	25	55	25	..

GURDASPUR

(Census of India, 1971, Series 17-Punjab, Part IV, Housing Report & Tables, Part IV, pp. 106-107)

(Vide page 252)

APPENDIX II

Wage rates of labour prevalent in the Gurdaspur District, 1870-71 to 1930-31

Year	Wages of Labour						Cart					
	Skilled			Unskilled			Highest			Lowest		
	Highest	Lowest		Highest	Lowest		Highest	Lowest		Highest	Lowest	
	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P	Rs A P
1870-71	..	0 6 0	0 5 0	0 3 0	0 2 6	0 14 0	3 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1875-76	..	0 6 0	0 5 0	0 3 0	0 2 6	0 14 0	3 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1880-81	..	0 8 0	0 4 0	0 3 0	0 2 6	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1885-86	..	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 3 3	0 2 6	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1890-91	..	0 8 0	0 5 0	0 3 6	0 2 6	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1895-96	..	0 8 0	0 5 0	0 3 6	0 2 6	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1900-01	..	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 6 0	0 4 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1905-06	..	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0	0 5 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1910-11	..	0 8 0	0 7 0	0 6 0	0 5 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1915-16	..	1 2 0	0 15 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1920-21	..	0 12 0	0 11 0	0 8 0	0 7 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1925-26	..	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0
1930-31	..	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	0 14 0	2 0 0	0 7 0	1 12 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	1 12 0

(contd.)

APPENDIX II—concl'd.

(continued from pre-page)

Year	Camel			Donkey per score			Boat		
	Highest	Lowest	Rs A P	Highest	Lowest	Rs A P	Highest	Lowest	
1870-71	..	0 8 0	..	..	3 12 0	8 annas per 100 maunds tonnage	..	..	
1875-76	..	0 8 0	0 4 0	..	3 12 0	..	..	..	
1880-81	..	0 8 0	0 4 0	3 12 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	
1885-86	..	0 8 0	0 6 0	3 12 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	
1890-91	..	0 4 3	0 3 0	2 8 0	..	..	..	..	
1895-96	..	0 8 0	0 6 0	2 8 0	..	2 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	
1900-01	..	0 8 0	0 6 0	8 0	..	2 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	
1905-06	..	0 9 0	0 7 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	8 0	8 0	
1910-11	..	0 10 0	0 8 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	
1915-16	..	0 4 0	0 3 0	0 4 0	0 3 0	1 2 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	
1920-21	..	0 9 0	0 7 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 0	15 0	15 0	
1925-26	..	0 10 0	0 4 3	0 3 0	0 2 0	4 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	
1930-31	..	..	..	6 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	

GURDASPUR

[Punjab District Gazetteers, Vol. XIV, Part B, Gurdaspur District Statistical Tables, 1936 (Lahore, 1936), p.cx]

APPENDIX III

(Vide page 252)

Wage Rates of labour per day fixed in the Gurdaspur District, during 1971-72

Serial No.	Particulars	Wage rate per day (Rs)
1. Khalasi	..	4.50 to 6.00
2. Cook	..	11.00
3. Waterman	..	4.50
4. Chowkidar	..	4.50 to 6.00
5. Gardener	..	5.00 to 6.00
6. Pair of bullocks with ploughman	..	15.00
7. Pair of bullocks with cart and cartman	..	15.00
8. Donkeyman with four donkeys	..	14.00
9. Carpenter	..	9.00 to 12.00
10. Blacksmith	..	6.50 to 12.00
11. Dak-carrier	..	4.50
12. White-washer	..	6.00
13. Bearer	..	6.50
14. Driver of vehicles	..	12.00

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

(Vide page 256)

Work done by the Employment Exchanges in the Gurdaspur District, during 196—1972

Year	Registration	Placings	Vacancies notified	Vacancies filled	Vacancies outstanding	Applicants on live register at the close of the year
District Employment Exchange, Gurdaspur						
1968	6,580	1,184	2,211	1,763	72	2,905
1969 ..	6,444	1,176	2,187	1,903	66	2,849
1970 ..	6,278	1,084	1,900	1,651	82	3,436
1971	6,458	1,015	1,691	1,349	172	4,184
1972 ..	8,527	1,306	2,109	1,624	88	5,115
Employment Exchange, Batala						
1968 ..	4,372	620	625	394	123	1,719
1969 ..	4,278	740	562	359	105	2,018
1970 ..	4,454	869	865	615	145	2,125
1971 ..	4,838	765	776	537	99	2,545
1972 ..	5,990	635	783	483	87	3,875
Employment Exchange, Pathankot						
1968 ..	9,664	1,734	2,133	1,398	130	3,229
1969 ..	9,467	1,279	1,437	896	165	4,414
1970 ..	9,534	1,253	1,321	1,078	207	4,130
1971 ..	8,512	1,118	1,647	913	185	5,661
1972 ..	10,070	1,035	1,377	837	132	6,602

(Annual Administration Reports of the Department of Employment of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

(a) Historical Background and Divisions of the District

District administration by the agents of the Central Government has been a basic feature of the governmental system of this country from time immemorial. During the modern period, the credit for discovering a happy solution to the problem of good district administration goes to Lord Cornwallis (1786-93). He adopted certain features of Akbar's system. The local unit of administration was the district to which an officer was appointed to perform three main functions : to keep the peace, collect the revenue and administer justice.¹

The dawn of independence in 1947 and the introduction of the Constitution of India in 1950 set in motion a long process of efforts to change the former 'Law and Order State' into a 'Welfare State'. There has been a tremendous increase in the points of contact between the officials and the public. Further, this has necessitated a change in the administrators' attitude towards the public. They were no longer the 'rulers' and the public no longer the 'rule'. The administration has not only to work for the people but with the people.

In this background, the administrative set-up of Gurdaspur District is described hereunder :

Administrative Divisions.—For purposes of general and revenue administration, the district is divided into 3 tahsils, viz. Gurdaspur, Batala, (including sub-tahsil Dera Baba Nanak) and Pathankot (including sub-tahsil Dhar Kalan).² All these tahsils were converted into sub-divisions in 1955.

1. Potter, David C, *Government in Rural India* (London, 1964), p. 3

2. The erstwhile Kanungo Circle of Narot Jaimalsingh in Tahsil Pathankot has been formed into another sub-tahsil vide—Revenue Department Notification No. 2291-Rg-I-73/3075, dated the 4th September, 1973, published in the Punjab Government Gazette Extraordinary, dated the 5th September, 1973.

The strength of Sub-Divisional Officers, Tahsildars, and Naib-Tahsildars in the district as on March 31, 1972, is given below :

Sub-Division/ Tahsil	No. of Posts		
	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	Tahsildar	Naib-Tahsildar
Gurdaspur ..	1	1	5
Batala ..	1	1	5
Pathankot ..	1	1	2
District Gurdaspur :	3	3	12

(b) District Authorities

Deputy Commissioner.—In the words of the Indian Statutory Simon Commission Report, 1930, “every inch of soil in India forms part of a ‘District’, and at the head of every District there is an officer—known in some provinces as the Collector and in others as the Deputy Commissioner—who is in the eyes of most of its inhabitants ‘the government’.”³ The Deputy Commissioner has overall charge of the district and is the hub of the district administration.

For administrative purposes, the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, is under the control of the Commissioner, Jullundur Division, Jullundur. He has to play triple role as Deputy Commissioner, as Collector and as District Magistrate⁴ :

(i) As Deputy Commissioner, he is the executive head of the district with multifarious responsibilities relating to development, panchayats, local bodies, civil administration, etc. Because of the over-riding importance of his role as well as his proximity to the people, he is considered to be the measuring rod of efficiency in the administration.

3. Avasathi, A., *Revenue Inspections at the District Level* (New Delhi, 1965), pp. 15-16
Indian Statutory Commission Report, 1930, Vol. I, (London, 1964), p. 281

4. Sharma, S.K., *Deputy Commissioner in Punjab* (New Delhi, 1971), pp. 53, 80
Khara, S.S., *District Administration in India* (Reprinted : Bombay, 1965), p. 32

An Office Superintendent, responsible to the Deputy Commissioner, supervises the work of the clerical staff. He guides the functioning of the different branches, each of which is headed by an Assistant who has to perform two kinds of functions, viz. supervisory and disposal of important cases. An Assistant has one or more clerks under him.

The number of branches differ from district to district depending upon the requirements in each case but the more important branches which exist in almost all the district offices are ; Registration Branch, Licensing and Passport, Record and Issue Branch, Judicial Record Branch, Establishment Branch, Nazarat Branch, Development Branch, Miscellaneous Branch, Complaints and Enquiries Branch, Local Fund Branch, Copying Agency, Revenue Accounts Branch, Flood Relief Branch and Revenue Record Branch.

(ii) As Collector, Deputy Commissioner is the head of the revenue administration in the district. Being the highest revenue authority in the district, he is to keep accurate and up-to-date maintenance of records of rights as regards the lands. He is responsible for the collection of land revenue as well as other kinds of Government taxes, fees and dues. He is the appointing authority for most of the important subordinate revenue staff in the district and supervises and controls the work of all of them. Every district has a Treasury to account for every financial transaction in the district on behalf of Government. The Deputy Commissioner is responsible for the due accounting of all money received and paid and the punctual submission of all returns due from the District Treasury.

His duties as Collector include looking after the general interests and welfare of the cultivator in so far as they relate to cultivation and allied matters on which he depends for his living. The Collector also decides the rights of tenants, such as mutation, encroachment, land acquisition, etc. He is responsible for seeing that all Government properties in the district are well cared for, and in normal agricultural distress or in emergencies like flood, drought, scarcity, outbreak of epidemics, etc., difficulties and hardships of the people are quickly and effectively remedied. He is responsible for the grant and eventual recovery of certain types of loans for agricultural improvement. He is the highest revenue judicial authority in the district. The hearing of appeals against the decisions of subordinate revenue officers in a variety of matters also falls within his jurisdiction.

All the branches dealing with revenue matters are under the direct supervision of the Assistant Superintendent (Revenue and Records) who supervises : Sadr Kanungo's Branch, District Revenue Accounts Branch, Vernacular Records Room, Copying Agency, Registration Branch and

Rehabilitation Branch. Most of the work relating to land revenue administration is carried on in Sadr Kanungo's Branch. The District Revenue Accounts Branch is under the charge of an office assistant known as the District Revenue Accountant (D.R.A.).

(iii) In his capacity as District Magistrate, the Deputy Commissioner is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order within his jurisdiction. For this purpose, the district police force, under the immediate control of the Superintendent of Police, takes orders from him. He is the head of the criminal administration of the district. While the internal departmental control of the police force as such vests in the Superintendent of Police, the deployment and use of the police force in the district is subject to the overall control and direction of the District Magistrate.

Besides his above mentioned duties as Deputy Commissioner, Collector and District Magistrate, the Deputy Commissioner plays an important role as Deputy Custodian. His duties as Deputy Custodian are : revision against the orders of Tahsildars and Officer-in-Charge, Rural, regarding allotment of land and houses in rural areas ; revision against the orders of the District Rent Officer regarding allotment of houses and shops in urban areas ; and disposal of cases received from the Assistant Custodian (Judicial), regarding evacuee property.

The Deputy Commissioner is the executive head of the civil administration and all departments in the district, which otherwise have their own officers, look to him for guidance and co-ordination. He plays an important role in the administration of municipal committees, market committees, panchayats, panchayat samitis, community development blocks and zila parishad, which have come into shape with the decentralisation of authority and expansion of the Panchayati Raj. He is also responsible for the execution of rural development schemes under the Community Development Programme.

He also exercises various residuary powers. He is also responsible for the satisfactory conduct of all general elections held in the district from time to time. The decennial census operations also call for his active help and participation. He maintains general control over the administration of supply and distribution of controlled articles. He is concerned with the rehabilitation of displaced persons and famine relief. In short, nothing of importance takes place in the district with which the Deputy Commissioner has not been acquainted.

Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil).—The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) is the executive head of the sub-division. He is either a junior member of the Indian Administrative Service or a member of the State Civil Service who has had extensive experience in subordinate positions. He is a miniature District Magistrate in his smaller sphere and performs the same kind of work as the latter. But, as he has to work under the direct supervision and control of the District Magistrate, the burden of his responsibility is far less heavy.

The Sub-Divisional Officer exercises direct control over the Tahsildar and his staff in his respective sub-division. The normal channel of correspondence between the Deputy Commissioner and the Tahsildar in a sub-division is the Sub-Divisional Officer.

The powers and responsibilities of the Sub-Divisional Officer relating to revenue, magisterial, executive and developmental matters run on parallel lines with those of the Deputy Commissioner but at a lower level. His revenue duties are supervision and inspection of all matters from assessment to collection and of the work of all official concerned with them and co-ordination of work in the departments of revenue, agriculture, veterinary and public health within the sub-division.

His magisterial duties are : liaison and co-operation with the police in the sub-division, watch over the relations between various communities and classes, special precautions and action in emergencies, especially connected with festivals and recommendations to District Magistrate about grant of arms licences. He has ample powers under the Criminal Procedure Code, the Police Rules and other laws to exercise effective supervision over the law and order situation in his area.

In his executive capacity, he can call for any of the records and registers which deal with crime from police stations and ask officers, incharge of police stations, to come to him to explain matters. He commands closer contact with the public and more intimate association with local bodies and market committees.

He also plays an important role in the Community Development Programme. He gets all sort of co-operation and help from other governmental officers in the sub-division for smooth running of the administration and successful implementation of the developmental schemes. He can even correspond direct with the Government on routine matters. On important policy matters, however, he is required to route the papers through the Deputy Commissioner.

Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.—The officer incharge of a tahsil is called Tahsildar. He is primarily a revenue officer and is responsible for the collection of land revenue and other dues payable to the Government. Consequently, he has to be constantly on tour to keep in touch with subordinate revenue officials, to observe the seasonal conditions and condition of crops, to take note of the difficulties of the cultivators and to distribute *taccavi* loans. He decides urgent questions like correction of entries in the accounts books, providing relief to the people faced with natural calamities, etc., on the spot. But, after he returns to his headquarters, he draws up reports and recommends remission or suspension of revenue, brings the records up-to-date, sits in court to settle disputes regarding tenancy, arrears of rent, ejectment of tenants, entries in accounts books, etc., besides doing other kinds of work.

There is no substantial difference between the duties of Tahsildars and the Naib-Tahsildars excepting that the Tahsildars have been invested with the powers of Assistant Collector Class I under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, with regard to the partition cases only, whereas the Naib-Tahsildars are the Assistant Collectors Class II for all purposes. In criminal powers also they differ; the Tahsildars are normally Magistrates Class II while the Naib-Tahsildars are Magistrates Class III.

The Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars in the district are assisted by : a Sadr Kanungo, as incharge of the records at the district headquarters ; 3 Office Kanungos, one each at the tahsil headquarters ; 17 field Kanungos, 6 at Gurdaspur, 7 at Batala and 4 at Pathankot ; one Special Kanungo *Thur* and *Sem* at the district headquarters ; 332 Patwaris and ; 11 Naib-Patwaris.

Kanungos and Patwaris.—The word 'Kanungo' literally means the expounder of laws. In practice, he is a supervisor of Patwaris. He is "a man of status", being an important and the only link between the tahsil officer and the Patwari. Each Tahsildar is assisted by an Office Kanungo whose main duty is to consolidate the information on different matters. Similarly, at the Deputy Commissioner's office, there is a Sadr Kanungo who, *inter alia*, is incharge of the Patwaris' and Kanungos' establishments and carries out inspections of Patwar Circles and Kanungos in addition to those by Tahsildars. The purpose of Special Kanungo or Patwari Moharir is to make the information contained in revenue records accessible to the litigating public and to the courts, by preparing extracts from the revenue records. Special Kanungo assists the courts of law in the examination of revenue records by giving evidence and by putting the records before the court and by drawing attention to those parts of the records which the court ought to examine.

Whereas the Deputy Commissioner is regarded as the pivot of the district administration, the Patwari is the king-pin of the revenue administration in the district. He is the representative of Government at the village level. Up to 1906, he was paid by the village itself, but now he is a salaried Government servant. He has usually one or two villages in his charge. His local knowledge is so extensive that there is little in the way of information about the village and its occupants which he does not know or cannot guess. Consequently, he is referred to, not unrealistically, as the eyes and ears of the Collector. He is indispensable as a mine of information.

The Patwari's duties include conducting of surveys, field inspections, recording of crops, revision of maps or reports relating to mutations, partitions, revenue or rent, *taccavi*, etc. Under the orders of the Collector, he prepares the records of rights. He is also required to assist in the relief of agricultural distress and census operations. He reports the crimes and prepares maps to illustrate police enquiries. Preparation of *Dhal Bachh* (papers regarding distribution of revenue over holdings) is his special duty.

Lambardars.—Lambardar is the most important functionary in the village. His main function is to keep watch over the law and order position in his area and report to the nearest police station in case of breach of law. It is also his duty to collect the revenue dues of the Government from various sources and to remit them into the treasury. He is given 5 per cent of the land revenue collections which is called *pachotra*. He is a sort of multipurpose official to help the Government in gathering all sorts of data and information. He is the custodian of all the Government properties in the village. He also reports to the tahsildar about the deaths of assignees and pensioners and their absence for over a year. Above all, he is the representative of the Government in the village. He is assisted by a village chowkidar.

(c) Development Organisation

In order to assist the rural society to transform its backward social and economic conditions by dint of hard work and spirit of co-operation, Community Development Programme was started in the Punjab in 1952. Introduced with a view to enlisting popular participation in the implementation of the development programmes in the blocks, it aims at mobilising public enthusiasm and co-operation and raising the standard of living of the rural people.

The district has been divided into 11 development blocks, viz., Gurdaspur, Kahnuwan, Dorangla (with headquarters at Dinanagar), Dhariwal (with headquarters at Kalanaur), Batala, Fatehgarh Churian, Srigobindpur, Dera Baba Nanak, Pathankot, Dhar Kalan and Narot Jaimalsingh. Each block is under the control of a Block Development and Panchayat Officer, who is under the administrative control of the Chairman of the respective Block Samiti, Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) of the respective Sub-Division, and the District Development and Panchayat Officer at the district level, besides being under the overall control of the Deputy Commissioner.

Previously, the Block Development and Panchayat Officer was called Block Development Officer, but with the merger of Panchayat Department into the Development Department in November 1959, his nomenclature was changed. He has been vested with the powers of Panchayat Officer under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952.

The Block Development and Panchayat Officer is mainly responsible for the successful implementation of development schemes in his block. He also guides and supervises the work of the staff of the other departments in the block under his control. He is assisted by a Social Education and Panchayat Officer, a Lady Social Education Organiser, an Overseer (popularly known as Extension Officer), a number of Gram Sevaks and Gram Sevikas, besides ministerial Class III and Class IV staff. Besides, he has a number of Extension Officers belonging to the departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation and Industries, who assist and advise him in their respective spheres. This was done after the introduction of the Panchayati Raj in the State in order to co-ordinate the activities of various nation building departments.

(d) General Arrangement for Disposal of Business

In addition to the Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil), Tahsildars and Block Development and Panchayat Officers, the Deputy Commissioner is assisted by the following officers whose designation, strength and duties are mentioned below :

Designation	Number
General Assistant	.. 1
Public Grievances Officer	.. 1
District Transport Officer	.. 1
District Development and Panchayat Officer	.. 1

General Assistant.—He is the Deputy Commissioner's personal executive officer and assists him in all his executive and administrative functions. As such, he is the principal administrative officer and attends to routine correspondence, attestation, complaints, etc. He does little touring as he has to keep a vigilant eye on the district office. Almost all the branches of Deputy Commissioner's office are under his supervision. He is competent to correspond with the Government and other departments in routine matters. He is Magistrate I Class, but since the separation of the judiciary from the executive on October 2, 1964, he tries only security cases.

Public Grievances Officer.—There is a Public Grievances Officer at the district headquarters who is a Senior Magistrate or an officer of an equivalent status. He redresses the grievances of the public in the district and expedites action on the complaints received by him relating to all the departments. He also acts as co-ordinating officer in the disposal of the complaints of the public.

District Development and Panchayat Officer.—He co-ordinates the activities of all the development departments in the district. The development branch of the Deputy Commissioner's office, which deals with planning of development programmes and agricultural production, functions under the supervision of District Development and Panchayat Officer who is promoted from amongst the Block Development and Panchayat Officers. All the Block Development and Panchayat Officers in the district are under his control in respect of the implementation of Community Development Programme.

Civil Defence Controller.—The Deputy Commissioner is the *ex-officio* Civil Defence Controller of the district. He is assisted by a Civil Defence Officer. He has multifarious duties to perform at the time of aggression/conflict or war. He is responsible for the defence of civilian population, maintenance of fire-fighting equipment, proper functioning of sirens, digging of trenches, first-aid, extension of hospital facilities, electricity and water facilities, etc. He also maintains liaison with the local, military and other authorities and holds periodical meetings of all the officers and organisations concerned with civil defence.

Executive Magistrates.—There are 6 Executive Magistrates in the district, 4 at Gurdaspur and one each at Batala and Pathankot.

After the separation of judiciary from the executive, the Executive Magistrates help the District Magistrate in the maintenance of law and order. The Executive Magistrates also deal with security/revenue

cases. They are also responsible for criminal work of the various police stations falling in their respective jurisdiction.

Registration.—The Inspector-General of Registration, Punjab, with headquarters at Jullundur, is the head of the Registration Department at the State level. At the district level, the Deputy Commissioner is the Registrar who supervises the registration work in the district. In the Gurdaspur District, the Registrar is assisted by 3 Tahsildars as Sub-Registrars, one each in the three tahsils of Batala, Gurdaspur and Pathankot. The State Government is authorised to appoint any Cantonment Magistrate as Joint Sub-Registrar temporarily. Naib-Tahsildar in a tahsil is the *ex-officio* Joint Sub-Registrar and he undertakes the registration work only when the regular Sub-Registrar is on leave or away from the headquarters. The Sub-Registrar and the Joint Sub-Registrar do registration work in addition to their own duties and, thus, get monthly honorarium for it.

The Sub-Registrar registers the documents pertaining to the properties situated in his jurisdiction. The Registrar is, however, empowered to register any document from any tahsil of his district. The Registrar hears appeals and applications preferred to him under sections 72 and 73 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, against refusal to register documents by the Sub-Registrars under him.

A Head Registration Clerk assists the Registrar at the district headquarters and clerks/readers assist the Sub-Registrars/Joint Sub-Registrars in the tahsils in performing the registration work.

Official Receiver.—At the district headquarters, there is an Official Receiver who is appointed by the Government on the recommendations of the District and Sessions Judge. He is incharge of insolvency estates. In case a person applied for insolvency, his property is put under his charge. He disposes it of according to the orders of the Insolvency Court, keeping $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of sale proceeds as his remuneration. He also acts as Court Auctioneer and gets 4 per cent commission on the auction proceeds.

Oath Commissioners.—There are 19 Oath Commissioners in the district, 7 at Gurdaspur and 6 each at Batala and Pathankot. They charge Re 1 as attestation fee for an affidavit attested by them.

District Attorney.—Formerly designated as Public Prosecutor/Government Pleader, the District Attorney is appointed by the Home Secretary to the Government, Punjab, on the recommendations of the Legal Remembrancer. He presents the Government cases in the civil

and Sessions Courts and is under the control of the Legal Remembrancer, Punjab. He is assisted by 3 Assistant District Attorneys, besides ministerial and allied Class IV staff. The District Attorney and Assistant District Attorneys are not allowed to engage in private practice.

(c) District Committees

The following District Committees have been constituted in order to accelerate the disposal of business. Their meetings are held at the district headquarters under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner :—

1. District Relief Fund Committee
2. House Allotment Committee
3. District Allotment Committee for the allotment of inferior evacuee lands purchased by the Government
4. Rehabilitation of Goldsmiths Committees
5. District *Ad hoc* Committee for the Welfare Schemes
6. District Agricultural Production Committee
7. Committee regarding Criminal Administration
8. District Crime Administration Committee
9. District Vigilance Committee
10. Flood Protection Committee
11. Civil Supplies Co-ordination Committee
12. *Ad hoc* Committee of Political sufferers
13. Flood Relief Committee
14. Border Areas Advisory Committee

(f) Other State and Central Government Officers

The following State and Central Government Officers are functioning in the district :—

State Government Officers :

1. District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur
2. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gurdaspur

3. Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur
4. Deputy Superintendent of Police, Headquarters, Gurdaspur
5. Civil Surgeon, Gurdaspur
6. District Medical Officer of Health, Gurdaspur
7. Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Gurdaspur
8. Tahsildar, Gurdaspur
9. District Development and Panchayat Officer, Gurdaspur
10. District Education Officer, Gurdaspur
11. District Employment Officer, Gurdaspur
12. District Food and Supplies Controller, Gurdaspur
13. District Poultry Development Officer, Gurdaspur
14. District Public Relations Officer, Gurdaspur
15. District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer, Gurdaspur
16. District Relief and Resettlement Officer, Gurdaspur
17. District Transport Officer, Gurdaspur
18. District Statistical Officer, Gurdaspur
19. District Treasury Officer, Gurdaspur
20. District Excise and Taxation Officer, Gurdaspur
21. District Language Officer, Gurdaspur
22. District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur
23. District Animal Husbandry Officer, Gurdaspur
24. District Fisheries Officer, Gurdaspur
25. District Attorney, Gurdaspur
26. District Sports Officer, Gurdaspur
27. Civil Defence Officer, Gurdaspur
28. Chief Agricultural Officer, Gurdaspur
29. District Soil Conservation Officer, Gurdaspur
30. Assistant Agricultural Engineer (Implements), Gurdaspur

31. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur
32. Superintendent, District Jail, Gurdaspur
33. Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Division, Gurdaspur
34. Sub-Divisional Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health, Gurdaspur
35. Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., B&R, Gurdaspur
36. Executive Engineer, Bridge Project, P.W.D., Gurdaspur
37. Executive Engineer, Gurdaspur Division, U.B.D.C., Gurdaspur
38. Executive Engineer, Madhopur Division, U.B.D.C., Gurdaspur
39. Superintending Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Gurdaspur
40. Executive Engineer, Electricity, Gurdaspur
41. Project Officer, Marginal Farmers' and Agricultural Labourers' Agency/Small Farmers' Development Agency, Gurdaspur
42. Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Gurdaspur
43. Secretary, District Soldier's, Sailor's and Airmen's Board, Gurdaspur
44. District Family Planning Officer, Gurdaspur
45. District Officer, Removal of Grievances, Gurdaspur
46. Military Land Acquisition Officer, Gurdaspur
47. District Manager, Civil Supplies Corporation, Gurdaspur
48. Battalion Commander, Punjab Home Guards, Gurdaspur
49. District Commander, Punjab Home Guards, Gurdaspur
50. Officer Commanding, N.C.C., Gurdaspur
51. Warehouse Manager, State Warehousing Corporation, Gurdaspur
52. Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Batala
53. Tahsildar, Batala
54. Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Batala
55. District Industries Officer, Batala
56. Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Batala

57. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Batala
58. Executive Engineer, Construction Division, P.W.D., B&R, Batala
59. General Manager, Punjab Roadways, Batala
60. Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Pathankot
61. Tahsildar, Pathankot
62. Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Pathankot
63. District Employment Officer, Pathankot
64. Field Publicity Officer, Pathankot
65. Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., B&R, Pathankot
66. Executive Engineer, Central Works Division, P.W.D., B&R, Pathankot
67. Executive Engineer, Project Division 9-B, Pathankot
68. Superintending Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Circle, Pathankot
69. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division No. I, Pathankot
70. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division No. II, Pathankot
71. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division No. IV, Pathankot
72. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Mechanical Division No. V, Pathankot
73. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division, Power House No. 1, Pathankot
74. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division, Power House No. 2, Pathankot
75. Executive Engineer, Hydel U.B.D.C., Construction Division, Power House No. 3, Pathankot
76. Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Pathankot
77. Divisional Town Planner, Pathankot
78. Chairman, Improvement Trust, Pathankot
79. General Manager, Punjab Roadways, Pathankot

Central Government Officers :

1. Senior Superintendent, Central Excise Circle, Gurdaspur
2. Superintendent Post Offices, Gurdaspur Division, Gurdaspur
3. Income Tax Officer, Gurdaspur
4. District Manager, Food Corporation of India, Gurdaspur
5. District Savings Officer, Gurdaspur
6. Development Officer, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Gurdaspur
7. Commandant, 20th Battalion, Border Security Force, Gurdaspur
8. Assistant Central Intelligence Officer (I), Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (Ministry of Home Affairs), Gurdaspur
9. Assistant Central Intelligence Officer (II), Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (Ministry of Home Affairs), Gurdaspur
10. Assistant Central Intelligence Officer, Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (Ministry of Home Affairs), Pathankot
11. Deputy Central Intelligence Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs, Pathankot
12. Income Tax Officer, Pathankot
13. Income Tax Officer, Batala

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

(a) Land Revenue Administration

(i) History of Land Revenue Assessment and Management

First Regular Settlement, 1852.—The territorial transfers which occurred while the settlements were actually in progress, have made it difficult to trace the revenue history of the district. The summary settlement of the greater part of the area included in the district was effected by Captain Lake, and the regular settlement was undertaken by R.H. Davies in the Bari Doab, Temple in the trans-Ravi tract, and Barnes in the portion of the Pathankot Tahsil at first included in Kangra (Himachal Pradesh). Davies' printed report of 1854 refers to two different tracts. Temple and Prinsep wrote no report at all, and this had to be done in 1859 by Cust as Commissioner of Amritsar. Another result of the territorial transfers was that in the 87 estates transferred from Kangra, the *ghumaon*, of 3,674 square yards (3,086.16 sq. metres) based on 51½-inch (130.81 cms.) *kadam* was used while Davies worked with a *ghumaon* of 4,000 square yards (3,360 sq. metres) obtained by a 60-inch (154.4 cms.) *kadam* and Temple used the 66-inch (167.64 cms.) *kadam* giving a *ghumaon* equal to an acre. The summary settlement figures, owing to the large number of jagir estates left unassessed, are not complete, and are not very important as the regular settlements were made so soon after the annexation of the Punjab by the British in 1849.

Barnes, as in Kangra, assessed by *talukas* and not by assessment circles. Prinsep and Blyth working under the orders of Temple and Davies, divided up their tracts into regular assessment circles, and worked very much on the same lines as those on which present assessments are conducted. The Government share was, however, taken as 1/4th of the total produce instead of half the landlord's share.

Barnes' assessment covered the Hill and Kandi circles (as these existed in 1914) of the Pathankot Tahsil, except seven small villages. He raised the summary settlement revenue by 4 per cent, taking something off the hill estates and adding something on the Chakki villages. The assessment was sanctioned in 1855 for a term of 30 years from 1850. Elsewhere, the summary settlement revenue was much reduced. The loss was actually heaviest in the Shakargarh Tahsil (transferred to Pakistan in 1947) where, though Temple had cut down the assessment considerably, it had to be still further reduced owing to widespread objections raised by the people, and the ultimate result was a decrease of 15 per cent.

In the Chak Andhar, Temple practically retained the summary settlement *jamas*, but his assessment was cut down by 10 per cent again, before being sanctioned for both tracts in August 1859 for a term of 10 years from *kharif* 1852.

Davies reduced very heavily in the rest of the Pathankot Tahsil, but much of this reduction was due to the levy of a separate rate on land watered from the Hasli and Bari Doab systems, and to special allowances

made for deterioration of some villages due to the cutting-off of their water-supply by the works necessary for the latter canal. The gross reduction in land revenue here amounted to 30 per cent. In the Gurdaspur and Batala tahsils, he also cut down the demand, and at the suggestion of Raikes, the Commissioner, again revised his proposals, with the result of a total reduction of 16 per cent in the former and 14 per cent in the latter. Something of this, especially in Gurdaspur, must be put down to the change in the system of levy of canal dues. This regular settlement was also sanctioned in August 1856 for a term of 10 years from *kharif* 1852.

The actual revenue of the district, as assessed at the different regular settlements, was as follows. The figures for facility of comparison include the petty *maffis*, which were left unassessed in most cases, but have now been assessed for account purposes at the village rates :—

Tahsil	Amount (Rs)
Gurdaspur ..	4,26,780
Batala ..	4,11,922
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947) ..	3,28,929
Pathankot ..	2,44,407
Total ..	14,12,038

Second Regular Settlement, 1865.—In February 1862, the whole district, except the villages assessed by Barnes was placed under revision of settlement under the personal supervision of E.A. Prinsep, Settlement Commissioner, with J.B. Lyall as an Assistant Settlement Officer in Gurdaspur and Pathankot, and Rai Gopal Das as an Extra Assistant Settlement Officer in Batala and Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947). After the famine year of 1860, moreover, R.E. Egerton, as Deputy Commissioner, had already inspected most of the principal Shakargarh estates and noted up proposals for revision of assessment. It is, therefore, a somewhat curious coincidence that no less than three successive Lieutenant-Governors of the Punjab, Sir R.H. Davies, Sir R.E. Egerton and Sir J.B. Lyall, and a Governor of Bombay, Sir R. Temple, were all directly associated with the settlement of the district¹.

It does not appear that there was any special reason for undertaking the revision of settlement beyond that the period for which the regular

1. To this list was added the name of Sir L.W. Dane who carried out the 1885 to 1891 settlement, and was Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab from 1908 to 1913.

settlement was to run had expired. The alterations in the boundaries of the Gurdaspur and Batala tahsils, however, which occurred first at this time were very unfortunate and rendered it impossible to utilize the assessment returns prepared. Lyall's inspection notes in the village note-books were full and complete and, in most cases, continued to represent accurately, for decades together, the condition of the estates. In the other tahsils, and especially in Shakargarh, however, many villages were never apparently fully inspected, or no notes were written up, while in Batala and the portion of Gurdaspur under Rai Gopal Das, the notes by him and Prinsep were not satisfactory and were not apparently always based on an intimate acquaintance with the estate under assessment. No report was ever submitted on this revision of assessment for reasons contained in the Proceedings of the Punjab Government for 1872-73-74, quoted in paragraph 2 of letter No. 103 of 26th January, 1885, from Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, to the Officiating Junior Secretary to Government. An acute controversy raged over the question whether the settlement should be sanctioned at all or whether it should only run for a term of 10 years, but eventually on 7th November, 1873, it was sanctioned for a term of 20 years with effect from *kharif* 1865. The results of the re-assessment, with the ultimate loss to Government, are shown below:

Tahsil	Amount (Rs)
Gurdaspur	.. 3,89,351 or 9 per cent
Batala	.. 3,78,641 or 8 per cent
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	.. 3,13,445 or 5 per cent
Pathankot	.. 2, 18,360 or 11 per cent
Total:	.. 12,99,797 or 8 per cent

The total revenue proposed has been given, including progressive assessments which amounted to only Rs 748, Rs 3,519, Rs 786 and Rs 1,422 in the different tahsils, respectively, or Rs 6,525 in all, and, for facility of comparison in Pathankot, the 1872 revenue of the villages not assessed by Prinsep has also been added in. The Government demand was taken as half net assets which was calculated at one-sixth of the gross produce.

To quote the letter mentioned earlier from the Officiating Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, "the conclusion arrived at by the Government of India and by the Punjab Government was that the assessment as a whole was unduly low, and that in particular the rates on wells were inadequate in consequence of an unsatisfactory method of

taxation based upon a particular economic theory". The main causes apparently assigned by Prinsep for his reductions in Gurdaspur and Batala were an over-estimate at the regular settlement of the irrigating capacity of the wells, coupled with a desire not to tax unduly the capital and industry involved in the construction of these works. In the canal villages, some of the decrease was also due to an arrangement whereby he treated the land in its unirrigated aspect and cut off part of the former land revenue for transfer to the head of canal revenue. His actual deductions on this account were made in lump sums for each village as obtained by a varying rate per acre on the irrigated area. These transfers, however, were apparently never actually made, for, as soon as the settlement was concluded, the discussion commenced which eventuated in the imposition on the area irrigated in a given year of a canal water-advantage rate varying in the proportion to the distance of the tract from the head of the canal and the average rainfall, being highest at Re 1-4-0 (Re 1.25) per acre in Pathankot and lowest in Gurdaspur and Batala at Re 1-2-0 (Re 1.12) per acre.

In Shakargarh, the decrease was partly due to the same causes in the case of wells and to other local reasons, such as a desire to assess the Bharrani and frontier villages lightly, and to reduce the assessment on the former jagir villages of Raja Teja Singh.

In Pathankot, special reductions were again given for injury caused to the water-supply of some estates by the Bari Doab Canal Works, and the new canal arrangements proposed also tended to cut down the former revenue. Speaking generally, it may be stated that a full and even a high assessment was put on *barani* soils and lands irrigated by private canals, while the well lands were let off very easily.

The revised assessment worked smoothly and well generally; only in special cases were suspensions and remissions necessitated, and resort to coercive processes was rare.

Revision of Records in Pathankot.—In 1869, in connection with the measurements and revision of the record of rights in the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh), the Pathankot villages, which had been settled by Barnes in what was styled the Shahpur-Kandi tract with Dalhousie (Himachal Pradesh), were placed under revision of record. Mackworth Young was first appointed to the charge of the settlement, and was succeeded in October 1870 by Roe who completed the operations by February 1873, and submitted a final report, which was sanctioned by Government in October 1876. These operations did not extend to a revision of the assessment, but included a complete and very accurate survey.

Revision of Records.—The 1892 settlement, the first to cover the district as a whole (as it existed up to the transfer of the Shakargarh Tahsil to Pakistan on the partition of the country in 1947), began in 1885 under Sir R.M. Dane who owing to ill-health gave way to his brother Sir L.W.

Dane in 1887. The very numerous assessment circles were then reduced to a less unwieldy number, as shown below :

Tahsil	Number of Circles	
	Old	New
Gurdaspur	20	5
Batala	16	5
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	7	4
Pathankot	2	6
Total :	52	20

As explained in paragraph 11 of the Assessment Report of the Batala Tahsil of 1909², canal irrigation had been introduced in 73 villages of the Bangar Circle and these were amalgamated with the small Dhaia Bet Beas Circle, in which 13 of the 21 villages had also received canal irrigation. The new circle thus formed was re-named the "Eastern Nahri". The original Nahri Circle in the centre of the tahsil was then distinguished by the title "Western Nahri". The circles thus formed in each tahsil were as under :

Tahsil Batala	Tahsil Gurdaspur	Tahsil Shakargarh	Tahsil Pathankot
Eastern Nahri	Dhaia Bet Beas	Bharrari	Andhar
Bangar	Bangar	Paintla	Bet Ravi
Western Nahri	Nahri	Bet Ravi	Pathantig
Maira Kiran	Maira Kiran	Darp	Shah Nahri
Bet Ravi	Bet Ravi		Kandi
			Pahari

The classification of soils had been effected at the 1891 settlement in accordance with the patwari rules except that, as the bulk of the land in the district was unirrigated, the *barani* class was divided into sub-classes to suit the varying conditions of the tract. With the modifications set out in paragraph 31 of the Gurdaspur District Settlement Report, 1912,³ which it is unnecessary to reproduce here, the classification was followed in the 1912 settlement.

2. H.D. Craik, *Assessment Report of the Batala Tahsil of the Gurdaspur District*, (Lahore, 1909)

3. F.W. Kennaway, *Final Report of the Revision of the Settlement of the Gurdaspur District, 1912*, (Lahore, 1912)

The system of survey and preparation of records adopted at the 1891 and 1912 settlements are described at length in paragraphs 14—24 of the 1912 Settlement Report. At both settlements, the existing village maps were, except in a few instances, merely corrected and brought up to date. In riverain villages on the Ravi and Beas a special form of survey was, with the assistance of the Survey Department, adopted (paragraph 16 of the 1912 Settlement Report) and the river boundaries with other districts and the then princely States were decided and demarcated.

Different units of measurements, as shown below, prevailed in different parts of the district. Except in the Pahari Circle of Pathankot, where most of the maps were on the scale of 30 or 50 *karams* to an inch, the village maps were all on the scale of 40 *karams* to an inch, and this was maintained in the 1912 settlement.:

Tract	Length of <i>karams</i> in inches	Number of <i>kanals</i> in an acre
Tahsils Batala, Gurdaspur and Pathankot, except Chak Andhar and Pahari	60	9.68
Tahsil Shakargarh (now in Pakistan) and Chak Andhar of Pathankot	66	8
Chak Pahari of Pathankot	57.5	10.54

Third Regular Settlement, 1885-92.—The usual assessment reports were submitted, which contained full details of the revenue rates adopted and the reasons for their adoption, and the results were summarized in the final report. The chief change of the system introduced was a return to acreage *chahi* rates in lieu of Prinsep's lump *abiana* or water-rate on wells, which of course shifted a good deal of the burden from the *barani* soils on to the well-lands, as far as the Government assessment was concerned, though in the *bachh* the people still showed a tendency to let the wells off easily and in some cases distributed by the former *abiana* system.

The Government share of the produce was arithmetically worked out at 21½ per cent of the gross produce, but in the produce estimates, to counteract a possible over-estimate of the outturn per acre, the fodder crops and the share of the straw taken by the owners were not included in the calculation of the value of this share. The following table summarises the main guides for re-assessment and the revenue rates adopted for each tahsil :—

Tahsil	Half assets produce estimate		Half cash rent		Actual incidence of revenue rates adopted	
	Old coinage Rs.A.P.	Decimal coinage Rs. P.	Old coinage Rs.A.P.	Decimal coinage Rs. P.	Old coinage Rs.A.P.	Decimal coinage Rs. P.
Gurdaspur	3-11-0	3.69	1-15-2	1.95	1-14-7	1.91
Batala	4-6-0	4.37	2-4-5	2.28	2-0-7	2.04
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	2-13-1	2.82	2-2-11	2.18	1-9-9	1.61
Pathankot	2-10-7	2.66	2-3-0	2.19	1-12-10	1.80

It will be seen that where the cash rents were sufficiently numerous to furnish adequate data, as in Batala and Gurdaspur, the assessment was well within the figure indicated by this guide, while in all cases it was kept intentionally far below the results obtained from the produce estimates. This was done in consequence of the special instructions of Government directing the imposition of a liberally light assessment, and because in a district like this, where most of the land is held by peasant proprietors and small holdings are the rule, it is practically impossible to take anything like a full/half assets share, if any margin of subsistence is to be left to the people at all.

The actual results of the re-assessment are shown below, from which it will be seen that the tendency had been to let off the upper portion of the tract easily and take more from the southern part of the district, which was in the hands of the better classes of agriculturists and which had made more progress in prosperity since the development of the tract by well-sinking, canal extension and construction of roads and railways, and which has not to contend with the same adverse climatic conditions as the hill and submontane zones as a whole :

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Tahsil	Revenue of last year of expiring assessment as given in comparative demand statement					1891-92		Increase Percentage
	Assigned (Rs)	Khalisa (Rs)	Total (Rs)	Assigned (Rs)	Khalisa (Rs)	Total (Rs)		
Gurdaspur	.. {	42,980	3,38,955	3,81,935	48,067	3,98,053	4,46,120	64,185
	{	*362	5,340	5,702	252	4,709	4,961	-741
Batala	..	45,090	3,35,725	3,80,815	55,637	4,21,423	4,77,060	96,245
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	..	26,377	2,84,271	3,10,648	19,928	3,59,292	3,79,220	68,572
Pathankot	..	14,983	1,95,144	2,10,127	18,155	2,19,008	2,37,163	27,036
° Total:	.. {	1,29,430	11,54,095	12,83,525	1,41,787	13,97,776	15,39,563	2,56,038
	{	*362	5,340	5,702	252	4,709	4,961	-741
Total:	..	1,29,792	11,59,435	12,89,227	1,42,039	14,02,485	15,44,524	2,55,297

*Fluctuating Revenue

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Fourth Regular Settlement, 1907-12.—This settlement began in 1907 under J.M. Dunnnett who acted for four months until F.W. Kennaway took over charge. The latter officer remained as Settlement Officer for the remainder of the settlement operations (which were completed in 1912) with the exception of six months in 1910 when he took leave and H.W. Emerson acted. The revision of maps and records has already been mentioned. The revision of assessment followed the usual lines and an account of it will be found in the *Final Report of the Revision of the Settlement of the Gurdaspur District, 1912*. The results of re-assessment are shown in the following table by tahsils :—

4. Rs.A.P. stand for rupees, annas and pies (old coinage) and Rs. P. stand for rupees and paise (decimal coinage introduced in the country with effect from April 1, 1957).

Tahsil	Revenue (in rupees)			Rate of incidence (per acre) †				Remarks	
	Previous year's demand	New demand	Increase per cent	Cultivated					
				Cropped					
				Rs	Rs	Old coinage Rs. A. P.	Decimal coinage Rs. P.		Old coinage Rs. A. P.
Batala	..	4,77,612	6,13,785	29	2-8-9	2.55	2-5-8	2.35	*The Dhaia Bet Beas Circle of this tahsil includes 37 villages under fluctuating assessment. The average demand, Rs 6,591, has been entered and taken into account in working out the incidence.
Gurdaspur*	..	5,46,414	5,56,138	23	2-6-0	2.37	2-2-10	2.18	
Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947)	..	3,66,352	4,28,432	17	1-14-10	1.93	1-15-7	1.98	**Excludes Rs 1,184, old demand, and Rs 1,213, new demand, of Dalhousie (Himachal Pradesh)
Pathankot	..	**2,36,568	**2,55,778	8	2-0-3	2.02	1-12-8	1.79	
Total of the district : ..		**15,26,946	**18,54,133	21	2-4-0	2.25	2-1-10	2.11	

The settlement was sanctioned for a period of 30 years with effect from *kharij*, 1910, in Gurdaspur and Batala, *kharij*, 1911, in Shakargarh (transferred to Pakistan in 1947) and *kharij*, 1912, in Pathankot. The assessment was liberally lenient. Under the British, Jats were recruited for the army in considerable numbers from the Gurdaspur and Batala tahsils and Rajputs to a less extent from Shakargarh Tahsil; political considerations were always to carry weight in the district, and in a tract of small holdings it was impossible to take a full half net assets from the revenue-payers. The average acreage per share was 8 in Pathankot, 7 in Gurdaspur and 6 each in Batala and Shakargarh. The rates per acre imposed on different classes of soil varied from a maximum of Rs 5 per acre on *chahi* in the Bet Ravi Circle of Gurdaspur and the Bet Ravi and Paintala circles of Shakargarh to 8 annas (50 paise) per acre on the lowest class of *barani* in the hill circle. The average incidence per acre cultivated varied from Rs 2-14-8 (Rs 2.92) in the Western Nahri Circle of Batala to Re 1-3-7 (Re 1.22) in the Pahari Circle of Pathankot, and per acre cropped from Rs 2-9-3 (Rs 2.58) in the Maira Kiran and Bet Ravi circles of Batala to Re 1-6-4 (Re 1.40) in the Hill Circle of Pathankot. Details will be found in paragraphs 44-47 of the *Settlement Report of the Gurdaspur District*, 1912, and in the *Assessment Report* for each tahsil.⁵

Working of the Settlement of 1907-12.—The settlement was sanctioned for a period of 30 years. It seems to have worked well during the normal years while, in the years of flood and other natural calamities, a number of remissions and suspensions were made.

The assessment made in the settlement operations in the district, during 1907-12, was due for re-assessment after a period of 30 years. But, it could not be undertaken on account of the World War II (1939-45) followed by the partition of the country and its independence in 1947. The land revenue, therefore, continued to be the same as was fixed in the last settlement.

The charges of land revenue, fixed early in the second decade of the present century, had lost their contact with the income arising out of land. With the expansion of Government establishment and introduction of various development plans, the Government expenditure had also vastly increased, particularly since the independence. The State Government, therefore, tapped different sources of revenue to meet this ever-growing demand. As regards land revenue, in addition to the demand assessed during the settlement operations of 1907-12, Surcharge, Special Assessment, Special Charge and Additional Charge are being levied in accordance with the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1956, the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charges) Act, 1958, and the Punjab Land Revenue (Additional Charges) Act, 1960.

5. H.D. Craik, *Assessment Report of the Batala Tahsil of the Gurdaspur District* (Lahore, 1909).

F.W. Kennaway, *Assessment Report of the Gurdaspur Tahsil of the Gurdaspur District* (Lahore, 1910).

F.W. Kennaway, *Assessment Report of the Pathankot Tahsil of the Gurdaspur District* (Lahore, 1911).

F.W. Kennaway, *Assessment Report of the Shakargarh Tahsil of the Gurdaspur District* (Lahore, 1911).

(ii) Collection of Land Revenue

The collection of land revenue is the responsibility of the Lambardar (village headman) for which he is paid *pachotra*, a cess charged at the rate of 5 per cent of the land revenue. Under the First Regular Settlement, 1852, village Lambardars were required to collect the land revenue from the concerned communities of landowners.

Besides land revenue, the Lambardars also collect *abiana* and water advantage rate, for which they are paid 3 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively, as collection charges.

(iii) Income from Land Revenue and Special Cesses

Land Revenue.—The land revenue fixed, as in the last settlement of 1911-12, is realised to this day as there has been no revised settlement thereafter.

In the year 1961, the Punjab Land Revenue (*Thur*, *Sem*, *Chos* and *Sand*) Remission and Supervision Rules, 1961, were enforced under which land revenue of all lands, rendered unculturable on account of *thur* and *sem*, is remitted.

Land revenue is realised in two instalments, *i.e.* for *kharij* crops by the 15th December and for *rabi* crops by the 15th June. The following statement gives the details of income from land revenue and remission in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Year ending Rabi	Previous year's balance	Demand	Total amount for recovery	Actual recovery	Remission	Balance
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)
1967-68	..	15,93,378	22,58,891	10,08,463	84,679	11,65,749
1968-69	..	15,94,004	27,59,753	10,52,457	3,721	17,03,575
1969-70	..	15,94,004	32,97,579	10,52,941	98,213	21,46,425
1970-71	..	15,99,767	32,46,192	9,05,065	397	28,40,730
1971-72	..	15,99,125	44,39,855	7,10,604	34,27,312	3,01,939

GURDASPUR

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

Special Cesses.—Besides the land revenue, the following cesses are levied on the landowners :—

Village Officers' Cess

Formerly the village officers' cess used to include *patwar* cess also. In the earlier period of settlements, a normal rate for the *patwar* cess was considered to be 6 pies (3 paise) per rupee of the land revenue which is equivalent to a surcharge of $3\frac{1}{8}$ per cent, an additional quarter or half per cent being taken on account of Patwari's stationary. But, later on, the cess was found to be too light to meet the expenditure which the new standards of revenue work demanded and the rate was increased to about $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. The *patwar* cess was entirely remitted in 1906 when the State took over charge of Patwaris and only a *pachotra*, as the name implies, amounting to 5 per cent of the land revenue, was charged as the commission for the Lambardar whereas the cost of the *zaildari* and *sufedposhi* agencies was met by setting aside 1 per cent of the land revenue.

With the abolition of *zaildari* and *sufedposhi* agencies in 1948, only *pachotra* at the rate of 5 per cent of land revenue is being charged as the village officers' cess.

Local Rate

It has grown from small beginnings. It was usual in early settlements to levy a road cess at 1 per cent of the land revenue. Subsequently, education and postal cesses, amounting to 1 per cent and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, respectively, were added. But, under the Punjab Local Rates Act, 1871, a local rate amounting to $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of land revenue was imposed. The local rate was raised by the Punjab Local Rates Act, 1878, from $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for providing relief to the famine stricken people.

With the passing of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, the road, education and postal cesses were merged in the local rate, and the legal limit of the rate was raised to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the land revenue and owners' rate, and, under this Act, the whole of the local rate was credited to the District Board.

Later on, the local rate was reduced to $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. It was raised to $9\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. *vide* Punjab Government Notification No. 1393-L6-45/9263, dated May 29, 1945, enforced from April 1, 1945. But, before the recovery could be effected, it was further raised to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent *vide* Punjab Government Notification No. 3497-L6-45/26559, dated October 5, 1945, enforced retrospectively from April 1, 1945.

The local rate was further increased to 25 per cent of the land revenue *vide* Punjab Government Notification No. 4393-B&C-48/22423, dated April 26, 1948, to be enforced from *kharif* 1947. It was still further raised from *kharif* 1948 to 50 per cent of the land revenue, which continues to be enforced.

The table below shows the amount of local rate collections in the Gurdaspur District, during the period 1967-68 to 1971-72 :

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Local Rate collections (Rs)
1967-68	.. 8,22,707
1968-69	.. 8,33,429
1969-70	.. 8,33,281
1970-71	.. 8,42,253
1971-72	.. 7,23,025

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

Surcharge on Land Revenue

The assessment of land revenue during the last settlement of 1911-12 was made chiefly on the basis of the then prevailing prices of the produce. The term of the settlement has long since expired. In course of time, the prices of various crops have increased to a very great extent. On the basis of the increase in prices, there would be a corresponding increase in the net assets of a circle which would, in the ordinary course, have meant an increase in the assessment of land revenue if regular settlements were undertaken by Government. As it was not possible to conduct regular settlements from time to time owing to administrative difficulties and Government needed more revenue immediately to meet the ever increasing expenditure on development, a surcharge was imposed on the existing land revenue.

Accordingly, the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, was enacted for the levy of surcharge with effect from *rabi* harvest of the agricultural year 1953-54. Under the Act, every landowner, who pays land revenue in the State of Punjab in excess of ten rupees, is liable to pay a

surcharge thereon to the extent of one quarter of land revenue, if the amount payable by him as land revenue does not exceed thirty rupees, and two-fifths of the land revenue, where the amount payable by him exceeds thirty rupees. It was also provided in the Act that this shall continue to be charged and levied so long as the assessment of land revenue prevailing at the commencement of this Act continues to be in force.

The income from the surcharge in the Gurdaspur District, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 is shown below :

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Income from Surcharge (Rs)
1967-68	.. 2,28,871
1968-69	.. 1,51,743
1969-70	.. 1,43,028
1970-71	.. 1,45,126
1971-72	.. 1,08,955

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

Special Assessment on Land put to Non-agricultural Use

Special assessment on land put to non-agricultural use was levied under the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1956. It was, however, stopped from *kharif* 1964.

Special Charge on Land Revenue

Agricultural income tax, as such, has not been levied in the Punjab. In lieu thereof, however, a Special Charge, under the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charges) Act, 1958, was imposed with effect from *rabi* 1958. The rate of Special Charge is based on income tax pattern with different slabs for different categories of landowners. The slab rates are such that the incidence of special charge falls on those who can afford to pay it. While the landholders paying land revenue up to Rs 50 have been exempted from the provisions of the Act, those paying more than Rs 1,000 have been subjected to 300 per cent increase in the land revenue.

The following table shows the income from the special charge on land revenue, in the Gurdaspur District, during the period from 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Year ending Rabi	Income from Special Charge (Rs)
1967-68	.. 1,46,976
1968-69	.. 1,45,244
1969-70	.. 1,12,986
1970-71	.. 1,13,953
1971-72	.. 99,184

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

Abiana

Abiana is charged on the area irrigated by canals. The income from abiana in the Gurdaspur District, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	Collections from Abiana (Rs)
1967-68	.. 16,62,201
1968-69	.. 20,32,160
1969-70	.. 19,35,102
1970-71	.. 17,53,611
1971-72	.. 14,54,170

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

(b) Land Reforms

A sound policy of land reforms is one of the important components of the strategy of Green Revolution. It has two aims : increase of agricultural production and social justice. It has been seen that the best production is obtained in farms which are cultivated by the proprietors themselves and the most inefficient farms are those which are cultivated by tenants. This is mainly due to the fact that tenants have no incentive for land improvement and for the use of chemical fertilizers.

Land is an indispensable input in the agricultural production process. Factor-employment, level and distribution of income and State policy interact within the rest of the agricultural environment through influencing the structure of land holdings. The agricultural production process depends on the system of rights and obligations of the holders of land to its use and there is a close relationship between the land system and the efficiency in agricultural production.

Often the land ownership and use systems lag behind the socio-economic and political objectives of welfare State, especially when a society changes from a colonial rule to a sovereign and democratic state. This is what happened in India after the independence in 1947. Under such a change land reforms normally involve re-arrangement of ownership and operational rights and set of land reforms should aim at removing impediments in agricultural production, as they arise from the character of the agrarian structure and, secondly, create conditions for evolving an agrarian economy with high levels of efficiency and productivity⁶. 'Land to the tiller' has been adopted as the main concept in the scheme of land reforms which contemplate that owner-cultivation should be established on the widest possible scale and all cultivators should go into direct relation with the State.

In pursuance of the agrarian reforms, the State Government have made the following enactments :—

1. The East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949 (East Punjab Act XXXVIII of 1949)
2. The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952 (Punjab Act VIII of 1953)
3. The Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952 (Punjab Act IX of 1953)

6. Randhawa, M.S., *Green Revolution*, (Delhi, 1974), pp. 45-46

4. The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953 (Punjab Act X of 1953)
5. The Punjab Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1955 (Punjab Act 45 of 1956)
6. The Punjab Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1957 (Punjab Act 39 of 1957)
7. The Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961 (Punjab Act 18 of 1961)

The Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952, extinguished all rights, title and interest of an *ala malik* in the land held under him by an *adna malik* and required the latter to pay compensation to the former. The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952, declared all the occupancy tenants as owners of the land.

The distribution of land among various classes of cultivators/land-holders in the Gurdaspur District, during 1971-72, is given below :

Class of Cultivators/Land-holders	Area (Hectares)
Total Cultivated Area	.. 2,57,901
Tenants-at-will	.. 59,620
Owners	.. 1,98,281
Tenants with Rights of Occupancy	

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

Security of Land Tenures.—The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, provides for the security of land tenure and other incidental matters. It seeks to consolidate and amend the law relating to land tenures in the Punjab. It is a consolidating measure replacing the Punjab Tenants (Security of Tenure) Act, 1950, and the President's Act V of 1951, in the light of administrative difficulties and experience gained as a result of the working of the two Acts. Such of the provisions as were considered inexpedient have been removed and others for which provision was considered necessary included. This measure applies also to the land allotted under the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.

By March 31, 1972, 736 cases of surplus area were decided and 14,196 standard acres of land were declared surplus in the Gurdaspur District. By the same date, 5,659 eligible tenants were settled on 11,528 standard acres of surplus area.

Utilization of Lands.—The East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949, was passed to provide against any fertile land remaining uncultivated due to the negligence or absence of landlords. It aims at full utilization of lands in the State by bringing all available lands under fodder and foodgrain crops in order to attain self-sufficiency in the matter of food.

In pursuance of Government policy to utilize every inch of available culturable land for growing more food and other essential crops, the Government enforced the East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949. Under this Act, a notice is served on every landowner who allows his land to remain uncultivated for six or more consecutive harvests and the land, thus taken over, is leased out to others for a term ranging from 7 to 20 years, priority being given to Harijans.

Consolidation of Holdings.—The work of consolidation of holdings in the Punjab was started during the British period in 1920 through co-operative consolidation societies. Since the consolidation was voluntary, the progress of the work was very slow. Soon after the independence (1947), the necessity of consolidation of holdings was realized and the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act was passed in 1948. An element of compulsion was introduced and hence the progress was rapid.

According to this Act, village advisory committees were formed to advise the staff on all matters concerning consolidation of land and in particular in the classification and valuation of fields, and preparation of village consolidation schemes. The preliminary work of the staff was the correction and bringing up-to-date of records of rights and the preparation of preliminary statements. The plots of land were then evaluated, keeping in view the quality of the soil, the source of irrigation, the productivity of land and the distance from the village *abadi*, etc. The irregular fields were consolidated into rectangular blocks of an acre size.

The work of consolidation of holdings in the Gurdaspur District, started in 1950, has since been almost completed.

Apart from consolidating the holdings of the farmers, the scheme provided a unique opportunity for replanning the countryside, which included planning the location of schools, hospitals and roads. Land was also reserved for community buildings, such as community centres, places of worship, and playgrounds. Above all, straight roads were provided to the village *abadi* as well as to the entire cultivated area. Circular roads around the villages and roads linking one village with another and with the main roads were also demarcated.

The most beneficial effect of the scheme of consolidation was that the farmers were enabled to sink tube-wells on their holdings. There was also a considerable reduction in land leased out, which indicates that the owner-cultivators started cultivating their land themselves owing to reduction in the number of fragments. There was also an increase in the cultivated area which was previously lost in embankments. The consolidated plots of land could also enjoy the benefits of canal irrigation. Besides, there was considerable increase in agricultural production due to consolidation alone without change in techniques⁷.

Bhoodan.—The Bhoodan movement was started by Acharya Vinoba Bhave in 1952, with a view to settling the landless cultivators on land through voluntary donations. The Punjab Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1955, was passed to promote the movement. The area of land given in Bhoodan in the district up to March 31, 1972, was, however, only nominal.

Rural Wages and Condition of Agricultural Labour.—The daily wages paid to agricultural and skilled workers (men) in a selected village, viz. Narot Mehra, Tahsil Pathankot, District Gurdaspur, during the period 1961 to 1972, are given in the following statement :—

7. Randhawa, M.S., *Green Revolution*, (Delhi, 1974), pp 40—43

*Daily Wages Paid to Agricultural and Skilled Labourers (Men) in a Selected Village, Narot Mehra, District Gurdaspur, 1961—1972

Year	Agricultural Labour						Skilled Labour		
	For ploughing	For sowing	For weeding	For harvesting	For picking of cotton	For other agricultural operations	Blacksmith	Carpenter	
	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)
1961	1.88	—	—	2.78	—	—	2.67	2.67	2.67
1962	2.16	2.37	—	—	—	1.50	3.29	3.29	3.29
1963	2.40	—	—	—	—	—	3.00	3.00	3.00
1964	3.25	2.50	—	—	—	—	3.00	3.00	3.00
1965	2.35	2.06	2.62	—	—	1.65	3.00	3.00	3.00
1966	4.00	2.99	—	4.00	—	—	3.75	3.75	3.75
1967	3.80	3.10	2.96	3.12	—	2.91	6.00	6.00	6.00
1968	3.27	2.60	2.68	2.99	—	2.71	6.82	6.82	6.82
1969	5.75	5.42	5.11	4.84	2.50	4.72	7.58	7.58	7.58
1970	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.61	—	5.50	9.94	9.94	9.94
1971	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.86	5.50	5.50	10.00	10.00	10.00
1972	5.50	5.36	5.31	6.08	—	5.38	10.00	10.00	10.00

* For a normal working day of eight hours

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1961 to 1972)

(c) Other Sources of Revenue, State and Central

(i) Other Sources of State Revenue

Besides land revenue, the other sources of State revenue are⁸: Stamp Duty, Registration Fee, Excise Tax, Motor Spirit Tax, Urban Immovable Property Tax, Sales Tax, Passengers and Goods Tax, Entertainments Tax, Entertainments Duty, Central Sales Tax, Electricity Duty and Copying Fee.

Stamp Duty.—The Indian Stamp Act (No. II) of 1899, came into force with effect from July 1, 1899. It was amended by the Punjab Act VIII of 1922 and the Indian Stamp (Punjab Second Amendment) Act (No.34) of 1960.

Stamp revenue is derived from two classes of stamps—Judicial or Court Fee and Non-judicial or Revenue Stamps. The Act requires the Collector (Deputy Commissioner) to ensure that the documents are properly stamped according to the schedule.

The total income realised in the district from the sale of judicial, non-judicial and miscellaneous stamps, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is shown in the following table :—

Year		Judicial Stamps (Rs)	Non-judicial Stamps (Rs)	Miscellaneous Stamps (Rs)	Total (Rs)
1967-68	..	4,72,930	12,43,496	33,28,804	50,45,230
1968-69	..	5,27,147	23,20,223	39,40,940	67,88,310
1969-70	..	5,42,155	26 56 422	45,59,178	77,57,755
1970-71	..	6,17,615	31,76,795	50,82,155	88,76,565
1971-72	..	6,07,399	31,90,856	54,75,645	92,73,900

(Source : Treasury Officer, Gurdaspur)

8. The Professions Tax levied under the Punjab Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation Act, 1956, was abolished with effect from April 1, 1967.

Registration Fee.—The Indian Registration Act, 1908 requires compulsory registration of all documents pertaining to immovable property and provides optional registration in case of other documents. Documents which fulfil the prescribed requirements and for which the required stamp duty and registration fee are paid are registered. The chief items of receipts collected by the Registration Department are in respect of registration of documents, making or granting of copies, searching the registers and authentication of powers of attorney. The State Government have, however, exempted completely or partially levy of registration fee in certain cases.

The following statement shows the number of registered documents, value of property transferred and receipts in the district from 1967-68 to 1971-72: —

Year	No. of Registrations of Property		Aggregate Value of Property Transferred (000, Rs)							
			Immovable Property		Movable Property		Grand Total		Immovable Movable Property	
	No. of Registration Offices		Compulsory	Optional	Total					Total Receipts (Rs 000)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1967-68	4	14,670	1	14,671	415	15,086	46,117	44	46,161	662
1968-69	4	16,278	4	16,282	331	16,613	61,892	222	62,114	756
1969-70	4	16,713	1	16,714	481	17,195	83,585	118	83,703	932
1970-71	6	17,737	3	17,740	520	18,260	1,68,787	194	1,68,981	965
1971-72	6	14,235	..	14,235	450	14,685	79,790	5	79,795	925

GURDASPUR

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

Excise Tax.—The State and Central Excise Acts enforced in the Punjab are : The Indian Opium Act, 1878 ; The Punjab Excise Act, 1914 ; The Punjab Local Option Act, 1923 ; The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930 ; The Punjab Molasses Control Act, 1948 ; The Indian Power Alcohol Act, 1948 ; The Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955 ; and The Spirituous Preparation (Excise Duties) Act, 1955.

Motor Spirit Tax.—This tax is levied under the Punjab Motor Spirit (Taxation of Sales) Act, 1939. In 1972, the rate of the tax on petrol and high speed diesel was 9 paise and 7 paise per litre, respectively.

Urban Immovable Property Tax.—The tax is levied under the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act, 1940. Up to March 31, 1968, it was charged at the rate of 10 per cent of the annual rental value of the property in urban area. From thence onwards, it was gradually decreased and was abolished altogether with effect from March 31, 1972.

Sales Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, which repealed the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1941, on May 1, 1948.

Passengers and Goods Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab Passengers and Goods Tax Act, 1952, on all fares and freights in respect of passengers carried and goods transported in motor vehicles in the Punjab. The rate of the tax has been enhanced from time to time. In 1972, the rate of the tax was 35 per cent of the fare/freight. In the same year, the annual rate of tax per truck was Rs 202.50 in the plains in the Punjab and Rs 303.75 outside the Punjab, and Rs 135.00 in the hilly areas in the Punjab as well as outside the Punjab.

Entertainments Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab Entertainments Tax (Cinematograph Shows) Act, 1954, for every show on the number of occupied seats of a cinema. The Act provides that the tax shall not exceed Rs 10 per show in any case and shall be charged proportionately for a fraction of 100 seats.

Entertainments Duty.—It is levied under the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1955, which repealed the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1936. The rates of duty change from time to time. It is, however, provided in the Act that entertainments duty shall not exceed in any case 60 per cent of the payment for admission ; and, in the case of complimentary tickets, the rate of duty shall be 60 per cent of the payment for admission to the particular class.

Central Sales Tax.—The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, provides for the levy of tax on sales effected in the course of inter-State trade and commerce.

The States have been authorised to administer this tax on behalf of the Government of India and the entire collections are appropriated by them.

Electricity Duty.—The duty has been levied under the Punjab Electricity (Duty) Act, 1958, to meet the additional financial burdens undertaken by the State on account of introduction of free education and provincialisation of local body schools. The duty is levied on the energy supplied by the Punjab State Electricity Board to a consumer or a licensee and it is collected by the Board along with the bills for the energy thus supplied. On realization, the proceeds are deposited by the Board in Government Treasury, Sub-Treasury or the State Bank of India.

Copying Fee.—The fee is levied under the Punjab Copying Fees Act, 1936, for copies of orders, etc. supplied to the public. The charges vary for supplying copies on ordinary and urgent basis.

The collections from the above-mentioned taxes in Gurdaspur District, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, are shown in the following statement :—

Collections from Other Sources of State Revenue in Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72

Serial No.	Tax	REVENUE ADMINISTRATION				
		1967-68 (Rs)	1968-69 (Rs)	1969-70 (Rs)	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)
1.	Stamp Duty	..	50,45,230	67,88,310	77,57,755	88,76,565
2.	Excise Tax	..	1,09,51,272	1,34,89,002	1,45,50,640	1,49,07,237
3.	Motor Spirit Tax	..	7,61,277	10,09,346	13,04,938	15,84,767
4.	Urban Immovable Property Tax	..	3,87,546	5,82,601	4,53,182	3,19,688
5.	Punjab General Sales Tax	..	63,62,090	80,22,236	1,05,81,656	1,19,40,843
6.	Passengers and Goods Tax	..	26,15,097	28,08,473	35,72,208	43,81,782
7.	Entertainments Tax	..	40,605	44,215	50,805	53,390
8.	Entertainments Duty	..	7,40,387	8,68,985	10,63,983	12,96,121
9.	Central Sales Tax	..	30,71,928	32,96,648	37,38,804	32,85,052
10.	Electricity Duty	..	12,17,376	13,50,050	14,76,634	15,32,766
11.	Copying Fee	..	39,409	39,206	39,704	40,896
						35,819

(Source : Excise and Taxation Officer, Gurdaspur and Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur)

(ii) Central Sources of Revenue

Central Excise Duties.—The main sources of the Central Excise Duty in the district are: tobacco, woollen fabrics, woollen yarn, rayon and synthetic yarn, sugar, copper and copper alloys, wool tops, rubber belting, art silk fabrics, iron and steel, loose tea, package tea, cotton fabrics processed, grey board, electric motors, matches, patent proprietary medicines, wireless receiving sets, cotton fabrics on power-looms, sodium silicate, surface active agent, battery plates, rubber piping, footwear, paints and varnish, internal combustion engines, prepared and preserved food, etc.

The duties are collected under the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944.

Income Tax.—It is levied under the Income Tax Act, 1961, which replaced the Indian Income Tax Act, 1922. The rates of income tax vary from year to year in accordance with the Finance Act, passed by the Parliament every year.

Wealth Tax.—It is levied under the Wealth Tax Act, 1957.

Gift Tax.—The tax is levied under the Gift Tax Act, 1958, on all gifts made after the date of the enforcement of the Act (i. e. April 1, 1958), if the total value of the gift (movable or immovable) exceeds the limit specified by the Finance Act passed by the Parliament in a particular year.

Estate Duty.—The Estate Duty Act, 1953, was enforced on October 15, 1953. The duty is leviable on the estates of persons dying after this date. For levy of estate duty, the Gurdaspur District falls under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Controller of Estate Duty, Jullundur.

The collections from the Central sources of revenue in the Gurdaspur District, from 1967-68 to 1971-72, are given below :

Year	Central Excise Duties	Income Tax	Wealth Tax	Gift Tax	Estate Duty
	(Rs)	(Rs)]	(Rs)]	(Rs)]	(Rs)]
1967-68	.. 67,98,882	88,62,546	65,863	47,147	5,214
1968-69	.. 77,42,748	92,06,779	80,634	49,203	6,273
1969-70	.. 94,72,469	..	..	..	..
1970-71	.. 1,15,52,737	1,05,22,062	1,24,637	1,23,651	57,249
1971-72	.. 80,88,723	1,09,80,694	1,42,978	1,69,271	61,598

(Source : Income Tax Officer, Gurdaspur, and Superintendent, Central Excise, Gurdaspur)

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

(a) Incidence of Crime in the District

The district has a conspicuous name for illicit distillation. The people, especially the Sansis, indulge in large scale distillation of liquor. Special campaigns are launched by the district police at short intervals to curb the activities of distillers, bootleggers and the moonshiners.

The inhabitants of the district are also very fond of keeping arms and sometimes even undesirable elements succeed in getting licences. The district police effects recoveries of illicit weapons and frequent screening of licences also helps in keeping the law and order situation under control.

An idea regarding the trend of various crimes, etc. in the district, during 1963 to 1972, may be had from the following table:—

Number of reported cases relating to various crimes, etc. in the Gurdaspur District, 1963-1972

Year	All Crimes (Class I to VI)	Murder	Dacoity	Robbery	Burglary	Rioting	Theft	Cattle Lifting	Traffic in Women	Cheating	Offences under Local and Special Laws	Motor Vehicle Accidents
1963	3,187	21	..	1	138	1	209	38	18	10	1,789	..
1964	2,812	20	..	..	127	11	193	24	16	12	1,699	..
1965	3,143	25	—	..	93	4	135	22	23	10	2,031	19
1966	2,621	27	..	..	87	2	175	39	16	15	1,589	39
1967	2,371	30	..	..	139	2	211	28	19	13	1,230	27
1968	2,991	44	..	..	113	4	180	40	13	8	1,794	26
1969	3,129	37	..	..	114	—	158	38	22	12	1,780	24
1970	3,484	41	..	2	122	4	208	33	14	5	1,949	31
1971	3,085	31	..	1	114	1	159	21	24	10	1,851	23
1972	3,313	35	..	1	122	4	189	14	27	11	2,062	22

(Source : Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur)

The important categories of crime are described below :

Murder.—Murder has always been termed a fortuitous crime, incapable of being fore-stalled. It is committed sometimes under grave and sudden provocation, while mental frustration also leads to it. Motives for murders may be listed as sex-relations, domestic quarrels, blood feuds, land disputes, canal water disputes, personal enmity, sudden quarrel, etc.

Dacoity.—Through sustained efforts, dacoity, which is regarded as a true barometer of the criminal situation in the district, has been completely eliminated since 1959. Thus, this outrageous menace has become conspicuous by its absence.

Robbery.—Robbery is a special and aggravated form of either theft or extortion. The chief distinguishing element in robbery is the presence of imminent fear of violence.

Burglary.—Burglary means an act of breaking into a house to commit theft or other felony. This crime is a common feature both in the rural and urban areas, and vigorous efforts have been made to bring the situation under control. There was much fluctuation in the incidence of the crime in the district during the decade 1963—72, minimum being 87 in 1966 and maximum 139 in 1967.

Rioting.—Rioting is an unlawful assembly of five or more persons in a particular state of activity, which activity is accompanied by the use of force or violence. It is only the use of force that distinguishes rioting from an unlawful assembly.

Theft.—Theft is said to have been committed if a person intends to take dishonestly any movable property out of the possession of any other person without his consent. The incidence of the crime is relatively less in rural areas because the population in each *abadi* is small and the inhabitants know each other personally.

Cattle Lifting.—The incidence of cattle theft is more or less attributable to the geographical situation of the district, which adjoins the boundaries of Pakistan and Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh States. This situation obviously facilitates the clandestine exodus of cattle to these areas by the thieves and smugglers. The incidence of the crime is more frequent in rural areas than in urban areas.

Traffic in women.—Though technically falling under the definition of kidnapping or abduction, majority of the cases under the head 'traffic in women' are, in fact, that of elopements. This crime generally flows

from two factors, viz. the value standards of the people and the lack of proper hold of the parents and guardians over their wards who too fall a prey to sexy literature and movies.

Cheating.—A wilful misrepresentation of a definite fact with intent to defraud would be cheating.

Offences under Local and Special Laws.—The crime under this head comprises cases of public nuisance and those under the Indian Arms Act, 1878, the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, Opium Act, 1878, the Public Gambling Act, 1867, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, the Indian Railways Act, 1890, and the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947.

Incidence of Motor Vehicle Accidents.—The incidence of road accidents in the district is fluctuating.

Road Traffic.—Besides the Indian Motor Vehicle Act, 1939, sections 279, 337, 338 and 304-A of the Indian Penal Code, the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, and the Municipal Bye-laws, the Stage Carriage Act, XVI of 1861, the Police Act, 1888, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, XI of 1890, the Punjab Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1925, the Hackney Carriage Act, 1879, regulate the road traffic.

The prosecutions launched in the district under the various Acts, during 1963 to 1972, are given in the following statement:—

Prosecutions Launched under various Acts in Gurdaspur District, 1963 to 1972

Name of the Act	LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE									
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Indian Penal Code ..	882	937	915	787	745	886	966	1,119	1,205	1,282
Municipal Act and Municipal Bye-laws ..	173	14	115	38	45	52	63	42	35	36
Stage Carriages Act ..	349	149	122	69	110	117	129	85	48	40
Police Act ..	515	295	317	197	211	315	420	481	245	232
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab Motor Vehicle Taxation Act ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hackney Carriage Act ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Source : Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur)

(b) History and Organization of Police

History of Police

All through the past, the rulers of the country kept separate organizations to maintain law and order and also to obtain information of the internal situation and foreign conditions. With the advent of the British rule, the police administration was further organized with the appointment of a separate officer at the district level, viz. the Superintendent of Police. The police system was re-organized from time to time in accordance with the recommendations of the Police Commission of 1861 (and the resultant Police Act V of 1861), the Second Police Commission of 1902, the Punjab Provincial Police Committee of 1925 (which submitted its report in 1926), the Punjab Police Commission of 1961, etc.

In the context of the geographical location of the Gurdaspur District on the India-Pakistan border, its strategic importance from the police point of view cannot be over-emphasised. Utmost and unrelented police vigilance is required to be maintained for action against spies, agents, saboteurs and smugglers from across the international border.

Organization of Police

In the early years of the twentieth century, the regular police force in the district consisted of 566 persons of all ranks, including 5 Cantonment and 147 municipal police, in the charge of a Superintendent of Police who usually had 4 Inspectors under him. The village watchmen numbered 1,957.

For the purpose of police administration, the Gurdaspur District falls under the Jullundur Range, which is under the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jullundur. At the district level, the Superintendent of Police,¹ Gurdaspur, is responsible for the administration of police. He is assisted by 3 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 4 Inspectors, 39 Sub-Inspectors, 60 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 119 Head Constables and 828 Constables.

The strength of the police in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was as follows :—

1. From 1974, a Senior Superintendent of Police has been posted as head of the police organization in the district.

Police Strength in Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE							321
	Superinten- dents of Police	Deputy Superinten- dents of Police	Inspectors	Sub-Inspectors	Assistant Sub-Inspectors	Head Constables	Constables
Civil Police							
Permanent	1	2	2	19	54	87	543
Temporary	—	1	1	9	5	25	221
Armed Reserves (1st, 2nd and 3rd Armed Reserves)							
Permanent	..	..	..	1	1	7	64
Emergency	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mounted Police							
Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prosecution staff							
Permanent	..	..	1	10	..	..	..
Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1	3	4	39	60	119	828

(Source : Superintendent of Police, Gurdaspur)

The number of police stations and police posts in each tahsil/sub-division is as under :

Tahsil/ sub-division	No. of villages	Police Stations	Police Posts
Gurdaspur	725	1. City Gurdaspur	1. City Dinanagar
		2. Sadr Gurdaspur	2. City Dhariwal
		3. Dinanagar	
		4. Dhariwal	
		5. Kahnuwan	
		6. Kalanaur	
Batala	497	1. City Batala	1. City Dera Baba Nanak
		2. Sadr Batala	2. City Fatehgarh Churian
		3. Dera Baba Nanak	3. Qadian
		4. Fatehgarh Churian	4. Ghuman
		5. Srigobindpur	
Pathankot	421	1. City Pathankot	1. Sujanpur
		2. Sadr Pathankot	2. Dunera
		3. Dhar Kalan	3. Shahpur
		4. Narot Jaimalsingh	..

Civil Police.—The civil police is posted at the police stations/police posts. There are 15 police stations and 9 police posts in the district. Station House Officer is incharge of each police station. He is normally assisted by one or more Assistant Sub-Inspectors, a Head Constable, a Moharrir and a number of Constables. The duty of the Station House Officer is to maintain peace and to investigate offences occurring in his circle.

Vigilance Police.—The function of the Vigilance Bureau is to investigate complaints of corruption against Government servants and to collect intelligence regarding corrupt Government servants. The staff also organizes traps to capture the corrupt Government servants red-handed

while accepting bribe who are later on prosecuted under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947.

Two units of the Vigilance Bureau are functioning in the district, one at Gurdaspur and the other at Pathankot. Their respective staff strength is given below :

	Inspectors	Sub-Inspectors	Head Constables	Constable
Gurdaspur Unit	1	3	1	4
Pathankot Unit	1	2	1	5
Gurdaspur District	2	5	2	9

(Source: Director, Vigilance Bureau, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Railway Police.—Not allotted to any district in particular, the Railway Police is a part of a separate State organization, working under the Assistant Inspector General, Government Railway Police, Punjab, with headquarters at Patiala. The circles of the Railway Police are formed according to the sections of railway lines in which they control crime committed in railway trains and within the railway premises.

The headquarters of the Government Railway Police, through which the crime on stations in the Gurdaspur District is controlled, are situated at Pathankot. The Government Railway Police Station, Pathankot has two outposts at Gurdaspur and Batala. The staff posted in the district comprises : 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 Assistant Sub-Inspector, 4 Head Constables and 19 Constables.

Excise Police Staff.—The staff strength of Excise Police in the district consists of a Sub-Inspector, 6 Head-Constables and 36 Constables. The whole of this staff is on deputation from the main strength of the Police Department.

Village Police.—The Chowkidar is at the lowest rung of the police organization. He helps the village headman in the maintenance of peace and security in the village and it is his duty to help in the detection of crimes and report any crime which occurs to the authorities concerned.

Trackers.—The services of trackers are required especially in theft cases and other cases, if necessary. They render useful help to the police in the investigation of such cases and to trace out the accused from the tracks left by them at the scene of occurrence.

Punjab Home Guards.—This organization was started in India in 1946 during the troublous days of the communal riots in Bombay. From Bombay, the organization developed later to other States. In the Punjab, the Punjab Home Guards Act was passed in 1948. Under this Act, the Home Guards organization was started in the Gurdaspur District in 1962.

This organization has been established with a view to helping the general public during the normal and abnormal conditions such as prevail at the time of any national crisis. Besides, helping people on days of festivals when there are crowds in the streets and temples, the Home Guards are given training in parades, rifle-shooting, first-aid and physical exercises, fire-fighting, life-saving techniques.

(c) Jails and Lock-ups

In the past, prisons were only places of detention where an offender was detained until trial and judgement and the execution of the latter. The imprisonment became an instrument of penal treatment with the initiation of a uniform system of legal justice in the country during 1858–1861. Improvements were introduced in prison administration from time to time on the recommendations of the different jail committees appointed in 1836, 1864, 1877, 1889, 1892 and 1919, and the resultant Prisons Act, 1870, the Prisons Act, 1894, and the Reformatory Schools Act, 1897. After the independence (1947), tremendous changes have been effected in the working of jails.

There is a District Jail at the district headquarters at Gurdaspur and a sub-jail at Pathankot. Besides, there is a lock-up attached to each police station, which is controlled by the police department.

District Jail, Gurdaspur.—Established in 1855, it is under the charge of the Superintendent of Jail, who is assisted by 1 Deputy Superintendent (Jail), 1 Welfare Officer, 1 Assistant Superintendent, 1 Sub-Assistant Superintendent, 5 Clerks, 1 Carpenter Master, 1 Teacher, 1 Pharmacist, 1 Head Warder, 34 Warders, 1 Matron, besides other technical/miscellaneous and Class IV staff.

The total admissions during the year, average daily population and maximum population on any one day during the year in the District

Jail, Gurdaspur, during 1965 to 1972, are given in the following table :—

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Total admissions during the year	..	780	637	656	578	728	1,945	2,699
Average daily population	272.30	283.83	270.50	277.27	329.10	396.66	410.39	415.72
Maximum population on any one day during the year	378	371	330	354	418	675	519	552

(Source : Superintendent, District Jail, Gurdaspur)

The number of convicted prisoners released on different grounds, during 1965 to 1972, are shown in the table given below:

Year	Grounds of release					Others
	Appeal/ Bailed	Expiry	Remission	Government orders Parole/ furlough and under Section 401 Cr. P.C.		
1965	..	226	152	165	29	13
1966	..	259	110	232	51	1
1967	..	189	109	104	76	2
1968	..	172	154	136	85	1
1969	..	184	48	70	39	42
1970	..	268	128	145	72	35
1971	..	311	100	103	52	2
1972	..	329	120	105	60	..

(Source : Superintendent, District Jail, Gurdaspur)

Though jails are considered penal institutions, they are now-a-days regarded more or less as institutions for the reformation and rehabilitation of those men and women who find themselves in jails for a variety of reasons. Whatever may be the cause of prisoners' entry into jails, it is the duty of jail administration to equip him with such training as

will enable him to settle down as an honest, decent and useful citizen of the community after his release. With this end in view, Government has introduced several jail reforms in which the welfare of prisoners occupy an important place. These are (i) remission of sentence for good behaviour, (ii) granting of furlough and parole, (iii) supply of newspapers, (iv) literacy classes for the benefit of prisoners, (v) canteen facilities with permission to spend up to a certain percentage from the money earned by prisoners in jail on items like tea, milk, cigarettes, match-boxes, soap, etc., (vi) film shows arranged by the District Public Relations Officer, (vii) cultural activities in the form of *bhajans*, songs, etc., (viii) permission to prosecute studies and get school books in addition to religious books from relatives and jail library, and (ix) installation of radio-set in the jail premises.

Education and Recreational and Medical Facilities

A paid teacher is working in the District Jail for imparting education to the illiterate prisoners. He holds daily classes in batches to enable them to read and write in different languages. Quarterly examinations of these prisoners are held and literary certificates are issued to those prisoners who pass the examination. Prisoners desirous of private studies up to Matric and Parbhakar standard are afforded necessary help by the teacher. The prisoners who are unable to purchase books are provided these from the funds of District Crime Prevention Society. A library is also maintained in the jail.

To break the boredom of the jail life, certain recreational facilities like carrom-board, playing cards, ludo, etc., outdoor games such as wrestling, *kabaddi*, volley-ball, etc.; and sports, tug-of-war, high-jump, long-jump, etc.; are provided. Periodical matches are also arranged between the different teams to inculcate the spirit of competition and sportsmanship. Quite often, get-together meetings are arranged, where prisoners enjoy folk dances, *bhangra*, etc. Variety shows and cinema shows are also arranged frequently. A radio-set has been provided by the District Crime Prevention Society, Gurdaspur, for the prisoners in the jail. Apart from providing entertainment, it keeps them informed about day-to-day events.

A whole-time Medical Officer was appointed on December 4, 1972, to look after the health of the prisoners and the employees of the jail.

Canteen

The jail is running a canteen on co-operative basis to meet the daily needs of the prisoners, like, tea, *biris*, biscuits, toilets, etc. Started in

1961, it is functioning quite satisfactorily and earning profits which are utilized for the benefit of the prisoners.

Panchayat System

The panchayat system has been introduced in the jail and its meetings are held regularly for the improvement and betterment of the prisoners.

Jail Industries

In a welfare State, social reconstruction and rehabilitation of offenders is the main objective of punishment. The ancient theory of retribution has almost been discarded. The aim of punishment now-a-days is to protect the society through the rehabilitation of offenders. A prisoner having been found guilty by a judicial court is sent to the prison, thereby segregating him from the society with two important aims, viz., to protect the society from the criminal behaviour of the offender, and to reform the offender by changing his attitude towards his own life and society. To bring a change in the attitude of mind, various types of institutional treatments have been evolved. The most essential feature of correctional programme is to impart technical and vocational training to the prisoners.

The prisoners in the District Jail, Gurdaspur, are provided training in various trades to enable them to earn or supplement their income by doing some useful productive work independently, especially after their release. The different trades in which training is given in the jail are : carpentry, *munj* and hemp, *ban*, cane, *chick* and *niwar* making, poultry, book binding, etc.

The articles manufactured in the above mentioned trades are sold mainly to jails, Government departments and private individuals. The average number of prisoners employed in these industries, total production and gross profit, during 1965 to 1972, are given below :

Year	Total average of prisoners working in the factory	Production (Rs)	Gross profit (Rs)
1965	64.0	1,17,850	23,533
1966	60.5	1,06,562	60,400
1967	66.1	1,18,982	14,842
1968	52.0	1,36,143	50,515
1969	52.6	1,13,261	21,541
1970	51.0	1,23,921	28,811
1971	65.6	1,70,855	33,624
1972	74.0	1,85,125	18,512

(Source : Superintendent, District Jail, Gurdaspur)

Official and Non-Official Visitors

The visits of official and non-official visitors are useful both to the prisoners and the jail authorities. Problems of prisoners are directly taken notice of by the official visitors. They also see whether proper rules and regulations are observed in the jail or not. The visits of non-official visitors are also useful as they provide a community touch to the prisoners which gives them a realization that the society has not forgotten them and they are eagerly awaited back in their fold. It helps broadly in their rehabilitation back in the society.

Sub-Jail, Pathankot.—Situating in the Civil courts, Pathankot, the sub-jail came into existence on April 1, 1962. It is under the control of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, who is its part-time Superintendent and is, in that capacity, assisted by the supervisory staff comprising 1 Assistant Superintendent, 1 Head Warder and 6 Warders.

The total admissions in the sub-jail during 1965 to 1972 were 2,621. The average daily population was 11.57 and the maximum population on any one day (September 15, 1971) was 24, during 1971-72.

District Crime Prevention Society, Gurdaspur.—Headed by the Deputy Commissioner, the District Crime Prevention Society, Gurdaspur came into being in 1954. It helps in the prosecution of studies further in case of deserving prisoners by giving them financial help for the purchase of books, payment of examination fees, etc. For the improvement of general out-look of the prisoners, the society also provides two daily newspapers and a weekly magazine. A good number of books have also been added to the jail library by the society. The society also provides financial assistance, wherever needed, for the rehabilitation of prisoners after their release to carry on the trade learnt inside the jail.

District Probation Officer, Gurdaspur.—The Probation of Offenders' Act, 1958, came into force in Gurdaspur District on June 20, 1966, when a District Probation Officer was posted there. He is under the control of the Chief Probation Officer, Chandigarh, who supervises and directs the work in the entire State under the overall administrative control and guidance of the Inspector General of Prisons, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The Probation of Offenders' Act was made as a reformatory measure for the juvenile offenders (below the age of 21 years) and for first offenders, irrespective of their age to save them from the walls of the jail. The Act provides that such offenders be released on bail after entering into a bond with one surety for an amount considered sufficient and for a period up to three years, as desired by the court, keeping in view the intensity of the crime. The Act does not cover such offenders who have committed an

offence for which they can be sentenced to death or life imprisonment. Whenever a juvenile or first offender is brought before the court with some charges for which the benefit of Probation of Offenders' Act, 1958, can be given to the offender and, as soon as the *challan* is put up by the police, the court asks for pre-sentence report from the District Probation Officer. The District Probation Officer then makes discreet inquiries regarding the offender's character and antecedents, his social and environmental conditions, the financial and other facts which the court has directed to enquire. Keeping in view the intensity of the crime and the character of the offender, he is released on probation with or without supervision.

Those who are released on supervision are kept under the supervision of District Probation Officer who acts as a friend, philosopher and guide to all the probationers. He also looks into their personal problems and tries to solve them. The Probation Officer endeavours by example, advice, persuasion and assistance and, where necessary, by warning to ensure that the probationer does not violate the conditions of the supervision order or commits any further offence and behaves in conformity with law. The Probation Officer also tries to improve the behaviour, attitude to society, habits, character and morale of the probationer so that he may not revert to crime. All this is done by arranging meetings with the probationers at their villages and in the office of the probation Officer. The Probation Officer makes enquires regarding the character and behaviour of the probationer from respectable persons of the village like Sarpanch, members of Panchayats and Lambardars, etc.

The following table shows the number of prisoners released on probation on various grounds during 1969 to 1972:—

Year	Prisoners Released on Probation			
	Under supervision	Without supervision	Under section 3 of Probation Act after admonition	Social investigation reports
1969	65	27	5	20
1970	60	125	22	11
1971	71	164	89	8
1972	58	97	1	11

(Source : District Probation Officer, Gurdaspur)

(d) Organization of Civil and Criminal Courts

As in other districts of the State, the organization of judiciary in the Gurdaspur District too consists of a District and Sessions Judge and an Additional District and Sessions Judge at the district headquarters. On the criminal side, a Chief Judicial Magistrate and, on the civil side, a Senior Subordinate Judge, work under the superintendence of the District and Sessions Judge. At the district headquarters, the civil and criminal cases are dealt by 4 Judicial Officers who are allotted the work by the Chief Judicial Magistrate and the Senior Subordinate Judge. Similarly, at the tahsil level, there are judicial officers who dispose of civil and criminal cases under the supervision and control of the District and Sessions Judge. The civil cases are directly instituted in the courts at the tahsil headquarters, while, as regards criminal cases, separate police stations are allotted to different judicial officers who deal with the cases of those police stations.

Civil Justice.—The administration of civil justice in the district is controlled by the District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur. He is assisted by an Additional District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur, 1 Senior Subordinate Judge, Gurdaspur, and 9 Sub-Judges-cum-Judicial Magistrates (4 posted at Gurdaspur, 3 at Batala and 2 at Pathankot). Out of these, 7 are 1st Class; the one posted at Gurdaspur is II Class Magistrate-cum-Sub-Judge III Class; and another posted at Batala is I Class Magistrate-cum-Sub-Judge III Class.

The civil courts try all sorts of cases of civil nature up to the powers with which each Sub-Judge and Senior Subordinate Judge has been invested. The Senior Subordinate Judge and Sub-Judges are sometimes invested with additional magisterial powers.

Additional District Judge, Gurdaspur.—Additional District and Sessions Judge works as Additional District Judge on the civil side. Appeals against the judgements and decrees of Sub-Judges up to Rs 10,000 and cases under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, and Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, are heard by him.

Senior Subordinate Judge, Gurdaspur.—The Senior Subordinate Judge hears cases of rents, succession certificates, insolvency cases, guardianship cases and appellate work up to a certain limit, suits under the torts and the Indian Contract Act, 1872.

Sub-Judges I Class.—All the Sub-Judges are Subordinate Judges who have been invested with the powers of unlimited jurisdiction of civil nature in their areas, including rent cases, succession certificates and others.

The following statement shows the number of cases tried by civil courts in the district, from 1965 to 1972 :—

Year		Pending from the previous year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposed of during the year	Balance at the close of the year
1965	..	1,198	2,274	3,472	2,160	1,312
1966	..	1,312	2,481	3,783	2,439	1,354
1967	..	1,354	2,752	4,106	2,353	1,753
1968	..	1,753	2,958	4,711	2,792	1,919
1969	..	1,919	2,638	4,557	2,223	2,334
1970		2,334	2,332	4,666	2,491	2,175
1971	..	2,175	2,474	4,649	2,423	2,226
1972	..	2,226	2,143	4,369	2,393	1,976

(Source : District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur)

Criminal Justice.—The District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur, is incharge of administration of criminal justice in the district. He is assisted by an Additional District and Sessions Judge and the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gurdaspur, along with 9 Judicial Magistrate-cum-Sub-Judges (4 posted at Gurdaspur, 2 at Pathankot and 3 at Batala).

On the criminal side, the powers of the District Magistrate have been vested in the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gurdaspur. With the separation of the executive from the judiciary in the State on October 2, 1964, the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gurdaspur, functions under the supervision and control of the District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate and Judicial Magistrates deal with all types of cases relating to crime except security cases. The Chief Judicial Magistrate is vested with the powers of a Judicial Magistrate I Class, viz. power to try juvenile offenders, to require delivery of letters, telegrams, etc., to issue search warrants for documents in custody of postal or telegraph authorities; to release persons imprisoned for failing to give security under section 106; to order police investigations into a cognizable case; to entertain cases without complaints, to transfer cases to a subordinate magistrate, to report a case to High Court, etc.

All Judicial Magistrates try cases under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Punjab Excise Act, 1914, Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and other special Acts, relating to their police stations. They have the powers to direct warrant to landholders, to issue search warrant for discovery of persons wrongfully confined, to record statements and confessions during police investigation, to recover penalty on forfeited bond, to order released convicts to notify residence, etc. All criminals apprehended by the police are produced before the Judicial Magistrate in whose jurisdiction the criminals may have been apprehended or in whose jurisdiction the crime may have been committed.

After investigation, the police put up the *challans* in the courts of Judicial Magistrates who also act as *Ilaka* Magistrates and watch the investigation of criminal cases. The Judicial Magistrates have also been vested with the powers of Sub-Judges with varying jurisdiction.

Cases of security for keeping the peace and security for good behaviour, under the Criminal Procedure Code, after the separation of the executive from the judiciary, are tried by the Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot, relating to their respective sub-divisions. They are also called upon to perform executive functions in addition to the trial of above types of cases.

The following statement shows the number of criminal cases tried by the criminal courts in the district, during 1965 to 1972:—

Period	Regular Cases	Security Cases	Summary Cases
1965	5,086	5,409	11,430
1966	5,211	4,900	11,612
1967	5,317	3,411	11,820
1968	5,305	4,186	9,210
1969	5,433	4,843	5,924
1970	6,436	4,843	3,346
1971	6,309	3,247	3,160
1972	3,882	1,544	13,380

(Source : District and Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur)

In addition to the developmental functions, the gram panchayats have also been assigned judicial functions, both civil and criminal, under the various enactments so that the villagers may get natural justice at minimum cost within the shortest possible period in the village itself.

The following table shows the judicial work done by the panchayats in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72 :—

Judicial work done by Panchayats in Gurdaspur District 1967-68 to 1971-72						LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE					333	
						1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72		
REVENUE CASES												
1. Cases pending at the beginning of the year	..	241	201	183	122	106						
2. Cases instituted	..	195	196	97	76	78						
3. Cases received by transfer	..	32	16	..	10	3						
4. Cases transferred from Panchayats and cases returned for presentation to courts and Panchayats	..	7	6	..	3	..						
5. Cases decided	..	260	224	158	98	91						
(a) Cases dismissed	..	52	28	22	13	10						
(b) Cases compounded	..	166	141	88	78	67						
(c) Cases decreed	..	42	55	48	7	14						
6. Cases pending at the end of the year	..	201	183	122	106	96						
CRIMINAL CASES												
1. Cases pending at the beginning of the year	..	128	97	64	48	36						
2. Cases instituted	..	210	172	131	85	83						
3. Cases received by transfer	..	40	15	11	15	2						
4. Cases transferred from Panchayats for presentation to courts and Panchayats	..	10	14	4	6	1						
5. Cases decided	..	263	206	137	105	98						
(a) Cases dismissed	..	85	30	14	28	43						
(b) Cases compounded	..	166	167	116	74	53						
(c) Cases convicted	..	12	9	7	3	2						
6. Cases pending at the end of the year	..	97	64	48	36	22						
						(Source : Director, Panchayats, Punjab, Chandigarh)						

(Source : Director, Panchayats, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(e) Bar Associations

Bar Associations have been formed at the district as well as the sub-divisional headquarters in the State. These look after the interests of their members and render a useful service to the cause of the legal profession. These associations endeavour to maintain the dignity of the profession besides promoting best possible relations between the Bench and the Bar. These also help the courts in the administration of justice and promote a sense of respect for law and order in the public mind.

The Bar Association, Gurdaspur, is said to have been formed prior to the commencement of 20th century. Its strength as on March 31, 1972 was 56.

The Bar Association, Pathankot, is also an old one and is said to have been formed prior to the year 1920. Its strength as on March 31, 1972, was 40. A Bar Association is also functioning at Batala and its strength as on March 31, 1972, was 49.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Prior to the independence, revenue, judiciary and police were the only important departments. After independence, the new national set-up in the country and the rapidly developing economy have opened vast avenues of employment and, consequently, there has been an appreciable expansion of the different departments and the creation of new ones. In order to keep pace with the growing tempo of development work generated by the various nation-building activities, a number of departments have come up during the post-independence period.

The administrative set-up, functions and activities of the departments, which have not been mentioned elsewhere in the Gazetteer, have been dealt with hereunder :

(a) Public Works Department

Its activities, may be mainly divided into construction of buildings and roads, public health, drainage and irrigation. The jurisdiction of the circles/divisions of the department does not necessarily confine to one district ; it may extend to more than one district. The circles/divisions, having jurisdiction over the Gurdaspur District, are described below :

(i) **Superintending Engineer, Pathankot Circle, P.W.D., B & R, Pathankot.**—Started on May 18, 1968, this circle has three divisions under it, viz. Provincial Division, P. W. D., B & R, Gurdaspur ; Construction Division, P. W. D., B & R, Batala, and Central Works Division, P. W. D., B & R, Pathankot, each under an Executive Engineer.

The Superintending Engineer is under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer, P. W. D., B & R, Punjab, Patiala. He is assisted by 1 Circle Head Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 1 Superintendent, 1 Head Assistant, 6 Assistants, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of the circle are to exercise control over the construction of roads and buildings under its jurisdiction.

Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., B & R, Gurdaspur.—The division was opened in August 1960. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers, 19 Sectional Officers, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Draftsman, 2 Tracers, 3 Road Inspectors, 1 Head Clerk,

1 Divisional Accountant, 3 Senior Accounts Clerks, 2 Store Keepers, besides other ministerial/technical Class II and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of the division are to execute roads and building works and to look after their maintenance.

Executive Engineer, Central Works Division, P.W.D., B&R, Pathankot.—Formerly known as Construction Division No. 1, this Division was renamed as Central Works Division, Pathankot, on December 3, 1971, and its headquarters were shifted from Gurdaspur to Pathankot. The Executive Engineer, is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 16 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Accountant, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Construction Division No. 2, P.W.D., B & R, Batala.—This division was set up in February 1968. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers, 1 Head Clerk, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Sectional Officer (Mech.), 16 Sectional Officers (Civil), besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of this division are construction of public buildings and roads including bridges and culverts.

(ii) **Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Division, Gurdaspur.**—Formed on August 12, 1970, this division is under the supervision and administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Public Health Circle, Jullundur. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers, 15 Sectional Officers, 1 Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 1 Head Clerk, and 1 Accountant, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The division is engaged in providing drinking water supply arrangements, and construction of sewerage and drainage systems in urban as well as rural areas. Besides, the provision of public health amenities like water supply, sewerage and sanitary installation, etc. in all Government buildings is also done by this division.

(iii) **Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Diversion Division, Amritsar.**—Started on March 1, 1966, this division is under the Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Amritsar Drainage Circle, Amritsar. Its jurisdiction also extends to the Gurdaspur District.

The Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Diversion Division, Amritsar, has two sub-divisions in Gurdaspur District, viz. Chukander Sub-Division, Malikpur (opened about the year 1956) and Drainage Sub-Division No. 13, Gurdaspur (opened in 1960). Each sub-division is under a Sub-Divisional Officer, who is assisted by a number of Sectional Officers and ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of these sub-divisions are flood protection works.

(iv) **Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar.**—This circle was formed in 1859. Out of the five divisions under it, the jurisdiction of the following three divisions, wholly or partially, fall in the Gurdaspur District :—

Executive Engineer, Madhopur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur.—The division was set up on July 3, 1954, for the construction of Kalanaur distributary system and flood protection works over the River Ravi in Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts. It is controlled by the Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal Circle, Amritsar, and is under the charge of Executive Engineer, who is assisted by 3 Sub-Divisional Officers, 14 Sectional Officers, 1 Deputy Collector, 1 Head Clerk, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Accountant, 1 Draftsman, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of this division are the maintenance and running of channels.

Executive Engineer, Gurdaspur Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Gurdaspur.—The division has been functioning in the district from prior to the year 1900. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 3 Sub-Divisional Officers, 14 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Head Clerk, 1 Divisional Head Draftsman, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The division looks after the maintenance of the canal and safe running of the channels within its jurisdiction.

In addition to the above, there is a revenue wing, responsible for the booking of the irrigated area and assessment of water rates from the irrigators.

Executive Engineer, Majitha Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar.—The division was established in 1884. It is under the charge of an Executive Engineer, who functions under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Upper Bari Doab Canal, Amritsar.

Under this division, there are five sub-divisions, viz. Amritsar, Khaira, Chheharta, Aliwal and Remodelling sub-divisions. Of these, only the Aliwal Sub-Division falls in the Gurdaspur District.

The Aliwal Sub-Division is looked after by 1 Sub-Divisional Officer, 5 Sectional Officers and Ziladari staff besides ministerial and Class IV staff. The sub-division watches the regulation of supply and makes equitable distribution of water into the channels of the Majitha Division. The distributaries of this sub-division irrigate the lands of the adjoining villages of the Gurdaspur and Batala tahsils.

(v) **Superintending Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Circle, Pathankot.**—Started on May 20, 1964, this circle has four¹ divisions under it, viz. Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Construction Division No. I, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Construction Division No. II, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Construction Division No. IV, and Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Mechanical Division No. V, all located at Pathankot. Each of these divisions is under the charge of an Executive Engineer.

The Superintending Engineer at the circle level is assisted by 1 Sub-Divisional Officer, 1 Circle Head Draftsman, 4 Draftsmen, 1 Superintendent, and 1 Circle Assistant, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of the circle are construction of the Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Project, Pathankot, consisting of three power houses of 15 M.V. each.

Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. I, Pathankot.—Formed on November 1, 1966, the division is entrusted with the construction of Power House No. 3 of 15 M.V.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by 7 Sub-Divisional Officers, 29 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Divisional Accountant, and 1 Head Clerk, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. II, Pathankot.—Formed on August 7, 1964, the division was entrusted with the construction of Power House No. 2 of 15 M.V.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by 5 Sub-Divisional Officers, 27 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Head Draftsman, 1 Draftsman, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Clerk, and 1 Assistant Surgeon, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

1. The fifth division, viz. Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal Construction Division No. III, was closed on February 29, 1972.

Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Construction Division No. IV, Pathankot.—Formed on December 24, 1966, the division is entrusted with the inspection of quality control work of Executive Engineers, Division No. 1, 2 and 3.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by 8 Sub-Divisional Officers, 29 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Clerk, and 1 Assistant Research Officer, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Hydrel Upper Bari Doab Canal, Mechanical Division No. V, Pathankot.—The division was opened on October 31, 1966. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Officers, 9 Sectional Officers, 1 Divisional Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Clerk, and 1 Labour Welfare Inspector, besides other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of the division are maintenance of electrical/mechanical works at maintenance stores at Madhopur and Sarna; maintenance of electric supply at the Power Houses I, II and III along with the Hydrel Channel from R. D. (Reduced Distance in thousand feet) 0 to 65.

(b) Public Relations Department

The department is represented at the district level by the District Public Relations Officer. He is assisted by 1 Assistant Public Relations Officer, 2 Field Publicity Assistants, 1 Radio Mechanic, 1 Tourist Officer, 2 Information Centre Assistants, 1 Accountant, 1 Drama Inspector, 2 Cinema Operators, 1 Harmonium Master, 1 Tabla Master, 1 Stage Master, 5 Actors, 1 Technical Assistant and other ministerial/technical Class III and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The functions of the District Public Relations Officer are to serve as a liaison between the State Government and the public and to disseminate and publicise Government policies and programmes, through press and mass media of dramas and cinemas. These also include press coverage, organization of public meetings and rural conferences, holding of *kavi darbar* (poetical symposia), variety programmes and exhibitions. The District Public Relations Officer also receives tourists not only from within the country but also from other countries. He is also the Secretary of the District Library Committee, which gives

grants for the development of municipal libraries and for setting up of reading rooms in the rural areas.

The office also runs two tourist information centres, one each at Pathankot and Shahpur which are frequently visited by foreign tourists going to Kashmir. Under the community listening scheme, it has installed 7 radio-sets in the district.

(c) Co-operative Department

The department is represented in the district by two Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies, posted one each at Gurdaspur and Batala. They are under the administrative control of the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Amritsar with an overall control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, Chandigarh. The jurisdiction of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur extends to the Gurdaspur and Pathankot tahsils (excluding Dhariwal Block) and that of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Batala, to the Batala Tahsil plus Dhariwal Block.

The office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur, was established in 1935. He is assisted by 1 Head Clerk, 1 Accountant, 1 Statistical Assistant, 18 Inspectors, 42 Sub-Inspectors besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Batala, was established in November 1959. He is assisted by 1 Head Clerk, 1 Accountant, 1 Statistical Assistant, 16 Inspectors, 37 Sub-Inspectors, besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The working of women co-operatives in the district is supervised by an Inspector, Co-operative Societies, stationed at Gurdaspur.

The main functions of the Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies, Gurdaspur and Batala, are : to ensure proper growth and development of the co-operative movement ; registration of co-operative societies and to exercise supervision over them ; and to ensure the audit of the accounts of these societies. Besides, they advance loans to the members of the societies for stepping up agricultural production. Loans are also advanced in the form of fertilizers, seeds and agricultural implements.

(d) Food and Supplies Department

The department is represented at the district level by the District Food and Supplies Controller, posted at the district headquarters. He is under the administrative control of the Director, Food and Supplies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The office of the District Food and Supplies Controller, Gurdaspur, was established in 1948. He is assisted by 1 District Food and Supplies Officer, 4 Assistant Food and Supplies Officers, 1 Head Analyst, 6 Junior Analysts, 1 Head Clerk, 1 Accountant, 1 Statistical Assistant, 1 Senior Auditor, 8 Junior Auditors, 28 Inspectors, 30 Sub-Inspectors, besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the department are : procurement of food-grains ; distribution of sugar, rice, wheat/atta and vegetable ghee through fair price shops in the urban as well as rural areas; issue/renewal of brick-kilns and fire-wood licences; allotment of coal/coke and cement; and checking of licences of foodgrains, rice hullers, rice shellers, kerosene, ghee, rice, sugar, yarn, etc. The department also maintains its own godowns for storage of foodgrains.

(e) Finance Department

The department is represented at the district level by the Treasury Officer, who is incharge of the District Treasury, Gurdaspur. He is assisted by 2 Assistant Treasury Officers, (incharge of the Sub-Treasuries at Batala and Pathankot), 1 District Treasurer, 4 Assistant Treasurers, 1 Assistant Superintendent Treasury, 4 Assistants, besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main duties of Treasury Officer and the Assistant Treasury Officers are to make receipts and payments on behalf of the Government and to maintain the initial accounts of the Government. They are also responsible to the Accountant General, Punjab, for regular submission of monthly accounts and allied returns, etc.

(f) Planning Department

The department is represented at the district level by the District Statistical Officer, Gurdaspur. This office was established in 1958. The District Statistical Officer is assisted by 1 Technical Assistant, 1 Field Assistant, 1 Computer, besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the District Statistical Officer are : to co-ordinate the statistical activities of various offices at the district level and to publish statistical data, to improve the quality of the statistical work done at the district level, to conduct *ad hoc* socio-economic surveys, to collect price data for supplying to the different Central and State agencies to collect weekly retail prices and to act as store of statistics for Government institutions and interested public.

(g) Language Department

The department is represented at the district level by the District Language Officer, Gurdaspur, whose Office was established in February 1962. The District Language Officer is assisted by an Instructor of stenography, a clerk and a peon.

The functions of the District Language Officer are to popularise Punjabi in the district ; to impart training in Punjabi shorthand and type-writing ; to organise literary meetings, *kavi darbars* (poetical symposia), dramas, debates and poetic compositions ; to celebrate birth /death anniversaries of the renowned deceased poets /writers of the district at their native places ; to undertake linguistic survey and to bring out glossaries ; to award financial assistance to literary men and institutions/organizations ; and to assist the Government offices in translating pamphlets/books in Punjabi.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

(a) Evolution of Local Self-Government in the District

The history of local self-government in the district is not much different from the history and evolution of this institution in the Punjab which in turn is practically the same as that of India.

Local self-government in the Punjab, as elsewhere in India, is of two kinds : the local government of the villages and that of the towns. The development of local self-government in large towns is described here while rural government falls under the head Pannhayati Raj.

Historical Retrospect.—As in the other parts of India, already under the British rule, the administration of local services and affairs was entrusted to a bureaucratic district administration established in the Punjab, after it came under the British rule in the forties of the 19th century. Later on, however, it was decided by the British to decentralise the administration gradually and this process of decentralisation began to result in the establishment of a new politico-administrative organisation, called municipal bodies, side by side with the existing district administration, in a few towns.

The earliest Act in Punjab dealing with Municipal Administration was the Punjab Municipal Act, 1867 (Act XV of 1867). This Act was repealed by Act IV of 1873. Both these enactments were very simple and had very little in common with the existing municipal law. In 1882, the Government of Lord Ripon (1880—1884) issued their famous resolution which had the effect of greatly extending the principle of local self-government. He took a keen interest in the system of local self-government, as an instrument of political and popular education. Under his influence, the people were given some share in the management of local affairs, but the general view at that time was that it would take Indians a long time before they would be capable of management of their local affairs. Acts were passed in 1883 and 1884 which greatly enlarged the constitution, powers and functions of municipal authorities. A wider basis was given to the elective system. The initiative and powers conferred on municipal committees of many towns were also widened by permitting them to elect a private citizen as a Chairman in place of the Executive Officer, who had hitherto filled the post. Arrangements were also made for the periodical revision of the provincial finances to adjust municipal resources to relate them to civic responsibilities entrusted to them. A considerable portion of the municipal revenue had hitherto been devoted to the maintenance of the town police, over which the municipal authorities had no control. They were now in most provinces, relieved of this burden, on

the understanding that they would incur an equivalent expenditure on education, medical relief and local public works. This was accompanied by other progressive steps. Some items of Provincial revenue suited to and capable of development under local management, were transferred from the Provincial account for local objects, subject only to the condition of proportionate expenditure being incurred.

The reforms proposed by Lord Ripon led to the overhauling of the Act IV of 1873 and Act XIII of 1884. This Act was repealed by Act XX of 1891 which only introduced such changes as experience had proved to be desirable. The Act of 1884, however, continued to be the foundation of the Municipal Administration in Punjab.

The Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 (Punjab Act III of 1911), repealed the Act XX of 1891, but the former did not introduce any material changes in the basic principles of municipal administration.

Until the independence, the changes introduced in the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, by a series of amending Acts, were relatively of a minor character. After the independence, the Act was amended to provide for wholly elective municipal committees with democratically elected presidents. Provision was also made for the appointment of official Advisers who were entitled to participate in the deliberations of the municipal committee, but without right to vote. New election rules were framed to provide for elections on the basis of adult universal franchise. Communal electorates and the system of nominations were abandoned. Provision was also made for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes for a period of ten years from the commencement of the Constitution of India, in proportion to their population in the local area.

To cope with the problems created by the influx of refugees on account of communal disturbances before and after the partition, the East Punjab Local Authorities (Restriction of Functions) Act, 1947 (Punjab Act IX of 1947), was passed. This Act empowered the State Government to notify certain areas and to assume functions of a local authority therein where the local authority was not capable of performing or did not adequately perform such functions. Expenses for discharging such functions were to be paid by the local authority concerned. The Punjab Local Authorities Laws (Exercise of Powers) Act, 1953, provided for the performance of the functions of the Commissioner under all local government enactments by the State Government and the Deputy Commissioner.

The Punjab Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1954, repealed the Punjab Small Town Act, 1921, and converted Town Committees into class III Municipal Committees. This Act, which came into force on

April 1, 1955, brought the governance of all urban local bodies under a unified corpus of municipal law.

In order to tone up the efficiency of local body services, the Punjab Public Service Commission (Additional Functions) Act, 1955, was placed on the Statute Book. This Act provided for the recruitment of local bodies employees, with an initial pay of Rs 150 or more, a month, through the Punjab Public Service Commission.

By the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1956, reservation has been provided for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the services of municipal committees. In 1954, Local Government (Urban) Enquiry Committee was set up to recommend reforms in the structure of urban local government¹. The committee in its report, in 1957, recommended enlargement of autonomy of municipal bodies to the maximum extent, compatible with the imperative needs of continuity, efficiency and integrity in municipal administration.

Previously, the term of office of municipal commissioners in the State was three years. This was extended to five years in 1973.

(b) Organisation and Structure

Functions and Duties of Municipal Committees.—Statutorily, the Punjab Municipal Bodies have two types of functions, namely, obligatory functions and optional functions. Obligatory functions are those functions which every municipal committee has to perform and if for their performance the committee does not make sufficient provision in its budget, then the State Government compels it to do so; and if the committee fails to perform these functions satisfactorily, then the State Government may even supersede the committee and place the municipality under the charge of its own officer. Obligatory functions are of four main types, viz. public safety and convenience, medical relief, public work and public health. These include such activities as regulating or abetting offensive or dangerous trades, removing of obstructions and projections in public streets, lighting and cleansing of public streets, extinguishing of fires, provision and regulation of slaughter-houses, burial grounds, latrines, picnic spots, drains and sewers, registration of births and deaths, public vaccination, inoculation and primary education, etc.

The list of optional functions is comprehensive and includes construction and maintenance of public streets, establishing and maintaining public parks, gardens, libraries, museums, dharmshalas, rest houses, lunatic asylums, furthering educational programmes other than primary education, planting and maintaining of roadside trees, arranging for the destruction of stray dogs, maintaining dairy farms and breeding studs, holding of fairs and exhibitions, etc.

1. *Report of the Local Government Urban Inquiry Committee, 1957* (Chandigarh, 1957)
Khanna, Rattan Lal, *Local Government in Punjab* (Chandigarh, 1957) pp. 15-18

There are 10 municipalities in the district at Gurdaspur, Dhariwal, Dinanagar, Batala, Dera Baba Nanak, Fatehgarh Churian, Srigobindpur, Qadian, Pathankot and Sujanpur. Out of these, 2 are Class I, 5 Class II and 3 Class III. The income and expenditure of the municipalities are given in the Appendix at pages 359-360. The sources of income of the different municipalities include house tax, octroi tax, toll tax, cycle tax, cinema show tax, building application tax, water rate, *tehbazarif* fee, licence fee on articles of food and drink, dangerous and offensive trades licence fee, vehicles licence fee, slaughter-house tax, etc.

A brief account of each municipality is given below :

Gurdaspur Municipality

The municipality was first constituted in 1867. The bye-laws were introduced in 1920. It is a Class II municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 6.47 sq. km. Its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 32,064. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1970-71 was 14.

The various civic amenities provided by the municipality include protected water-supply, street lighting, surface drains, arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of refuse, a library and a reading room. The municipality also makes some contribution towards the expenses of the Civil Hospital, Gurdaspur, and the Mental Hospital, Amritsar.

Dhariwal Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1926. The municipal bye-laws were introduced in 1961. It is a Class II municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 3.29 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 9,985. The total number of members of the municipal committee was 15.

The various civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting, arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of refuse and a library and three reading rooms.

Dinanagar Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1868. The bye-laws were introduced in 1950. It is a Class II municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 10.36 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 10,607. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 15.

The various civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting, arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of refuse and a library cum reading room and a reading room. The municipality runs a Civil Hospital and a Veterinary Hospital.

Batala Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1884. The bye-laws were introduced in 1928. It is a Class I municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 6.06 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 58,200. The total number of members of the municipal committee was 21.

The various civic amenities provided by the municipality include protected water-supply, street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of refuse. Underground sewers have been constructed, but until 1971 only 20 per cent of the area had been covered. Besides, tap water-supply catered to only about one-fourth of the population of the town. The municipality runs a maternity hospital and a library.

An urban estate—a small modern housing colony—has been set up at Batala, where all modern amenities are provided. By the end of 1973, out of a total 288 plots planned, 239 had been allotted. Besides, in order to boost the development activity in expanding towns, the Punjab Town Improvement Act, 1922, has been extended to Batala as well.

Dera Baba Nanak Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1890. The bye-laws were introduced in 1918. It is a Class III municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 0.78 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 5,338. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 13.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of refuse. The municipality also runs a library.

A Development Board has been constituted at the district level in respect of Dera Baba Nanak with a view to formulate development programmes for the town and watch their implementation.

Fatehgarh Churian Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1955. The bye-laws were introduced in 1960. It is a Class III municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 0.44 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 7,590. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 13.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of the town refuse. The municipality also runs a library.

Srigobindpur Municipality

Constituted in the first instance as a municipality in 1865, Srigobindpur was reduced to the status of a notified area in 1910. Again it was raised to the status of a small town in 1924 and a Class III municipality on April 1, 1955. The municipal bye-laws were introduced in 1930.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 0.52 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 2,430. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 12.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of the town refuse. The municipality also runs a library and a reading room.

Qadian Municipality

The municipality was constituted in 1946. The bye-laws were introduced in 1950. At present, it is a Class II municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 9.06 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 13,119. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 15.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of the town refuse. The municipality also runs a library cum reading room.

Pathankot Municipality

The municipality was originally constituted in 1868. At present, it is a Class I municipality.

The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 16.37 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 76,355. The total number of members of municipal committee was 21.

In the matter of civic and other amenities, Pathankot stands at the top in the district. The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting protected water-supply and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of the town refuse. Sewerage in the town

has been improved lately by a network of underground system. A network of fire-fighting service is also available. Besides, the municipality runs four Ayurvedic Dispensaries, a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and a Sub-Centre and a Family Planning Centre. It also runs a library cum reading room.

A highpowered Development Board has been constituted for the speedy development and growth of the Pathankot town.

Sujanpur Municipality

Formerly a municipality, Sujanpur was reduced to the status of a notified area in 1909. At present, it is a Class II municipality. The area of the town within municipal limits in 1971 was 0.31 sq. km. and its population, according to the 1971 Census, was 12,568. The total number of members of the municipal committee in 1972-73 was 12.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street lighting and arrangements for cleanliness of the town and disposal of the town refuse. The municipality also runs a library cum reading room.

(c) Town and Country Planning and Housing

The office of the Divisional Town Planner, Pathankot Division, Pathankot, started functioning from March 1, 1968. Its jurisdiction extends up to the boundaries of District Gurdaspur. The functions of the office are more or less that of a technical service agency for urban and rural planning for the district at the divisional level. In its case the executing authorities are the local bodies—Municipal Committees and the Town Improvement Trusts, whereas in the case of Government projects, the execution is done by the Public Works Department. The main activities of the office are briefly indicated below:

Besides tendering the technical assistance to the various departments, one of the basic functions of this office is to prepare the Master Plans for the towns. The important schemes sponsored by the Government, through various departments, for which necessary technical assistance is provided by this office are: rehabilitation schemes for the displaced persons, such as model township, housing colonies and cheap tenement; industrial areas and estates sponsored from time to time by the Industries Department; Mandi Township schemes of the low income group housing, industrial housing and slum clearance schemes of the Housing Department; village planning for the Director General of Rural Rehabilitation and later for the community projects; rental housing schemes for Government employees; etc.

The more effective and visible results of Town and Country Planning are through 'positive planning', when a public authority itself acquires the land and undertakes the necessary development. The development and re-development schemes of the Improvement Trusts are, therefore, much more effective and comprehensive.

The most important among the municipal schemes is the Town Planning Scheme which is prepared by this office on behalf of the municipal committee under sections 3(18) (b) and 192 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911. These schemes are purely of regulative nature and their actual implementation remains in the hands of the land owners.

Controlled areas are taken up under the Punjab Scheduled Roads and Controlled Areas Restriction of Unregulated Development Act, 1963, with a view to checking up the haphazard and unplanned development in the periphery of urban areas of fast developing towns, viz. Pathankot, Batala, etc.

To ensure the non-concentration of ownership of urban land, all local bodies and organisations dealing with urban land development schemes have been directed not to create residential plots bigger than 500 sq. yds. It has been further ensured, through legal measures, that no individual or the spouse or dependent children can obtain more than one residential plot or one house under the scheme of Government or of a local body. This measure has been taken to ensure against the hoarding in land as also to curb the existing speculation in real estate by affluent individuals/parties. In order to assist urban development schemes, every Class III municipality was given Rs 40,000 by way of loan and Rs 60,000 as grant during 1972-73.

Pathankot Improvement Trust, Pathankot.—It was formed in 1962, vide Punjab Government Gazette Notification No. 1910-4CIII-62/10750, dated March 9, 1962, under the Punjab Town Improvement Act, 1922. An Improvement Trust is an *ad hoc* body constituted for the general purpose of city development. Its functions include opening up of congested areas, clearance of slums, provision of sanitary dwellings and orderly expansion of the towns. Thus, an Improvement Trust is an important organ of the municipal bodies, which actually looks after the health, well-being and prosperity of the people living in the city.

The Pathankot Improvement Trust has 2 members, appointed by the Government for 3 years besides one *ex-officio* member.

The various types of schemes taken up by the Pathankot Improvement Trust are development schemes, street schemes, improvement

of junctions, shopping centres and other architectural projects. Such schemes are prepared by this office on behalf of the Improvement Trust under the provisions of the Town Improvement Act, 1922.

The sources of income of the Improvement Trust are: municipal contribution, Government grants, loans, Trust property, Nazul property, fees, investments, costs awarded by Government, fines and penalties, deposits, collection of advances, unclassified suspense account, and others. The details of income and expenditure of the Pathankot Improvement Trust, Pathankot, during 1965-66 to 1972-73, are given below :

Year		Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)
1965-66	..	18,530	1,70,020
1966-67	..	81,205	2,12,481
1967-68	..	4,77,554	2,74,178
1968-69	..	8,77,485	9,76,438
1969-70	..	5,82,008	5,40,676
1970-71	..	1,32,13,000	1,30,64,000
1971-72	..	26,17,064	29,89,660
1972-73	..	16,28,818	16,11,046

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1966 to 1973)

(d) Panchayati Raj

The fundamental approach of democracy is not only that power flows from the people, but that people should be associated in the largest possible numbers with decision making and the wielding of authority. This is the spirit in which the Panchayati Raj movement was launched on October 2, 1961, to widen and take to each village the rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India. The movement has, indeed, contributed to the political awakening and buoyancy that is now found in rural India.

Panchayati Raj is a three-tier system of administration for the development of villages, with the Panchayat at the village level, the Panchayat Samiti at the block level and the Zila Parishad at the district level.

The basic objective of the Panchayati Raj is to transfer the initiative in the formulation and execution of the Community Development Programme to the three-tier system of local bodies (at the village and district level).

Gram Panchayats.—The institution of village panchayats is as old as Indian history and is a part of Indian tradition. The ancient panchayats discharged most of the functions affecting the life of the village community and were effective units of administration until the 18th century. With the advent of the British, however, they got relegated to a subservient place in the colonial set-up. Even during the British rule, particularly after the Ripon Resolution of 1882, attempts were made to revive these village institutions. Accordingly, panchayats and local boards were set up. After the independence, the importance of revitalising the village panchayats and assigning them a specific role in the administration was recognised. The first organised effort to tackle the problems of rural India was through the Community Development Programme².

A brief history of the attempt to revive in Punjab, as in the rest of the country, a village institution which had its origin in the ancient period and which enjoyed a great reputation for providing stability, peace and prosperity to the village life in ancient India, is traced below.

The earliest legislation on panchayats, in the State was the Punjab Panchayat Act of 1912, which was followed by another Act in 1921-22. These enactments failed badly in their purpose and did not get any encouraging response from the people. "The Panchayats which were formed existed merely on paper because they had no effective powers. Now the Panches could inspire confidence or respect in the people because only those persons could find a place in the Panchayats who had ingratiated themselves with the authorities"³. Complete control was maintained over these bodies and their powers and resources were extremely meagre.

The Unionist Ministry in the Punjab passed another Act in 1939 which superseded the earlier Acts and conferred, among others, wide judicial powers, both civil and criminal, on the panchayats. Efforts were also made to improve the financial resources of Panchayats

2. *Panchayati Rajat a Glance*, p.i (published by the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation, Government of India, New Delhi)

3. Malaviya, H. D., *Village Panchayats in India* (New Delhi, 1956), p. 370.

through Government grants. Panchayats were allowed to levy taxes in their respective areas with the previous sanction of the Government. A separate Panchayat Department was created to look after panchayats⁴. This Act made a considerable advance in the organization of the village Panchayats in the pre-partition Punjab. The panchayats did some good and encouraging work.

At the time of the partition of the country in 1947, there were 318 panchayats in the district, of which 33 did not function. The partition unsettled the life in the whole of the State, but, with remarkable rapidity, initiative, courage and perseverance, the people set themselves to the task of building and reconstructing their social, economic and political institutions. In 1952, the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act was passed. Under this Act, every village or group of villages with a population of 500 or more was to have one or more Gram Panchayat. This limit could be relaxed in suitable cases. The Act provided that each Gram Panchayat will consist of 5 to 9 members. The Panches were elected by the universal adult franchise for a period of five years. Seats were reserved for Scheduled Castes. Under this Act, the Panches elected the Sarpanch from amongst themselves and possessed the power to remove him by a motion of no-confidence passed by two-third majority. These panchayats were given considerable functions to undertake the work of reconstructing village life by providing various civic amenities and were vested with powers to try both civil and criminal cases.

The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, was amended in 1960, and that was the first step towards the establishment of Panchayati Raj in the State. Under the Act, a gram sabha may be constituted for any village or group of contiguous villages with a population of not less than 500 and a gram panchayat is elected for the Gram Sabha area and not for each village. The Government of course has the power to relax it (under section 4 of the Panchayat Act, 1960). Every male or female who is entered as a voter on the electoral roll of the State Vidhan Sabha is a member of the Gram Sabha. These members of the Gram Sabha elect the members of the Panchayats from amongst themselves. If no woman is elected as a Panch, the woman candidate, securing the highest number of votes amongst the women candidates in that election, is co-opted by the panchayat as a Panch, and, where no such woman candidate is available, a woman is co-opted as a Panch by the prescribed authority (under section 6 of the Act). Similarly, it has been provided that every panchayat shall have one or two members of the Scheduled Caste, depending upon the ratio of their population in the village (under section 6(4) of the Act).

4. *Ibid*

Under the Act, Gram Panchayat is to meet at least once a month at a place within the Gram Panchayat area. Three Panches constitute a quorum.

All the decisions of the Panchayat are taken by majority and, when the voting is equal, the Sarpanch has an additional or casting vote (under section 14(3) of the Act).

In 1971-72, the number of panchayats in the Gurdaspur District was 1,056 and their membership was 5,963.

Functions

Under the Act, panchayat is expected to play within its own area the roles of sanitary inspector, an electrician, a public health officer and doctor, an engineer and a planner, a veterinary surgeon, a librarian and sports organiser, an agriculturist expert in the modern methods of food production, an overseer, a forest officer and a social reformer. It may also assume the role of a nurse, a relief worker and, last but not the least, of a benevolent creditor to relieve the poor of the curse of indebtedness.

Apart from these, the Act confers on the panchayats the power to make certain general orders, to enquire and make report about misconduct of petty officials. It can introduce prohibition within its area by a vote of two-third majority of Panches (under sections 22, 24 and 26). The panchayats can also establish primary schools, hospitals, dispensaries, etc.⁵

Judicial functions

A. Criminal.—The criminal jurisdiction of a Gram Panchayat relates to the trial of offences specified in schedule 1 (A) of the Act, a panchayat with enhanced powers and every Adalti Panchayat had jurisdiction to try offences mentioned in schedule 1 (B).

A panchayat may on conviction, sentence an accused for a fine not exceeding Rs 100 and, if it is a panchayat with enhanced powers to a fine of not exceeding Rs 200. It has the power to demand from an accused a bond of good behaviour.

B. Civil and Revenue.—A Panchayat has a jurisdiction to try civil cases to the maximum value of Rs 200, and, a panchayat with enhanced powers, to the maximum value of Rs 500.

5. *Quarterly Journal of Local Self-Government Institute*, Volume 33, (Bombay, 1962), pp. 83-86

Sources of Revenue

To enable panchayats to undertake the various developmental and other functions vested in them, the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, provides the following sources of revenue. The income from these sources is credited to the gram fund which is provided for each panchayat. The sources of gram fund are: all grants from Government and other local authorities; all donations; all taxes, duties, cesses and fees; the sale proceeds of dust, dirt and dung; income derived from common lands; income derived from villages fisheries; etc.

The income of the panchayats in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below:

Sources of Income	1967-68 (Rs)	1968-69 (Rs)	1969-70 (Rs)	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)
1. Grants from Government ..	3,20,000	3,33,722	1,83,011	2,48,065	2,29,574
2. Voluntary contributions ..	11,047	10,814	8,484	15,762	12,878
3. Hous Tax ..	1,30,599	1,11,650	2,46,969	1,78,816	91,079

(Source : Director of Panchayats, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Achievements

During 1971-72, the panchayats in the district constructed 46 new school buildings and repaired and extended a large number of existing ones, provided 4 playgrounds and 4 children parks, established 2 libraries, constructed 10 *panchayatghars*, provided street light to 28 villages, constructed 202 km of roads and 371 culverts, besides making drains pucca, pavement of streets, disinfection of wells, etc.

As regards the judicial work done during 1971-72, the panchayats in the district decided 91 revenue cases and 98 criminal cases.

Panchayat Samitis.—The panchayat samitis constitute the second tier of the 'Panchayati Raj' scheme. These bodies have been constituted under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961. This tier of local self-government acts as a bridge between the Zila Parishads and Village Panchayats.

Every community development block in the State is to have a panchayat samiti consisting of primary members, associated members, co-opted members and *ex-officio* members, as under :

Primary Members 19 to be elected as under :

16 by the Panches and Sarpanches of all panchayats in the block from amongst themselves ; 2 members to be elected by members of all co-operative societies within the jurisdiction of the panchayat samiti, from amongst themselves ; and one member to represent all market committees in the block, to be elected by the members of these committees from amongst the producer members residing within the panchayat samiti's jurisdiction.

Associate Members⁶: Every member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha representing the constituency, of which the block forms the part of the panchayat samiti, is the associated member.

Co-opted Members: Every panchayat samiti must have at least two women and 4 members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as its members. If this number is not elected, the primary members of the panchayat samiti, at a meeting specially called for the purpose, co-opt the prescribed number of members to represent the women and the members of the Scheduled Castes.

Ex-officio Members : The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) having jurisdiction in the block and the Block Development and Panchayat Officer are the *ex-officio* members.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the panchayat samiti are elected by the primary and co-opted members from amongst themselves and their term of office is 5 years. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer is the Executive Officer of the samiti. He, however, is not the sole repository of the executive power of the panchayat samiti. It is bifurcated between the Chairman and the Executive Officer, the residuary executive powers vesting in the former.

The panchayat samitis have the most active role to play in the all round development of the villages. Their functions include development of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, minor irrigation works, village industries, social education, local communications, sanitation, health and medical relief, etc., etc. Besides the above obligatory functions, the panchayat samiti has some optional functions which it may, with the approval or at the suggestion of the Zila Parishad, provide for any matter other than those set out above. In addition, it has also some agency

6. Prior to the abolition of the Punjab Vidhan Parishad in 1969, the membership of a Panchayat Samiti also included such members of the Punjab Vidhan Parishad as the Government might by order specify.

functions, i.e. functions entrusted to panchayat samitis by Government.

The panchayat samitis have also the power to frame bye-laws on various subjects, power to acquire land or other immovable property ; power to contribute towards joint works and under-takings, power under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, which the Government may authorise the panchayat samitis to exercise, power to delegate to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the Executive Officer or any other Government servants all or any power conferred upon the panchayat samiti, except the power to make bye-laws and supervisory powers over the panchayats.

The sources of income of a panchayat samiti consist of a composite samiti fund which comprises (i) apportionment made by the Government out of the balance of district fund at the credit of District Board concerned ; (ii) all proceeds of local rate allotted to the panchayat samitis under section 63 of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961 ; (iii) the proceeds of all taxes, cesses and fees imposed by the panchayat samitis ; (iv) income arising from all sources of income placed at its disposal under section 62 of the Act ; (v) surcharge on duty on the transfer of immovable property ; (vi) proceeds from periodical fairs and markets and bazars ; (vii) voluntary public contributions ; and (viii) grants received from Government.

In 1971-72, the number of panchayat samitis in the Gurdaspur District was 11 and their membership was 264.

Zila Parishad.—The Zila Parishad, which has replaced the former District Board, stands at the apex of the structure of Panchayati Raj. The District Board, Gurdaspur, was constituted in 1883, under the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883. It consisted of 28 members, of whom 19 were elected and 9 appointed. Of these 9 appointed members, 1 was nominated by Government, while other 8 were *ex-officio*, viz. the Deputy Commissioner (as Chairman), the Civil Surgeon, the Superintendent of Police, the District Inspector of Schools and the 4 Tahsildars of the then four tahsils in the district. The Vice-Chairman was a non-official, elected by the members of the board. There were no local boards and the Finance sub-committee was the only sub-committee.

The District Board, Gurdaspur, was replaced by the Zila Parishad on March 1, 1962, under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961.

The Zila Parishad consists of elected members (two members of every panchayat samiti in the district, to be elected by each panchayat samiti) ; Chairman of every panchayat samiti in the district ; the Deputy

Commissioner, every M.L.A., M.P., representing the district⁷. Besides, every Zila Parishad must have at least 2 women and 5 members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and, if this number does not come in by election, the deficit is to be made up by co-option under section 86(3) of the Act. The Zila Parishad has a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, elected by the primary members, Chairmen of the panchayat samitis and co-opted members, from amongst themselves. The Secretary of the Zila Parishad is appointed by the Government.

The total number of members of the Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur, as on April 1, 1972, was 51. Their tenure of office is 5 years.

The Zila Parishad is to advise, supervise and co-ordinate the functions of the panchayat samitis in the district ; has the power to examine and approve the budgets of panchayat samitis ; can issue directives to panchayat samitis for the efficient performance of their duties; can give advice to panchayat samitis on its own motion or at the request of a panchayat samiti or on being required to do so by Government ; is to co-ordinate and consolidate development plans prepared for each block by their respective panchayat samitis ; and is to secure the execution of plans, projects schemes or works common to two or more panchayat samitis or blocks in the district.

The Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur, maintains 74.28 km of pucca and 505.21 km *kutch*a roads.

The main sources of income of the Zila Parishad are Government grants, share of local rate and funds allotted to it for implementing departmental schemes. The income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur, during 1962-63 to 1970-71, is given below :

Year		Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)
1962-63	..	17,40,905	7,53,988
1963-64	..	10,92,733	7,94,771
1964-65	..	10,45,679	9,00,052
1965-66	..	11,34,799	12,68,342
1966-67	..	10,39,178	8,56,054
1967-68	..	12,20,767	12,50,632
1968-69	..	9,54,133	10,59,831
1969-70	..	12,35,787	12,44,393
1970-71	..	18,42,190	18,76,799

(Source : Zila Parishad, Gurdaspur)

7. Prior to the abolition of the Punjab Vidhan Parishad in 1969, the membership of the Zila Parishad also included the members of the Vidhan Parishad representing the district.

APPENDIX

(Vide page 346)

Income and Expenditure of Municipalities in the Gurdaspur District, 1967-68 to 1971-72

Name of Municipality	Particulars	Year					LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT		359
		1967-68 (Rs)	1968-69 (Rs)	1969-70 (Rs)	1970-71 (Rs)	1971-72 (Rs)			
Tabsil Gurdaspur									
Gurdaspur	{ Income	3,84,175	6,87,083	6,44,485	7,12,878	9,97,26			
	{ Expenditure	4,15,651	6,65,978	6,85,425	7,20,822	8,44,551			
Dhariwal	{ Income	1,74,688	1,76,688	2,55,885	2,67,841	2,85,900			
	{ Expenditure	1,74,650	1,61,838	2,53,532	2,68,179	2,75,785			
Dinanagar	{ Income	2,18,366	2,10,993	2,49,389	2,65,055	2,77,492			
	{ Expenditure	2,18,003	2,20,111	2,24,530	2,89,135	2,75,924			
Tabsil Batala									
Batala	{ Income	10,30,958	12,38,934	13,58,528	15,60,521	17,24,790			
	{ Expenditure	10,11,379	11,59,324	13,86,046	15,56,858	17,93,749			
Dera Baba Nanak	{ Income	27,475	26,433	35,876	41,465	37,277			
	{ Expenditure	28,010	28,115	35,724	39,906	35,492			

Name of Municipality	Particulars	Year				
		1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
		(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)	(Rs)
GURDASPUR						
Fatehgarh Churian	Income	69,727	82,650	89,750	1,05,620	1,24,747
	Expenditure	90,886	87,115	86,092	1,08,058	1,06,427
Srigobindpur	Income	24,088	23,055	39,563	42,559	31,025
	Expenditure	17,404	21,335	23,031	37,840	29,088
Qadian	Income	1,24,267	2,37,332	1,88,928	2,01,571	3,38,935
	Expenditure	1,32,704	1,68,396	2,33,604	2,15,021	2,80,454
Takail Pathankot						
Pathankot	Income	14,64,166	18,35,582	16,43,869	21,46,785	23,68,817
	Expenditure	14,79,882	15,27,539	19,94,358	20,46,808	23,21,637
Sujanpur	Income	1,03,646	1,91,073	1,11,992	134,349	1,59,940
	Expenditure	85,150	1,05,038	2,17,358	1,36,662	1,47,384

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(a) Historical Background¹

During the Sikh rule, the traditional system of education as it developed in the medieval period under the Afghans and the Mughals, continued. The *maktabs* or Persian schools, run by Muslim *Maulvis*, but open to all communities, formed the most popular educational institutions. These taught Persian which continued to be the court language. Quran schools, attached to mosques, taught Arabic. For more advanced study in Arabic and in the Muslim sciences and philosophy, there were *madrassas*. *Chat-shalas* were schools for the mercantile and trading communities for learning the various tachygraphic forms of *lande* (for shopkeepers), *mahajani* (for merchants) and *sarafi* (for bankers). These schools were conducted by *Padhas*. For Sanskrit learning, there were *pathshalas*.

Gurmukhi schools were attached to the village *gurdwaras* or *dharm-shalas*. The course comprised the *Balopadesa*, the *Panj Granthi*, the *Janamsakhi*, *Hanuman Natak* and *Bhai Gurdas Dian Varan*. At the advanced level, students also learnt *Vedanta* and read *Tulsi Ramayana*, *Vishnu Purana*, *Adyatam Ramayan*, *Vichar Sagar*, etc. Though some well-known schools were maintained by State endowments, yet ordinary schools in the villages were supported by the local community. In their *deras* or monasteries, Sikh sectaries, Nirmalas and Udasis, kept their own schools. The Nirmalas specialized in Sanskrit learning.

This system of education was prevalent at the time of the annexation of the Punjab in 1849. Under the British regime, secular schools were started which taught Urdu with elementary arithmetic, geography and history. Urdu, till then completely unknown in indigenous schools—Muslim, Hindu or Sikh—was introduced by the British who made it the language of official use at lower levels of administration. Of such institutions, the present Government Higher Secondary School, Gurdaspur, is one of the oldest in the State. Opened as Vernacular Middle School in 1856, it became Anglo-Vernacular in 1870 and was raised to a High School in 1878. An Anglo-Vernacular Middle School was also established at Batala in 1860 and it was raised to a High School in 1906. D.B. Dane High School, Dera Baba Nanak, was raised to the high school status in 1909, when Sir L. Dane, the then Lt. Governor of the Punjab, visited the

1. An article entitled 'Beginnings of Modern Sikh Education' Harbans Singh, Published in the *Punjab Past and Present*, Vol. VII, Part I, Serial No. 15, April 1974, pp. 127—144 ;

Gurdaspur District Gazetteer, 1914 (Lahore, 1915), pp. 190—194

town. Generally Persian script was employed throughout. *Nagri* and *Gurmukhi* characters were used in a few schools, mostly for girls. The method of instruction employed in indigenous schools appealed mostly to memory and did very little if at all to develop the general mental faculties of children. Such schools taught only the three R's. In others, known as private schools, only languages were taught and these too by rote. In fact, in these schools there was little education, properly so-called.

Another variety of schools, opened after the advent of the British rule, consisted of the mission schools set up by the Christian missionary organizations. Of these, those established in the district were the Baring High School, Batala (founded in 1878), A.L.O.E. High School, Batala, and the Avalon Girls' High School, Pathankot (founded in 1906). The Christian missionary organizations like the Christ Church, Gurdaspur, the Church of England Missionary Society, Batala, the Church of England Zenana Society, Batala, and the American United Presbyterian Mission, Pathankot, played an important part in the spread of education in the district.

The example of Christian missions led to the formation of Indian religious societies for opening and maintaining educational institutions after the new pattern. This trend manifested itself in the establishment of educational institutions by the Arya Samaj, the Sanatan Dharm Sabha, the Singh Sabha, the Ahmadiyas, etc. which helped in the spread of education in the district. These societies favoured the Western style of education and adopted it in the schools and colleges they sponsored. But they were simultaneously committed to reviving their distinctive religious and literary traditions. Mention may be made here of the Talim-ul-Islam High School at Qadian, an Ahmadiya institution, which was in existence in the first decade of the present century.

(b) Literary and Educational Standards

In a developing economy, education plays a vital role in accelerating its growth through the development of individual skills, dexterity and productivity. In fact, through the medium of education, the man-power resources are provided a direction to the desired field of economic activity.

Prior to the achievement of independence in 1947, the Gurdaspur District was one of the most neglected areas in the then united Punjab. The main bottleneck in its development was the absence of good arterial roads which kept the rural population cut off from its own and adjoining district headquarters as also from the rest of the Punjab. The district,

handicapped as it was in many other ways, remained educationally backward also. With the partition of the country in 1947, however, the district assumed great importance, both as a border district and also as India's gateway to the Jammu & Kashmir State. Its development naturally became one of the major concerns of the State and the Central Governments and both started on a steady programme of its reconstruction in their respective spheres.

In 1901, the proportion of literate persons was 2.8 per cent—5.1 males and 0.2 females, the number of pupils under instruction being 8,790. In 1911, out of every 1,000 persons, 51 among males and only 2 among the females were literate, there being no change in the literacy figures over the decade. The number of pupils in 1911 had, however, risen to 13,821. With the opening of many new primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools and colleges since 1947, the district has made a good progress in the field of education. The literacy rate in 1961 was 25.3 per cent, which was slightly more than that of the Punjab State's 24.2. In 1971, the literacy percentage in the Gurdaspur District was 34.23 as compared to 33.67 for the Punjab as a whole. The number of literate males and females per thousand, in the same year, was 414 and 262, respectively.

In 1961, in the rural areas, the number of literates (without educational level) was 74,632, primary or junior basic 67,948, and matriculates and above 12,002. In the urban areas, the number of literates (without educational level) was 26,313, primary or junior basic 49,257, matriculates or higher secondary 16,087, holders of technical diploma not equal to degree 459, holders of non-technical diploma not equal to degree 653, holders of University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree 1,548, and holders of technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree 357.

The following table shows the progress of school education in the district since the achievement of independence in 1947 :—

Progress of School Education in Gurdaspur District, 1947-48 to 1971-72

Type of Institution	Number of Institutions							
	1947-48		1960-61		1965-66		1971-72	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Primary Schools ..	142	49	471	235	624	32	845	41
Middle Schools ..	80	5	48	23	67	20	92	14
High Schools ..	18	3	51	12	52	13	81	20
Higher Secondary Schools	..	..	6	2	15	5	14	4
Total ..	240	57	576	272	758	70	1,032	79

(Census of India, 1961, Punjab District Census Handbook No. 14, Gurdaspur District, p. 43; and District Education Officer, Gurdaspur)

Free primary education became, and still is, the cry of the day and met with an encouraging measure of response from all concerned. The State Government, with subsidy from the Centre, embarked on the gigantic campaign of opening new schools. The local bodies and the panchayats also contributed their mite to this end. As a result of this three pronged campaign the number of schools in the district went up and the number of scholars in these schools increased. The implementation of Five-Year Plans also helped in the improvement of school education. Thus, a vigorous attack was launched against the evil of illiteracy. However, there continues to be great demand for more and more schools from all quarters especially from the rural areas.

Ours being a welfare State, education, like other subjects, is also planned by the State, yet the various educational societies, missions and philanthropic endowments are also providing valuable service in the field of education in the district. Most of the managements are of recent growth. Free and compulsory education has posed a gigantic task before the private sector, and most of them are keen to hand over their institutions to the Government. Those important among such societies are briefly mentioned below :

Educational Societies Rendering Service in the Field of Education

(1) **Christian Missions.**—The Christian missionaries have done pioneering work in spreading education in the district. Reverend F.H. Baring founded the Baring High School, Batala, on April 1, 1878, which was upgraded to an Intermediate College in 1944. The present Baring Union Christian College, Batala, owes its existence to the pioneering educational work of the Church Missionary Society through two of its early missionaries at Batala, the Reverend Francis Henry Baring and Miss Charlotte Marie Tucker, and a succession of other zealous workers whose aim was to educate leadership. Miss Charlotte Marie Tucker also felt the need of a counterpart school for children living in the town and, thus, started a Primary School. On the death of Miss Tucker the school's name was changed to A.L.O.E. (A Lady of England) in her honour. She used these initials as pen name under which she wrote many interesting books. It was raised to a High School in 1898. This school and the Baring School continued to serve the Batala area throughout most of the first half of the twentieth century. The school, however, ceased to function after the partition of the country in 1947.

At present the Christian missions run the following institutions in the district :—

- (i) Baring Union Christian College, Batala
- (ii) Salvation Army High School, Batala
- (iii) Methodist Mission School, Batala
- (iv) Girls' Mission School, Dhariwal
- (v) Milni Memorial Mission High School, Dhariwal
- (vi) Avlon Girls' Higher Secondary School, Pathankot

(2) **Arya Samaj.**—This society has done excellent service in the field of education and social uplift of women and backward classes through its various institutions. It has made a singular contribution towards the resurgence of Indian nationalism and resuscitation of its ancient culture. The Arya Samaj caters to the need of the people to meet the increasing requirements of higher education and runs the following schools and colleges in the district :—

- (i) D.A.V. High School, Gurdaspur
- (ii) Shakargarh D.A.V. High School, Gurdaspur
- (iii) D.A.V. Girls' High School, Gurdaspur
- (iv) D.A.V. High School, Dhariwal
- (v) D.A.V. High School, Kalanaur
- (vi) D.A.V. High School, Bahrampur
- (vii) Shanti Devi Arya Mahila College, Dinanagar
- (viii) Arya Higher Secondary School, Dinanagar
- (ix) S.L. Bawa D.A.V. College for Men, Batala
- (x) R.R. Bawa D.A.V. College for Girls, Batala
- (xi) D.A.V. Higher Secondary School, Batala
- (xii) Arya Girls' High School, Batala
- (xiii) D.A.V. Higher Secondary School, Qadian
- (xiv) Ved Kaur Arya Kanya High School, Qadian
- (xv) Lala Musa Sanatan Dharm Higher Secondary School, Fatehgarh Churian
- (xvi) Ram Rakha Mal Arya Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Pathankot
- (xvii) Arya Higher Secondary School, Pathankot
- (xviii) Arya Girls' Higher Secondary School, Pathankot

(xix) D.A.V. High School, Jhako Lahri

(3) **Sanatan Dharm Sabha.**—This society is also playing a vital role in the promotion of education among the masses. It runs the following institutions in the district :—

- (i) Gita Bhavan Girls' High School, Gurdaspur
- (ii) Hindu Putri Pathshala, Dhariwal
- (iii) S.M.D. Rajput Sanatan Dharm College, Pathankot
- (iv) S.D. Higher Secondary School, Pathankot
- (v) Saraswati Kanya Vidya High School, Pathankot
- (vi) S.M.D. Rajput High School, Sujanpur

(4) **Singh Sabha and other Sikh Societies.**—The Singh Sabha and other Sikh societies have also done much for the spread of education in the district. The institutions established by them are given below :

- (i) Guru Nanak College, Gurdaspur
- (ii) Khalsa High School, Gurdaspur
- (iii) Guru Nanak Girls' Middle School, Gurdaspur
- (iv) Sri Guru Arjan Dev Khalsa High School, Dhariwal
- (v) Guru Nanak Girls' High School, Dhariwal
- (vi) S.K.D. Khalsa High School, Tugalwala
- (vii) Guru Nanak Khalsa High School, Satkoha
- (viii) Guru Nanak College, Batala
- (ix) Sikh National High School, Batala
- (x) Khalsa Higher Secondary School, Batala
- (xi) Guru Nanak Khalsa Higher Secondary School, Batala
- (xii) Sikh National College, Qadian
- (xiii) Kalaswala Khalsa Higher Secondary School, Qadian
- (xiv) Baba Budha Khalsa High School, Teja Kalan
- (xv) Guru Arjan Dev Girls' Khalsa High School, Pathankot

Besides the above, Ahmadiyas and some other trusts and management societies are playing important role in the educational, social and religious spheres. The institutions run by these are given below :

- (i) Ahmadiya Middle School for Boys, Qadian
- (ii) Ahmadiya Middle School for Girls, Qadian
- (iii) Labhu Shah Mahajan High School, Dorangla
- (iv) Model High School, Dhariwal
- (v) Dera Ghazi Khan Girls' Middle School, Dinanagar

Women's Education

Women and the under privileged classes were generally ignored in educational matters before the advent of the British. Some people had, however, continued the education of their daughters on an indigenous pattern in vogue. The *mahants* of *gurdwaras* and temples used to impart education to the girls but unfortunately, due to the change in the educational pattern, higher education was not possible in temples, where the girls could learn only the three R's. In 1911, there were altogether 26 girls' schools of all grades and kinds with 924 scholars in them. As time passed, the number of educational institutions for girls gradually increased.

After the achievement of independence, women's education made rapid progress in the district. The introduction of compulsory primary education also helped much in this respect. In 1971-72, there were as many as 43,451 girls studying in 41 primary/basic primary schools in the district. Besides, there were 14 girls' middle and 24 high and higher secondary schools in the district with 38,356 students on rolls. The college education among women also got impetus and in 1971-72 there were 3 degree colleges for women.

Education of Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes

The Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes, particularly those inhabiting the rural areas, have not been enthusiastic about the education of their children. However, the introduction of compulsory primary education, which is free, have had a salutary effect on them; and they have been given various other inducements and encouragements. For them, education is free up to the middle standard in all Government schools. The provision has also been made to award free loans, stipends and scholarships to the students belonging to these classes in all institutions under the various schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes,

sponsored by the State and the Union Governments. The admission fee in respect of different examinations is reimbursed to these students. Besides, coaching centres for competitive examinations have also been set up for them. Books and clothes are also provided free to the poor and needy students.

The financial assistance given to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	Stipends (Rs)	Number of students benefited
1967-68	4,37,085	5,617
1968-69	4,31,741	5,179
1969-70	5,45,629	6,280
1970-71	5,53,941	6,371
1971-72	6,68,041	6,537

(Source : District Education Officer, Gurdaspur)

The number of Scheduled Caste students studying in different schools in the district, during 1971-72, was as under :

Type of Institution	Number of Scheduled Caste students		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Schools	13,905	6,707	20,612
Middle Schools	3,683	1,831	5,514
High Schools	7,293	2,177	9,470
Higher Secondary Schools	2,647	735	3,382

(Source : District Education Officer, Gurdaspur)

Role of Local Bodies in the Field of Education

Before the provincialization of schools in October 1957, the Zila Parishad (formerly District Board), Gurdaspur, and the various municipal committees in the district had a number of schools under their control. These institutions have played a very prominent part in the spread of literacy. On the provincialization of these schools, the local bodies were required to pay annually a specified contribution towards their maintenance to the Government.

Medium of Instruction

With a view to solving the language problem in the State, the Government evolved a formula designed to satisfy all sections of opinion. The Sachar Formula of 1949 has been replaced by a Three Language Formula under which Punjabi is the first language and the medium of instruction in Government schools at all levels. The teaching of Hindi is compulsory from the fourth primary class onwards, and English has been introduced as a compulsory third language from the sixth class. Privately-managed schools have been given the option to retain Punjabi or Hindi as medium of instruction, but such schools as opt for Hindi are required to teach Punjabi as a compulsory language. This solution, while ensuring compulsory instruction in Punjabi in all the schools in the State, enables the Hindi medium schools to continue teaching through that medium and also ensures that the entire school-going population in the State becomes conversant with both the languages as also English which is an international language and opens a window on the world.

Educational Set-up

With the re-organization of educational set-up on May 8, 1963, the District Education Officer is the overall in charge of the educational activities up to the high and higher secondary school levels in the district. He is linked with the Director of Public Instructions, Punjab, through the Circle Education Officer, Jullundur. He is assisted by two Deputy District Education Officers, one Assistant Education Officer, one District Education Survey Officer, one Science Supervisor for physical education, and a number of Block Education Officers. The primary schools function directly under the Block Education Officer, but Deputy Education Officers control the middle, high and higher secondary schools in the district.

At ministerial level, the establishment, accounts, examination and general branches function under the general supervision of a Superintendent, who is responsible to the District Education Officer for general administration and working of the District Education Office.

(c) General Education

Pre-Primary Schools

The main aim of education at this stage is to give young children social experience rather than formal instruction. The schools are small republics. These are the centres of all social and cultural activity of the locality in which these are situated. These are in a way community centres by themselves. Useful play-way devices are introduced in all the schools and some very original experiments for developing the pupil's personality and character and inculcating in them the habits of honesty are being successfully tried. Besides, these promote the physical, mental, emotional and social growth of children between the age of three and six. A love for work is developed and the child begins to find work in play and play in work.

Primary and Basic Schools

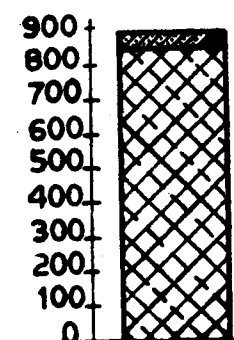
Free primary education became and still is the cry of the day and not without an encouraging measure of response from all concerned. It was introduced in the State during the Third-Five-Year Plan period (1961-66) in the age group 6-7 in 1961-62, and extended to the age group 7-8 in 1962-63, 8-9 in 1963-64, 9-10 in 1964-65, and 10-11 in 1965-66. The total number of primary/basic primary schools in the district in 1971-72 was 886, out of which 170 were basic primary schools. Almost all the primary schools are co-educational. In 1971-72, the number of students on rolls in all types of primary schools in the district was 1,02,093. The teachers are entrusted with the work of teaching the class as a whole in all the subjects in primary schools and primary sections of middle/high/higher secondary schools in the district. The total number of students in a section of a primary school is about 40. Most of the primary school teachers are either basic trained or have been oriented to the basic pattern. The number of teachers in primary/basic primary schools as on March 31, 1972, was 3,377 (males 1,870 and females 1,507). Under the new system of education primary schools have been converted into five-grade basic schools. According to the 1971 Census, there were 676 villages having 698 primary schools in the district.

In 1971-72, the total expenditure on primary schools in the district was Rs 96,41,819.

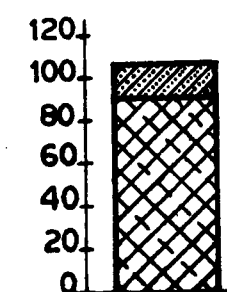
The details of the educational institutions and scholars at primary stage in the district are given in Appendix I on page 383.

NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS GURDASPUR DISTRICT AS ON MARCH 31, 1972

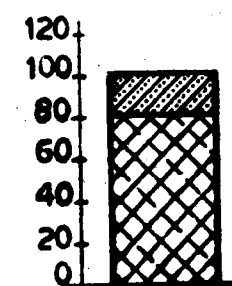
GIRLS — 
BOYS — 



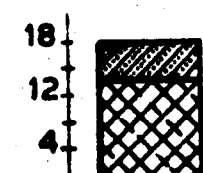
PRIMARY SCHOOLS



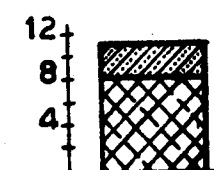
MIDDLE SCHOOLS



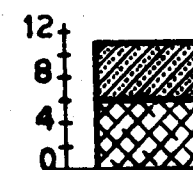
HIGH SCHOOLS



HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS



COLLEGES



TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

SOURCE: DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE GURDASPUR

Secondary Schools.—There is an all round expansion in the field of education in the district. The increase in the number of children/scholars in primary schools due to the free and compulsory education has increased the enrolment drive in the secondary schools. At the secondary stage, in 1971-72, there were 18 higher secondary schools, 101 high schools and 106 middle schools in the district. The total number of scholars studying in these schools was 18,842, 50,926 and 40,743, respectively.

In 1971-72, the total expenditure on middle and high/higher secondary schools was Rs 5,49,643 and Rs 98,57,690, respectively. According to the 1971 Census, there were 86 villages having 89 middle schools and 44 villages having 47 high or higher secondary schools in the district. The details of the educational institutions and scholars at the secondary stage in the district, as on March 31, 1972, are given in Appendix II on page 384.

The total number of teachers (both trained and untrained) in all the higher secondary, high and middle schools in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 2,079 (males 1,458 and females 621).

Higher Education.—In 1950-51, there were only two colleges in the district. The Baring Union Christian College, housed in the palace of Maharaja Sher Singh at Batala, is the oldest in the district. The Sikh National College, Qadian, was started after the partition in 1947 in the precincts previously occupied by the Talim-i-Islam College which had since been closed. In 1954-55, two more colleges were opened : the Government College, Gurdaspur, and the S.M.D. Rajput Sanatan Dharm College, Pathankot. Thereafter, several other colleges were started from time to time. However, only one college, viz. Guru Nanak College, Kala Afghana, is located in the rural areas of the district.

The colleges, functioning in the district in 1971-72, are mentioned below²:

1. Government College, Gurdaspur
2. Guru Nanak College, Gurdaspur
3. Shanti Devi Arya Mahila College, Dinanagar
4. Baring Union Christian College, Batala
5. Guru Nanak College, Batala
6. S.L. Bawa D.A.V. College for Men, Batala

²In 1973, one new college, viz. Swami Swatantra Nand Memorial College, Dinanagar, was started.

7. R.R. Bawa D.A.V. College for Girls, Batala
8. Guru Nanak College, Kala Afghanan
9. Sikh National College, Qadian
10. Ram Rakha Mal Arya Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Pathankot
11. S.M.D. Rajput Sanatan Dharm College, Pathankot

Of these 3 colleges are exclusively for girls, while the remaining 8 are co-educational institutions. All these are affiliated to the Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.

(1) **Government College, Gurdaspur.**—The college was started in 1954 to meet the demand of the public of Gurdaspur and its surrounding villages, since this town being the district headquarters had no college. Initially it was started in the building of the Government Higher Secondary School for Boys, Gurdaspur, but in 1966 it shifted to its own newly constructed building. The college imparts instructions in Pre-University (Humanities and Science Groups), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, and Three-Year Degree Course in B.A. and B.Sc. Training in National Cadet Corps is also imparted in the college. A number of literary and cultural societies function in the college to inculcate the spirit of public speaking and encourage other healthy pursuits among the students. The college also brings out thrice a year a news-cum-literary magazine named the *Gurdas*.

Scholarships/stipends are awarded by the Central Government/Punjab Government to the students belonging to various categories, viz. Scheduled Castes/Tribes, economically and other Backward Classes, handicapped students, sons and daughters of ex-servicemen, political sufferers' sons/daughters and to poor and deserving students.

In 1971-72, there were 1,635 students on its rolls.

(2) **Guru Nanak College, Gurdaspur.**—The College was started in 1970 to commemorate the 500th birthday of Guru Nanak. The college admits students to the Pre-University, Three-Year Degree Course in B.A. (Humanities) and T.D.C. Part I (Optionals in Punjabi, Hindi and Military Training). A number of literary and cultural societies function in the college. The college magazine, *Garjdi Parbhat*, is published once a year. Training in National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme is also provided. The college also provides facilities for athletics and games.

The number of students on the rolls of the college was 563 in 1971-72.

(3) **Shanti Devi Arya Mahila College, Dinanagar.**—Started in 1965, the college prepares students for the Three-Year Degree Course in B.A. It provides facilities for games and sports. The number of students on its rolls was 164 in 1971-72.

(4) **Baring Union Christian College, Batala.**—The old Baring High School, Batala, was upgraded to an intermediate college in 1944. The college provides education to both boys and girls in arts and science up to B.A. and B.Sc. classes. There are also Pre-Medical and Pre-Engineering classes and M.A. classes in English. The college encourages games and sports. Training in National Cadet Corps is also provided.

The college magazine, *Deep-Shikha*, is also published once a year. The number of students on its rolls in 1971-72 was 1,300.

(5) **Guru Nanak College, Batala.**—Started in 1971, the college provides instructions for the students of Pre-University and Three-Year Degree Course. There is provision for training in National Cadet Corps. A number of Societies are also functioning in the college. The college has started an open shelf library system which has proved a great success.

The number of students on the rolls of the college, during 1971-72 was 211.

(6) **S.L. Bawa D.A.V. College for Men, Batala.**—Started in 1971, the college is housed in the building of the D.A.V. Higher Secondary School, Batala. It imparts instructions in the Three-Year Degree Course in Arts and Science (T.D.C. Part I), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical and Pre-University in Science and Humanities Groups. A number of subject associations, societies and clubs function in the college. They organise lectures, debates, declamation contests, recitation contests, paper reading contests and also educational tours. Arrangements also exist in the college for various physical activities, sports and games. It also provides training in National Cadet Corps. The college brings out one issue of its magazine, *Dayadeep*.

The college had 427 students on its rolls in 1971-72.

(7) **R. R. Bawa D.A.V. College for Girls, Batala.**—Named after Ram Rakhi Bawa, this college was established in 1965. It offers instructions for the Pre-University (Humanities Group) and Three-Year Degree Course (Arts). It has also good arrangement of National Cadet Corps as a subject as well as hobby. The college holds the unit of National Service Scheme, under which scheme the students organize programmes of adult education, mother craft, child care, cookery and sanitation in the villages. Debates, declamation contests, music contests, drama and educational discussions are also held off and on. The college brings out one issue of its magazine, *Vidyotama* every year.

The number of students on its rolls in 1971-72 was 655.

(8) **Guru Nanak College, Kala Afghana.**--Founded in 1969, the college caters to the needs of higher education of the students residing in the rural areas. It imparts instructions in Pre-University (Humanities Group) and Three-Year Degree Course (Arts) in B.A. A number of societies viz. English Literary Society, Planning Forum and Political Science Society, function in the college. The college brings out one issue of its magazine, *Teesri Akh*, every year.

The number of students on the rolls of the college in 1971-72 was 312.

(9) **Sikh National College, Qadian.**--Originally founded in 1938 at Lahore, it was shifted therefrom on the partition of the country in 1947, and restarted at Qadian in 1948. The college prepares students for the Three-Year Degree in B.A. and B. Sc., Pre-Medical, and Pre-University classes in Humanities and Science groups. A number of societies exist in the college and every student is required to become member of atleast two of these. Military training including use of small arms is imparted to students through National Cadet Corps. The college magazine is published annually.

The number of students on the rolls of the college was 621 in 1971-72.

(10) **Ram Rakha Mal Arya Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Pathankot.**--Originally started in 1955 as an academy under the name of the Arya National College (for Women), it was taken over by the Arya Vidya Sabha in 1968, raised to a full-fledged college and given its present name. The college imparts instructions for the Three-Year Degree Course in B.A. It has extensive play grounds for out door games. The college magazine is published annually.

The number of students on the rolls of the college was 286 in 1971-72.

(11) **S.M.D. Rajput Sanatan Dharm College, Pathankot.**--Started in 1953, the college imparts instructions in arts and science subjects to the students of Pre-University (Science and Humanities), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, Three-Year Degree Course in B.A. and B.Sc. and Honours in History. A number of cultural societies function in the college and arrange co-curricular activities with a view to inculcate in the students sense of responsibility and self-confidence on the one hand and infuse literary tastes on the other. The college brings out one chief issue of college magazine, *Chanar*, and one supplement to highlight the cultural and extra mural activities of college students.

The college had 1,608 students on its rolls in 1971-72.

(d) Professional and Technical Education

Teachers' Training

There is no teachers' training institution in the district.

Medical Education

There is no institution for imparting medical education in the district.

Technical Education

Technical education has an important role in the industrial development of the district. To ensure steady flow of technical personnel for meeting the industrial activities, a number of technical colleges/institutions and industrial training centres/institutes (both for boys and girls) run at various places in the State. These institutions prepare students for degree/diploma courses in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. In the industrial training centres/institutes, training is imparted to the students in various trades/crafts, viz. welding, carpentry, fitting, turnery, blacksmithy, stenography, draftsmanship, etc. The crafts taught to the girls are tailoring, cutting, hand embroidery, needle work and machine embroidery, etc. Separate Centres for imparting industrial training to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes are also run by the Industries Department, Punjab.

The particulars regarding the government industrial institutes in the district have been given in the chapter on 'Industries'. Besides, there is a Government Polytechnic at Batala which runs three courses of three years' duration in electrical, mechanical and civil engineering. Every year, it takes 120 trainees who are awarded diplomas.

(e) Physical Education

Physical education has long been recognized as a necessary component in a programme of education. Due attention is paid towards games, sports, tournaments and other extra-curricular activities. The physical educator teaches the activities that help young children build healthy bodies and lay the foundation for emotional balance and good social adjustment. It has been made a part of recreational activities included in the school time-table. General health, good nutrition, organic vigour and muscular strength, speed and co-ordination are the fundamental indications of this objective.

The aim of physical fitness primarily is to make a unique contribution to the individual's optimum growth and development physiologically and, secondly to contribute to such psychological and sociological development and adjustment as is possible through participation

in vigorous physical activities according to social and hygienic standards. In high and higher secondary schools, a P.T.I. (Physical Training Instructor) is in charge of physical education, while in middle or primary schools, a few J. B. T. teachers look after this work. These teachers are also provided with special training in physical education. In the colleges, it is directed and guided by the Physical Directors.

The Assistant Education Officer for physical training assists the District Education Officer in the promotion of physical education in the district. He supervises and guides physical education in the schools. In order to check up physical and medical health and normal growth of students, annual physico-medical test is compulsory for all students. Physical defect like flat feet, hollow chest, pigeon chest, knock knees, etc. are corrected through remedial exercises in the schools and colleges.

Besides the above, the following schemes, under separate departments, also promote the cause of physical education:—

1. Promotion of Sports and Games by the State Sports Department
2. National Fitness Corps, sponsored by the Government of India
3. National Cadet Corps
4. Bharat Scouts and Guides

(1) **Promotion of Sports and Games.**—Games and sports are considered a necessary part of student's education and training for life. To spread the gospel of sports in all parts of the State, more emphasis is laid on the activities in the field. At the district level, the District Sports Officer is in charge of sports activities, arrangement of coaching schemes and matches, and similar work for the educational institutions. Tournaments and general sports competitions are encouraged and conducted on a large scale for boys and girls.

In educational institutions the development of body is equally important as the development of brain. The sports, games, and athletics form an integral part of education. Sports cultivate among the students spirit of co-operation, team work and discipline. In the colleges and schools, the sportsmen distinguishing themselves in various games are not only awarded prizes and colours but also granted fee concessions and other facilities in deserving cases. From time to time, the distinguished players (both boys and girls) are also sent for training to various coaching centres.

The coaches of the Sports Department also pay visits to the educational institutions, both in urban and rural areas, to spot out sports talent and broad-base the coaching activities. Camps are specially organized to provide off-season conditioning to prominent sportsmen/sportswomen of the State. Expenditure on board and lodging facilities and

standard equipment during these camps is borne by the department. Holding of festival competitions in various parts has been the distinct addition to the activities of the department. Financial grants are given to the various sports associations to subsidize their own resources for their day to day activities, viz. holding of important tournaments and participation in the national and other inter-State Tournaments. Grants have also been extended for the lay out of playgrounds in the rural areas. Besides, handsome amount has been spent on construction of new stadia and maintenance of the existing ones. Sports Grading Certificates are issued to enable the outstanding sportsmen/women to get admission in medical and technical institutions. There is a sports stadium at Gurdaspur.

The following sports associations are functioning in the district :—

District Olympic Association, Gurdaspur

This association has been functioning in the district since 1950. Its aims and objectives are to promote, organize, control and co-ordinate sports and games activities. The membership of the association is open to all those interested in sports by paying annual contribution as fixed by the District Olympic Association from time to time. The Deputy Commissioner is the ex-officio President of the association and the General Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner is the ex-officio Secretary.

The association collects its funds by organizing matches at the district level. The funds are also supplemented by donations from various firms, companies and undertakings.

The association gives financial help to various games associations for organizing matches, etc., provided they are its regular members. It also renders financial help to the individual talented sportsmen/players. An all-India athletic meet was organized under the auspices of this association in January 1971 at Gurdaspur.

District Volley Ball Association, Gurdaspur

This association started functioning in 1962. Many of its players were selected for taking part in various national and international test matches and tournaments. In 1964 and 1971, the association arranged for the State championship at Gurdaspur and Dhariwal, respectively. It also took part in State level and India level tournaments.

(2) **National Fitness Corps.**— This department was put into operation in the beginning of 1963, as recommended by the Kunzru

Committee, by merging National Discipline Scheme, Auxiliary Cadet Corps and Physical Education. Before this, it was known as National Discipline Scheme which was started in the year 1954. It aims at developing alround personality of the students mentally, morally and physically. It also helps to bring about the national integration through national emotional songs and by adopting inter-State culture, i.e. dances, songs, etc.

At this stage, the activities taught to the students in the schools (both boys and girls) are drill marching, physical exercises, *lezim*, games and relays, track and field events, gymnastics and *malkhumb*, national emotional songs, national anthem and national flag, *tippri*, yoga and cultural activities.

The activities taught under the National Fitness Corps programme inculcate discipline, obedience, patriotism, firmness, steadiness, national integration and self confidence.

The total strength of the students under this department in the high and higher secondary schools of the Gurdaspur District, as on March 31, 1972, was 31,239 boys and 7,536 girls.

(3) **National Cadet Corps.**—Military training forms a vital feature of the development programme of an independent nation. It essentially provides the second line of defence and arouses a preparedness in the youth to defend the country. With a view to stimulate the interest of youth in the defence of the country and inculcate the sense of responsibility and discipline among them, National Cadet Corps was started in 1948. Since then it has built up a reserve of potential manpower and gained popularity in all the states of the country to enable the armed forces to expand rapidly in a national emergency. The National Cadet Corps training broadens the outlook of the students and develops in them the qualities of self-discipline, leadership, self reliance and determination.

The National Cadet Corps offers an opportunity to cadets to develop character, comradeship, the ideal of service and capacity for leadership. It also provides service training to stimulate interest in the defence of the country. The motto of the National Cadet Corps is 'Unity and Discipline'. Its training syllabus includes weapon training, map reading, drill, field craft, tactics, hygiene, sanitation, basic training of infantry, first-aid and citizenship. The National Cadet Corps is, however, of special attraction for those students who wish to adopt defence service as a career. Camps are organized to provide an opportunity to introduce cadets to outdoor and community life.

The number of students on the rolls in the National Cadet Corps in the district, as on March 31, 1972 was as under :

		Boys	Girls	Total
Senior Division	..	1,797	129	1,926
Junior Division	..	2,424	70	2,494

(4) **Bharat Scouts and Guides.**—This organization trains boys and girls in the principles and practice of the scout movement. Training camps are held for teachers and students. The training imparted inculcates in the trainees self-help, discipline and spirit of feeling for good service to all at all times. The boys and girls trained in this movement turn out to be good and useful citizens. They are also taught first-aid. They render service at festivals, exhibitions, etc. in maintaining order and also render aid to the helpless, the sick and the wounded.

With the District Education Officer as its Chairman, the District Scouts and Guides Association is run by a District Organizer (Scouts) who manages the affairs within the district and guides the scouting activities to run on sound lines. The total strength of the Bharat Scouts and Cubs in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 5,680 (scouts 640 and cubs 5,040).

(f) Cultivation of Fine Arts

Besides Kala Kendra, Gurdaspur, there seems to be no other academy/centre for the cultivation of fine arts in the district. The Kala Kendra provides training in music, both vocal and instrumental, in addition to dancing. It is housed in its own building near the Nehru Park and provides an open-air theatre for concerts arranged by the children under training. However, as a part of extra-curricular activities, some girls' institutions also provide facilities for the cultivation of fine arts like music, dancing, painting, drawing, flower-making. There is an auditorium/drama hall at Batala where functions are held from time to time.

(g) Oriental Schools and Colleges

Mention may be made here of Shri Bhagwan Narain Sanskrit College at the Vaishnavite shrine at Talibpur Pindori and the Sanskrit Mahavidyala at the Dayanand Math at Dinanagar. Both of these run classes for Pragma, Visharad and Shastri examinations, for which these are affiliated to the Panjab University, Chandigarh.

(h) Education for the Handicapped

No such facilities are available in the district.

(i) Adult Literacy, Social Education and Measures for the Diffusion of culture among the Masses

There is no such social education centre in the district.

(j) Cultural and Literary Societies and Periodicals Cultural and Literary Societies

Cultural Societies

All colleges/schools have different types of societies and clubs which aim at the spread of cultural activities among the students. The schools and colleges also draw up interesting cultural programmes and participate in the national functions. During the Navratra days, *Ram Lila* is staged at important places in the district. The cultural and literary societies, functioning in the district are mentioned below :

The most important cultural society existing in the district is the Krishna Natak Club, Pathankot. It is a registered body and was started in 1955. This institution was established in order to provide spiritual enlightenment to the public at large. Historical dramas and *Ram Lila* are staged by this institution. Religious functions like Janamashtmi, Ram Naumi, Basant Panchmi, etc. are also organized and performed by this society.

Besides the above, the following cultural societies also exist in the district. Apart from staging *Ram Lila* etc. their activities include speeches, debates, plays, dances, songs and music :

Hindu Yuvak Sabha, Gurdaspur

Ram Natak Club, Old Bazaar, Gurdaspur
Ram Natak Club, Anaj Mandi, Gurdaspur

Bajrang Club, Hanuman Mandir, Gurdaspur

Navyuvak Club, Gurdaspur

Literary Societies

Among the literary societies functioning in the district, the following may be mentioned :—

Punjabi Sahit Sabha, Batala.—Started in 1968, it aims at guiding and encouraging the writing of stories, poems, essays, etc. It holds monthly meetings where discussions are held on the writings of its members. Thus, it is doing useful service for the development of literature and language through its contributions.

In 1971-72, the society had fifteen members, one of whom was a national award holder. The members also take part in the functions held in and outside the district.

Punjabi Likhari Sabha, Batala.—The main functions of this society are to hold literary meetings and to guide and encourage young writers through constructive discussion/criticism on their writings.

Besides the above, a few other literary societies are : Sahit Sabha, Gurdaspur; Punjabi Literary Society, Batala : and Anjuman-i-Taraqi-i-Urdu, Gurdaspur.

Periodicals

For particulars regarding, the periodicals, etc. published in the district, refer to chapter XVIII, Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organizations ;

(k) Libraries, Museums, etc.

Libraries

Library movement is an important educational activity that reflects the state of education and helps to promote and spread education among the people both in urban and rural areas. After the independence, because of the intensive literacy drive, the introduction of compulsory education and the availability of liberal grants from the Government, the library movement gathered momentum and the number of libraries started by the panchayats and the panchayat samitis in the district rose to 146 in 1971-72. Besides, every town in the district has also got a library or a reading room.

The libraries help the people to develop their latent talents and become potential personalities in the educational fields. These are temples of learning which enshrine wisdom of all ages and throw open wide vistas of knowledge to the seekers. The following types of libraries are functioning in the district :—

District Library, Gurdaspur.—Established in 1966, this library is under the control of State Librarian, Patiala. It has 7,274 books in different languages on different topics.

Panchayat Libraries.—After the independence, the library movement rapidly spread in the villages. Generally, every panchayat in the district maintains a small library/reading room for the promotion of education and general knowledge among the people in the rural areas. These are doing useful service to the public at large in the field of education.

Municipal Libraries.—All the Municipalities in the district, viz. Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Dinanagar, Batala, Qadian, Sujampur, Dhariwal, Srigobindpur, Fatehgarh Churian and Dera Baba Nanak, maintain

libraries and reading rooms for public use. These libraries have good collection of books and periodicals in different languages. These also subscribe to a number of daily newspapers, weeklies, fortnightlies and monthly magazines.

School and College Libraries.—The libraries in all the high/higher secondary schools and colleges in the district are well maintained to satisfy the needs of the young students and teachers. These also provide reading room facilities to the students. The reading rooms in the schools and colleges subscribe regularly to the leading English and vernacular dailies and Indian and Foreign periodicals and journals which cater to all varieties of tastes and interests. These libraries remain open during the school/college hours for the benefit of students.

Besides the above, a few important libraries in the district may be mentioned as under :

Prathna Pustkalya, Batala.—It is maintained by the Dainik Prathna Sabha, Batala. Originally started in 1946 in the Moti Bazar, the library shifted to its own building in the Kila Mandi in 1951. It also runs two other reading rooms in the town. The library has about 16,000 books on various subjects. It subscribes to 9 daily papers and 25 weekly/monthly magazines. The Municipal Committee, Batala gives an annual grant of Rs 1,500 to the library.

Museums, etc.

There is no museum, botanical garden or zoological garden in the district.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 370)

Educational institutions and scholars at primary stage in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Schools	Number of institutions					Number of Scholars				
	Government		Private		Total	Boys		Girls		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Primary Schools	..	663	39	14	..	677	39	716	40,415	34,236
Basic Primary Schools	..	168	2	..	..	168	2	170	18,227	9,215
Total :	..	831	41	14	..	845	41	886	58,642	43,451
										1,02,093

(Source : District Education Officer, Gurdaspur)

APPENDIX II

384

(Vide page 371)

Educational institutions and scholars at secondary stage in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Schools	Number of institutions						Number of scholars			
	Government			Private			Total			
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Total
Higher Secondary Schools	5	2	7	9	2	11	14	4	18	18,842
High Schools	58	11	69	23	9	32	81	20	101	50,926
Middle Schools	91	12	103	1	2	3	92	14	106	40,743

GURDASPUR

(Source : District Education Officer, Gurdaspur)

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times

The old Indian system of medicine, known as the Ayurveda has been practised here since ancient times. With the advent of the Muslim rule, the Unani system of medicine was also introduced into the country. Both these systems remained popular and were practised side by side. A good number of Hakims lived at Batala which was a centre of learning.

The allopathic system of medicine was introduced in this region with the advent of the British rule in the middle of the nineteenth century. In course of time, it became very popular on account of the State patronage and researches carried out all over the world. For sometime past, homoeopathy is also becoming popular especially for chronic diseases and in case of children and infants.

In 1904, there were 13 dispensaries in the Gurdaspur District, which treated 2,08,766 outdoor patients and 1,537 indoor patients, and performed 7,268 operations. The number of dispensaries had risen to 18 in 1913. In 1971, there were 42 allopathic medical institutions in the Gurdaspur District, out of which 26 were in rural areas and 16 in urban areas. The population served per institution in the district was 29,925, as compared to 25,269 in the State as a whole. The average area covered per institution was 5.193 km in the district as compared to 5.468 km in the State as a whole. The number of doctors in the district was 230 as compared to 5,239 in the State as a whole. The population served per doctor in the district was 5,336, as compared to 2,585 in the State as a whole.

Of late, the Government is giving better recognition to the indigenous systems of medicine, viz. Ayurvedic and Unani, to make these popular. The number of Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district increased from one in 1953-54 to 18 in 1965 and 26 (23 Ayurvedic and 3 Unani) in 1971. Each dispensary is under the charge of a Vaid or Hakim, who is under the direct administrative control of the Director of Ayurveda, Punjab.

(b) Vital Statistics

The birth rate, death rate and infantile mortality rate in the

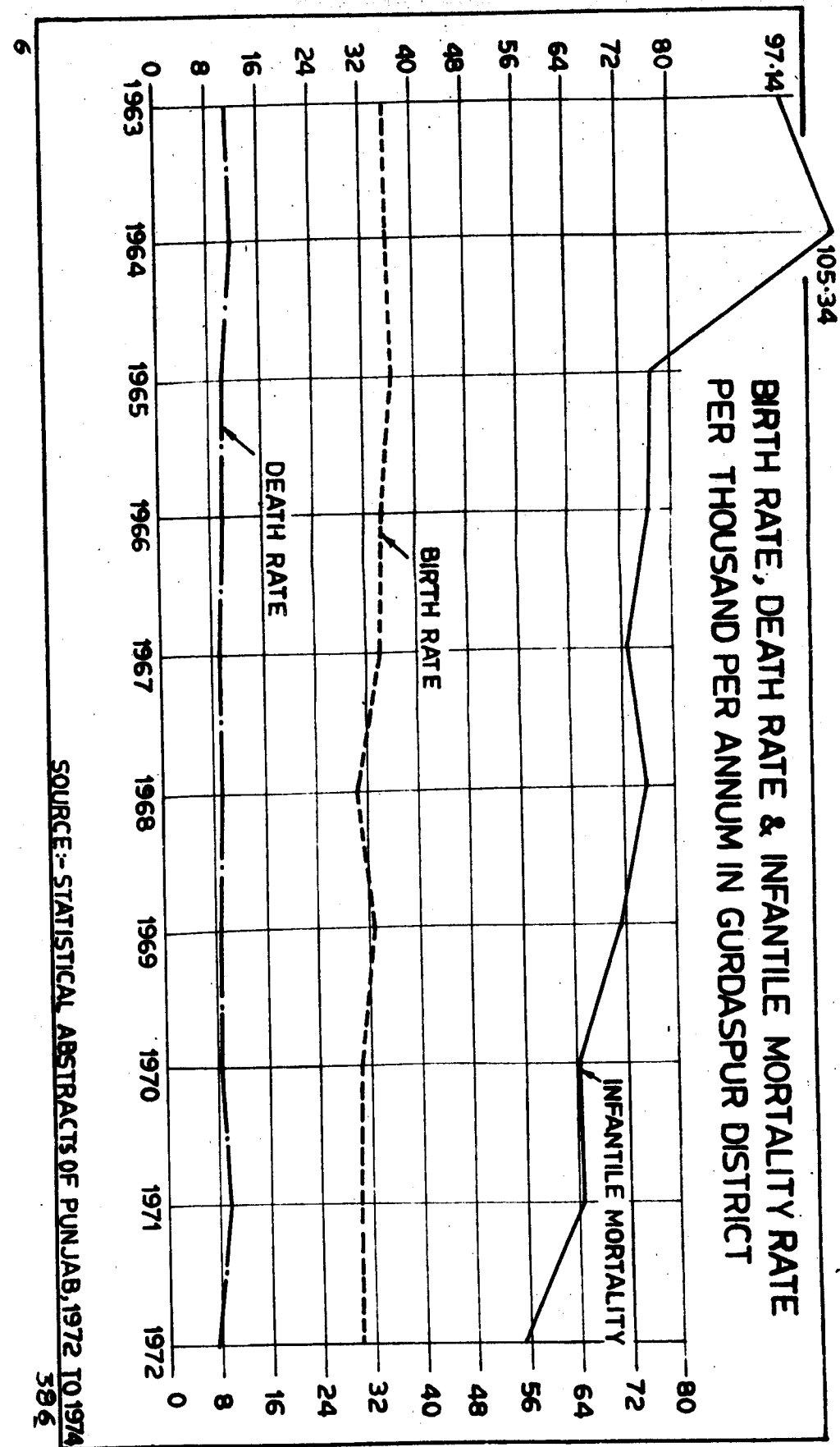
Gurdaspur District, during the ten years from 1963 to 1972, is given in the following table :—

Year (Calendar Year)	Birth rate per thousand popu- lation	Death rate per thousand population	Infantile mor- tality rate under one year of age against per thousand live births
1963	.. 35.58	10.90	97.14
1964	.. 35.61	11.33	105.34
1965	.. 36.14	10.02	77.18
1966	.. 34.69	9.82	76.61
1967	.. 33.76	9.09	72.97
1968	.. 29.99	8.74	75.19
1969	.. 32.42	8.58	71.00
1970	.. 29.95	8.40	64.08
1971	.. 29.47	7.50	64.61
1972	.. 29.15	7.39	55.10

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1972 to 1974)

The registration of vital statistics is compulsory. In the rural areas, the Chowkidars maintain 'Birth and Death Registers'. Similar records are also maintained by the municipalities in the urban areas. Besides, the procedure provides a dependable record of growth of population. This helps in visualizing the scope of measures to be taken to check the mortality rate and also to devise ways and means to effect family planning, etc. The Chief Medical Officer of the district compiles this data.

In 1965, the birth rate per thousand persons in the district was the highest during the period from 1963 to 1970. Since then, with the exception of the year 1969, the birth rate has been continuously decreasing. This has been due to the family planning programme launched by the Government. The continuous rise in the prices of the commodities and the improvement in the standard of living have also been responsible for decrease in the birth rate which was the lowest in 1972. The death rate in 1972 was also the lowest, i.e. 7.39 per thousand persons. The infantile mortality rate in the district was the highest in 1964. With the increased availability of medical facilities, it gradually decreased and was the lowest in 1972.



Important causes of Mortality.—The important causes of mortality, in the district are fever, dysentery, respiratory diseases, etc. The table at Appendix I, page 396, gives the statistics regarding some of the important causes of deaths.

(c) Diseases common to the District

(i) **Fevers.**—The largest number of mortality is caused by fevers, which include ordinary fevers, seasonal fevers, influenza, typhoid, malaria and other miscellaneous fevers. These fevers are, generally, caused by the unhygienic conditions, infection, malnutrition and imbalanced diet. These factors cause low resistance in a man and he becomes more prone to infections. The insanitary conditions in rural and urban areas contribute substantially to the increase of infectious and contagious diseases. In the past, fevers were remedied with the use of miscellaneous types of medicines including quinine. But now, their place has been taken by sulpha-drugs and antibiotics which have been found very effective. The waterlogging, stagnant waters, surface drainage and piled refuse caused mosquito breeding and thousands of persons used to die of malaria every year. Quinine was freely distributed in the rural areas. Due to the eradication of malaria, the distribution of quinine has been stopped. It is easier to overcome the insanitary problems but very difficult to change the food habits of the people and supplement imbalanced diet. The Government can, at best, eliminate insanitary problems and carry-out propaganda for balanced diet.

(ii) **Respiratory Diseases.**—Next to fevers come the respiratory diseases which take the heaviest toll in the district. Unhygienic conditions, dingy residential accommodation, polluted air and contaminated water due to mixing of industrial wastes, are the main causes. The rapid industrialization of Batala and urbanization of Pathankot have further worsened it. Smoke, may be from hearth or chimney, is a constant source of irritation to the eyes, throat and lungs. The irritation causes trachoma and diseases of lungs, and even tuberculosis.

Allergic diseases, like bronchitis and asthma are also caused by unhealthy air polluted by smokes, etc. Poisonous industrial wastes also pollute the atmosphere and water and cause respiratory diseases.

In order to check the spread of such diseases, the Indian Factories Act, 1948, lays down that there should be proper disposal of gases in the atmosphere and any harmful wastage should be removed to such far distant places, where it does not affect the public health. Presently, industry is located in the interior of the Batala town and it will take a long time for its being shifted outside the town. There is no such problem in Pathankot. The new urban estate at Batala would solve the problem to a considerable extent and ease the congestion.

(iii) **Malaria.**—The district being flood-affected, malaria was very common. Prior to the launching of National Malaria Control Programme in 1953, quinine tablets were freely distributed in the villages during the malaria season by the Public Health staff and all preventive measures were adopted. A Malaria Unit was established at Gurdaspur under the programme in 1953 to undertake malaria control operations in endemic areas of the district.

The unit was switched over to the National Malaria Eradication Programme in 1958. Prior to 1962, it covered the hypo-endemic areas of both the districts of Amritsar and Gurdaspur. On the reorganization of the unit, it was limited to the Gurdaspur District as a whole and in addition to it the Ajnala Tahsil of Amritsar District. The total population of 11,62,143 (Census, 1961) irrespective of the hyper-endemic or hypo-endemic areas, was covered by this unit for the eradication of malaria.

Under the National Malaria Eradication Programme, by 1960-61, the number of villages and towns covered and sprayed with D. D. T. was 1,058, involving 8,53,388 persons, and an expenditure of Rs 1,88,131. During 1964-65, the number of towns and villages sprayed as also total houses sprayed with D.D.T. was 642 and 70,606 respectively, involving 2,48,079 persons. The Malaria Unit achieved all the targets within the scheduled time and this district was declared free from malaria in 1966. Thereafter, the maintenance work was entrusted to the health authorities, which was further made subordinate to the medical section.

The malaria epidemic broke out in the Pathankot Tahsil during 1971. Steps were, therefore, taken to eradicate it and control its spread to other areas.

The Malaria Unit at Gurdaspur is manned by 1 Epidemiologist, 2 Health Supervisors, 34 Health Inspectors, 110 Basic Health Workers, 1 Senior Laboratory Technician, 5 Laboratory Technicians, 6 Laboratory Assistants, 5 Swasth Sahaiks, besides other ministerial and allied staff.

(iv) **Communicable Diseases.**—The Communicable diseases are plague, cholera, smallpox, etc. A brief reference of each of these, with particular reference to the district, is given below :

PLAGUE

Plague first appeared in the district in the village of Darman in Tahsil Shakargarh (transferred to the Sialkot district of Pakistan in 1947) in 1900, and spread to the other tahsils of the district in 1901. In no subsequent year was the district free from plague, and the epidemic reached

its height in 1904 when the total mortality from this cause was 40,806. Mortality dropped to 309 in 1908 when malaria accounted for 21,985 deaths.

During the epidemic of 1910-11, nearly 15,000 deaths from plague occurred and more than 600 villages were infected, but only 8,682 inoculations were performed. In 1911-12, there were about 2,000 deaths from plague, 210 villages were infected and 6,410 inoculations were performed. Since the partition of the country (1947), like other districts of the State, this pestilence has not been noticed in Gurdaspur. Anti-plague measures are adopted every year. Sanitary Inspectors and Swasth Sahaiks are deputed to destroy rats by cynogassing the holes, baiting with zinc phosphide and by laying rat traps. In one or two extensive D. D. T. sprays, rats and flies are also killed along with mosquitoes. Utmost vigilance is also maintained in order to detect plague amongst rats or in human population and preventive measures, including anti-plague inoculation are taken.

CHOLERA

With the increased facilities for vaccination and re-vaccination, there has been remarkable reduction in the incidence of this disease. Barring a single case in 1966, no case of cholera was reported in the district since 1961. The wells are chlorinated several times a year and more often where necessity arises. In flooded areas, well water gets contaminated during September-December and the wells lying in such areas are chlorinated every week, if possible. Timely and successive chlorination of wells, inoculation against cholera, distribution of sulfaguanidine tablets and preventive measures and vigilance by the Public Health staff, the crisis avert and outbreak of diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera etc. is prevented.

SMALLPOX

There is practically no difficulty in persuading people to bring their children for vaccination. About 90 per cent of the children are vaccinated in the first round and the rest are covered in the second round. In 1965, there was not even a single death from smallpox in the whole district. The incidents of smallpox and the details of the preventive measures taken in the district, during 1963-72, are given in Appendix II at page 397.

HOOKWORM

An anti-hookworm unit has been working in the district since 1959 to find out the incidence of disease and give treatment to those villagers

who are suffering from it. By 1965, shoes worth Rs 50,000 had been distributed at nominal price under this scheme in affected areas and about 1,000 latrines had been constructed in villages to prevent the spread of this disease.

(v) **Tuberculosis.**—B.C.G. vaccination, which was started in Punjab in 1949, is a preventive measure against tuberculosis. At that time mobile B.C.G. teams were set up. In 1951, mass B.C.G. vaccination campaign was started in the entire State. Since 1959, a scheme has been introduced to fix up teams at the district level. Under this scheme, a B.C.G. team consisting of seven technicians, is working in rural as well as urban areas of the district. It examines the individuals for tuberculosis by vaccination and gives treatment to the positive cases. There are two hospitals at Gurdaspur and village Jiwanwal Babri (Tahsil Gurdaspur) where tuberculosis patients are treated.

(d) Medical and Public Health Services

Previously, medical services were divided into two wings, viz. medical and health. The District Medical Officer was responsible for the functioning of hospitals and dispensaries, and medical and surgical work in the district, besides being Government Medico-Legal Expert. The District Medical and Health Officer was incharge of the health wing and was responsible for sanitation, disease prevention and health promotion services in the district. He was also to advise the municipalities on public health matters. Both the wings worked under the administrative control of the Director of Health Services, Punjab.

In April 1964, these two wings were merged and the Chief Medical Officer¹ was made incharge of both the medical and health services in the district. The Medical Officer, employed by Zila Parishad, has also been put under his control. The staff employed by the Zila Parishad works under the Chief Medical Officer but draws salaries from the former. This system has been introduced for the smooth and efficient working of medical and health services.

In the Gurdaspur District, the Chief Medical Officer is assisted by 4 Medical Officers (Class I), 66 Medical Officers (Class II), 122 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, 97 Nurses, 34 Lady Health Visitors, 48 *Dais* and 21 Laboratory Technicians, 21 Dispensers, besides 51 ministerial staff and other allied and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

On the health side, Malaria Officer, Vaccinators and Medical Officers (incharge of dispensaries) also assist the Chief Medical Officer. Similar functions are performed by the Zila Parishad. The Municipalities

1. The incharge of the medical and health services in the district, i. e. the Chief Medical Officer, was redesignated as Civil Surgeon in 1974.

also assist the Chief Medical Officer in the public health field. In order to check adulteration of foodstuffs, the Chief Medical Officer has delegated powers to the Medical Officers of hospitals/dispensaries, who can take samples of foodstuffs.

Hospitals Primary Health Centres, Dispensaries, etc.

The expenditure incurred by the State Government on hospitals, health centres, dispensaries, and other health services in the district, in 1971-72, was Rs 42,95,000. These medical institutions include both allopathic as well as Ayurvedic and Unani. All these are under the control of the Chief Medical Officer, Gurdaspur.

Allopathic Medical Institutions.—As on December 31, 1972, there were 45 allopathic medical institutions in the district. Their tahsil-wise and area-wise breakup is given below :

Tahsil	Total	Rural	Urban
Gurdaspur	18	9	9
Pathankot	11	8	3
Batala	16	9	7
District Gurdaspur	45	26	19

The management-wise breakup of the above medical institutions is : 32 State Public, 5 State Special, 2 Municipal, 5 Zila Parishad and 1 Private Aided. The list of hospitals, primary health centres and dispensaries in the district is given in Appendix III at pages 398-400.

The particulars regarding the family planning units/clinics and maternity and child health centres are given in Appendices IV and V at pages 401 and 402, respectively.

Ayurvedic and Unani, Medical Institutions.—The indigenous systems of medicine, viz. Ayurvedic and Unani, are quite cheap and suit to the local needs. However, these lost popularity due to the lack of patronage by the British Government. After the independence, the Government has devised means to popularize them.

As on March 31, 1972, there were 23 Ayurvedic and 3 Unani medical institutions in the district. All these are functioning in the rural areas. Their tahsil-wise breakup is given below :

Tahsil	Total
Gurdaspur	6
Pathankot	10
Batala	10
District Gurdaspur	26

All these institutions are managed by the Government. Their detailed list is given in Appendix VI at page 403.

Government Hospitals and Nursing Homes

Civil Hospital, Gurdaspur.—First of all, there were 20 beds in this Hospital. It has now been housed in a newly constructed building and the number of beds has been raised to 100.

The hospital provides specialized treatment in surgery, medicine, eye, ear, nose and throat, paediatrics, T. B., gynea, etc. The hospital is equipped with an X-ray department, a dental section and laboratory section.

It is manned by 9 doctors (one Class I and 8 Class II), 39 Class III employees including technical and ministerial personnel, besides 55 Class IV allied and miscellaneous employees.

Civil Hospital, Batala.—It has 50 beds. The hospital provides specialized treatment in surgery and medicine. It is equipped with an X-ray plant and testing laboratories.

The hospital is manned by one Senior Medical Officer, 3 Medical Officers, 18 Class III technical and ministerial employees, besides 20 Class IV allied and miscellaneous staff.

Civil Hospital, Pathankot.—It has 50 beds. All types of medical and surgical treatment except eye, ear, nose and throat and cancer is provided in the hospital. Eyes, obstetrics and gynecological operations are performed. Anti-rabies treatment is also provided.

The hospital is equipped with an X-ray plant, E.C.G. examination and an up-to-date laboratory. It is manned by one Senior Medical Officer, 3 Medical Officers, 21 Class III employees (including technical and ministerial) and 20 Class IV allied and miscellaneous staff.

Pathankot being a submontaneous area is affected by goitre, scabies, roundworm and hookworm. The treatment for these diseases is available at this hospital.

Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes

The following is the only private hospital in the district :—

Salvation Army MacRobert Hospital, Dhariwal.—Established in 1926, this hospital serves the population of Dhariwal and the surrounding villages. There are 5 Doctors/Surgeons, 1 Physician, 2 Lady Doctors, 17 Trained Nurses, 8 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, 4 Laboratory Technicians, 1 X-ray Technician, 1 Compounder and 71 allied staff.

The facilities available include surgical specialists—particular interest in infertility, recanalization following sterilization, family planning and cancer ; plastic surgery ; ear, nose and throat surgery; and obstetrics. It runs maternal clinic and child health clinic. Blood transfusion facilities also exist in the hospital. In addition to this, a mobile village eye service has also been introduced.

The hospital runs a nursing school and a laboratory technology school. It also imparts training in family planning.

There are 110 beds in the hospital—44 for male patients, 42 for female patients and 24 for paediatrics.

The hospital is financed by fees obtained from patients and donations. In this way, 60 per cent income is obtained from patient fees and 40 per cent from donations, mostly from overseas.

Blood transfusion Centres

There is no blood bank in the district. However, there are four blood transfusion centres in the hospitals at Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Batala and Dhariwal. These centres do not store blood as these receive blood donations only in time of need from friends and relations of the patients. After matching, the blood is transfused to the patients. Blood is also donated by the inmates of the District Jail, Gurdaspur. The centre at Gurdaspur was started in 1950 while those at Pathankot and Batala were started in 1967 and 1969, respectively. The blood transfusion facilities are available at the Salvation Army MacRobert Hospital, Dhariwal.

Prevention of Adulteration of Foodstuffs

To check adulteration of foodstuffs, the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act was passed in 1954. It replaced the Punjab Pure Food Act, 1929. Almost all the premises dealing in the sale, stock and manufacture of edible articles are inspected by the Food Inspectors, Medical Officers and the Chief Medical Officer. To have more effective check on the sale of food and drink articles, special powers have been vested in them to seize the samples of foodstuff. These samples are sent to the Food and Health Laboratory at Chandigarh for chemical analysis. Those found guilty of adulteration are prosecuted. During the year 1972, 257 samples were seized. The number of prosecutions launched was 24 and cases punished was 13. The amount realized as fine was Rs 9,450.

(e) Sanitation

(i) **Public Health and Sanitation in Urban Areas.**—The municipalities attend to the sanitation of towns through pavements of the streets construction of drains and arrangements for cleanliness of the towns and removal of town refuse. The disinfecting of the wells from time to time and increasing use of handpumps ensured safe water supply. With the increase in urban population, better sanitary arrangements began to be introduced. Side surface drains replaced the old central surface drains. Arrangements were made for protected water supply. Underground drainage system is now being introduced in the important towns of Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot.

(ii) **Rural Sanitation and Water Supply.**—Before 1922, the sanitary conditions of the villages were in a miserable state of affairs. The people being uneducated, were superstitious and considering infectious diseases as goddesses did not report their occurrence to the authorities. A large number of new born babies became prey to diseases through the negligence of their mothers as well as the illiterate *dais*. After 1922, education on public health was started vigorously by the Public Health staff by various means of propaganda through magic lanterns, pamphlets, leaflets and variety shows pertaining to health subjects. Maternity and Child Welfare Health Centres were also started in the rural areas. The preventive measures taken by the Health Department considerably decreased the occurrence of infectious diseases like plague, cholera and small pox.

After the independence, considerable progress has been made in the improvement of rural sanitation. The people have become conscious of personal hygiene. In nearly all villages of the district, streets and lanes have been paved and drains constructed for the disposal of rain and

sullage water. The houses, which are now constructed, are well-ventilated and quite sunny.

The main functions of the Public Health staff are to keep sanitation in the rural areas by removal of manure heaps, pavement of streets and lanes, construction of drains, improvement of wells, filling of depressions, drainage of collection of rain-water, installation of chimneys, ventilators and smokeless *chullahs* in the houses, etc.

The panchayats also look after the sanitation of the villages. The panchayats which engage sweepers for cleaning the streets and drains are given grants-in-aid on 50 per cent basis by the Zila Parishad. Grants are also given to the panchayats for the construction of drains and improvement of wells.

Water Supply

Water supply in villages in the plains is through wells and hand-pumps, while in the hilly areas water supply schemes are undertaken by the Public Health Engineering Department. In those villages in the hills, where the Public Health Department has not been able to launch its programme, water is obtained from *baolies*. Steps are, however, being taken for the construction of *taolies* on sanitary lines. The problem of water-supply is being solved through the efforts of the Block Development agency and the Public Health Department. These provide grants for water-supply schemes, under which a large number of hand-pumps have been installed in the villages. Stress is being laid on the importance of hand-pumps as compared to wells as a pure source of water-supply.

In order to supply water in the Kandi areas located at the foot of the Shivalik Hills, the Kandi Water-Supply Scheme has been started. This is the biggest project undertaken in the public health sector and is to be completed at a cost of Rs 20 lakhs. It would provide benefit to 50 villages in the submontane region of the Pathankot Tahsil. The second public water-supply project is the Kahnawan Water Supply Project, which was completed in 1966-67. It benefits 24 villages of the Kahnawan area. The project was financed out of aid from the UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and cost Rs 9 lakhs. A very ambitious programme for installing deep tubewells in the Kandi areas has also been framed by the state Government for the Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974-79). Besides, the Block Development authorities provide grants for installing hand-pumps. The other important works undertaken are the sewerage schemes at Batala, Pathankot and Dinanagar, which are estimated to cost Rs. 6.50 lakhs.

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 387)

Deaths Registered by Causes in the Gurdaspur District, 1963-72

Cause of death	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Cholera	..	..	..	0.001	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox	..	0.007	..	0.001	0.02	..	..	0.0001	..	0.01
Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fevers	..	7.27	6.31	6.69	6.57	5.81	5.47	4.52	4.24	4.17
Dysentery and Diarrhoea	..	0.13	0.21	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.17	0.07	0.06	0.10
Respiratory Diseases	..	1.32	1.14	0.90	0.98	0.90	0.87	0.69	0.74	0.71
Injuries	..	0.08	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.13	0.17	0.13	0.20	0.13
Other Causes	..	2.09	3.63	2.22	2.03	2.09	2.14	2.96	2.25	2.26
Total	..	10.90	11.33	10.02	9.82	9.09	8.74	8.40	7.50	7.30

GURDASPUR

(Source: Director, Health and Family Planning, Punjab, Chandigarh ; and his publication entitled *Health Statistics, District Gurdaspur, 1969*)

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 389)

Incidence of Smallpox and Preventive Measures taken in the Gurdaspur District, 1963-72

Year	No. of cases	No. of deaths	Primary Vaccination	Re-Vaccination
			Number	Number
1963	..	8	53,735	6,19,858
1964	..	..	44,499	3,49,803
1965	..	..	44,696	62,240
1966	..	1	46,623	48,952
1967	..	15	57,224	1,02,912
1968	..	..	48,203	1,39,723
1969	..	..	43,832	89,757
1970	..	2	34,881	1,58,009
1971	..	..	52,834	1,74,178
1972	..	..	53,838	3,46,114

(Health Statistics, District Gurdaspur, 1969, and Health Statistics, Punjab, 1971, 1972 and 1973)

APPENDIX III

398

(Vide page 391)

List of Hospital/Primary Health Centres and Dispensaries in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Name of Institution	No. of Beds			Rural/Urban	Type of Management	Area of Location
		Male		Female			
		3	4	5			6
1	2	UNDER THE CONTROL OF CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER					
1.	Primary Health Centre, Fatehgarh Churian ..	4	4	Urban	State Public	Batala	
2.	Primary Health Centre, Mand ..	2	2	Rural	State Public	Batala	
3.	Primary Health Centre, Bham ..	6	3	Rural	State Public	Batala	
4.	Primary Health Centre, Gande Ke Chone ..	5	3	Rural	State Public	Batala	
5.	Primary Health Centre, Dhianpur ..	..	..	Urban	State Public	Batala	
6.	Provincialised Dispensary, Bhagowal ..	2	2	Rural	State Public	Batala	
7.	Provincialised Dispensary, Singhapura ..	6	2	Rural	State Public	Batala	
8.	Provincialised Dispensary, Chanian Ke Bet (at Dharmkot Randhawa)	..	..	Rural	State Public	Batala	
9.	Provincialised Dispensary, Qadian ..	8	8	Urban	State Public	Batala	
10.	Civil Hospital, Batala ..	50	20	Urban	State Public	Batala	
11.	Civil Dispensary, Dera Baba Nanak ..	8	6	Urban	State Public	Batala	

GURDASPUR

12.	Civil Dispensary, Aliwal ..	1	1	Rural	State Public	Batala		
13.	Maternity Hospital, Batala ..	..	11	Urban	Municipal	Batala		
14.	Civil Dispensary, Srigobindpur ..	6	7	Urban	Zila Parishad	Batala		
15.	Zila Parishad Dispensary, V. Teja ..	..	..	Rural	Zila Parishad	Batala		
16.	Primary Health Centre, Kahnawan ..	8	8	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
17.	Primary Health Centre, Ranjit Bagh ..	8	3	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
18.	Primary Health Centre, Naushehra ..	4	4	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
19.	Provincialised Dispensary, Behrampur ..	2	2	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
20.	Primary Health Centre, Dorangla ..	2	2	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
21.	Provincialised Dispensary, Mami Chakrangna at Mairat ..	2	2	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
22.	Civil Hospital, Gurdaspur ..	62	38	Urban	State Public	Gurdaspur		
23.	Civil Dispensary, Bhumbli ..	1	1	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur		
24.	Police Hospital, Gurdaspur ..	10	..	Urban	State Special	Gurdaspur		
25.	Jail Hospital, Gurdaspur ..	6	..	Urban	State Special	Gurdaspur		
26.	B.S. Force Dispensary, Gurdaspur ..	..	..	Urban	State Special	Gurdaspur		
27.	T.B. Hospital, Gurdaspur ..	..	..	Urban	State Public	Gurdaspur		
28.	E.S.I. Dispensary, Dhariwal ..	..	..	Urban	State Special	Gurdaspur		
29.	Civil Dispensary, Dinanagar ..	5	2	Urban	Municipal	Gurdaspur		
30.	Civil Dispensary, Kalanaur ..	8	4	Rural	Zila Parishad	Gurdaspur		
31.	Mac-Robert Hospital, Dhariwal ..	50	60	Urban	Private aided	Gurdaspur		

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

399

APPENDIX IV

(Vide page 391)

Family Planning Clinics in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Serial No	Name of Institution and Location	Tahsil	Rural/Urban	Type of Management
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Gurdaspur	Gurdaspur	Urban	Government
2.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Ranjit Bagh	Do	Rural	Do
3.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Naushehra	Do	Do	Do
4.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Kahnuwan	Do	Do	Do
5.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Dorangla	Do	Do	Do
6.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Dinanagar	Do	Urban	Municipal Committee
7.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Gurdaspur	Do	Do	Red Cross Society
8.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Gandeki	Batala	Rural	Government
9.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Bham	Do	Do	Do
10.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Fatehgarh Churian	Do	Do	Do
11.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Dhianpur	Do	Do	Do
12.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Mand	Do	Do	Do
13.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Qadian	Do	Urban	Municipal Committee
14.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Fatehgarh Churian	Do	Do	Do
15.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Dhariwal	Do	Do	Do
16.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Pathankot	Pathankot	Do	Do
17.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Sujanpur	Do	Do	Do
18.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Gharota	Do	Rural	Government
19.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Bungal	Do	Do	Do
20.	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Narot Jaimalsingh	Do	Do	Do

(Directory of Medical Institutions in Punjab State, 1970, issued by the Director, Health and Family Planning, Punjab, Chandigarh)

400

GURDASPUR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32.	Civil Dispensary, Dhariwal	..	..	Urban	State Public	Gurdaspur
33.	T.B. Hospital, Babri	..	16	Rural	State Public	Gurdaspur
34.	Primary Health Centre, Narot Jaimal Singh	..	3	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
35.	Primary Health Centre, Badhani	..	4	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
36.	Civil Dispensary, Madhopur	..	4	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
37.	Civil Dispensary, Shahpur Kandi	..	..	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
38.	Railway Hospital, Pathankot	..	8	Urban	State Special	Pathankot
39.	Civil Hospital, Pathankot	..	50	Urban	State Public	Pathankot
40.	Civil Dispensary, Dhar Kalan	..	15	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
41.	Civil Dispensary, Sujanpur	..	8	Urban	Zila Parishad	Pathankot
42.	Civil Dispensary, Dunera	..	1	Rural	Zila Parishad	Pathankot
43.	Primary Health Unit, Gharota	..	4	Rural	State Public	Pathankot
44.	Civil Dispensary, Kala Afghanan	..	..	Rural	State Public	ata
45.	Civil Dispensary, Doong	..	..	Rural	State Public	Pathankot

(Source : The Chief Medical Officer, Gurdaspur)

APPENDIX V

(Vide page 391)

Maternity and Child Health Centres in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Serial No	Name of Institution and Location	Tahsil	Rural/Urban	Type of Management
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Maternity and Child Health Centre, Kalanaur	Gurdaspur	Rural	Government
2.	Maternity and Child Health Centre, Behrampur at Awankhan	Do	Do	Do
3.	Maternity and Child Health Centre, Jaito Sarja	Batala	Do	Do
4.	Maternity and Child Health Centre, Batala	Do	Urban	Municipal Committee, Batala
5.	Maternity and Child Health Centre, Pathankot	Pathankot	Do	Municipal Committee, Pathankot
6.	Station Health Centre, Pathankot	Do	Do	Military

(Directory of Medical Institutions in Punjab State, 1973, issued by the Director, Health and Family Planning, Punjab, Chandigarh)

APPENDIX VI

(Vide page 392)

List of Ayurvedic/Unani Institutions in the Gurdaspur District as on March 31, 1972

Serial No.	Name of Institution	Ayurvedic/Unani	Rural/Urban	Type of management	Tahsil
1.	Jagowal	Ayurvedic	Rural	Government	Gurdaspur
2.	Ghuman Kalan	Do	Do	Do	Do
3.	Bhadal	Do	Do	Do	Do
4.	Narpur	Do	Do	Do	Do
5.	Bhopar Saidan	Do	Do	Do	Do
6.	Hardo Chhanni	Do	Do	Do	Do
7.	Talabpur Pandori	Unani	Do	Do	Do
8.	Bhoa	Ayurvedic	Do	Do	Pathankot
9.	Narot Mehra	Do	Do	Do	Do
10.	Lahri Gujran	Do	Do	Do	Do
11.	Karoli	Do	Do	Do	Do
12.	Sarti	Do	Do	Do	Do
13.	Phangota	Do	Do	Do	Do
14.	Lahrun	Do	Do	Do	Do
15.	Bhanguri	Do	Do	Do	Do
16.	Durrang	Do	Do	Do	Do
17.	Marrianwala	Do	Do	Do	Batala
18.	Dharowali	Do	Do	Do	Do
19.	Masanian	Unani	Do	Do	Do
20.	Dhandoi	Do	Do	Do	Do
21.	Bal	Ayurvedic	Do	Do	Do
22.	Kathlaur	Do	Do	Do	Pathankot
23.	Kot Majlas	Do	Do	Do	Batala
24.	Dargawal	Do	Do	Do	Do
25.	Tibbar	Do	Do	Do	Gurdaspur
26.	Marar	Do	Do	Do	Batala

(Directory of Medical Institutions in Punjab State, 1973, issued by the Director, Health and Family Planning, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Services like education, housing, technical education, health, labour welfare, rehabilitation of displaced persons and welfare of Backward Classes have been more or less compartmentalised in the broad category of social services, while the services which are meant for the under-privileged or handicapped sections of the community to rise as close to the level of normal community life have found a place under the category of social welfare services. It is almost an obligation on the part of a progressive modern State to promote the general well-being of the community. The modern welfare State is built on a strong framework of social services. In a welfare State, all are assured of adequate help in case of need which may be due to illness, old age, physical or mental handicap, or unemployment. State assistance is given as a right, not as a charity, and no stigma of pauperism is attached to those who receive it.

The implementation of welfare services is the joint responsibility of State Government and the voluntary welfare agencies. The responsibility for the implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes programmes is entrusted with the Central and State Governments. The voluntary social welfare organisations deal mainly with non-statutory services of general social welfare for women, children, handicapped, and other vulnerable groups. Thus, the voluntary social welfare organisations share a major responsibility in the implementation of social welfare policy.¹

(a) Labour Welfare

Labour welfare is a term which is used with considerable elasticity. In its widest implication, it means everything that contributes to the improvement of the health, safety, general well-being and productive efficiency of the worker. Labour welfare includes such services, facilities and amenities as may be established in or in the vicinity of undertakings to enable the persons employed in them to perform their work in healthy, congenial surrounding and provided with amenities conducive to good health and high morale. It also includes adequate canteens, rest and recreation facilities, sanitary facilities, arrangements for transportation to and from work and the accommodation of workers employed at a distance from their home.

The Punjab is probably the first State to have set-up the Punjab Industrial Safety Council in May 1969, on the pattern of the National

1. Wadia, A.R. (edited by), *History and Philosophy of Social Work in India*, (Bombay, 1961), p.487

Dubey, S.N., *Administration of Social Welfare Programmes in India*, (Bombay, 1973), p.78

Safety Council. This is a non-government and non-political voluntary organisation. Factory owners and the associations of workers, Government departments and all other persons who are interested in safety can become members of this council, which shall advise, organise, encourage and promote methods and procedures for ensuring the safety and health of the industrial workers.

Before the independence, there was no separate organisation to look after the interests of the industrial labour and other workers and to deal with their day-to-day problems in Punjab. It was only in 1949 that a separate Labour Department was set-up under the charge of a whole-time Labour Commissioner.

The primary function of the Labour Department is to maintain peaceful industrial relations in the State and also to further the labour welfare measures whether statutory or non-statutory. It ensures, subject to certain limitations, that working conditions for labour conform to a certain minimum of safety and comfort, that wages are adequate and regularly paid, and that any unfortunate injuries are suitably treated and compensated for. Its machinery seeks to provide medical care and model-housing for as many labourers and their dependents as possible. The prevention of industrial disputes and their settlement, as and when these arise, form the main plank of the activities of the Labour Department.

The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Batala, represents the Labour Department in the Gurdaspur District. He is assisted by one Inspector of Factories, one Labour Inspector Grade I, and one Labour Inspector Grade II, all posted at Batala, and one Labour Inspector Grade II posted at Pathankot. The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer deals with the administration and disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. He intervenes in industrial disputes on receipt of demand notices by the workmen employers. Under the law, he can also intervene if there is an apprehension of occurrence of industrial disputes. He, therefore, remains quite vigilant and as and when he receives indication regarding the occurrence of industrial disputes, he gets in touch with the employers/employees concerned so as to prevent the differences from assuming any serious form. If he fails to settle disputes, the matter is referred, through Government, to the Labour Court, Jullundur, or the Industrial Tribunal, Punjab, Chandigarh. Appointed under section 7-A of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Industrial Tribunal, Punjab, Chandigarh, plays a very important role in the redress of grievances of the industrial workers in the State.

Labour Legislation

Labour legislation is that body of legal enactments and judicial principles which deals with employment and non-employment, wages, working conditions, industrial relations, social security and labour welfare of industrially employed persons. It is that part of the State action by which the "State, through parliamentary enactments, has intervened in the conduct of industry and imposed statutory obligations for the most part on the employers and, to a subsidiary degree, on the workmen."

Labour legislation is a result of evolution of the concept of social justice. Therefore, the nature of labour legislation reflects the social, economic and political ideas current at a given time. Labour courts and industrial tribunals have a different approach to the settlement of disputes. They collect facts from the disputants and from other sources with the purpose of forming an opinion, as to what compulsory solution or award is likely to be most just. If need be, the tribunal may modify existing contracts and create new provisions. The philosophy underlying labour laws is to administer justice, not only by interpreting existing law but also by creating new law by taking light from public policy and current social climate. Labour legislation is that paramount effort of the community which has granted a real equality to workmen. It is the expression of the feelings of the people which gives practical shape to current human and social values prevalent in the community.

The State follows the labour policy of the Government of India, which is generally based on the principles enunciated in the provisions laid down in the International Labour Code of the International Labour Organisation. Under the Constitution of India, the enactment as well as the administration of labour laws is the responsibility of both the Union and State Governments².

The salient features of the Central and State Labour Acts in force in the district are given below:

The Factories Act, 1948, is the latest measure which cancels all the previous Factory Acts and instead makes comprehensive provisions regarding factory labour in regard to health, safety and welfare of workers. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, is a comprehensive measure adopted by the Central Government with a view to improving industrial relations. It provides for the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes by mediation, conciliation, adjudication and arbitration. It prohibits strikes and lock-outs during the pendency of conciliation and adjudication proceedings. The payment of Wages Act, 1936, provides for regular and prompt

payment of wages and to limit the deductions on account of unjust fines. The Act applies to all factories and railways. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, ensures the fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages in respect of certain scheduled Industries involving hard labour. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, provides for compensation to workmen who sustain injuries by accidents during the course of employment. The amount of compensation in case of a fatal accident depends upon the average monthly wages of the deceased and in case of injury, on the monthly wage and the extent of the injury. The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, gives registered trade unions a legal and corporate status. It also gives immunity, from civil and criminal liability to trade union executives and members for bonafide trade union activities. Briefly, the provisions of the Act cover such matters as registration of trade unions, their rights and liabilities, procedure and fees payable for the registration and transfer of registration, auditing of accounts of unions. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, is another important piece of legislation which aims at defining the conditions of recruitment, discharge, disciplinary action, holidays, leave, etc. of the workers employed in industrial undertakings. The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, marks another milestone in the field of labour legislation, as it seeks to regulate and ameliorate the conditions of workers in the transport undertakings employing five or more workers.

The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, provides for the payment of bonus to the workers. The Employment of Children Act, 1938, prohibits the employment of young children below the age of 15 years in certain risky and unhealthy occupations. The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, contemplates the provision of medical benefits, and payment of sickness benefit to insured workers in case of sickness, indisposition, disability, etc. The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, seeks to make a provision for the future of the industrial worker after he retires or for his dependents in the case of his early death. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, provides for the payment of maternity benefit to women workers for a period of 12 weeks.

The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958, regulates the working conditions, hours of work, rest interval and weekly rest as also holidays, leave and overtime of workers employed in the shops and commercial establishments. The Act also provides for opening and closing hours of establishments and entitling the employees to go to courts to get their grievances redressed. The Punjab Labour Welfare Funds Act, 1965, provides for the setting up of a Labour Welfare Board and appointment of a Welfare Commissioner. The unclaimed wages of the employees and the accumulation of fines have to be credited to the Labour Welfare Fund, out of which the Board is to finance various labour welfare

2. Vaid, K.N., *State and Labour and India*, (Bombay, 1965), pp. 7-8, 13

activities sponsored by the Board. A Labour Welfare Board is already functioning in the State. Labour Commissioner is the Welfare Commissioner under the Act. The Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays, Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965, provides for the grant of 7 days national and festival holidays, 7 days casual leave on full wages and 14 days sick leave at half wages, to all the employees covered under the Act.

In order to secure proper benefits under the labour enactments, an adequate enforcement machinery works under the Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh. He is assisted at the district level by Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Factory Inspectors, Labour Inspectors and other miscellaneous staff.

According to the 1971 Census, the number of workers in the Gurdaspur District was 3,24,852, forming 26.4 per cent of the total population of the district.³ In the same year, the average daily number of workers employed in the 316 registered working factories in the district was 7,469⁴. In 1973, the number of registered working factories rose to 350 and the average daily number of workers employed in them to 8,518⁵.

Industrial Relations.—The objective of industrial relations is to facilitate production and to safeguard the interest of labour and management by securing their co-operation. The main problems are not strikes and lock-outs but the regulation of working conditions and the promotion of better understanding between management and the working people. The relations between the employees and the employers are governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The industrial relations machinery set up under the legislation is of two types. One is for the prevention of disputes by providing Works Committees within the industrial units. The other is the industrial relations machinery outside the industry which consists of (i) Permanent Conciliation Officers, (ii) Conciliation Boards, (iii) Courts of Enquiry and (iv) Industrial Tribunals.

The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer is responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Act in the district. He is to hold conciliation proceedings in the prescribed manner if any industrial dispute exists or is apprehended or where the dispute relates to a public utility service and a notice under section 22 has been given. For bringing about a settlement of the dispute without delay, he is required to investigate into all matters affecting the dispute on their merits. He may also take appropriate course of action,

3. *Census of India, 1971, Series 17, Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p.162

4. *Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1972*, p.224

5. *Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1974* p.182

with a view to making the parties to come to a fair and amicable settlement of the dispute⁶. He remains quite vigilant and, as and when he receives indication regarding the occurrence of industrial disputes, he gets in touch with the employers/employees concerned so as to prevent the differences from assuming any serious form.

The relations between the employees and the employers in the district are normally peaceful but sometimes, these become strained and strikes/lock-outs take place. During the last few years, three major strikes took place in the different mills, etc. in the district : New Egerton Woollen Mills, Dhariwal, in 1967, Gupta Rubber Conduit Pipe Factory, Dinanagar, in 1970, and BECO Engineering Co., Batala, in 1971.

The labour situation is reflected by the number of man-days lost. The man-days lost is like a barometer which gives reading of situation of industrial unrest resulting in strikes/lock-outs within any given period. The following table gives particulars regarding the industrial disputes in the Gurdaspur District, under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, from 1966 to 1972.—

Number of Industrial Disputes in Gurdaspur District, 1966 to 1972

Year	Number of disputes	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Number of workers involved in strikes	Number of man-days lost
1966 ..	..	1	268	5,077
1967 ..	93	3	2,661	54,233
1968 ..	210	1	81	567
1969 ..	269	2	402	4,422
1970 ..	291	8	457	18,280
1971 ..	243	..	..	..
1972 ..	219	1	31	93

(Source : Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Batala)

6. Agnihotri, V., *Industrial Relations in India*, (Delhi, 1970), pp. 3, 50, 107

Works Committees.—Section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, provides for the constitution of Works Committees in the industrial establishments employing 100 or more workers. The function of these committees is to promote harmonious relations between workers and employers and to dissolve differences in the initial stages. The Act provides that the number of representatives of workmen shall not be less than the number of representatives of the employers. The total number of members shall not exceed twenty. The term of office of the representatives of the committee shall be two years, except for a member chosen for filling a casual vacancy⁷.

The Factories Act, 1948.—The Factories Act, 1948, which came into operation on April 1, 1949, covers all power-using industrial establishments employing 10 or more workers and establishments employing 20 or more workers and not using power. The Act lays down that the occupier of a factory shall before occupation send to the Chief Inspector of Factories a written notice containing full details regarding the factory. The Act prescribes certain provisions regarding sanitation, temperature, ventilation, safety measures, prevention of over crowding, the provision of amenities, precautionary measures against fire, dangerous fumes, explosive or inflammable dust, etc. With a view to ensuring the enforcement of these provisions, the inspectorate staff are required to carry out a minimum number of inspections every month in specified inspections proforma. In case of minor violations, inspectorate staff issue warnings and notices to the managements, whereas in case of serious or repeated violations necessary prosecutions are launched against the defaulters in the courts of law. In order to bring about an improvement in efficiency and quality of inspection work, and tone up the administration, every month atleast two test checks over the inspections conducted by the Labour Inspectors are carried out.

Previously, the prosecutions were launched without giving much opportunity to the managements for rectifying the defects. But now for certain offences such as grant/renewal of licences, display of notices, approval of factory building plans, etc. the managements are afforded chances/opportunities to rectify the defects. But, if a factory management does not remove the defects even then, the department has to take recourse to legal action under the Act.

The number of working factories registered under the Act in the district was 316 in 1971, 337 in 1972 and 350 in 1973⁸. Labour Welfare

7. Ibid pp. 110, 112, 143

8. *Statistical Abstract of Punjab*, 1972, p. 224

Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1973, p. 216

Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1974, p. 182

Officers have been employed by M/s New Egerton Woollen Mills, Dhariwal and M/s The Batala Co-operative Sugar Mills, Batala, to look after the general welfare of the employees.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.—Under the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Funds Act, 1952, compulsory provident fund has been introduced in certain specified industrial establishments.

Every employee of an establishment to which the Provident Fund Scheme applies is eligible for membership of the fund after completion of one year's continuous service or 240 days of actual work during a period of twelve months. Contribution at the rate of 6½ per cent is deducted from the basic pay, dearness allowance (inclusive of cash value of food concessions, if any admissible) and retaining allowance of employees who get a pay of Rs 1,000 per month or less. An amount equal to the worker's contribution is contributed by the employer every month. The entire amount is deposited in the State Bank of India in the employee's provident fund accounts.

Provision has also been made, under the scheme, for grant of advances under certain conditions to the members for (i) financing life insurance policies, (ii) construction of houses and (iii) to defray medical expenses, from their share of contributions to the fund.

By March 31, 1972, 203 factories/establishments were covered under the Act in the Gurdaspur District. The total number of subscribers to the scheme in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 12,275.

The Chief Executive Officer of the scheme is the Central Provident Fund Commissioner, New Delhi. The scheme is executed in the State through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Chandigarh. Provision has also been made for appointment of Inspectors to punish the defaulters. Employers are required to maintain a contribution card for each employee in which monthly contributions are recorded. These cards can be seen or inspected at any time.

Death Relief Fund was set-up in 1964 to give timely financial assistance to the nominees/heirs of the deceased members. A minimum of Rs 500 is given by way of relief. A non-refundable advance is also granted in case of the individuals retrenchment from service.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme.—The Employees' State Insurance scheme is an integrated measure of social insurance embodied in the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, and is designed to accomplish the task of protecting 'employees' as defined in the Act against the hazards of sickness, maternity, disablement and death due to employment

injury and to provide medical care to insured persons and progressively to their families. The Employees' State Insurance Scheme was introduced in the Punjab in 1953. It is designed to provide security to the industrial workers against sickness, maternity and employment injury in the form of cash benefits. The scheme protects all employees engaged on a monthly remuneration not exceeding Rs. 500 in a power using factory where 20 or more persons are employed. Persons employed for wages on any work connected with the administration of the factory or purchase of raw materials, or distribution or sale of the product of a factory are also covered. The scheme, however, does not apply to the mines under the operation of the Mines Act, 1952, Railway Running Sheds, Naval, Military and Air Force Workshops and specified seasonal factories.

The Act places the primary responsibility of paying his as well as the employees' share of the contribution on the principal employers. The contributions in respect of an employee are payable by the employee and his employer. The employees' share is to be deducted from his wages by the principal employer. The amount of weekly contribution, payable in respect of an employee, depends on his average wages during that week, and contributions are payable in respect of every week for the whole or part of which an employee is employed and receives wages.

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme is administered by a corporate body called the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, which has its headquarters at New Delhi. It is under the administrative control of the Director-General, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi. The scheme is executed in the State through the Regional Director, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Chandigarh, who inspects factories, collects contributions and arranges payments of cash benefits.

The provision of medical benefit is statutory responsibility of the State Government and the facilities are to be provided in accordance with the standards laid down by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. Most of the expenditure on medical care is contributed by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, and only 1/8th of the expenditure is borne by the State Government. The expenditure on other cash benefits is to be met entirely out of the Employees' State Insurance Fund and is arranged by the Regional Director.

The scheme was introduced at Batala and Dhariwal with effect from May 17, 1953, and November 29, 1959, respectively. At Batala, the medical care/facilities are provided to the insured through panel system. At Dhariwal, medical benefits are provided through service

system, and an E. S. I. dispensary has been established there for the benefit of the workers. Up to March 31, 1972, there were 2,700 and 3,500 insured persons at Batala and Dhariwal, respectively, covered under the scheme.

Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme

The Punjab Industrial Housing Act, 1956, provides for allotment and administration of houses constructed under the Government of India Subsidised Industrial Housing Schemes. Houses are allotted to workers on merit. However, in genuine cases, 10 per cent out of turn allotment of accommodation can be made by the Labour Commissioner who is the competent authority for the administration of the said Act.

Under the scheme, the State Government had till March 31, 1972, constructed 118 houses (58 at Batala and 60 at Dhariwal) in the Gurdaspur District for industrial workers. In 1973-74, under the subsidised Industrial Housing Schemes for workers, the Batala Co-operative Sugar Mills, Batala, was given a subsidy of Rs 76,000 for construction of 40 two-roomed double storeyed houses.

(b) Prohibition

Like other districts of the State, Gurdaspur is also a wet district. As on March 31, 1972, there were 84 country liquor vends and 7 foreign liquor vends in the district.

The consumption of exciseable articles in the district, during 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	Country Spirit (Proof Litres)	Foreign Spirit (Proof Litres)	Wine and Beer (Bulk Litres)	Opium (Kgs.)	Bhang (Kgs.)
1967-68	5,74,734	44,818	65,348	0.937	23,730
1968-69	5,09,522	61,631	6,846	..	..
1969-70	2,54,761	64,488	..	1.000	..
1970-71	5,98,224	82,030	94,300	0.574	..
1971-72	5,96,000	48,771	84,436	..	..

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1968 to 1972)

The Gurdaspur District falls under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Jullundur. The Excise and Taxation Officer, Gurdaspur, is assisted by 1 Additional Excise and Taxation

Officer, 9 Assistant Excise and Taxation Officers, 27 Taxation Inspectors, and 7 Excise Inspectors. He administers the Excise and Opium Acts in the district.

The number of cases registered under these Acts, 1967-68 to 1971-72, is given below :

Year	No. of cases registered		
	Excise Act	Opium Act	Total
1967-68	670	170	840
1968-69	1,308	255	1,563
1969-70	1,418	214	1,632
1970-71	1,831	155	1,986
1971-72	1,320	90	1,410

(Source : Excise and Taxation Officer, Gurdaspur)

(c) Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes

The Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are highly disadvantageous groups in the Indian society. Development programmes have, therefore, been formulated for their up-lift and welfare. There are no persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in the Punjab.

Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes :

According to the 1961 Census, the number of Scheduled Castes persons in the district was 1,93,505 (1,03,071 males and 90,434 females), forming 19.6 per cent of the total population of the district. Out of these 1, 70,449 (90,429 males and 80,020 females), i. e. 88.1 per cent, lived in rural areas and 23,056 (12,642 males and 10,414 females) i.e. 11.9 per cent, lived in urban areas. The Mahashas (61,482) were the most numerous among the Scheduled Castes and next were Chamars (54,497), Mazhabis (33,346), Meghs (12,082), Kabirpanthis (8,505), Balmikis (7,754), Sansis (5,016) and Batwals (4,451).⁹

According to the 1971 Census, the number of Scheduled Castes persons in the district rose to 2,67,110 (1,41,423 males and 1,25,687 females), forming 21.7 per cent of the total population of the district. Out of these, 2,25,173 (1,18,899 males and 1,06,274 females), i.e. 84.3 per cent lived in rural areas and 41,937 (22,524 males and 19,413 females), i.e. 15.7 per cent lived in urban areas.¹⁰

9. *Census of India 1951, Punjab, District Census Handbook, No. 14, Gurdaspur District* pp. 39. 288 (Chandigarh, 1969)

10. *Census of India, 1971, Series 17-Punjab, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 160-161

The names of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes inhabiting the Gurdaspur District along with their main professions are given in the Appendix at pages 426-427 at the end of this chapter.

Measures adopted for betterment of the condition of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes

The Constitution of India provides for special safeguards for the Backward Classes which include Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, denotified tribes and other backward classes. It is recognised that these groups need special assistance in order to come on par with the rest of the community, socially, educationally and economically. These classes have been described as Scheduled Castes, because their names have been listed in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950. Their rights and interests have been safeguarded. The Constitution also provides that no discrimination can be made against them in any shape or form. Article 15(4) of the Constitution empowers the States to make special provision for the advancement of Scheduled Castes.

Since the welfare of the Harijans was assigned to the States as their special responsibility, many of the States undertook and brought into effect legislation pertaining to the abolition of untouchability and removal of hardships and disabilities imposed upon them. The Punjab took the lead in enacting legislation for abolition of untouchability. The Punjab Removal of the Religious and Social Disabilities Act, 1948, was passed to ensure free and unhindered use of public places by the Harijans. The Government have also enacted the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, which declares the practice of untouchability in any form as a cognizable offence.

The Directive Principles, as laid down in the Constitution make it binding upon the States to adopt special measures for ameliorating the lot of these neglected classes and tribes. No effort has, therefore, been spared to improve the socio-economic conditions of the members of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. The Directorate of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab, Chandigarh, attends to the work of the uplift and advancement of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the State.

To look after the work at the district level, the office of the District Welfare Officer was established in 1955-56. He is assisted by 3 Tahsil Welfare Officers, posted one each at the tahsil headquarters, viz. Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot. He is also assisted by an Accountant, a Male Social Worker, 10 Lady Social Workers, 3 Clerks and 10 Lady Attendants.

Under Articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution, provision has been made for the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes, among other, in the Parliament as also in the State Legislatures on population basis. This reservation was for a period of 10 years, i.e. up to 1960. The period has been further extended up to 1980. In order to provide employment to the educated boys and girls of these castes, 25 per cent of the vacancies for Scheduled Castes and 5 per cent for Backward Classes have been reserved in all Government posts and services. To ensure proper implementation of the instructions regarding reservation in services, a special cell has been created in the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. No department can recruit a non-Scheduled Caste candidate against a post reserved for Scheduled Castes unless a certificate is obtained from the cell to the effect that no suitable scheduled caste candidate was available. The Scheduled Castes also enjoy age limit concessions in the matter of recruitment to services.

The schemes implemented for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes, Vimukt Jatis and Backward Classes are as follows :—

I. Social Welfare Schemes

The State Welfare Department has implemented the following schemes:—

(i) **Subsidy for Construction of New Houses.**—The members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis generally either live in slums in urban areas or they have very scanty accommodation in the proverbial unhygienic Harijan *bastis* (colonies). They do not have their own resources to build houses themselves. In order to help them, subsidies are granted for the construction of new houses. A subsidy of Rs 900 each is granted to the deserving and needy persons. Unskilled labour/sites are provided by the beneficiaries themselves. The house constructed under this scheme consists of a room, a verandah, a kitchen and a courtyard, with a total area of 5 or 6 marlas.

Under the scheme, the beneficiaries are bound not to alienate the properties so acquired by them. The property rights of the house are fully vested in Government for a period of 20 years, after which the house becomes the property of the beneficiary. However, the latter enjoys free use of the house during this period.

The total amount of subsidies granted and the number of beneficiaries under the scheme, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given below :

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	No. of beneficiaries
1966-67	11,700	13
1967-68	900	1
1968-69	900	1
1969-70	900	1
1970-71	900	1
1971-72	8,100	9

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(ii) **Subsidy for Purchase of House-sites.**—As there was a loud cry against ejections, the Central Government advised the State Governments as early as September 1952, to enact suitable legislation so as to confer proprietary rights on the Scheduled Castes people in respect of the lands on which they could build their houses, whether they belong to the landlords or are the common property of the village, and also to allot additional house-sites in order to remove congestion. The Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961, confers upon the Harijans the proprietary rights over the sites under their houses. A sum of Rs 200 is granted as a subsidy to each deserving and needy member of Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis for the purchase of house-sites. The scheme was introduced in the State in 1958-59, but it was dropped in 1967-68 as no landowner was ready to give plots for house sites for such a meagre sum of Rs 200 each. The amount sanctioned and the number of house-sites provided, during 1966-67, were Rs 5,600 and 28, respectively.

(iii) **Land Scheme.**—The members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis generally depend on agriculture, but most of them have no land of their own. They, thus, earn their livelihood by taking land on lease or on *batai* which does not yield enough produce for the maintenance of an

average family. Up to the year 1970-71, each approved Harijan beneficiary was granted a subsidy of Rs 2,000, for the purchase of at least 5 acres of agricultural land, costing not less than Rs 4,500. The balance of the price of land, i.e. Rs 2,500 was contributed by the beneficiary from his own resources or by raising a loan from the Land Mortgage Bank. Consequent upon steep rise in the price of agricultural land in the past few years, this scheme was virtually at a standstill, as poor Harijans were unable to purchase 5 acres of agricultural land with the amount of subsidy of Rs 2,000 and by contributing Rs 2,500, from their meagre resources. Therefore, from 1971-72, the rate of subsidy under this scheme has been enhanced from Rs 2,000, to Rs 5,000, and the area of land to be purchased has been reduced from 5 acres to 3 acres. Each beneficiary has to contribute at least Rs 2,500 from his own resources as heretofore. Under this scheme, another amount of Rs 500 is given to each beneficiary for the sinking of a well on the land for irrigation purpose or for the construction of a house thereon. Another amount of Rs 180 is given to each approved Harijan beneficiary as stamp duty for the registration of land purchased by him.

The scheme was introduced in 1956-57. The amount of subsidies granted and the number of beneficiaries, i.e. persons settled on land under the scheme, in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed as subsidies		No. of beneficiaries	
	Scheduled Castes	Vimukt Jatis	Scheduled Castes	Vimukt Jatis
	(Rs)	(Rs)		
1966-67	13,400	2,680	5	1
1967-68	8,040	..	3	..
1968-69	5,360	2,680	2	1
1969-70	8,040	..	3	..
1970-71	8,040	2,680	3	1
1971-72	11,360	..	2	..

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(iv) **Facilities for Drinking Water.**—There are no drinking water wells/hand-pumps in most of the villages inhabited by the members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis and they have to go far to fetch the drinking water. Where such wells/hand-pumps, etc. exist, a large number of them need repairs. To remove these difficulties and to provide facilities for fresh drinking water, new wells are sunk or hand-pumps are installed in Harijan *bastis* and repairs are carried out in respect of old wells/hand-pumps wherever necessary.

The amount of subsidies granted in the district for sinking of new wells and renovation of old ones and installation of hand-pumps, alongwith their number, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed as Subsidies	No. of wells sunk/repaired and hand-pumps installed
	(Rs)	
1966-67	2,500	15
1967-68	4,600	25
1968-69	4,000	29
1969-70	3,500	18
1970-71	3,300	23
1971-72	19,250	72

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(v) **Community Centres.**—With a view to eradicating the untouchability and promote social intercourse, Harijan children and women are brought together alongwith others for education and vocational training, respectively, in community centres set up in villages which are mainly inhabited by the Scheduled Castes. In a community centre, there are two paid Social Workers, one male and one female, with one Lady Attendant preferably Trained Dai, who handles maternity cases free of charge. The programmes are so arranged that the centre is used by the

children, men and women at different times of the day. The children of pre-school going age are taught cleanliness, songs, games, good behaviour and good habits; and women are taught social education, cooking, first-aid, home-nursing, tailoring and embroidery. Arrangements are also made for imparting adult-education to men and women.

Under the scheme, 10 community centres are functioning in the district at Dala, Nowshera Majja Singh, Ballagan (Tahsil Gurdaspur); Dera Baba Nanak, Ranger Nangal now at Panjgirain, Vila Teja (Tahsil Batala); and Narot Jaimalsingh, Dunera, Bhanguri, Dhar Kalan now at Sailli Koliyan (Tahsil Pathankot). The Government provides a subsidy of Rs 2,000 to panchayat of a Harijan village for the construction of a community centre.

The amount granted as subsidy and the number of Community Centres established in the district, during 1969-70 to 1971-72, are given below:

Year		Amount allotted	No. of Co- mmunity Cen- tres estab- lished	Amount disbursed
		(Rs)		(Rs)
1969-70	..	2,000	1	2,000
1970-71	..	2,000	1	2,000
1971-72	..	2,000	1	2,000

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(vi) **Legal Assistance.**—In order to protect the interests of the members of Scheduled Castes, Vimukt Jatis and other Backward Classes in criminal, civil and revenue cases and to safeguard their rights against the landlords and other exploiting classes, the scheme of legal assistance is in operation. The Deputy Commissioner arranges part-time counsels to take up all such cases on payment of suitable remuneration.

The scheme was introduced in the State in 1958-59. The amount

provided in the form of legal assistance and the number of beneficiaries in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given below :

Year	Amount allotted (Rs)	Amount spent (Rs)	No. of bene- ficiaries
1966-67	..	..	..
1967-68	..	300	10
1968-69	..	185	2
1969-70	..	210	2
1970-71	..	100	2
1971-72	..	63	1

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(vii) **Interest free Loans.**—The persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes find it difficult, after completion of their academic or professional courses, to establish themselves in the professions of law, medicine, engineering, architecture, industry, etc. due to lack of financial resources. In order to help them, they are granted loans not exceeding Rs 2,000 each in each case. The loans are interest free and are recoverable in twenty half-yearly instalments, commencing after a lapse of four years from the date of the drawal of the loan.

The scheme was introduced in the State in 1958-59. The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district, during 1966-67 to 1971-72, are given below :

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	No. of beneficiaries
1966-67	..	6,500
1967-68	..	1,05,180
1968-69	..	7,680
1969-70	..	7,500
1970-71	..	74,000
1971-72	..	..

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

(viii) **Award of Scholarships and Reimbursement of Fees.**—One of the important schemes, which has been in operation aiming at the improvement of the educational standard of the members of these classes, relates to the award of scholarships and reimbursement of fees to the students belonging to them. Scholarships are awarded both at the pre-matric and post-matric stages. The ceiling on the income of the parents for eligibility of their children to receive stipends has been enhanced from Rs 1,800 per year to Rs 3,600 per year. The rate of scholarships has also been increased from Rs 6 per child at the Matriculation stage to Rs 10 per child, per month, for those who obtain first and second divisions.

(ix) **Piggery Scheme.**—Started in 1966-67, this scheme envisages grant of subsidy of Rs 800 to each deserving member of Scheduled Castes for the purchase of at least four pigs (one boar and three sows) at Rs 200 each, subject to the condition that the beneficiary contributes Rs 200 for initial feeding and maintenance charges. Under the scheme, subsidies amounting to Rs 22,400 were given to 28 beneficiaries in the district during the period from 1966-67 to 1971-72.

(x) **Dharmshalas Scheme.**—Harijans have to face a lot of difficulty at the time of marriages and other social gatherings for want of suitable roofed accommodation. Therefore, the State Government introduced, in 1969-70 a scheme for the construction of Dharmshalas in Harijan *bastis* in order to provide facilities of dignified community-life for these people.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of villages benefited in the district, during 1969-70 to 1971-72, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	No. of villages benefited
1969-70	95,000	19
1970-71	2,47,500	45
1971-72	3,68,500	67

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Gurdaspur)

II. Industrial Training Schemes

Besides the implementation of the above mentioned schemes, the Industrial Training Section of the Industries Department, Punjab, has

sponsored several other schemes for imparting training to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in various engineering and non-engineering trades. Of these schemes, the following may be mentioned:—

(i) **Industrial Training Centres.**—Under this scheme, technical training facilities are provided by the Director of Industries, (Industrial Training Section), Punjab, to the youths belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Vimukt Jatis and other Backward Classes, in trades like hosiery, blacksmithy, carpentry, leather work and tailoring. While under training, each of them is given monthly stipend of Rs 45. There is one Industrial Training Centre in the district at Fatehgarh Churian which is exclusively meant for trainees belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Vimukt Jatis and other Backward Classes.

(ii) **Industrial Training in Mills, Factories and Institutions.**—Under this scheme, the members of the Scheduled Castes, Vimukt Jatis and other Backward Classes are given training in various trades in mills, factories and in various industrial training institutions, centres, schools, etc. The scheme is implemented by the Director of Industries (Industrial Training Section), Punjab. A monthly stipend of Rs 45 is granted to each trainee for the period of training.

(iii) **Industrial Training Institutes.**—Under this scheme, a number of industrial training institutes are functioning in the State where training is imparted in various engineering and non-engineering trades. Twenty per cent of the seats are reserved for the trainees belonging to the Scheduled Castes and two per cent for those belonging to the Backward Classes. A stipend of Rs 40 per mensem is awarded to 60 per cent of the trainees belonging to these classes on poverty-cum-merit basis. They are also provided other facilities like free education, free medical aid, free clothing and free hostel accommodation, subject to the availability of seats.

There are four Industrial Training Institutes in the district at Batala, Qadian, Gurdaspur and Pathankot.

(iv) **Industrial Schools for Boys and Girls.**—Training is provided free to all the trainees in various vocational engineering trades in these schools. Twenty per cent of the seats are reserved for the trainees belonging to the Scheduled Castes and two per cent for those belonging to the Backward Classes. Stipends are awarded to a limited number of trainees on poverty-cum-merit basis. There are three Government Industrial Schools for Girls in the district at Pathankot, Gurdaspur and Fatehgarh Churian. Besides, there are two private recognised Industrial Schools for Girls at Batala and Qadian.

424

GURDASPUR

Representative Institutions

There is no representative institution of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the district.

(d) Other Social Welfare Activities

The Government have introduced a number of schemes for the uplift and rehabilitation of the socially and economically backward sections of the society. Some important among these are described below :

The old age pension scheme was introduced in the State in 1964. As a measure of social security for the old and the infirm, old age pensions are given to those old and infirm persons who have no living sons and have no means of livelihood and there is none to look after them. In case of men, they should be above 65 years and in case of women, above 60 years. In the case of disabled persons, this age-limit is, however, relaxable up to 10 years. Under this scheme, each beneficiary was previously given a pension of Rs 25 per month for life which has been raised to Rs 50 with effect from March 1, 1973, keeping in view the rising prices of essential commodities. A sum of Rs 6,52,298 was spent on this scheme in the district during the period from 1966-67 to 1971-72. The total number of persons covered under the scheme in the district, as on March 31, 1972, was 928.

The other schemes introduced under the social welfare programme are mentioned below :

Financial assistance is provided to orphans and destitute children while they continue to stay in their own families. Socio-economic security is provided to needy widows and destitute women below the age of 60 years. Blind girls of school-going age are given education and training (in the Government Institute for the Blind Girls, Ludhiana, set up in 1968) to enable them to attain economic independence in life. Artificial limbs are provided to the orthopaedically handicapped persons so that they may lead as normal life as possible. The Government pays for the cost of artificial limbs depending on the income of the applicant.

When discharged from hospitals, the helpless victims of chronic diseases and mental patients are provided after-care services and financial assistance to enable them to continue the treatment and the special diet at home. Besides, scholarships are provided to the physically handicapped students for undergoing various educational and vocational courses. Provision has also been made for the detention, training and rehabilitation of beggars and their dependents in a special institution.

(e) Public Trusts, Charitable Endowments and Muslim Wakfs

While the effectiveness of voluntary effort is limited by the inadequate finances, there are some public trusts and endowments, provided with capital of varying sizes, the income from which is earmarked for the wants and for relief of human suffering.

Bawa Lal Ji Maharaj Trust, Dhianpur, is the only trust in the district. Founded by Mahant Dwarka Das in 1969, it is doing good work for the welfare of the people.

Muslim Wakfs.—Besides, there are 2,850 Muslim Wakfs at different places in the district, with properties attached to some of them. These properties were maintained by the Custodian Department, Government of India, up to 1961, when their administration was entrusted to the Punjab Wakf Board (with headquarters at Ambala Cantt). The administration of the Wakfs is regulated by the Central Wakf Act, 1954.

The annual income from the Wakf properties in the district is about Rs 1,40,000. It is spent for the upkeep of these institutions and for various charitable purposes and promotion of education, both religious and secular, of the particular community.

The important Wakfs in the district are Khanqah Hazrat Syed Saraj-ul-Haq, Gurdaspur; Khanqah, Kot Miyan Sahib; Khanqah, Kalanaur; Khanqah Baba Goudar Shah, Katowal; Khanqah, Ratar Chater; Mosque, Mohalla Rajrian, Pathankot; and Khanqah, Dhangoo Road, Pathankot.

The staff of the Wakf Board, posted in the district, consists of one Field Inspector at Batala, and four Rent Controllers (two at Batala and one each at Gurdaspur and Pathankot).

APPENDIX

(Vide page 415)

Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes inhabiting the Gurdaspur District

Serial No.	Name of Caste	Main professions
Scheduled Castes		
1.	Ad Dharmi	.. Agricultural labour, shoe-making and leather tanning
2.	Bangali	.. Begging
3.	Barar, Burar or Berar	.. Manufacturing of <i>chhaj</i> of reeds and begging
4.	Betwal	.. Cultivation, construction, etc.
5.	Balmiki, Chura or Bhangi	Agricultural labour and stripping of skins of dead animals
6.	Bazigar	.. Sheep and goat trade and labour
7.	Chamar, Ramdasi and Ravidasi	Agricultural labour, shoe-making, tanning, household industry, etc.
8.	Chanal	
9.	Dhanak	.. Weaving and agricultural labour
10.	Dumna, Mahasha or Doom	Agricultural labour, etc.
11.	Kabir Panthi or Julaha	.. Weaving and agriculture
12.	Mazhabi	.. Cultivation, agricultural labour, household industry, tanning and currying of hides and skins, scavenging, etc.
13.	Megh	.. Weaving and agriculture
14.	Sansi, Bhedkut or Manesh	Cultivation, agricultural labour, household industry, begging, etc.

15. Sarera

Backward Classes

1.	Baragi	.. Begging
2.	Bhat, Bhatra	.. Begging
3.	Bhuhalia or Lohar	.. Iron work
4.	Chang	.. Labour, agriculture
5.	Chhimba	.. Tailoring
6.	Dhobi	.. Washing of clothes
7.	Gorkha	.. <i>Chaukidari</i>
8.	Jhangra, Brahman	.. Labour
9.	Jogi Nath	.. Labour
10.	Kahar	.. Labour
11.	Kumhar	.. Pottery and donkey transport
12.	Labana	.. Agriculture
13.	Marasi	.. Begging
14.	Nai or barber, Hajjam	.. Barber's job
15.	Soi	.. Labour
16.	Teli	.. Oil work
17.	Julaha	.. Weaving of cloth
18.	Kamboj	.. Agriculture

Vimukt Jatis

1.	Kuch bandh	
2.	Barar	
3.	Sansi (Bhedkut)	.. Agricultural labour

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Representation of the District in the State and the Union Legislatures

Historical Retrospect.—In laying down a Federal Constitution for India, the Government of India Act, 1935, gave the provinces a new constitutional status which was designated as the 'Provincial Autonomy'. Under the Act, full responsible government was introduced in the provinces. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the First General Elections were held in January 1937, and the second and the last in March 1946. This long gap was due to the interruption in the normal working of the Constitution during the course of the World War-II (1939—45).

General Elections held under the Constitution of India

The ideal of universal adult franchise was achieved in India after the inauguration of the Sovereign Democratic Republic on January 26, 1950. Article 326 of the Constitution of India provides that the elections to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) and to the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) of every State shall be on the basis of adult franchise. Every person who is a citizen of India and is not less than twenty-one years of age is entitled to vote, if he is not otherwise disqualified. Up till 1974, five General Elections had been held in the country on the basis of adult franchise. The phenomenal success of these elections, characterized by smooth progress of voting, is a proof of the spirit of the masses to adjust themselves to a democratic way of life.

In 1975, the Punjab State had 104 member unicameral legislature—the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha). No person is eligible to be chosen to fill a seat in the State Legislature unless he is a citizen of India and not less than 25 years of age and possesses such other qualifications as prescribed in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, and also does not suffer from any of the stipulated disqualifications.

First General Elections, 1951-52.—After the achievement of the independence in 1947, the First General Elections in the Punjab, as in the rest of India, were held in 1951-52. These represented a bold experiment in democracy. Franchise was thrown open to every adult not suffering from a disqualification, even though the number of literates in the population did not exceed 12 per cent. The electoral roll prepared at the general elections of 1946 had already become

out of date. The creation of the Dominions of India and Pakistan in 1947 had violently wrested the entire population from their homes and thus substantially altered the composition of the old roll. The extension of the franchise made nearly 50 per cent of the population eligible for registration, whereas, at the 1946 election, only 13½ per cent enjoyed the right to vote. An entirely new roll had thus to be prepared. Similarly, the delimitation of the constituencies had to be done afresh. The old distinction between rural and urban constituencies was done away with. As against 1,300 polling stations in 1946, 7,000 had to be set up, and thousands of subordinate staff had to be made conversant with the new and complicated election procedure.

Out of the total population of the Gurdaspur District numbering 8,51,046 (1951 Census), 4,58,619 persons were eligible to vote. According to the scale of representation laid down for the State, an Assembly seat was allocated to the population of 1,00,079 persons or 46,571 voters. On this basis, one Parliamentary Constituency and 8 Assembly Constituencies were allocated to the Gurdaspur District. One of the Assembly Constituencies, viz. Gurdaspur, was declared double-member constituency and was reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

Parliamentary Constituency¹

There was only one Parliamentary Constituency in the district, viz. Gurdaspur. The total number of electors in the constituency was 3,53,804, out of which 1,82,413 voted. The Congress candidate was elected from the constituency. The number of votes polled by different political parties was as follows :—

Name of party	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of total valid votes polled
Congress	86,052	47·2
Independents	83,548	45·8
Akali Dal	12,813	7·0
Total :	1,82,413	100

¹ Report on the First General Legislative Elections in the Punjab State held under the Constitution of India, 1951-52 (Simla, 1952), pp. 71, 110-111,

Punjab Legislative Assembly Constituencies²

For the Punjab Legislative Assembly, there were 8 constituencies consisting of 9 seats in the district (one constituency being double-member), viz. Dera Baba Nanak, Serah, Batala, Srigobindpur, Rania, Gurdaspur (double-member constituency), Narot Jaimalsingh and Pathankot. From these constituencies, 8 Congress and one Independent candidates were declared elected. The total number of votes polled by the different parties is given below :

Name of party	Total No. of votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,27,129	41.5
Independents	71,659	23.4
Akali Dal	71,192	23.3
Jan Sangh	24,710	8.1
Socialists	5,785	1.9
Forward Bloc	3,814	1.2
Lal Communists	1,812	0.6
Total :	3,06,101	100

Second General Elections, 1957.—The task of conducting the first general elections in 1951-52 was of great magnitude and complexity. The General Elections in 1957 were attended in some respects with even greater difficulty. With the merger of the erstwhile PEPSU with the Punjab on November 1, 1956, the State area and the electorate involved had become much larger, while the delimitation of constituencies was effected only a few weeks before the elections leaving the minimum of time for the extensive arrangements that were necessary. Along with this, the total period for the poll in the State was reduced appreciably (i.e. February 24 to March 14, 1957). The counting of votes was also taken up in each constituency as soon as poll had been completed, instead of after polling in the entire State had been completed.

2. Ibid., pp. 81-82, 210-17

Out of the total population of 8,51,046 (1951 Census) of the district, the number of electors was 4,60,263. In accordance with the report of the Delimitation Commission, one Lok Sabha Constituency and 7 Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies (including one double-member constituency) were allocated to the district.

Lok Sabha Constituency³

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. the Gurdaspur Constituency. The elected candidate belonged to the Congress. The position of the contesting parties was as under :

Name of party	Total No. of votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,00,911	40.3
Independents	69,977	27.9
Jan Sangh	48,127	19.2
Communists	31,546	12.6
Total	2,50,561	100

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies⁴

For the Vidhan Sabha, there were 7 constituencies consisting of 8 seats (including one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes) and as such there was one double-member constituency. The names of these constituencies were : Srigobindpur, Batala, Fatehgarh Churian, Dera Baba Nanak, Dhariwal, Gurdaspur (double-member constituency) and Pathankot. All the 8 elected candidates from these constituencies belonged to the Congress. The number of votes polled by each contesting party is given below :

Name of party	Total No. of votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,46,762	40.8
Independents	78,215	21.7
Communists	69,893	19.4
Jan Sangh	65,188	18.1
Total	3,60,058	100

3. Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1975 (Chandigarh, 1959), p. 94

4. Ibid., pp. 117-19

Third General Elections, 1962.—This time, a major improvement in the matter of elections in the State was in regard to the period of the poll. While it took nearly 19 days to complete the poll during the Second General Elections, the poll this time was held and completed in a single day, i.e. on February 24, 1962, throughout the State except in the snow-bound Kulu and Seraj Constituencies where it was held towards the end of April. The Punjab was the only State which had the distinction of having a single day poll both for the Parliamentary and Assembly elections. Because of a single day poll, a large number of officials had to be deputed for the purpose. In addition, the Police and Home Guards were detailed for duty at the polling stations for the maintenance of law and order.

As a result of the bifurcation of the double-member constituencies, 8 Assembly Constituencies were formed in the Gurdaspur District as against 7 Assembly Constituencies (the Gurdaspur Constituency being double-member constituency) during the Second General Elections of 1957. The position regarding the Parliamentary Constituency remained unchanged.

Out of the total population of 9,80,879 (1961 Census), the number of electors in the district was 5,29,133.

Lok Sabha Constituency⁵

There was only one Parliamentary Constituency in the district, viz. the Gurdaspur Constituency, from which the Congress candidate was elected. The position of the votes polled by each contesting party was as under:

Name of the party	Total No. of votes polled	Percentage
Congress ..	1,38,907	48.1
Akali Dal ..	82,409	28.6
Jan Sangh ..	55,442	19.0
Independents ..	12,291	4.3
Total : ..	2,89,049	100

5. *Report on the General Elections in Punjab, 1962* (Chandigarh, 1963), p. 61

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies⁶

For the Vidhan Sabha, there were 8 constituencies in the district, viz. Srigobindpur, Batala, Fatehgarh Churian, Dera Baba Nanak, Dhariwal, Narot Jaimalsingh (Scheduled Castes), Pathankot and Gurdaspur. From these constituencies, 5 Congress and 3 Akali Dal candidates were elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party is given below :

Name of the party	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress ..	1,62,361	48.4
Akali Dal ..	79,705	23.8
Jan Sangh ..	52,435	15.6
Independents ..	26,122	7.8
Communists ..	11,808	3.5
Swatantra ..	2,711	0.8
Ram Rajya Parishad ..	220	0.1
Total : ..	3,35,362	100

Fourth General Elections, 1967.—The general elections held in 1967 were the fourth in the country and the first in the new State of Punjab which came into being on the re-organization on November 1, 1966. The constituencies delimited in 1965 were subjected to delimitation as notified by the Delimitation Commission in November 1966. The Gurdaspur District was divided into one Lok Sabha Constituency and 9 Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies. Out of the total population of 9,80,879 (1961 Census) of the district, the number of electors was 5,48,251. As in the last general elections, the poll in all the constituencies was held under the marking system of voting and completed in one day on February 19, 1967.

Lok Sabha Constituency⁷

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Gurdaspur, from which the Congress candidate was elected. The total

6. *Ibid.*, pp. 82-83

7. *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1967* (Chandigarh, 1968), p. 66

number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties in the district was as follows :—

Name of the party	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,05,971	31.7
Jan Sangh	83,225	24.9
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	69,029	20.6
Independents	55,763	16.7
Swatantra	20,546	6.1
Total :	3,34,534	100

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies⁸

There were 9 Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies (including 2 reserved for members of the Scheduled Castes) in the district, viz. Fatehgarh Churian, Batala, Srigobindpur, Qadian, Dhariwal, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar (Scheduled Castes), Narot Mehra (Scheduled Castes) and Pathankot.

Out of the 9 candidates elected from the above constituencies, 7 had affiliation with the Congress Party, 1 with the Akali Dal (Sant Group) and 1 with the Jan Sangh. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting parties in the district was as follows :—

Name of the party	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,45,695	39.24
Jan Sangh	78,706	21.20
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	68,380	18.42
Independents	54,336	14.63
Akali Dal (Master Group)	15,575	4.19
Communist Party of India	6,748	1.82
Swatantra	1,852	0.50
Total :	3,71,292	100

8. *Ibid.*, p. 63

Mid-term Poll, 1969.—In the Fourth General Elections, 1967, no single political party had obtained absolute majority in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha. Some of the political parties, viz. the Akali Dal (Sant Group), the Jan Sangh, the Republican Party and the Right Communists joined together to form the 'People's United Front' which formed its Ministry on March 8, 1967. After sometime, defections started and an Akali Minister having also defected formed his Ministry on November 25, 1967, with the support of some Independents and the Congress legislative party. The relationship between the Ministry and the Congress—its main supporter, did not continue to be smooth for long and, ultimately, the Congress party withdrew its support. As a result, a situation was created in which no single party or workable alliance of parties could provide a stable Government. In the circumstances, as recommended by the Governor, Punjab, the President's rule was proclaimed in the State from August 23, 1968. Thus, the Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituted in 1967 stood dissolved, necessitating mid-term general elections so as to constitute a new Vidhan Sabha.

The entire poll throughout the State was held on a single day on February 9, 1969. Out of the total population of 9,80,879 (1961 Census) of the district, the number of electors was 5,78,229.

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies⁹

There were 9 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies (including 2 reserved for the Scheduled Castes) in the district, viz. Fatehgarh Churian, Batala, Srigobindpur, Qadian, Dhariwal, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar (Scheduled Castes), Narot Mehra (Scheduled Castes), and Pathankot. From these constituencies, 4 Akali Dal, 3 Congress and 2 Jan Sangh candidates were elected. The number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties is given below :

Name of the party	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,76,255	43.2
Akali Dal	1,10,218	27.0
Jan Sangh	72,677	17.8
Independents	19,351	4.8
Communist Party of India	15,484	3.8
Punjab Janta Party	13,201	3.2
Republican Party of India	492	0.1
Proutist Block of India	439	0.1
Total	4,08,117	100

9. *Report on the Mid-term General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1969* (Chandigarh, 1971), pp. 58-59

Bye-election to the Gurdaspur Lok Sabha Constituency, 1970.—In 1970, bye-election to the Gurdaspur Lok Sabha Constituency was held owing to the death of the sitting Congress candidate. The total number of electors in the district was 5,42,631. The Congress again won the seat. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting parties in the district was as follows :—

Name of the party		Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	..	1,49,708	48.8
Congress (O)	..	51,229	16.7
Jan Sangh	..	43,289	14.1
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	..	30,171	9.8
Independents	..	25,733	8.4
Republican Party of India	..	6,635	2.2
Total :	..	3,06,765	100

(Source : Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Fifth General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 1971.—The Fifth General Elections to the Lok Sabha Constituencies were held in March 1971. There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Gurdaspur. The total number of electors in the district was 5,38,901. The Congress candidate won the seat. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting parties in the district was as follows :—

Name of the party		Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	..	1,84,788	62.6
Congress (O)	..	90,941	30.8
Independents	..	19,394	6.6
Total :	..	2,95,123	100

(Source : Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Fifth General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1972.—These elections were necessitated due to the premature dissolution of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituted in March 1969. It was for the second time that the President's rule was imposed in the State. In the wake of the President's rule, emergency was declared due to Indo-Pak Conflict in 1971. The preparation for the conduct of a new general election had, therefore, to be made under the shadow of emergency. The poll throughout the State was held on a single day on March 11, 1972.

There were 9 Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies (including 2 reserved for the Scheduled Castes) in the district, viz. Fatehgarh Churian, Batala, Srigobindpur, Qadian, Dhariwal, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar (Scheduled Castes), Narot Mehra (Scheduled Castes) and Pathankot. The total number of electors in the district was 6,11,944.

Out of the 9 candidates elected from the above constituencies, 7 had affiliation with the Congress, 1 with the Akali Dal (Sant Group) and 1 with the Communist Party of India. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting parties in the district is given below :

Name of the party		Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	..	1,96,013	50.02
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	..	94,789	24.19
Jan Sangh	..	53,197	13.58
Communist Party of India	..	24,610	6.28
Independents	..	19,705	5.02
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	..	2,746	0.71
Congress (O)	..	786	0.20
Total :	..	3,91,846	100

(Source : Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(b) Political Parties and Organizations

The importance of political parties in a parliamentary democracy needs hardly be emphasized. Modern democratic governments cannot function effectively in the absence of political parties. They play a very important part in the functioning of democracies in as much as they are the means of educating public opinion on general issues and also of criticising government policies where they are not supported by incontrovertible arguments. The most important function of the political parties is to provide the possibility of an alternative government to that which is in office.

The development of political parties has brought about a profound transformation in the structure of political regime. They also stand for certain ideas and are committed to a specific set of policies and programmes. Their numerical strength varies from time to time.

In India, political parties have been in existence for quite some-time past, but they were not well-organized. The adoption of the British parliamentary system of Government after the independence, however, called for their re-organization on solid lines. As a result of mergers and amalgamations, a number of well-organized All-India parties and State parties have been left in the political field.

A brief description of the political parties, which have their branches in the Gurdaspur District, is given below :

All-India Parties

Indian National Congress.—This is the most important and largest political party in India. Founded in 1885 for the purpose of mobilizing public opinion on the problems of the country, the Indian National Congress gradually became the most powerful instrument of the nation's struggle for freedom. In 1947, its efforts were finally crowned with success when India achieved independence.

From the achievement of independence in 1947 up to March 1977, the Congress formed the most powerful political party in the country and ruled at the Centre. In the Punjab, the party ruled up to about the middle of the sixties and again from 1972 up to March 1977.

The District Congress Committee was formed at Gurdaspur in 1917. The City Congress Committees also exist in different towns in the district.

Communist Party of India.—Founded in 1925, the Communist Party of India is the second largest well-organized party in the country. It enjoys influence among labourers and poorer sections of the society. The party could not capture any seat in the district either for the Lok Sabha or the Vidhan Sabha till the fourth general elections in 1967. It, however, won one Vidhan Sabha seat in the fifth general elections, in 1972.

Communist Party of India (Marxist).—The party is represented in the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha and the Punjab Vidhan Sabha. It has never won any seat in the district either for the Lok Sabha or the Punjab Vidhan Sabha.

Samyukta Socialist/Praja Socialist Party.—The party has no particular hold on any section of people. In the First General Elections in 1951-52, the party contested from four constituencies in the district and its candidates got only 5,785 votes in all. It has not contested any other general elections held thereafter.

Republican Party of India.—Founded by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, this party is a reorganized form of the Scheduled Castes Federation to form an opposition to the Congress and the caste Hindus. It aims at safeguarding the interests of the Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes. The party contested only one Vidhan Sabha seat in the district in the mid-term poll in 1969 and its candidate got only 492 votes. In the bye-election to the Lok Sabha seat, held in 1970, its candidate got only 6,635 votes. This party has not captured any seat in the district in the elections held up till the Fifth General Elections in 1972.

Swatantra Party.—The year 1959 witnessed the emergence of the Swatantra Party, formed largely to fight the tendencies towards the abolition of private property and towards collectivism. It is a rightist party in the sense that it is directly opposed to socialism in the economic sense and seeks to maintain the status-quo. The party also believes in fostering spiritual values and preserving the heritage of Indian culture.

Bhartiya Jan Sangh.—The party was formed on the eve of the first General Elections, 1951-52. It claims to derive inspiration from the values of the Indian culture and life. It has an all-India character having its urban and rural units.

The party aims at the establishment of an economic democracy with equal opportunities for development to all and with no chances for any exploitation. It believes in the principle of one country, one nation, one culture and one national idea. It stands for Indian traditions, culture and heritage.

In the Fourth General Elections in 1967, the party won only one out of the 9 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district, while in the Mid-term Poll in 1969 it won 2 out of the 9 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district.

State Parties

From among the State parties, mention may be made only of the following :—

Shiromani Akali Dal.—It was founded towards the end of 1920 as the representative organization of the Sikhs. This organization was, in a way, the product of the freedom struggle both in the religious and political fields ; and it, thereafter, emerged as the vanguard of the non-co-operation movement in the Punjab. During the Gurdwara Reform Movement, 1920--25, it struggled for the liberation of the gurdwaras from the control of the Mahants.

In the Third General Elections in 1962, the party won 3 out of the 8 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district. In the Fourth General Elections in 1967, the party won only one out of the 9 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district. In the Mid-term Poll in 1969, the party won 4 out of the 9 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district. In the Fifth General Elections in 1972, the party won only one out of the 9 Vidhan Sabha seats in the district.

The position of the different parties in the Lok Sabha and the Punjab Vidhan Sabha in the district, on the basis of the general elections held from time to time, is given in the following statement :—

Party Position in Lok Sabha and Punjab Vidhan Sabha Elections in Gurdaspur District

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS													441
Name of the Party	LOK SABHA					PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA							
	No. of seats won					No. of seats won							
	First General Elections, 1951-52	Second General Elections, 1957	Third General Elections, 1962	Fourth General Elections, 1967	Bye-Election 1970	Fifth General Elections, 1971	First General Elections, 1951-52	Second General Elections, 1957	Third General Elections, 1962	Fourth General Elections, 1967	Mid-term Elections, 1969	Fifth General Elections, 1972	
ALL-INDIA PARTIES													
Indian National Congress	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	5	7	3	7	
Communist party of India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Praja Socialist Party	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Republican Party of India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Swatantra Party	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
STATE PARTIES													
Akali Dal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4	1	
Janata Party	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Independents including unrecognized parties	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	
Total No. of seats in the district :													9
(Source : Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh, and his publications entitled <i>Reports on General Elections, Punjab, 1951-52</i> 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1969)													9

(Source : Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh, and his publications entitled *Reports on General Elections, Punjab, 1951-52* 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1969)

(c) Newspapers and Periodicals

Since the attainment of independence in 1947, the number of periodicals published in the district in Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, etc. has shown a marked increase. These periodicals deal with news items and current affairs besides reflecting popular opinion to a large extent. Some of these also contain information on science, history, morality, nature study, etc.

No daily newspaper is published in the district. The particulars in respect of the periodicals, published in the district, are given below :

Periodicals published in the Gurdaspur District as on December 31, 1971

Serial No.	Name of periodical	Place of publication	Year when started	Language	Circulation
WEEKLIES					
1.	Lalee	.. Batala	1967-71	Punjabi	..
2.	Mere Ham Dam	.. Do	1968	Do	..
3.	Punjabi Veer	.. Pathankot	1965	Do	2,000
4.	Social Sandesh	.. Batala	1964	Do	1,950
5.	Aaj-ki-Lehar	.. Dhariwal	1968	Urdu	1,832
6.	Badar	.. Qadian	1952	Do	971
7.	Dogra Times	.. Pathankot	1966	Do	..
8.	Intkhab	.. Batala	1959	Do	..
9.	Jai Vaishno	Pathankot	1971	Urdu and Hindi	250
10.	Mazloom	.. Do	1956	Urdu	2,000
11.	Naya Bharat	.. Do	1956	Do	..
12.	Prabodh Jagat	.. Gurdaspur	1966	Do	1,500
13.	Shan-E-Punjab	.. Pathankot	1968	Do	..
14.	Tufan	.. Batala	1964	Do	6,466
15.	Waqif Kar	.. Do	1967	Do	..
16.	Man Mandir	.. Do	1970	Hindi and Punjabi	..
17.	Chairman	.. Shakti	1967	Punjabi & Urdu	..
FORTNIGHTLIES					
18.	Ka mchari Ekta	.. Gurdaspur	1968	Punjabi	..
19.	Aan-e-Panjab	.. Pathankot	1969	Urdu	1,500
20.	Antaryami	.. Do	1968	Do	2,200
21.	Azad Jagat	.. Shahpur Kandi	1969	Do	2,200
22.	Gharib Janata	.. Lahri Gujran	1968	Do	..
23.	Jai Swatantra	.. Do	1969	Do	1,400

Serial No.	Name of periodical	Place of publication	Year when started	Language	Circulation
24.	Jawahar Jyoti	.. Shahpur Kandi	1966	Do	2,000
25.	Meghdoot	.. Do	1971	Do	1,677
26.	Neel Kamal	.. Pathankot	1970	Do	..
27.	Nidar	.. Gurdaspur	1964	Do	1,890
28.	Red Star	.. Pathankot	1966	Do	1,558
29.	Shakti Puja	.. Gurdaspur	1967,1968	Do	..
30.	Tershool	.. Do	1970	Do	..
31.	Dohra Pul	.. Dinanagar	1970	Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi	2,000
32.	Teacher's Voice	.. Batala	1968	English, Hindi and Punjabi	..

MONTHLIES

33.	Manav Mahima	.. Batala	1962	Hindi	1,200
34.	Attal	.. Do	1961	Punjabi	2,000
35.	Kasumbhara	.. Gurdaspur	1970	Do	..
36.	Manav Mahima	Batala	1968	Do	250
37.	Atma Katha	.. Taragarh	1950	Urdu	..
38.	Philosopher	.. Dhariwal	1971	Urdu, Hindi and English	250

Non-Included Category Papers

QUARTERLIES

39.	School Glimpse	.. Dhariwal	1968	Multilingual	
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BI-MONTHLIES

40.	Gurdas	.. Gurdaspur	1956	English, Hindi, Punjabi and Sanskrit	10 ⁴
41.	Teesari Aakh	.. Kala Afghana	1970	Punjabi, Hindi and English	..

ANNUALS

42.	Chanar	.. Pathankot	1964	English, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu	1,500
43.	Gudawari	.. Qadian	1964	English Hindi and Punjabi	..
44.	Vidiotama	.. Batala	1967	English Sanskrit Hindi and Punjabi	..

(Press In India, 1972, 16th Annual Report of the Registrar of Newspapers for India under the Press and Registration of Books Act, Part II (Delhi, 1973))

The following newspapers and periodicals, published outside the district, are in fairly large circulation in the district :—

Newspapers and periodicals published outside but in fairly large circulation in the district

Serial No.	Name of newspaper/periodical	Place of publication	Language	Periodicity
NEWSPAPERS				
1.	<i>Tribune</i>	Chandigarh	English	Daily
2.	<i>Indian Express</i>	New Delhi	Do	Do
3.	<i>Times of India</i>	Do	Do	Do
4.	<i>Hindi Milap</i>	Jullundur city	Hindi	Do
5.	<i>Vir Partap</i>	Do	Do	Do
6.	<i>Punjab Kesri</i>	Do	Do	Do
7.	<i>Ajit</i>	Do	Punjabi	Do
8.	<i>Akali Patrika</i>	Do	Do	Do
9.	<i>Nawan Zamana</i>	Do	Do	Do
10.	<i>Hind Samachar</i>	Do	Urdu	Do
11.	<i>Milap</i>	Do	Do	Do
12.	<i>Partap</i>	Do	Do	Do
13.	<i>Pradeep</i>	Do	Do	Do
PERIODICALS				
1.	<i>Illustrated Weekly of India</i>	Bombay	English	Weekly
2.	<i>Filmfare</i>	Do	Do	Fortnightly
3.	<i>Femina</i>	Do	Do	Do
4.	<i>Dharmyug</i>	Do	Hindi	Weekly
5.	<i>Sarita</i>	New Delhi	Do	Monthly
6.	<i>Sushma</i>	Do	Do	Do
7.	<i>Preet Lari</i>	Prit Nagar (District Amritsar)	Punjabi	Do
8.	<i>Tasvir</i>	Jullundur City	Do	Do
9.	<i>Drishti</i>	Do	Do	Do
10.	<i>Biswin Sadi</i>	Delhi	Urdu	Do
11.	<i>Shama</i>	Do	Do	Do

(d) Voluntary Social Service Organizations

The voluntary social service organizations play a major role in the development of the community life and also help to increase the social solidarity of the State. These organizations are run by the people and for the people. The voluntary social service is an activity of a self-governing body of people working together for the betterment of the society and the community life as a whole. As a result, the voluntary social service organizations have become the sheet-anchor of the present society. In the present era of freedom and equality, the States are speedily marching towards the concept of a Welfare State. These circumstances have paved way for the voluntary organizations to play their significant role. Such organizations are getting enormous scope in these days of busy life.

The needs of the individual are increasing fast and are keeping pace with the modern development in various fields. Day by day, the individual is relying more and more upon the State. The State has to step in to solve various problems covering the life of the individuals. Though it is desirable to have State attendance at every walk of life of the individual it has become impossible for the State, owing to the burden of the administration, to fulfil its responsibilities. Where the State is unable to look into the demands of the individual, the voluntary social service organizations step in.

There are a number of voluntary social service organizations in the district serving the social needs of the people in a variety of ways. These organizations play an important role in the educational, social and cultural development of the community. These also provide welfare activities for children, women, aged and infirm, handicapped and other deserving sections of the society. A brief account of the important organizations is given below :

General Welfare Institutions :

District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Gurdaspur.—It was formed by the Government of India in 1919. Originally named as the District Soldiers' Board, its nomenclature was changed during the World War II (1939—45) to District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board. The board has official and non-official members and works under the control of the Deputy Commissioner who is its *ex-officio* President, and an honorary Vice-President from the Army. The State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, which works under the Home (Military) Branch of the Punjab Civil Secretariat, exercises administrative and financial control over it. From January 15, 1964, the State Government has absorbed the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards in its regular public services as a permanent department.

The Board helps the military personnel in respect of pension, relief grants, bonus, scholarships, loss of discharge certificates, *Jangi Inam* medals, medical treatment, final settlement of accounts and other allied matters. It also looks after the welfare of the families of the serving soldiers', ex-servicemen and deceased soldiers'. Besides, the Board assists the civilian people in getting employment in defence, etc.

Bharat Sevak Samaj, Gurdaspur.—This association is affiliated to the Punjab State Bharat Sevak Samaj, Chandigarh, and subscribes to the ideals, functions and activities of the parent body. It is running a nursery school and a tailoring-cum-needle craft centre for women at Gurdaspur. Both these institutions are particularly meant for the benefit of the poor section of the society. A work centre for helpless and needy women and a creche for the benefit of working women have been started.

This organization did useful work in organizing aid to the troops during the Indo-Pak War of 1971. In conjunction with other voluntary bodies, free canteens were organized for the benefit of the *Jawans*. Quilts, sweets and fruits were collected and supplied to the concerned authorities for distribution among the wounded soldiers. It renders assistance to the people during natural calamities like floods, etc.

Sewa Sadan Leper Colony, Dinanagar.—A lepers' colony, called Sewa Sadan and run by the lepers, themselves exists at Dinanagar. It has a plot, measuring about an acre in which vegetables are grown. The Health Department gives medicines for the lepers of the colony. The lepers make their livelihood through begging. In 1973, there were 75 lepers in the colony.

Other Organizations

In addition to the above, there are a few other organizations functioning in smaller fields but doing useful service in their own spheres. Of these, mention may be made of the following :—

Bhartiya Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Gurdaspur.—With its headquarters at Chandigarh, the organization is registered with the Bhartiya Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Chandigarh. Formed in 1972, it has its branches at Pathankot, Batala, Tibbar, Thanewal and Kahnuwan in the district. The organization sends its volunteers for assistance in making arrangement for the fairs and festivals held at different places in the district and outside. These volunteers also help at the local functions organized from time to time. It gives aid to the poor and helps the people at the time of fire, accidents, etc.

Shri Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Gurdaspur.—With its headquarters at Chandigarh, this organization is registered with Shri Sanatan Dharm

Mahabir Dal, Punjab. Formed in 1925, Shri Sanatan Dharm Mahabir Dal, Gurdaspur, has been rendering voluntary services in religious, social and cultural fields. It has its branches at Batala, Qadian Dhariwal, Dinanagar, Tibbar and Pathankot.

The organization assists the authorities in the maintenance of law and order at different fairs and festivals. It also helps during natural calamities like floods, etc.

Organizations of National or International Repute

There are a number of other organizations of national or international repute which are established elsewhere but have their branches in the district.

The Indian Red Cross Society (District Branch) Gurdaspur.—The Indian Red Cross Society was established in 1920 under Act XV of the Government of India. The Gurdaspur District Red Cross Branch was started in 1925 with the Civil Surgeon as its President and the Superintendent of the office of the Deputy Commissioner as its secretary.

The important activities of the society are: hospital welfare; community and sanitation; relief of the sick, suffering and wounded persons; relief of soldiers, sailors, airmen and other military personnel; maternity and child welfare including family planning; disaster and emergency reliefs of all kinds; assistance to junior Red Cross activities; blood transfusion service; establishment of first-aid posts; training in first-aid and home nursing; help to sister charitable institutions, etc.

The main sources of income of the society are : collection from Lucky Bag Funds, District Relief Fund, membership subscriptions, contributions and donations, etc.

Some of the services rendered by the District Red Cross Society are detailed below:

With regard to the maternity and child welfare work, the society maintains a health centre at Kalanaur with three sub-centres at Sangatpur, Bhanwan and Khaira. Besides, it maintains 19 trained *dai* centres in the rural areas where a good number of labour cases are conducted. The centres also provide medical-aid to the expectant and nursing mothers and attend to the family planning work. In addition, the society maintains an urban family planning centre at Gurdaspur.

Relief supplies in the form of *kurtas*, shirts, bed sheets, baby milk powder, sulphur drugs, vitamin tablets, woollen blankets and

scarves are provided to the poor and needy persons. Grants are also given to fire and flood stricken people and for the construction of veterinary and Ayurvedic dispensaries. Besides, aid is provided to the institutions engaged in social welfare work in the form of spectacles for poor persons, quilts for leprosy patients, extra diet and medicines for poor and needy patients, amenities for T.B. patients, artificial limbs, etc.

The District St. John Ambulance, Gurdaspur, imparts training in ambulance, first-aid, home-nursing, mother craft and child welfare and hygiene and sanitation, etc. An ambulance car is maintained by the district branch for carrying the sick and injured persons to the hospital and attending to such other emergency calls. There are 102 first-aid posts in the district. During 1972, the number of persons trained in the district in first-aid and home-nursing was 6,109 and 5,125, respectively.

The District Red Cross Society has a hospital welfare section which provides free medicines, etc. to the poor patients.

Rotary Clubs at Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot.—With its headquarters in the U.S.A., the Rotary Club is a world-wide organization whose motto is "Service above Self". It is a type of brotherhood to serve the humanity, nation, country and the world on the whole.

The general activities of a rotary club are dedicated to the community at large. These are four-fold, namely, club service, vocational service, community service and international service. Club service is only for its own members, while vocational service includes employer-employee relations, the four-way test, occupational information and trade and professional relations. Community service consists of community safety, rural-urban relations, scholarships, awards and student loans, student guests, crippled children, etc. International service includes international youth projects, rotary foundation and world community service.

There are rotary clubs at Gurdaspur, Batala and Pathankot, the activities of each of which are described below :

The Rotary Club, Gurdaspur, was established in 1971. It rendered useful service during the Indo-Pak War of that year by taking part in the civil defence work, running of free canteen for soldiers and provision of warm clothes, fruit, etc. for those injured in fighting. At the time of the floods in the River Ravi in 1973, the rotarians provided relief to the

10. According to the rotarians, the four-way test of things they think, say or do are: (i) Is it the truth? (ii) Is it fair to all concerned? (iii) Will it build goodwill and better friendship? (iv) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

people in the worst hit areas of the district. The club has initiated the immunization of children against polio and other diseases. It also provides aid to a nursery school.

The Rotary Club, Batala was established in 1962. It renders useful service to the town in the form of cleanliness drive, mass immunization camp, free eye camps, road safety campaigns, free medical relief camps, scholarships to poor students, sewing machines to deserving ladies and to war-widows, recognition of persons rendering best services in various professions, recognition of war heroes, free canteens, books and magazines, sweets, fruits and gifts to the jawans during war time, financial-aid to the deserving persons for the marriage of their daughters or for treatment etc.

Established on June 16, 1971, the Rotary Club, Pathankot, has 35 members and meets once a week. It takes up different projects such as free inoculation through doctor members to the poor and needy, distribution of free medicines to the sick, provisions of woollen clothes to the needy and poor children in schools and scholarships to the deserving students in the local schools and colleges, etc. It has also constructed a cremation ground by the side of the Chakki Khad through contributions by its members and collections from the public.

1. A monument has been erected at Batala in memory of the Gorkha Jawans who laid down their lives in the Dera Baba Nanak Sector during the India-Pakistan War in 1971.

CHAPTER XIX PLACES OF INTEREST

The Gurdaspur District lies in the north-west corner of the Punjab, on the Indo-Pak frontier along the Indian side of the River Ravi. There are a good number of places of historical and religious interest in this area which are described below in alphabetical order :

Achal.—Situated at a distance of about 6 km from the tahsil headquarters at Batala, this small locality comprises two ancient temples and a *gurdwara*. The temple dedicated to the Shiva's son Kartikeya, also called Achleshwar Maharaj, is particularly famous. It is situated on the bank of a large pucca tank, in the centre of which stands another temple dedicated to Shiva. The place is said to date back to the time of the Kaurvas and Pandvas.

During his visit to the Punjab in 1598, Emperor Akbar passed by Batala on his way to Govindwal (in Tahsil Tarn Taran, District Amritsar) to meet Guru Arjun Dev. In this connection, Sujan Rai Bhandari writes in his *Khulasat-ut-Tawarikh* : "When His Majesty left Lahore and reached the neighbourhood of Batala, he came to know that a fight had taken place in the house of Achal between Musalman fakirs and a group of Hindu sanyasis. The Muslim fakirs prevailed and, in way of retaliation, they demolished the temples of the place. His Majesty King Akbar, to do justice against the excesses committed, put many of them into prison, and ordered that the demolished temples should be built anew."¹

Once Guru Nanak Dev, accompanied by his disciples including Bhai Lehna (who later on succeeded him as Guru Angad Dev), visited Achal on the occasion of the Shivaratri fair which brought vast multitudes to this otherwise small place for six days of religious pilgrimage, festivity, music, vaudevilles, acrobatic displays and carousal. Mendicants, ascetics and holy men came in large numbers. Predominant among them were the Yogis and *Siddhas*. A discourse took place between Guru Nanak Dev on the one hand and the Yogis, *Siddhas*, etc. on the other. The prominent among the Yogis were Pavan Nath and Bhangar Nath². A *gurdwara* is built there in the memory of the Guru's visit to the place.

Bahrampur.—Situated in Tahsil Gurdaspur, Bahrampur is connected by road with Dinanagar and Gurdaspur. It is 8 km from the former

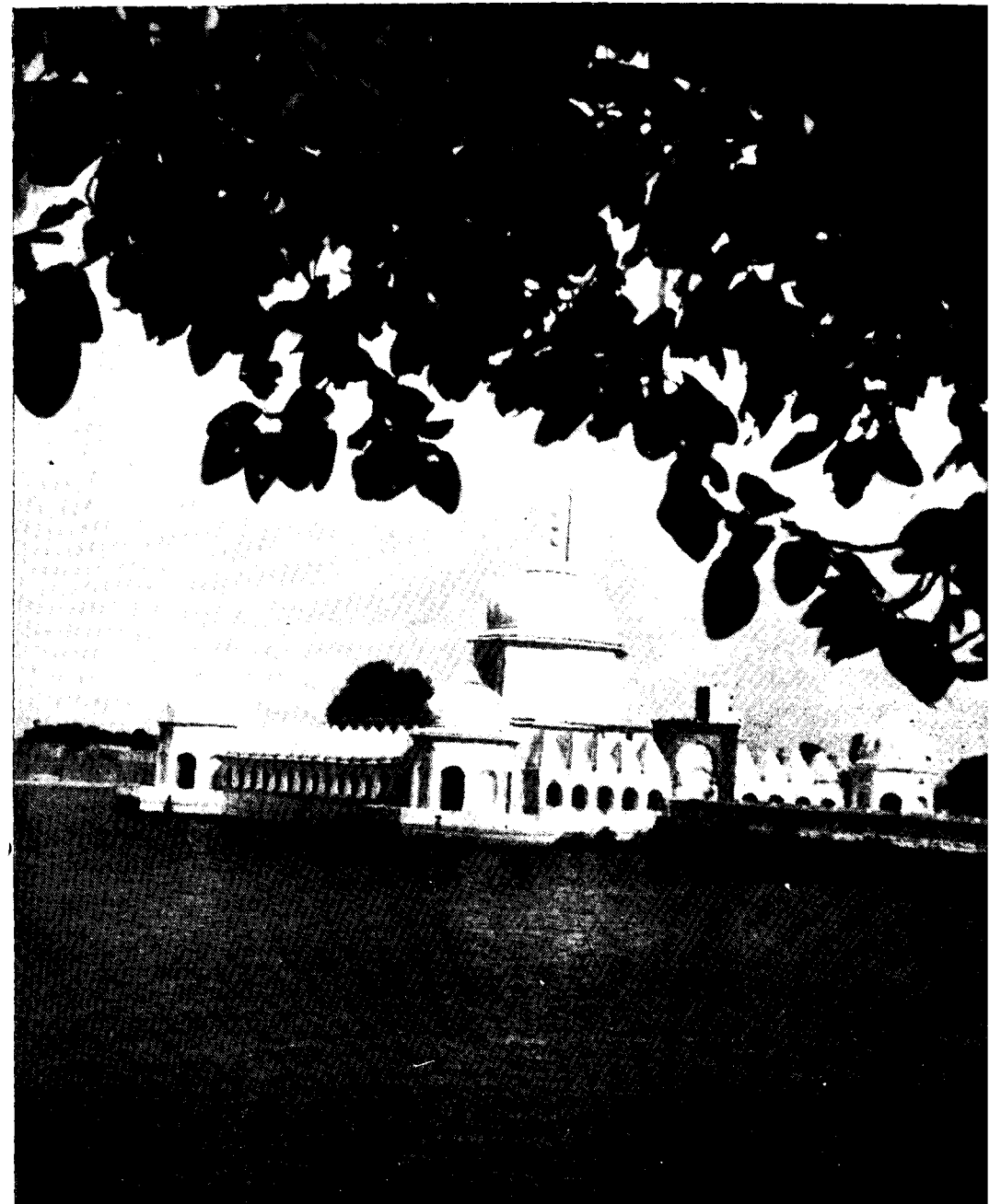
1. Sujan Rai Bhandari, *Khulasat-ut-Tawarikh* (Persian), (1918 edition), p. 425 (referred to by Hari Ram Gupta in his *History of Sikh Gurus* (New Delhi, 1973), pp. 93, 106)

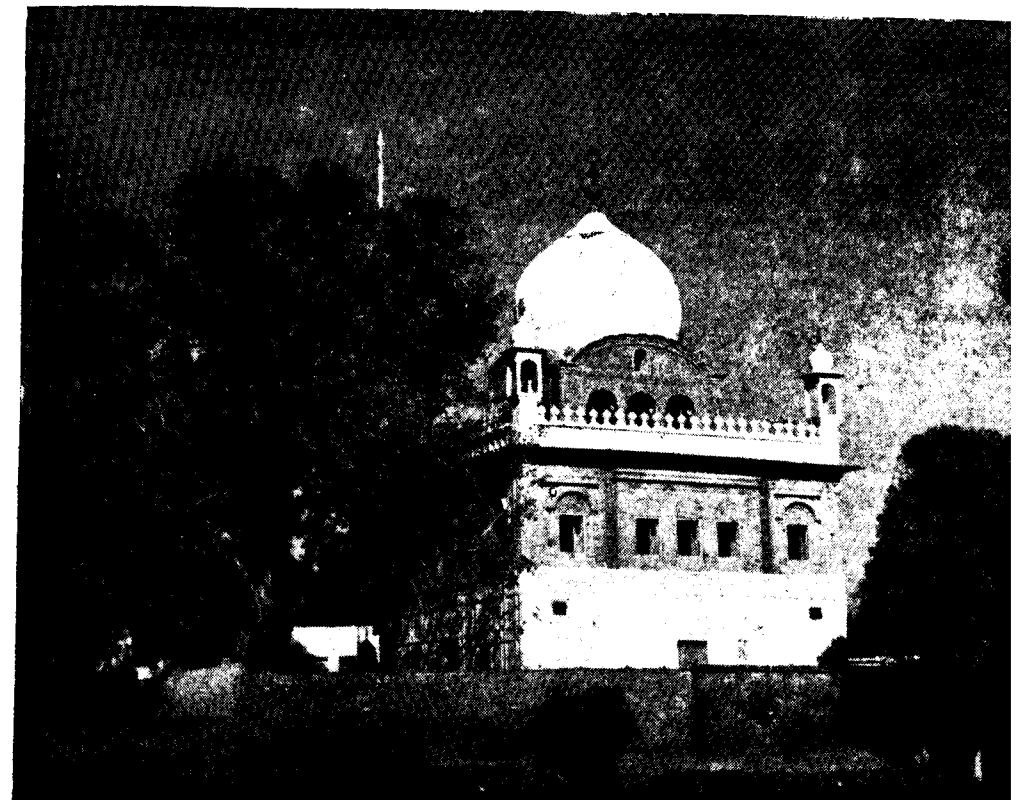
2. The discourse between Guru Nanak Dev and the Yogis, *Siddhas*, etc. held at Achal, is described by Meharban in his *Janamsakhi, II*, pp. 69-70. It is reproduced in an article entitled 'Guru Nanak at Kartarpur' by Harbans Singh, published in the *Sikh Review*, Vol. XXI, No. 240, November 1973, pp. 11-21

7. Mandir Achaleshwar Maharaj, Achal

450









10. Mosque built by Haji Bahram Khan in A.D. 1684 at Bahrapur 451

place and 11 km from the latter. There are 2 high schools, a civil dispensary, a veterinary dispensary and a post office with telephone facility. Its population was 3,565 in 1971 as against 3,027 in 1961.

Towards the middle of the seventeenth century, Bahrapur near Dinanagar sprang into prominence. It was founded by Haji Bahram Khan, at one time Chakladar or Governor of Jammu and Kangra, which were under the control of the then Bahrapur District. A fine old mosque, now falling into ruins, built in 1684 by Haji Bahram Khan in consequence of a bequest by his elder brother Haji Rajab Ali, and a large Idgah are perhaps the only memorials of the palmy days of Bahrapur. It was here that in Shah Jahan's (1627-1658) time that the forces under prince Murad assembled for the campaign against Raja Jagat Chand of Nurpur, and hence they marched to Pathankot before attacking Nurpur, Man and Taragarh. The town is also noteworthy, as the first position of any consequence obtained by the well-known Adina Beg who was Governor of Bahrapur, a post to which he was raised by Zakariya Khan, the Viceroy of the Punjab, during the reign of Muhammad Shah (1719-1748).

Bahrapur was originally surrounded by a wall about 8 feet wide with four *burjs* (minarets). There were six gates, out of which two still exist. The wall has disappeared though its remnant with a *burj* in a dilapidated condition still exist in the south-west of the village. There still exist a few old temples, viz. Mandir of Nandas, Devi Shivala, Sitla Mandir, Shivan-da-Mandir, etc.

Barath.—In Pathankot Tahsil, Gurdwara Barath Sahib in village Barath is situated at a distance of about 12 km from Pathankot and about 3-4 km from the railway station Sarna on the Pathankot-Batala-Amritsar branch line.

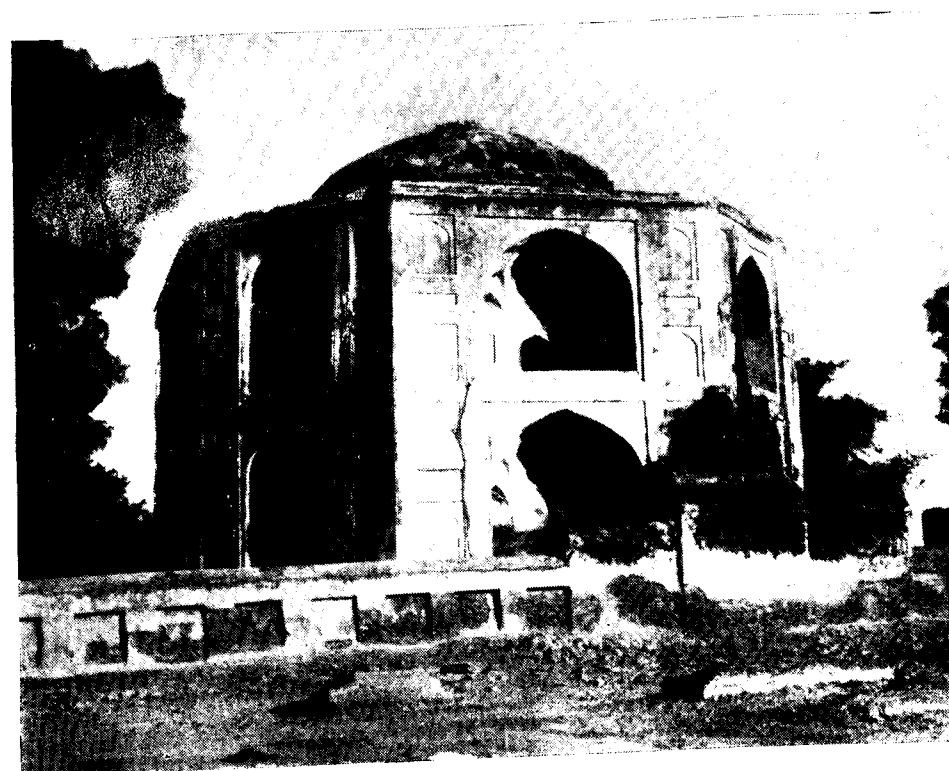
It is said that Tripta, the mother of Guru Nanak Dev, belonged to the village Barath. Baba Sri Chand, the elder son of Guru Nanak Dev, is said to have lived at this place for a considerable period. The present Gurdwara Barath Sahib is raised over the particular place where he resided. Guru Amar Das, Guru Ram Das, Guru Arjan Dev and Guru Hargobind are said to have visited this place to pay their respects to Baba Sri Chand. Adjacent to the *smadh* of Baba Sri Chand in the Gurdwara is a pillar where Guru Arjan Dev is said to have waited for having a glimpse of Sri Chand when the latter was in meditation. A *baoli* also exists nearby.

A big fair is held at the place every year on the birthday of Baba Sri Chand (who was born at Sultanpur Lodhi in Kapurthala District). Fairs are also held here on every Amawas.

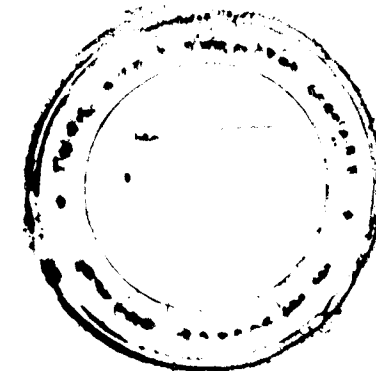
Batala.—Headquarters of the sub-division/tahsil of the same name, Batala is connected both by rail and road with Amritsar on the one side and Pathankot on the other, being 38 km from the former and 69 km from the latter. It is also connected both by rail and road with Qadian. By road, Batala is also connected with Fatehgarh Churian, Dera Baba Nanak, Gurdaspur, Kahnuwan, Harchowal, Srigobindpur and Jullundur.

Batala is a class I municipality. Its population was 76,488 in 1971 as against 51,300 in 1961. There are 12 primary schools, 2 middle schools, 10 high/higher secondary schools, 4 degree colleges, Government Training Institute (I.T.I.), Government Polytechnic, Community Development Training Centre, Regional Foundry Research Centre (run by the Government of India), Quality Marking Centre, a civil hospital, a maternity hospital, a veterinary hospital, two police stations, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange and a rest house.

The town of Batala was founded by Rai Ram Deo, a Bhatti Rajput from Kapurthala, during the time of Bahlol Khan Lodi in 1472 A.D. The country between the Satluj and Chenab at that time was to a great extent lying waste, owing to disastrous floods and the ravages of Jasrat Gakhar, and the revenues of the province were formed to Rai Ram Deo by Tatar Khan, the viceroy, for nine lakhs of *tankas*. Ram Deo became a disciple of Sheikh Muhammad Kadiri of Lahore, and was converted to Islam. The spot first fixed upon for the city was considered unpropitious, and so, on the advice of astrologers, it was exchanged for that on which the present town now stands, whence the name Batala, from "*batta*" or "*vatta*", exchange. The tomb of Ram Deo, consisting of a brick building, with a sloping dome supported on enormously thick walls constructed of bricks laid in mud, still exists to the south-east of the town, and judging from the slope of the dome, the date of its foundation may be ascribed to the later Pathan or Lodi times. In 1567 A.D., in Akbar's (1556-1605) time, Shamsheer Khan, an eunuch, and the Karori of Batala built a fine tank to the north-east of the town in 1573 A.D. (925 A.H.), and planted gardens in the suburb known as Anarkali, where his tomb still stands close to the tank which bears his name. The city was enriched with a bazaar and shops constructed in Aurangzeb's (1658-1707) reign by Mirza Muhammad Khan, who received the title of Wazir Khan, with a Jama Masjid by Kazi Abdul Hak, and a fine garden in three terraces constructed by Amar Singh, Kanungo. Batala at that time enjoyed a great reputation for learning and piety. The saints Shahab-ud-din, Rukhari, Shah Ismail Shah Niamatullah and Sheikh Allahdad lived here.



II. Tomb of Shamsheer Khan at Batala





13, Palace of Maharaja Sher Singh at Batala

14. Gurdwara Kandh Sahib, Batala

453



During the reign of Farrukhsiyar (1713—1719), Sayad Muhammad Fazal Gilani established a college here, which attracted students from distant parts of the country. This was, however, destroyed by Banda Bahadur ; and the town soon lost its reputation for learning and piety, which had gained for it the title of Batala *Sharif*.

Batala was also the centre of the petty warfare constantly waged between the rival Sikh *misals* of the Kanhayas and Ramgarhias. From 1798 to 1811, the former *misal* was ruled by Sada Kaur, the widow of Gurbakhsh Singh Kanhaya. This remarkable woman is still remembered at Batala, which she appears to have administered with great energy and tolerable success. To the south of the city, close to the wall, still exist the remains of her citadel, consisting at present of a very lofty mound, and there are two smaller out-works, said to have been constructed by her on the west and north of the town. She appears to have again been given a grant Batala and Pathankot, as in 1820 she was called upon by Maharaja Ranjit Singh to make over half of her possessions for the support of alleged grandsons, Sher Singh and Tara Singh. At first she refused, but eventually Ranjit Singh, as usual, got her into his power by guile, and then sent a force, which took over all her estates and personal property. She was after this kept in confinement till her death in 1832, and Batala and the adjoining territory was assigned to Sher Singh. This prince lived here almost entirely until his accession to the throne in January 1841, and the old people of the country round Batala and Kahnuwan used to be full of stories of his prowess as a mighty hunter. His palace at Anarkali (in which the Baring Union Christian College, Batala, is housed), built somewhat in the Italian style, is an imposing pile in its way, and commands a fine view of all the country round. He also converted Shamsheer Khan's mosque, in the centre of the large tank at Anarkali, into a pavilion, which still exists. The Hansali Nullah which once carried water to the Golden Temple, Amritsar, flows through this town and drains off the flood waters.

There is the historic Gurdwara Kandh Sahib at Batala where a part of the sacred wall still exists in a glass case. Guru Nanak Dev came to this place with his marriage party comprising deformed and maimed persons. This caused an offence to the relatives of his bride and some of them conspired, out of anger, to push this wall on the marriage party. History has it that, with the spiritual power of the Guru, this wall stood up the onslaught. A *gurdwara* has been constructed at this place.

There is a Sati Lakshmi Park which houses the *smadh* of Lakshmi Devi, the wife of Vir Haqiqat Rai of Sialkot.

The Punjab occupies an important place in India's industrial development while Batala gets the first place in making iron products and small-scale manufacturing units, thus forming the backbone of Punjab in the technical field.

Small-scale industries of Batala manufacture machine tools and agricultural implements. Plano-miller is a machine which is just being manufactured by a unit in Batala, though there is a queue of other machines, viz. planers, lathes, shapers, drilling machines, etc. Besides being situated on the border line, the efforts of the entrepreneurs and the skilled efficiency of labour has enabled Batala to occupy a prominent place in the industrial development of the Punjab. The era of economic stability and prosperity is enhanced by rapid industrialisation of the city after the partition. No doubt the partition gave a serious setback to the local industry because some of the efficient workers migrated to Pakistan. It took some span of time to recover and revive the agricultural implements manufacturing industry whereas the machine tool industry was in its nascent form. At present both of them are at the peak of their prosperity. More than seven hundred small-scale units are engaged in manufacturing machine tools and agricultural implements, etc.

Small-scale units occupy a prominent place in industrial progress. Batala is already reporting machine tools as well as agricultural implements.

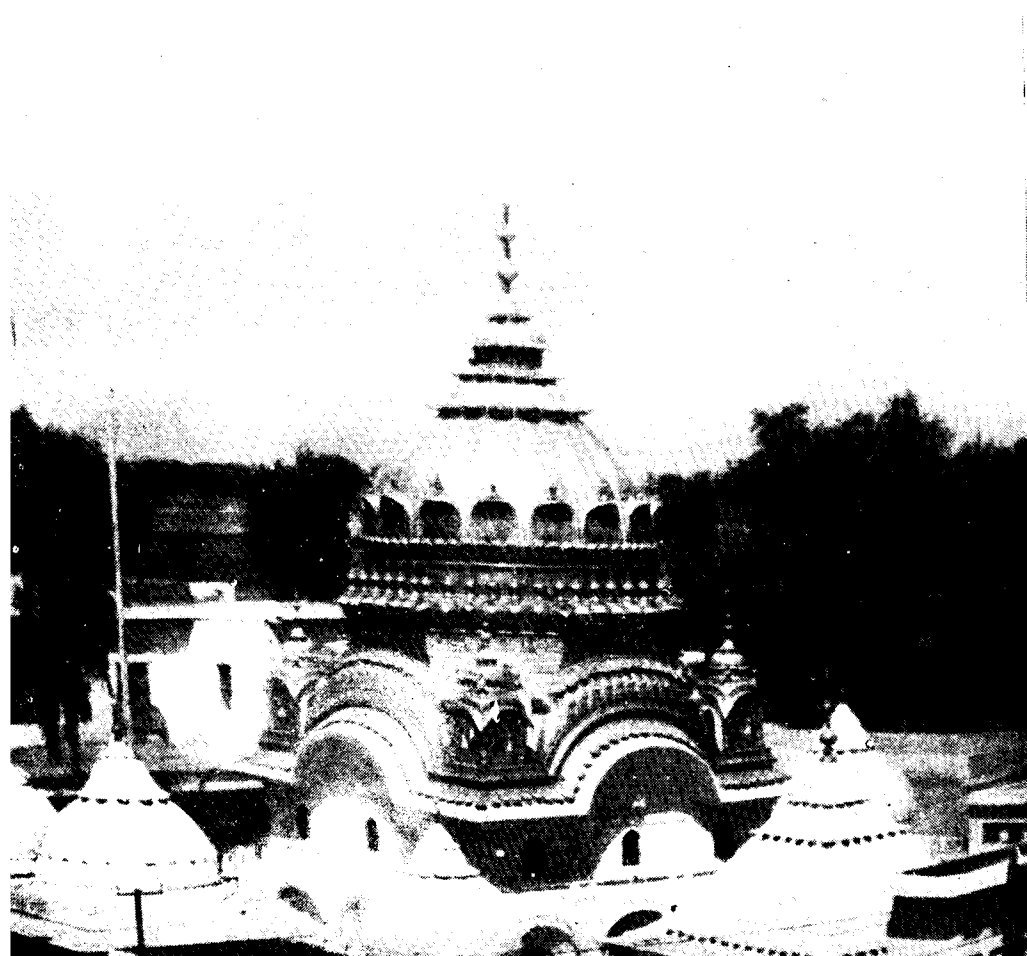
There is a Co-operative Sugar Mill at Batala.

Dera Baba Nanak.—Situated on the left bank of the River Ravi in the Batala Tahsil, Dera Baba Nanak is connected by road with Gurdaspur, Batala, Fatehgarh Churian and Ajnala (in Amritsar District). Before the partition of the country in 1947, Dera Baba Nanak railway station was situated on the Amritsar-Sialkot railway line, but thereafter it became a railway terminus. The town has, thus, suffered much on account of the stoppage of traffic to Sialkot (in Pakistan). It is a class III municipality. Its population in 1971 was 5,338 as against 5,288 in 1961.

There are a higher secondary school for boys and a high school for girls, a civil dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police station, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange and a rest house.

After his long travels during the 'Fourth Udasi', Guru Nanak Dev came to the village of Pakhoke where his father-in-law, Mul Chand, lived. Mul Chand was the Patwari (a revenue official) of this area and was greatly respected by the people. The Guru's wife, Mata Sulakhni, along with her two sons—Sri Chand and Lakhmi Das—was also there. As soon

15. Darbar Sahib, Dera Baba Nanak



as the news, that the Guru was camping at his well outside the village, reached Ajita Randhawa, the local chieftain, he along with other devotees presented himself at the Guru's feet and sought enlightenment from him. It was also at this place that Mata Sulakhni along with her two sons requested the Guru to live with his family and, thus, provide them the opportunity to serve him. This very place was later on selected as the site for founding the town of Dera Baba Nanak by Sri Chand and the Guru's other descendants.

The village of Pakhoke is situated on the left bank of the River Ravi. People from far away places came for a glimpse of the Guru and for being enlightened by the spiritual discourses given by him. Doda Chaudhary, another village chief, offered to donate as much land on the right side of the river as the Guru required and requested him to build a dharmshala there. Guru Nanak Dev constructed a dharmshala at this place and, thus, founded the town of Kartarpur in 1521. Kartarpur, which is now in Pakistan, is situated at a distance of about 3 km from Dera Baba Nanak. For 18 years, from 1521 to 1538 A.D., Guru Nanak Dev stayed at Kartarpur. He brought his wife, sons and the aged parents to this place. Families of Bhai Mardana and other devotees also settled down at Kartarpur. To provide honest and hard-earned living, the Guru set up a modest farm on the lands donated by his devotees. Here the Guru practised the integrated view of life and spirituality to which he gave expression and his emphasis was upon duty being inalienably related to religious life. It was at Kartarpur that the Guru found his successor in Bhai Lehna who became Guru Angad Dev.

After the death of Guru Nanak Dev in 1538, his descendants, the Bedis, continued to reside in Kartarpur until the encroaching river started sweeping away the place. They, then crossed the river and laid the foundation of the town which they called Dera Baba Nanak after the name of their holy ancestor.

Gurdwara Darbar Sahib

During the period 1744 to 1754, the Bedis, descendants of Guru Nanak Dev, purchased lands and laid the foundation of the town of Dera Baba Nanak. There they built a *kutchra* temple on the spot where Guru Nanak Dev used to sit or offer his prayers to God. Diwan Nanak Bakhsh, *wazir* to the Nawab of Hyderabad, Deccan, offered a sum of Rs 50,000 for the building of a brick temple. Subsequently, Raja Chando Lal contributed a large sum of money to its construction. In 1765, the construction of the temple was begun through the agency of Bedis. The

work was finished in 1787. In 1825, Maharaja Ranjit Singh offered a handsome contribution for the completion of the work, and it was completed in 1827. Rani Chand Kaur (widow of Maharaja Kharak Singh), during her regency from November 1840 to January 1841, caused a portion of the temple to be decorated with gold leaf. The shrine is called Darbar Sahib.

Gurdwara Tahli Sahib

There is also a second temple, known as Tahli Sahib, from a large *tahli* or *shisham* tree, which stood close to it. This temple was erected by Baba Sri Chand, the son of Guru Nanak Dev. In 1869, the temple was carried away by the Ravi, and in place of it the people constructed another on the other bank of the river in a village (Malukwali or Maliwal/Mulowali) near the Fatehgarh Churian road, but it was again moved to the present building situated at a short distance outside the town to the north.

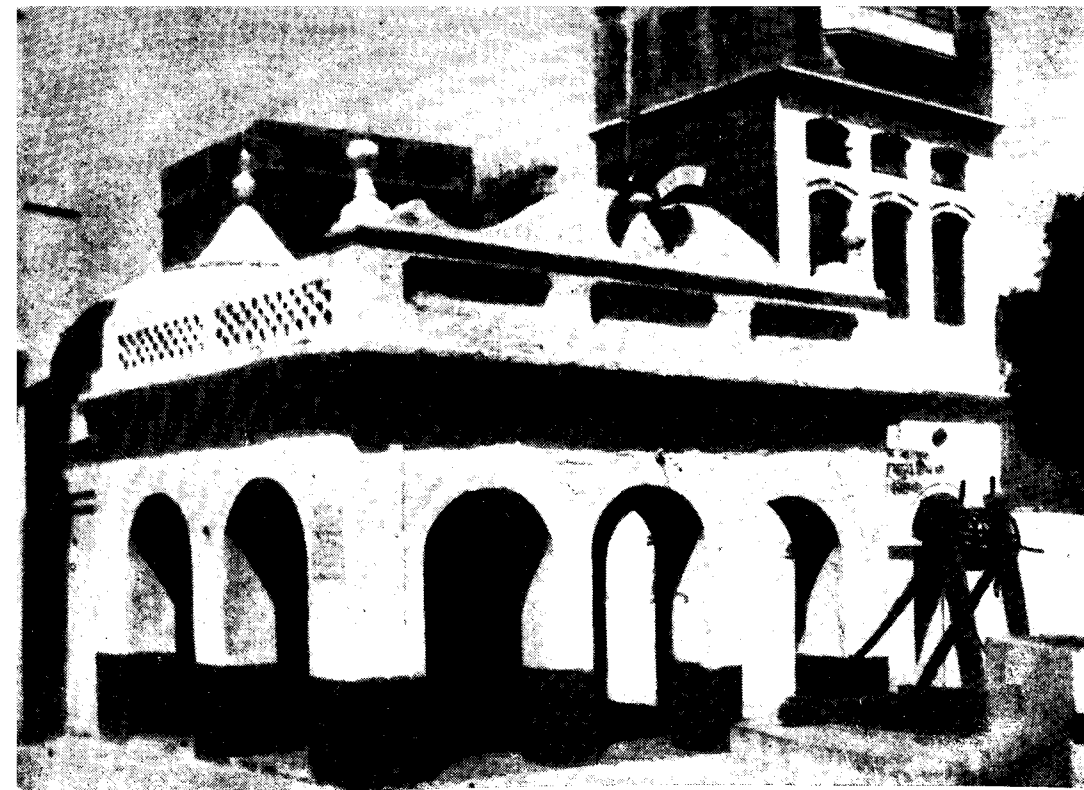
Gurdwara Chola Sahib

The town of Dera Baba Nanak also contains a precious relic in the shape of a *chola* (coat), once worn by Guru Nanak Dev. It is said to have been presented to the Guru when he visited Mecca and is inscribed with thousands of Arabic words and figures. The *chola* is now kept preserved in Gurdwara Chola Sahib and a large number of people visit the place every year to have a glimpse of the relic.

Baisakhi, Diwali and Puranmashi (full moon night) in the month of Kartik (October-November) are some of the important fairs held at Dera Baba Nanak every year.

Dhariwal.—The town lies on the Amritsar-Pathankot road and the Amritsar-Batala-Pathankot railway branch lines. By road, Dhariwal is 59 km from Amritsar and 48 km from Pathankot. It is 12 km from Gurdaspur, the tahsil and district headquarters. The Upper Bari Doab Canal and the G.T. Road each bifurcates the town into two halves. It is a class II municipality. The population of the town was 9,985 in 1971 as against 9,601 in 1961.

There are a primary school, a middle school for girls, 4 high schools for boys and two for girls, a degree college for girls, the Salvation Army Mac Robert Hospital, a civil dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police station, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange and the Canal Rest House.



16. Gurdwara Chola Sahib, Dera Baba Nanak

There are 2 primary schools, a middle school for girls, a high school for girls, 2 higher secondary schools for boys, a college for women, a Sanskrit Maha Vidyalaya, a municipal library, a municipal hospital, a veterinary hospital, a free Ayurvedic dispensary, a police station and a police post, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange and the P.W.D. (B & R) Rest House. The Government Sericulture Farm, Dinanagar, is under the Industries Department, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The town was originally named Adina Nagar after the name of its founder Adina Beg who founded it in 1730 on the banks of Hansli or Shah Nahar as his residence and cantonment. Adina Beg was made Governor of Behrampur by Zakriya Khan, Subedar of Lahore, and subsequently placed in charge of the Jullundur Doab. He seems to have exercised his government mainly from this town. During the Sikh period, it formed a favourite summer resort. Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia was the chief proprietor and jagirdar of the estate. The Hansli canal flowed close by, and *baradaries* were built of its banks in the middle of shady mango groves. Bathing ghats used to extend along its banks, but these were dismantled on the absorption of the Hansli in the Bari Doab Canal. Maharaja Ranjit Singh's ladies' apartments are now utilised as an office for the municipal committee and the house occupied by General Ventura is now a rest house. Dinanagar once formed the headquarters of the district, which were subsequently removed to Gurdaspur.

Established in 1938, the Dayanand Math is an important institution at Dinanagar. It maintains the Sanskrit Maha Vidyalaya which runs classes for Pragma, Visharad and Shastri examinations. It also runs an Ayurvedic pharmacy, a free Ayurvedic dispensary and a library.

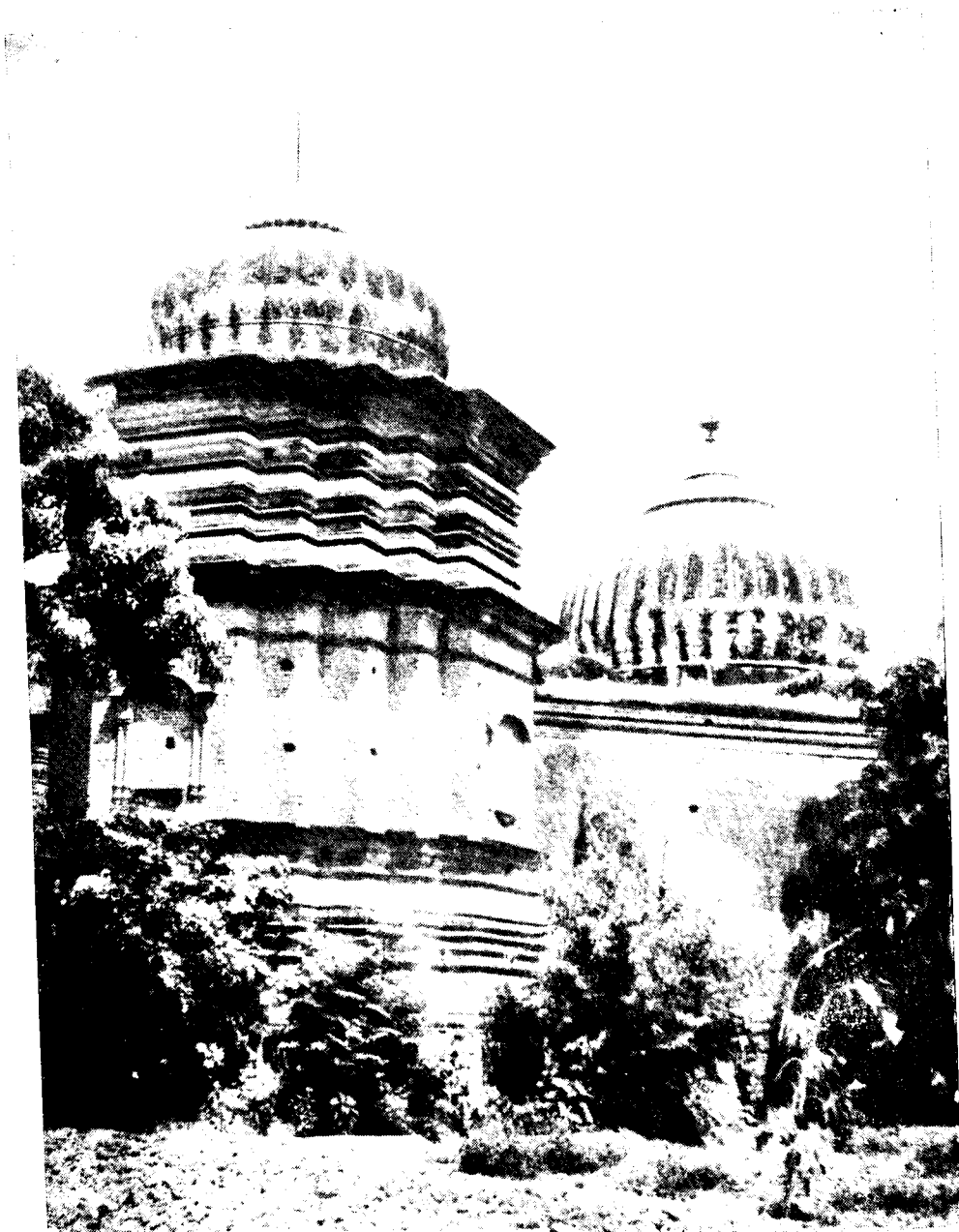
A fortnightly Urdu paper, *Dohra Pul*, is published from Dinanagar.

There are a good number of mango gardens in and around Dinanagar. The chief agricultural products marketed here are paddy and wheat. The important industrial products are: conduit pipes, rubber belts, tonga roof strips (wooden) and *takhtis* (wooden boards for children to write on). A cattle fair is held there every month.

The Sewa Sadan Leper Colony at Dinanagar was established in 1972. Among the old religious places in the town, mention may be made of Bhutnath Mandir, Kali Mata Mandir, Sitla Mandir and Shivala Bhaiyan (built by Munshi Jai Kishan Das in 1844).



8. Baradari, Dinanagar



19. Temple built by Rani Chand Kaur at Fatehgarh Churian 459

Dorangla.—Situated at a distance of 16 km from Gurdaspur, the tahsil and district headquarters, the village of Dorangla is connected by road with the former. Dorangla is the headquarters of the block of the same name. Its population was 2,730 in 1971 as against 2,724 in 1961.

There is a high school and a middle school and a civil dispensary and a veterinary hospital.

Before the partition of the country in 1947, it used to be prosperous village lying on the road connecting Gurdaspur and Shakargarh, and was a trading centre for the merchandise of Shakargarh Tahsil (transferred to Pakistan in 1947).

Fatehgarh Churian.—Situated at a distance of 26 km north-west of Batala, the tahsil headquarters, Fatehgarh Churian is connected by road with Dera Baba Nanak, Batala, Amritsar and Ajnala. It lies on the Amritsar-Verka-Dera Baba Nanak railway branch line. It is a class III municipality. The population of the town was 7,590 in 1971 as against 6,439 in 1961.

There are 3 primary schools, 2 high schools and a higher secondary school, an arts and craft school, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, a municipal library and a panchayat samiti library, a police station, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange and the Canal Rest House.

The town was founded by Sardar Fateh Singh Kanhaya who built here a fort named Fatehgarh. As a large number of *churigars* (bangle makers) lived at this place, their name also got associated with the town which came to be called Fatehgarh Churian. Maharaja Ranjit Singh contracted the marriage of his son Kharak Singh with Chand Kaur, a granddaughter of Sardar Fateh Singh. She built here a beautiful temple with a pucca tank, which still stands. It is said that there was a pucca tunnel connecting the temple and the fort, built for the convenience of Chand Kaur who daily went to the temple for worship.

After the partition of the country, in 1947, a large number of weavers settled here. They are given guidance and assistance by the Punjab Khadi Mandal, Adampur (District Jullundur).

There is one Government Milk Chilling Plant.

Ghuman.—In Batala Tahsil, the village Ghuman is situated on the Mehta-Srigobindpur road, at a distance of about 9 km from Srigobindpur. Its population was 3,464 in 1971 as against 2,767 in 1961.

During the Sikh period the *taluka* of Ghuman formed part of the possessions of the Ramgarhia Sardar, from whom it was seized by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1816. Afterwards, it was made over in *jagir* to Kanwar Nau Nehal Singh but was scheated to government on his death in 1841.

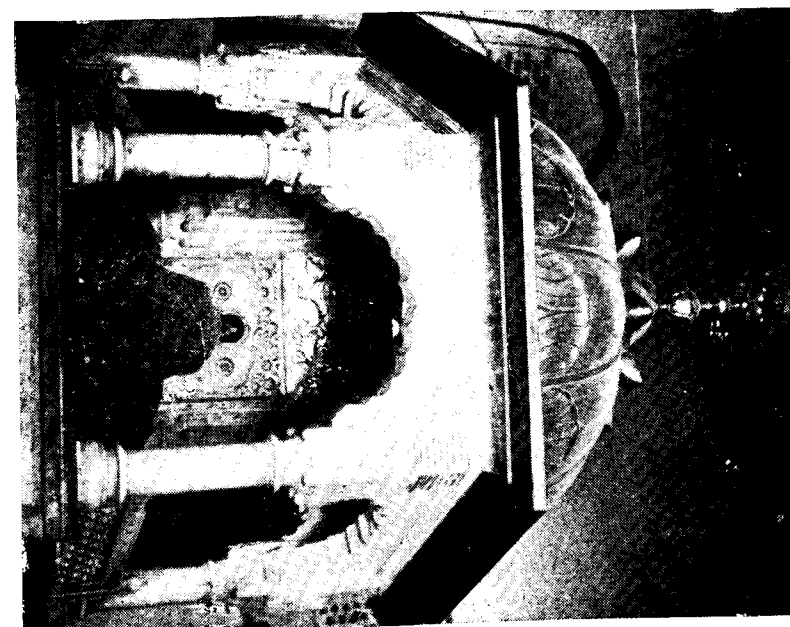
There is a temple of Baba Nam Dev, the miracle-working saint of the Muhammadan ascendancy. Nam Dev was contemporary of Firoz Shah Tughlak (1351—1388). He belonged to Maharashtra. In the latter part of his life, visiting holy places, Nam Dev reached the Punjab. He settled at Ghuman and finally died here.

Gurdaspur.—The headquarters of the district of the same name, Gurdaspur lies on the Amritsar-Pathankot road and the Amritsar Batala Pathankot railway branch line. It is also connected by road with Talwara (Hoshiarpur District), Srighobindpur, Dera Baba Nanak and Dorangla. Gurdaspur is 71 km from Amritsar, 33 km from Batala and 38 km from Pathankot on the Amritsar-Pathankot road. It is class II municipality. The population of the town was 32,064 in 1971 as against 27,665 in 1961.

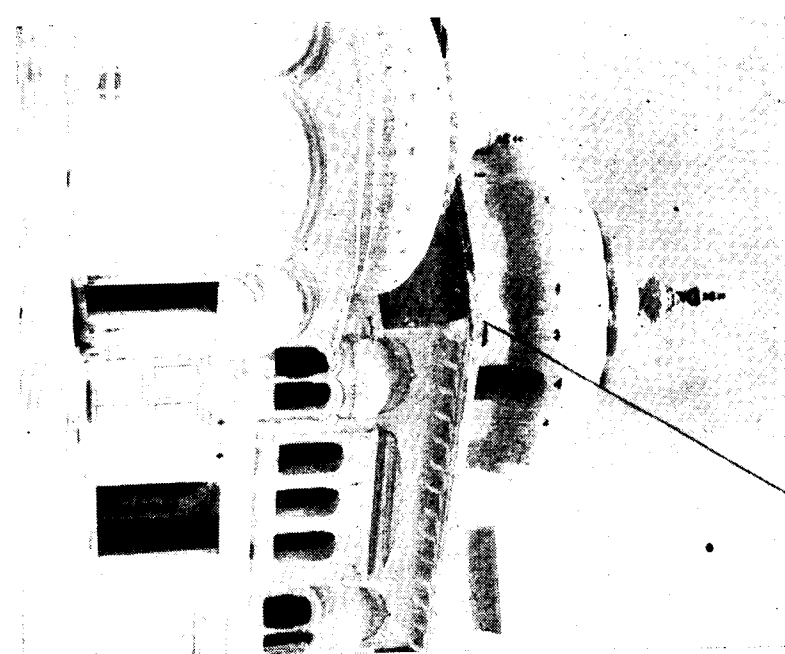
There are 2 primary schools, 6 high schools (4 for boys and 2 for girls), 2 higher secondary schools (one for boys and the other for girls), a Government Girls' Normal School, a Government College, a Government Polytechnic, a civil hospital, a police hospital, a T.B. hospital, a Border Security Force dispensary, a free private dispensary, a veterinary hospital, 2 police stations, a P.W.D.(B&R) Rest House and a Sainik Rest House. Besides, there is one serai.

The town of Gurdaspur derives its name from Sri Guriya Ji, who, according to the revenue records, purchased a village in the earlier half of the seventeenth century, and named it after himself. Shri Guriya Ji was a learned man and a saintly disposition. He is stated to have shifted from Paniar (a village about 8 km north of the town of Gurdaspur) to a site about 16 km towards Pathankot. This place was a forest, and he took the permission of the then ruler to settle down in a part of it, naming it as Gurdaspur. This other Gurdaspur is situated at a short distance from the railway station Parmanand (on the Amritsar-Batala-Pathankot railway branch line) in the Pathankot Tahsil.

The revenue records show that Guriya Ji had two sons : Naval Rai and Pala Ji. The descendants of Pala Ji inhabit the other Gurdaspur village (popularly known as Gurdaspur Bhaian), while the descendants of Naval Rai developed this Gurdaspur town, the district headquarters. Naval Rai's son Deep Chand was renowned figure of his day. He was a contemporary of Guru Gobind Singh and was associated with his religious activities. Deep Chand is referred to by his descendants as Guru Gunj Baksh, a title which is supposed to have been conferred upon him by the Tenth Guru. He had a following of his own and, right till the partition of the country in 1947, people as far away as Kabul used to come and pay homage to the shrines associated with him. His *smadh* is situated outside the town, off the road to Batala. The old residents of Gurdaspur

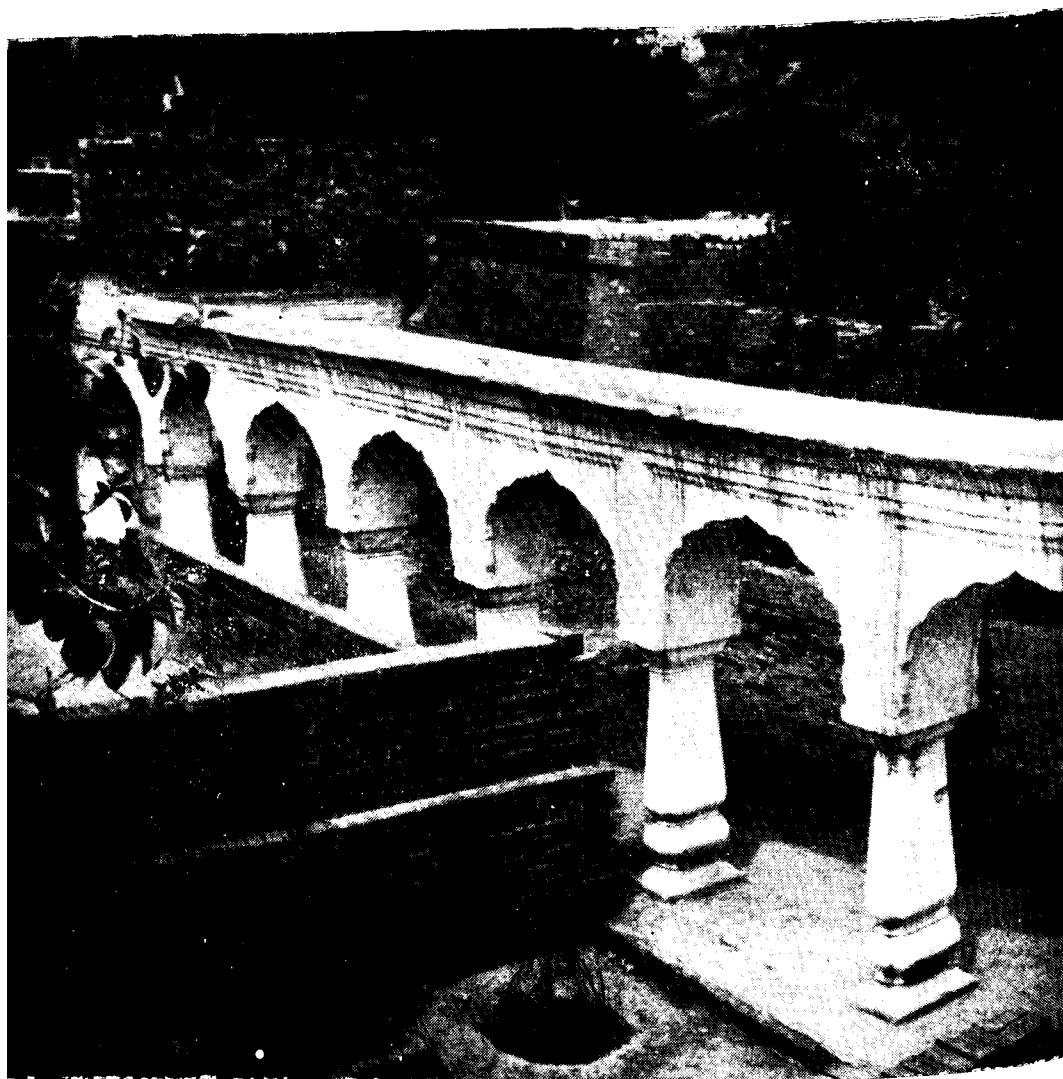


20. Temple of Baba Nam Dev, Ghuman





21. Shri Guriya Ji, the founder of Gurdaspur



12. Jhulna Mahal, Gurdaspur

pay homage to it on important family functions. On the Diwali evening, the *smadh* is lit up with earthen lamps (*deepaks*) offered by the devotees.

The descendants of Deep Chand reside in the heart of the town. The residence of the head of the family came to be known as 'Rangmahal', and there is an old temple next to it. Because of this religious background, the descendants are referred to as 'Mahants'. Deep Chand had two sons: Saran Das and Narain Das. They came to be known as the *Bari Sarkar* and the *Chhoti Sarkar*, respectively. The *Bari Sarkar* had his residence at the Rangmahal. The construction of a separate residence for the *Chhoti Sarkar* was initiated about the middle of the eighteenth century, but somehow it did not progress beyond the coming up of a wide wall comprising a set of arches. The wall to this day is intact, and vibrates considerably, on being shaken by any one sitting on the top of it. For this reason, it is known as the Jhulna Mahal.

Swami Dayanand, founder of the Arya Samaj, visited Gurdaspur about 1876 and established its branch there.

The old Mughal route to Kashmir passes through the town. The boat-ferry (*pattan*) at Naushehra on the River Beas, linked it with Delhi, through the Hoshiarpur area, on the east, while another ferry at the Trimmu *pattan* on the River Ravi linked it with Jammu through the Sialkot District (now in Pakistan). In spite of this important situation, Gurdaspur remained unimportant as a trading or manufacturing centre. A few rice-shellers, saw mills, incubator manufacturing units, etc. have come up but the importance of the place is mainly due to its agricultural produce. The area produces excellent varieties of litchi and mangoes. High quality Basmati rice of this area is comparable with the best anywhere. Sucrose contents of sugarcane grown here is considered to be amongst the highest in the northern India. It is also an important vegetable producing area. The Regional Research Station, Gurdaspur, carries on research on crop improvement.

There is an institution named Kala Kendra where music—both vocal and instrumental, dancing and painting are taught. It has a building of unique design with an open-air theatre on its roof.

The Upper Bari Doab Canal branches off at a distance of about 5 km east of the town. The works provide a pleasant landscape where people go out for picnics during summer. There is also a sports stadium in the town.

About 6 km to the west of the town of Gurdaspur lies the old village of Gurdas Nangal, known as *Bande-wali Theh*, where Banda Bahadur put up his last fight against the Mughals in 1715.

The Government Poultry Farm at Gurdaspur is the biggest in the State. Training in poultry farming is also imparted there.

Jakhbar.—This tiny village, near Narot Mehra in Pathankot Tahsil, which is the home of a Shaiva establishment bears a very descriptive name, Jakhbar Jogian (Jakhbar of the Jogis) or Jakhbar. The first part of the name is explained locally with reference to the small temple of a celebrated and bountiful *Jakh* (Sanskrit, *Yaksha*), which is topped by an enormous tree, *bar* (banian), and stands at the eastern edge of the village; the second part refers to the Nath Jogis, around whose monastery or *dera* the village has apparently grown. The significance that the village possesses it owes wholly to the Jogis, and neither to its size which is negligible nor to its situation which is obscure. Jakhbar, in fact, occupies a remote corner at the north-western end of the district which touches on the one hand the State of Jammu and Kashmir and on the other the country of Pakistan.

The village of Jakhbar itself has little of interest outside of the *jogi* establishment and the shrine of the *Jakh*; it is an overgrown hamlet which clusters around the considerable complex of buildings that house the *jogis*. It is dominated by the *dera* of the *jogis* much in the same manner, one might think, as the local population is by the *mahant* who occupies the Jakhbar *gaddi*. The *dera* is enclosed on its eastern side by an enormous wall of masonry which lends it an air of grandeur not wholly possessed even by the foremost *jogi* monasteries elsewhere. The huge gate at one end of the wall is overlooked by a stucco *dvarpal*, stern if somewhat lonely guardian of the establishment, holding rigidly and appropriately, an English musket, for the date of this part of the construction is said to be the middle of the nineteenth century.

The wall has several extremely interesting designs in what might be called brick-inlay, the elephants and peacocks and chess-players being formed to look like silhouettes with thin black bricks against the usual red ones. Above the gateway and the passage is a set of rooms, now occupied by the junior *mahant*, from which a balcony projects on the vacant space below on what is the tiny square of the village. On the inside, one emerges through the passage into an open space, at the left of which is a large masonry platform overgrown with flowers; this is the *smadh* of Baba Udant Nath, the founder of the Jakhbar *gaddi*; and the unusual fact of there being no structure above the rather austere platform is explained by the tradition preserved at Jakhbar that Udant Nath chose the time to "Surrender his life" himself and did not die in the normal manner. A little further down in this open space is a covered shed which now houses some cattle but did once serve as the 'chamber' of the *wazirs* of the establishment. The present use to which the structure is being put is appropriately indicative of the low opinion now held at the *dera* of the *wazirs*, for

23. Main gate of the Dera of Jogis at Jakhbar



the story is that one of the *wazirs* proved disloyal enough to induce the then *mahant* to abolish the very institution of the *wazirs* completely. The *smadhi* and the *wazirs'* chamber are features which, among others, proclaim the true character of a *jogi* monastic establishment of some magnitude, and what the Jakhbar *gaddi* has by way of structures in the inner courtyard confirms emphatically the nature of this considerable *dera*. At one end is the large kitchen, *bhandar khana*, with an inscription which dates the present construction to A. D. 1879, in the period of Mahant Madho Nath. The '*gaddi ghar*' or the seat of the ruling *mahant* is a spacious but austere double-storeyed structure and next to it is a part of the building now in a dilapidated condition which had a painted ceiling with an inscription dating it back to the period of Mahant Dhaja Nath in the early years of the nineteenth century. One part of the structure appears to be the oldest in the establishment and is said to belong to the sixteenth century; in this is the small shrine in which the *dhuni* (constant smouldering fire), which distinguishes every *jogi* establishment, slowly burns. In this part of the structure also are little temples of Shiva, the Devi and Bhairava, holy deities of the *jogis*, and at one end are several sets of rooms to accommodate the pilgrims and the resident *jogis* alike.

To the west of the complex of buildings just described, is another open space with a number of *smadhs* of former *mahants* and in one corner the lonely *smadh* of the *wazirs* with faint traces of frescoes still lingering on the ceiling of its dome. All the *smadhs* are regularly worshipped as a part of the daily ritual at the *dera*, their presence so close to the living quarters realizing partly the *jogi* ideal of living in a cremation ground.

The *jogis* of Jakhbar belong to the Kanphata sect; the very appearance of the present *mahant*, the venerable octogenarian Baba Brahm Nath, and his enlightened and genial disciple, Shanker Nath, proclaiming emphatically their religious affiliation. In the manner of the strictest of the Kanphatas, they wear large *mudras* in their ears and carry on their persons the sacred symbols of the faith: the *seli* (consisting of a string of black woollen thread), a bead, the *nad* (a little whistle made of horn) and the *rudraksha mala* (the rosary made of the fruit of the *elaecarpus gantitrus*). The texts read and recited at the *dera* include hand-written copies of the works sacred to the *Jogis*, many of them inscribed at Jodhpur for Mahant Chanchal Nath, according to their colophons. The names of Gorakh Nath and Machhandar Nath are hallowed names of the *dera*; and legend brings in profuse references to Raja Gopi Chand and Bhartrihari, and to Puran Bhagat and Raja Rasalu.

The strong impression that one receives at Jakhbar, however, is that this *gaddi* of the *jogis* has become a little isolated from the general organization of the Kanphatas over the years. This may have been due to the general indifference of the *mahants* to outside matters which is a point that often emerges from any discussion with Baba Brahm Nath, or again to the relative lack of importance of the sub-sect to which this *gaddi* belongs. The only organizational fact prominently mentioned at Jakhbar is that this *gaddi* belongs to the Ganganathi panth. The Ganganathis do not happen to be the most prominent of the twelve sub-sects in which the Kanphatas are according to tradition divided; the Jakhbar *gaddi* has consequently gone almost completely unnoticed so far.

Every tradition preserved at the place and every material object that could lend substance to the legend, points to the fact that the *gaddi* was founded by Udant Nath, also referred to as Pir Bhaur Nath. 'Pir' being an epithet which in spite of its strongly Muslim association is always used for the heads of *jogi* monastic establishments. The date of Udant Nath is not specifically mentioned, except on a nineteenth century portrait in oils of the ascetic where it is given as A. H. 989, possibly following the tradition preserved at Jakhbar; but he is referred to always in association with the Emperor Akbar (1556—1605). The contemporaneity of the two is sought to be proven in several ways and a number of stories are to be heard at Jakhbar that tell of the deep reverence in which Udant Nath was held by the Mughal Emperor.

Nothing is known of the guru of Udant Nath and no names come to us to bridge the long period of five or six centuries that must have elapsed between Gorakh Nath and the Jakhbar ascetic. The history of the Jakhbar *gaddi* begins suddenly with the second half of the sixteenth century.

The time of the death of Udant Nath is not known to the tradition of Jakhbar, but the documents indicate that he was alive in 1597 and had been succeeded by 1606. One important event took place before Udant Nath's death, the settlement at Jakhbar. He is said originally to have lived at the small village of Bhoa where the documents clearly indicate the first grant of land to the *jogis* was made by the Mughal Emperor. The Bhoa grant, however, was ill-fated, for it happened to be on the bank of the wayward Ravi, and seems to have been submerged under water soon after the *jogis* received it.

It is perhaps reasonable to assume that their choice of a place for settling down fell on a spot close to the nearby shrine of the Jakh,

which must have then stood in a field as so many Jakh shrines still do, because of the sanctity of the site and the large number of people who must have resorted to the Jakh for gaining boons and favours. The shrine was not far from the rather large village Narot Mehra from which, at a later time, an area of land equivalent to that held by the *jogis* at Bhoa was carved out to be given to them following imperial orders. Gradually, we are led to believe, the new home of the *jogis* became the nucleus of a settlement which kept on growing, though not very much, with the years and is the Jakhbar Jogian of today.

The *jogis* of Jakhbar do not marry and it is a spiritual not a natural heir who succeeds to the *gaddi*. It is not clear as to who succeeded Udant Nath who must have had several disciples. The names of a very large number of *mahants* who came after Udant Nath are listed in a genealogical table of the *gaddi* which was compiled at the time of the preparation of the British record of rights in 1865 by the then Mahant Chanchal Nath. But the accuracy of this table is a little open to question. However, the tree of succession, considered correct according to the present tradition at Jakhbar, is as under:

Bhaur Nath (Udant Nath), Kanchan Nath, Tind Nath, Surat Nath, Anand Nath, Hira Nath, Lal Nath, Shardha Nath, Subuddha Nath, Mayya Nath, Gomati Nath, Dhaja Nath, Chanchal Nath, Madho Nath, Tani Nath, Sohan Nath, Brahm Nath and (the present *mahant*) Shankar Nath.

Whether it was for reasons of the practice of *hath yoga* by the *Jogis* or their personal piety, the Jakhbar *gaddi* seems always to have wielded great influence. The antiquity of a *gaddi* is always a factor with the people paying it homage, and in this matter the Jakhbar *dera* has been looked upon with deep reverence. Apart from the *gaddi* of Tilla which is associated with Gorakh Nath himself or with Lakshman Nath, his disciple, this appears to have been the most ancient of the *jogi* monasteries in the Punjab.

The Shivaratri festival is celebrated at Jakhbar on a considerable scale.³

Kahnuwan.—Nineteen kilometres from Gurdaspur, the tahsil and district headquarters, kahnuwan is also linked by road with Sri-gobindpur and Batala. Its population was 4,729 in 1971 as against 3,320 in 1961.

There are a primary school, a high school, a higher secondary school, a civil dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police station, and a post and telegraph office.

3. Goswamy, B.N. and Grewal, J.S., *The Mughals and the Jogis of Jakhbar* (Simla, 1967), pp. 1-15, 42

Kahnuwan, which gives its name to the well-known marsh, possesses several ancient buildings, the chief among which are the shrine of Shah Burhan, a Muhammadan saint, who flourished in the reign of Jahangir ; the *gupha* or sub-terranean shrine of the Bairagi Bhagwanji ; a *math* of sanyasis ; and a Jogi Mandir.

A curious tradition attaches to a large *baoli* or well just below the high bank which, though in a good condition, is not used. The story runs that one of the leading Rajputs had two wives who annoyed him by their perpetual squabbles, and so, to settle the question, he constructed this *baoli* and buried his wives under the pillars at the bottom of the steps leading to the water, grimly remarking that at any rate they would have to lie side by side in peace for the future.

Kalanaur.—Twenty-six kilometres from Gurdaspur, the tahsil and district headquarters, Kalanaur is also connected by road with Dera Baba Nanak and Batala. Its population was 6,738 in 1971 as against 5,757 in 1961.

There are two primary schools, two high schools (one for boys and other for girls), a civil dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police station, a post and telegraph office, and a P. W. D. (B & R) Rest House.

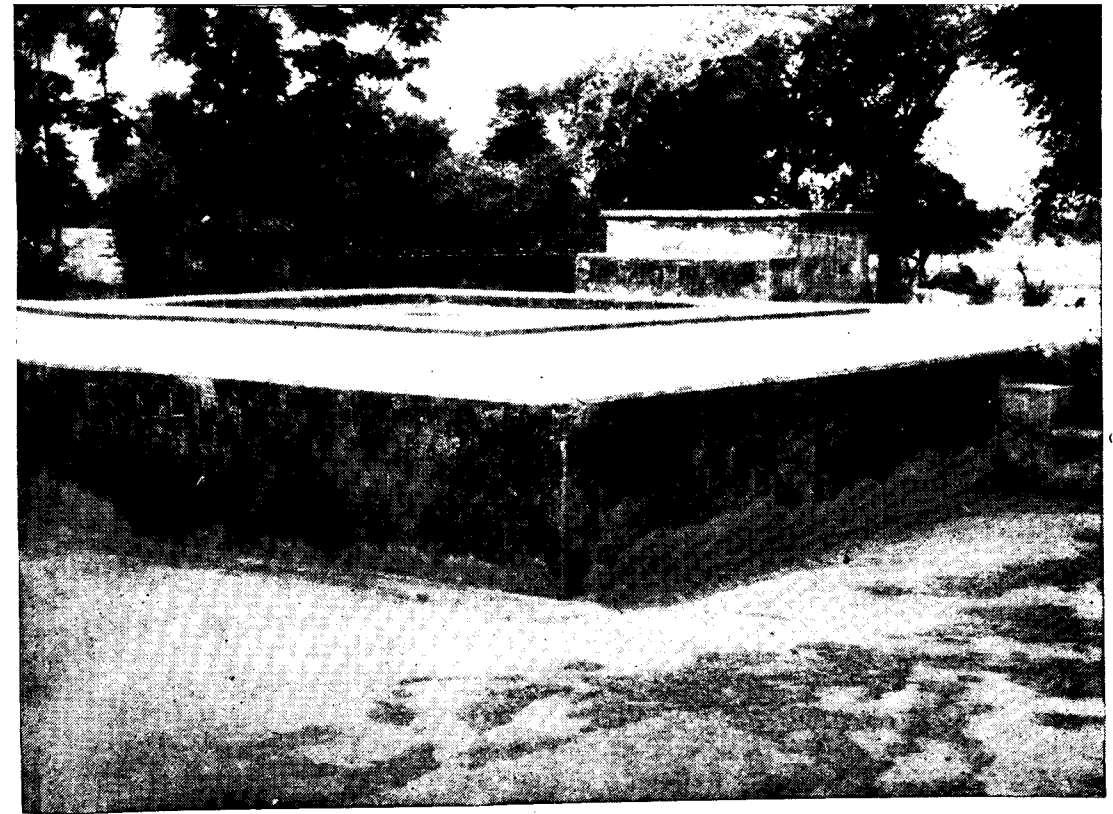
Now reduced to the status of a village, kalanaur was a small important town in old times. There was an old proverb which said 'that he who has not seen Lahore, at least let him see Kalanaur.' This historical place is supposed to be one of the abodes of Lord Shiva, whose gigantic lingam is established here in a temple. The temple was constructed by Maharaja Kharak Singh, son and successor of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. There is also a *smadh* of Baba Manj Nath within the boundary of the temple. In the pre-historic days, the village was known as Kaleshwar. It is said to have been originally founded by Hindu Rajas and the numerous ruins in its vicinity sufficiently attest its antiquity. According to another legend, the village takes its name from two Muslim brothers, Kalla and Nura, who defended the four walls of this village.

During the reign of Akbar, Kalanaur attained its greatest splendour. At a distance of about 2 km from the locality, there is a masonry platform known as *Takhat* (throne) upon which Akbar was first crowned in 1556 A. D. Close to the same spot is a tomb of Jamil Beg, one of Akbar's generals, which is in ruins. There is a mosque of Pir Buddhan Shah still in preservation.

The old village was laid waste by Banda Bahadur in whose memory a *gurdwara* is built there. The present habitation has been raised on the ruins of the old village.

24. Shiv Mandir, Kalanaur





25. Takhat Tajposhi of Emperor Akbar, Kalanaur

Lehl.—The village is situated in the Gurdaspur Tahsil at a distance of about 1 km from Dhariwal. There is a primary school. Its population was 1,867 in 1971 as against 1,519 in 1961.

It is an important branch of the Talibpur Pindori *gaddi* and barren women resort to it for the purpose of being blessed with issue, which the *mahant* is said to bring about by the use of *jantras*.

A *mela* is held there on the Baisakhi day.

Masanian.—The village is 6 km from Batala, the tahsil headquarters, on the Batala-Srigobindpur road, to which it is linked by 1.5 km long approach road. Its population was 1,895 in 1971 as against 1,736 in 1961.

There is a middle school.

Seat of a Sayyad Pir, Masanian has a fine mosque with lofty minarets. Along with it is the tomb of Shah Badar Diwan.

Narot Jaimalsingh.—Headquarters of a sub-tahsil of the same name in the Pathankot Tahsil, Narot Jaimalsingh is 21 km from Pathankot and also 21 km from Dinanagar. Its population was 3,772 in 1971 as against 1,809 in 1961.

There is a primary school, a high school, a primary health centre, a veterinary dispensary, a police station, a post and telegraph office, and a P. W. D. (B & R) Rest House.

It is surrounded by water on all the four sides and, when approaching from Dinanagar, one has to cross the main current of the Ravi and its tributaries Bhatia and Masto. During rainy season, the approach to the locality becomes very difficult. Lying in the trans-Ravi tract half way between the Ravi and the hills, Narot Jaimalsingh continued to be up to the partition of the country in 1947 the principal mart in the fertile submontane belt known as Chak Andhar.

Pathankot.—The town occupies an important place at the foot-hills of glamorous hill stations of the Kangra and Kashmir valleys. It is the main transit junction for Kulu, Kangra, Dharamsala, Dalhousie and Jammu and Kashmir. Headquarters of the tahsil/sub-division of the same name, Pathankot is connected by road with Amritsar, Jullundur, Kangra, Chamba and Srinagar. It is also connected by rail with Amritsar, Jullundur, Jammu and Jogindernagar. Its population was 78,192 in 1971 as against 54,810 in 1961.

Pathankot is a class I municipality. There are 7 primary schools, 2 middle schools, 5 high schools and 5 higher secondary schools, 2 colleges

(one for boys and the other for girls), a civil hospital, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a post office, a telegraph office, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange, a P. W. D. (B & R) Rest House, a Tourist Bungalow, and a Forest Rest House.

Pathankot is an old town though nothing definite can be said about its early history. According to Sir Alexander Cunningham, the site of the old fort⁴ of Pathankot, which no longer exists, is one of the most ancient sites in the Punjab, as its position is especially favourable as a mart for the interchange of produce between the hills and plains. Situated in the middle of the narrow neck of land, only about 25 km in width, which divides the valleys of the rivers Beas and Ravi, at the point where they leave the hills, Pathankot naturally became the great emporium between the two rich valleys of Kangra and Chamba in the hills, and the great cities of Lahore (Pakistan) and Jullundur in the plains. The coins of the early Hindu period and the Muhammadan period have been there⁵.

In spite of being headquarters of a tahsil, Pathankot was an ordinary place up to the partition of the country in 1947. But, since then, it has grown tremendously, being the gateway for the Jammu and Kashmir State. It has come up magnificently as an entrepot town. It is famous for three T's—timber, transport and tourists. It has a Punjab Government Tourist Information Centre. The Jammu and Kashmir have their trade agents here.

Qadian.—The town is linked both by rail and road with Batala, the tahsil headquarters, from which place it is 20 km by rail and 18 km by road. It is a terminus station on the Batala-Qadian railway branch line. By road, Qadian is linked with Batala in the west, Dhariwal in the north and Srigobindpur in the south-east. Its population was 13,607 in 1971 as against 11,502 in 1961.

Qadian is a class II municipality. There are 3 primary schools for boys and 2 for girls, 2 high schools for girls, 2 higher secondary schools for boys, a degree college, an industrial training institute, a civil dispensary, a private Unani dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police post, a post and telegraph office and a Civil Rest House.

The town was founded during the Mughal period. Formerly, it was known as Qazian as it was ruled by a Qazi. But, with the passage of time,

4. The walls of the old fort of Pathankot were still standing at the time of the British occupation in 1849; but they were soon after pulled down to furnish bricks for the works of the Bari Doab Canal, and for the canal officers' houses at Madhopur. These were of a very large size, which is a sure sign of Hindu origin as well as of great age.

5. Alexander Cunningham, *Archaeological Survey of India Report for the year 1872-73*, Vol. V, pp.153-55

it came to be called Qadian. Before the partition of the country in 1947, it was the headquarters of the Ahmedia community which has since shifted to Rabwah in Pakistan. It, however, continues to be the headquarters of the Ahmedia community in India. The town is a big market for wheat and paddy. There are two rice-shellars. The place is well-known for pottery work. The Bagh-i-Jannat and the high minaret of the mosque are the two noteworthy places in Qadian.

Shahpur.—Situated at the bank of the River Ravi, Shahpur is linked by road with Pathankot and Madhopur. It is 13 km from Pathankot and 6 km from Madhopur. This is an old village and the ruins of the old habitations are still traceable in the nearby jungle. Its population was 2,038 in 1961.

There are a primary school, a high school (co-education), a civil hospital, a veterinary, dispensary, a police post, a post office and a tourist bungalow.

Previously a town, Shahpur is now reduced to the status of a village. It is an old historical place and dates back to the Mahabharata period. Originally known as Shardapur, it was renamed as Shahpur to please the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan (1627—1658) on his visit to this place. During the Mughal regime, a canal was dug out from a nearby village to water the Shalamar Gardens at Lahore (Pakistan).

There are remains of an old fort which was constructed by a Rajput chief, Jaspal Singh Pathania, who made it his capital to have control over the Kangra and the Nurpur regions. It was the refuge of Ram Singh Pathania who rebelled against the British during 1848. He was caught while offering prayers to the goddess Durga at a nearby place Dalla Dhar early in 1849. The fort now houses the tourist bungalow which is picture-squely situated on the lofty bank which commands the Ravi. From this bungalow, very fine views of the hills are obtained.

There are some interesting rock-temples at Mukeshwar on the Ravi, some 8 km above Shahpur: they are said to be very ancient and to date back to the time of Pandavas. The smoke-blackened pillars and the carvings here must, however, be very old. Stories are told of Arjun's and Draupadi's visit to the place: a long cleft in the rock a little way up the river is known as "Arjun's Chula" and is to be seen from the road where it winds round the side of the Dalla Dhar, a thousand feet above.

Srigobindpur.—Situated at the foot of the hills, at a distance of 32 km from Batala, the tahsil headquarters and 40 km from Gurdaspur, the district headquarters, the town of Srigobindpur lies on the right bank of the River Beas. It is connected by road also with Amritsar. During

the winter months, a ferry bridge on the Beas connects it with Tanda (Hoshiarpur District). Its population was 2,430 in 1971.

It is a class III municipality. There are 2 primary schools, 2 high schools (one for boys and the other for girls), a municipal library, a civil dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police station and a sub-post office.

The town was founded by Guru Arjun Dev who named it after his son and successor Hargobind. There is a historic temple known as Shahidi Gurdwara Damdama Sahib which was built in commemoration of thousands of Sikh martyrs who fell in a battle here.

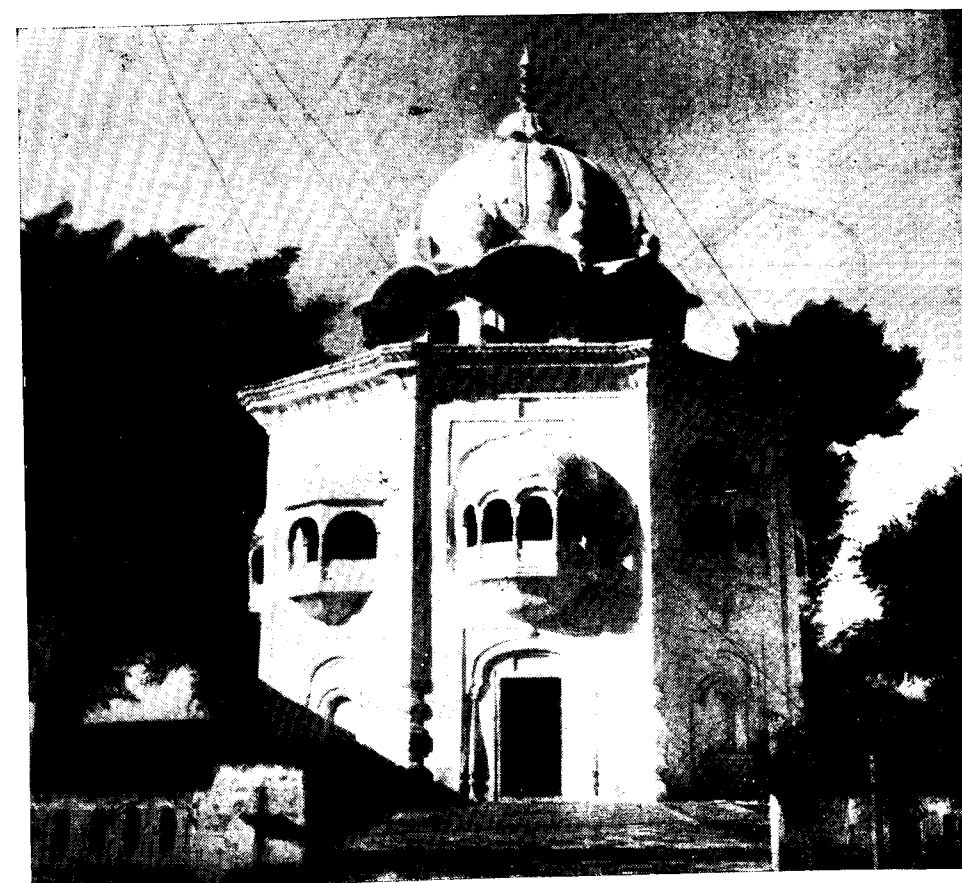
Sujanpur.—About 6 km from Pathankot, Sujanpur is connected both by rail and road. It falls on the Pathankot-Jammu highway and the Delhi-Jammu railway main line. The Upper Bari Doab Canal passes through the town. The town takes its name from one Sujan Singh who founded it. Its population was 12,783 in 1971 as against 10,458 in 1961.

It is a class III municipality. There are 3 high schools (two for boys and one for girls), a municipal library, a civil dispensary, a veterinary dispensary, a police post, and a post and telegraph office. The Khadi Gramudyog Sangh Woollen Centre, and a Centre of Khadi and Village Board Industries are also located here.

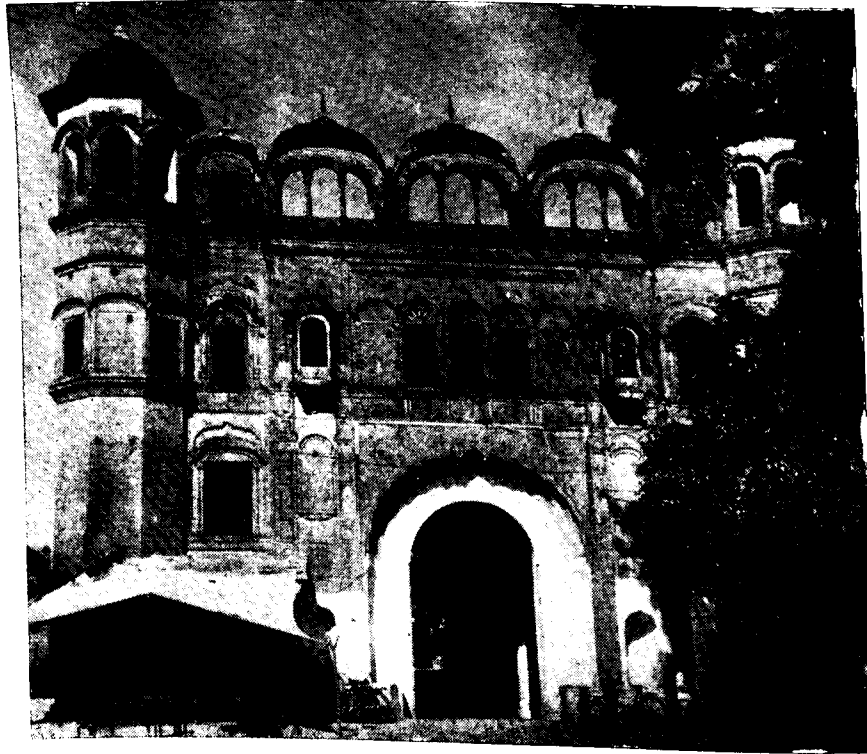
Before the partition of the country in 1947, there was a colony of Kashmiri Muslims who produced woollen garments such as woollen carpets, *pashmina chadars*, woollen blankets, *pattis* and earthen pots. This industry disappeared from the local market as all the Kashmiris migrated with the outgoing Muslims. At present, it is more of a suburb of Pathankot than an independent town, mostly inhabited by persons working at Pathankot.

Talibpur Pindori.—Popularly known as Pindori Mahantan, the village is about 10 km from Gurdaspur, the tahsil and district headquarters. The village has an undistinguished name, Pindori, which it shares with several other villages in the Gurdaspur District and which occurs in the revenue records as only a minor adjunct of the name of the village Talibpur Pindori (as it is included in *mauza* Talibpur). It was founded by a Muslim fakir, Talib Shah Bains, who was married in the vicinity, and made it his permanent residence. The population of the village was 2,556 in 1971 as against 2,069 in 1961.

There are a higher secondary school, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a veterinary dispensary and a post and telegraph office. The establishment of Pindori, known as 'Darbar Pindori Dham' runs in its premises the Shri



26. Shahidi Gurdwara Damdama Sahib, Sri Gobindpur 470



27. Main gate of Pindori Dham, Talibpur Pindori 471

Bhagwan Narain Sanskrit College which is affiliated to the Panjab University, Chandigarh, for the examinations of Pragma, Visharad and Shastri. It has also set up a library which has a collection of a large number of books on Sanskrit literature, astrology, religion, etc.

The large Vaishnava establishment at Pindori⁶ has been, for more than three hundred years, a hermitage of influence and significance. Its eminence is conceded not only in the Gurdaspur District which has more than its share of religious houses, it is recognized wherever in India religious orders and establishments are known. The *gaddi* of Pindori finds prominent in Vaishnava records; it constitutes in fact one of the fifty-two Vaishnava *dvaras* into which the Bairagi establishments are organized. Pindori is thus referred to as the *dvara* of Bhagwan Narain, named after Bhagwanji, the founder of the Pindori establishment, and his favourite and inseparable disciple, Narainji.

Pindori is built on a picturesque site not far from the course of the River Beas. It has one of the most imposing of constructions that house a religious establishment in these parts. Looking somewhat like a fortress from the outside, with a massive enclosing wall and a towering gate, the establishment is spread over an extensive area and consists of a series of buildings that have each their allotted role in this complex of buildings. The gateway with its two halves made out of enormous single planks of wood strengthened by metallic bosses and strips is topped by beautiful *chhatris*. At some distance from the main gateway, which leads to a vast compound, is the second gateway from which three different compounds are approached. To the left is the compound inside which stand the *smadhs* of the former *mahants* of Pindori close to that curious and noble monument, designed like a tomb, which tradition refers to as the structure raised over the remains of Bhagwanji by the Emerpor Jahangir as an act of homage. The large compound in front of the second gateway has along its sides a very large number of rooms for housing pilgrims, and also a Sanskrit *pathshala* run by the establishment on charitable lines. The principal part of the complex of buildings, that is generally in use, is to the north of this compound and is built at different levels. At the ground-level is the building known as the *gaddi ghar* where, on ceremonial occasions, the occupant of the *gaddi* appears before his devotees from a verandah in a corner of which lies a silver throne devoutly presented by Rani Jindan (widow of Maharaja Ranjit Singh), and the walls of which bear traces of nineteenth century frescoes. From this a short flight of stairs leads to a set of rooms where the present *mahant* resides and usually gives *darshan* to privileged visitors; another flight leads to the compound from the centre of which rises the impressive Raghunath Temple,

6. Goswamy, B. N. and Grewal, J. S., *The Mughal and Sikh Rulers and the Vaishnavas of Pindori*, pp. 1—21, 64

appropriately placed at the heart of a Vaishnava establishment that offers special devotion to Rama from among the incarnations of Vishnu. At a slightly lower level than the temple, and approached from the paved compound is the hallowed cave or subterranean place of worship to which extremely narrow and steep stairs lead and inside the cavernous gloom of which the founder of the *gaddi*, Bhagwanji, is said by tradition to have sat in meditation. This does not describe the whole of the establishment, because there is an extensive orchard attached to the complex of buildings; there is also the monument called the *smadh* of Baba Mahesh Das, a disciple of Bhagwanji, close to the principal group of buildings. There is a spring of limpid water in the little wood where both Bhagwanji and Narainji are said to have worshipped; and at a short distance from the main gateway is a large paved tank of water at the head of which stands a charming *baradari*-like pavilion.

The life of Bhagwanji, described by tradition and documentary evidence to be the founder of the Pindori *gaddi*, is surrounded with legend which ascribes to him an unusually long span of life and speaks of the many miracles performed by him from his very childhood. His birthplace is given as Kahnuwan, about 13 km, south of Pindori and situated once on the bank of the Beas and now on a slight eminence overlooking what was not long ago an extensive swamp. The name of Bhagwanji's father is said to have been Tota Ram, a Brahmin of the Kahnuwan town, and the name of his mother, Maina. There is still at Kahnuwan, in a corner of the town, a Jogi establishment complete with its *gaddi*, the constantly burning *dhuni* and the burial ground, and inside this under a tree are two tiny tumuli which are pointed out to the visitors as having been raised over the remains of the two parents of Bhagwanji. Bhagwanji spent his early years meditating inside another subterranean cave still to be seen at Kahnuwan. The site of the present establishment of Pindori is said to have been occupied by the Nathpanthi Jogis who were ousted from there by Bhagwanji after a contest of wills and miraculous powers. It was after the *jogis* vacated this neighbourhood that Bhagwanji founded the present establishment there. The *jogis* are said to have gone away to Dharmal, a short distance from Dinanagar, where their establishment still exists.

The association of the Pindori *gaddi* with the Nathpanthis is commemorated in a significant practice that is still followed. On the ceremonial occasion of the installation of a new *mahant* at Pindori, two objects, a *seli* or black woollen thread, and a *topi* or cap, are received from the Jogi establishment of Jakhbar (in Pathankot Tahsil) and placed upon the person of the *mahant*. The ritual is of such importance that without it the ceremony is deemed to be incomplete. This *topi* is an unusual conical kind

of headgear, not at all common to Vaishnava establishments and can be seen in all the paintings of the *mahants* of Pindori that have survived. A *topi* which could be taken to be the symbol of the precedence of the Jogi establishment, together with a *chola* or overgarment, is still draped over the *smadhs* of the various *mahants* of Pindori.

Bhagwanji himself seems to have been converted to Vaishnavism in his young years. This conversion, or his being claimed for the Vaishnava sect as it were, is said to have been due to a famous Vaishnava ascetic, Shri Krishanadas Payahari, a disciple of Anantanand who was himself a well known disciple of the celebrated Vaishnava saint, Ramanand. Shri Krishanadas Payahari induced Bhagwanji to make the district of Gurdaspur as the base of his activity. This carrying of the message of Vaishnavism to these parts, especially the hill areas, seems thus to have been the historic role played by the Pindori *gaddi* as a Vaishnava centre. That this was a shrewd choice both of man and places is proven by the fact that, with years, Pindori became one of the most influential establishments of Vaishnavism in these parts, winning for itself the allegiance of numerous hill chiefs either directly or through offshoots which it implanted in these very hill areas.

The date of Bhagwanji is a matter which cannot be treated of with confidence, but he is made out by the tradition insistently preserved at Pindori to be a contemporary of the Emperor Jahangir, at least in his late years. In the legend that connects him with Jahangir, however, Bhagwanji does not figure alone but has by his side is foremost disciple, Narainji. The connection between Bhagwanji and this disciple of his is so firm that almost always they are mentioned together in the same breath. The Pindori *gaddi* is referred to in common parlance, as it is in most of the documents, as the *gaddi* of Bhagwan-Narain.

The most important of legends that is cited in proof of the miraculous powers possessed by Narainji is that in which he is administered seven cups of poison by the Emperor Jahangir at Lahore as a test of the ascetic's powers. The story given in the *Gurdaspur District Gazetteer, 1914* (page 16), is as follows :—

As might have been expected from his love of sport, Emperor Jahangir (1605-1627) apparently frequently visited Kahnuwan, and it was during one of his visits to that place that he first heard of the existence of the celebrated Bairagi fakir, Bhagwanji, and sought to make his acquaintance. The Bairagi avoided the king by miraculously burrowing through the ground to Pindori, some 16 km off to the north, and, on the king following him up, he effected in a similar way his escape to Dhamtal across the Chakki

in the Kangra District (Himachal Pradesh). In proof of the story, caves, or rather holes in the ground, are shown at Kahnuwan and Pindori. On a subsequent visit, Jahangir found Narainji, the disciple of Bhagwanji, at Pindori, but could get no answer from him since the fakir was then undergoing a penance in consequence of which he was not allowed to speak. He, therefore, took him to Lahore, where seven cups of poison were, it is said, administered to Narainji, a mere taste of which was sufficient to kill an elephant on the spot, but which caused him no hurt whatever. On Bhagwanji's arrival, he explained matters to the Emperor, who was so amazed at the occurrence that he had a temple constructed at Pindori in the shape of a Muhammadan domed tomb, which still exists, and endowed the shrine with a grant of a *jagir* of Rs 20,000. The deed is, it is said, still preserved at the daughter shrine of Dhamtal.

The story forms a central point in the tradition preserved at Pindori and several paintings show this incident in which Narainji, as it is narrated, came out triumphantly with the blessings of his preceptor.⁷

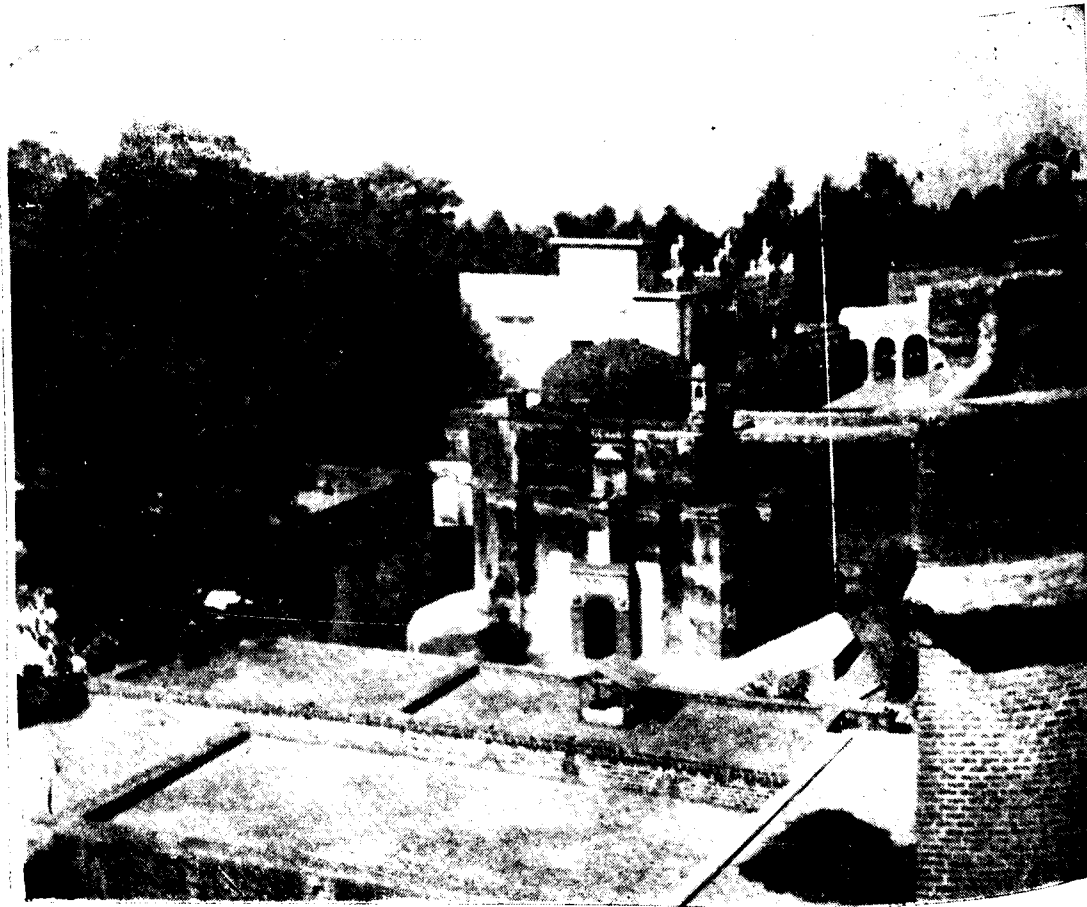
The direct line of succession to the Pindori *gaddi* is as follows : Bhagwanji (contemporary of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir, A.D. 1605-1627, he died about 1622), Narainji (..-1659), Mahant Anandghan (1659-1676), Mahant Hari Ram (1676-1718), Mahant Sukh Nidhan (1718-1727), Mahant Ram Das (1727-1761), Mahant Ram Krishan Das (1761-1778), Mahant Keshav Das (1778-1807), Mahant Narotam Das (1807-1843), Mahant Ganga Das (1843-1861), Mahant Radhika Das (1861-1887), Mahant Brahm Das (1887-1908) and Mahant Ram Das (the present occupant who succeeded to the *gaddi* in 1908).

The establishment of Pindori, known as 'Darbar Pindori Dham', has about 50—60 branches scattered all over India. It has received recognition and grants of land and some other privileges from the Mughal governors and Sikh rulers of the Punjab. Besides the Shri Bhagwan Narain Sanskrit College at Pindori, the Pindori Dham also runs a number of other educational institutions at different places. People from far and wide come to pay their homage at this shrine on the occasions of Janam Ashtami and Baisakhi.

7. This legend has been the subject of a recent study which draws attention to a passage in the *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri* (Memoirs of Jahangir) in which the Emperor himself refers to a test to which he subjected a Hindu ascetic who was under a vow of silence, interpreted by the adherents of the Emperor as one of arrogance. The account of the incident in the *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri* varies in matters of detail from that given in the tradition. The incident in the *Memoirs* is thus recorded as having taken place in these parts, not far from Nurpur and not at Lahore, and in the XVI year of his reign (1621-22) and no earlier. (Goswami, B. N., and Grewal, J. S., *The Mughal and Sikh Rulers and Vaishnavas of Pindori*, p. 9).

28. Poison being administered to Narainji of Pindori Dham under orders of Emperor Jahangir at Lahore





29. Tomb at Pindori Dham built by Emperor Jahangir

The old structure built by the Emperor Jahangir is, however, overshadowed by the magnificent new temple overlooking the marsh. There are 13 *smadhs* representing 13 *gaddis* or succession of gurus, of which the best known were Bhagwanji, his two *chelas* (disciples), Narainji and Baba Mahesh Dasji, and Baba Hari Ramji, who migrated to Dhamtal and founded a *gaddi* there. Close to the *smadh* of Baba Mahesh Dasji is a smaller one of his dog who is said to have survived a dose of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of opium administered to it by the Guru as an exhibition of his spiritual powers. The copper plate, on which are inscribed the terms of the grant of pasture by the Emperor Jahangir, is still preserved at the shrine.

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INDEX

A

Abd-us-Samad Khan, 31—34
 Achal, 31, 450
 Adampur, 459
 Adams, Captain, 41
 Adina Beg, 35, 36, 451, 458
 Ahmad Shah Abdali, 36
 Ajita Randhawa, 455
 Ajnala, 454, 459
 Akbar, 26, 199, 450, 452, 464, 466
 Alamgir II, 36
 Ala-ul-Mulk, 27
 Alexander Cunningham, 25
 Alexander, the Great, 72
 Ali Mardan Khan, 27
 Aliwal, 19, 35, 45, 46, 209, 338, 399
 Allahabad, 452
 Amar Dass, Guru, 451
 Ambala, 217
 Ambala District, 122
 Amritsar, 2, 3, 28, 38—40, 105, 124, 125, 129, 143, 145, 160, 170, 171, 191, 217, 255, 336—338, 340, 346, 372, 400, 444, 452—454, 456, 459, 467, 469
 Amritsar District, 1, 4
 Anandpal, 26
 Anantanand, 473
 Angad Dev, Guru, 64, 450, 455
 Anokh Rai, 31
 Arif Beg, 32
 Arjun Dev, Guru, 25, 47, 450, 451, 470
 Ashoka Maurya, 26, 209
 Atma Singh, 53
 Attock, 94
 Aurangzeb, 452
 Australia, 192

B

Babbi Mali, 126
 Babri, 126, 400
 Badhani, 400
 Badi-ul-Zaman, 8
 Badowal, 12
 Bahadur Shah, Emperor, 28, 30
 Bahadur Singh, 53
 Bahawalpur, 95
 Bahampur, 28, 30, 131, 143, 365, 399, 451, 458
 Bairam Khan, 26
 Bakloh, 4
 Bakrota, 143
 Balewal, 132
 Ball-Purian, 131
 Ballagan, 420
 Baluchistan, 94
 Balun, 4
 Banda Bahadur, 27, 28, 30—34, 453
 Bannu, 95
 Bari Doab, 4
 Bari Doab Canal, 27
 Baring, F. H., 73, 364
 Basoli, 7

Batala, 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 19, 28, 30—32, 37, 45—47, 49, 50, 57, 68, 72, 73, 78, 79, 91, 107, 111, 115, 125—127, 129—131, 141, 142, 155, 163, 164, 168—170, 176—178, 180, 189, 192, 194, 197, 201, 202, 207, 209, 217, 242, 245, 255, 256, 263, 270—272, 276, 278, 283—285, 287—290, 292—294, 295, 296, 322, 331, 334—336, 340, 341, 346, 350, 359, 362, 364, 365, 371—373, 380—382, 387, 391—395, 402, 405, 409, 411—413, 415, 423, 425, 430, 431, 433—435, 437, 442, 443, 446—449, 450, 452—454, 457, 467—469, 477
 Batala Division, 156
 Batala Tahsil, 3, 4, 12, 27, 61, 63, 70, 71, 73, 74, 81, 141, 145, 148, 149, 151, 152, 169, 258, 288, 291
 Bayzid Khan, 28
 Beas, 1, 3, 5—8, 10, 11, 30, 35, 63, 109, 130, 291, 468—470
 Bela Singh, 53
 Bengal, 42, 95
 Berian Bagh, 141
 Bhagat Singh, 53
 Bhagwanji, 471—475
 Bhagwanpur, 11
 Bhaini Mian Khan, 131
 Bhaini Sahib, 41
 Bham, 131, 180, 401
 Bhanguri, 132, 420
 Bharrari, 138
 Bhatinda, 57
 Bhatryan, 131
 Bhimpal, 26
 Bhoma, 126, 485

Bhumbl, 399
 Bihar, 56
 Binapur, 9
 Binod Singh, 33
 Bir Singh, 37
 Bombay, 287, 324, 444
 Brahm Nath, Baba, 463, 465
 Bucha Nangal, 8
 Buddhan Shah, 466
 Bukhari, 452
 Bungel, 401

C

Chak Andhar, 1, 2, 4
 Chakki, 7, 11
 Chakki, Stream, 1
 Chamba, 1, 64, 192, 217, 467, 468
 Chamba District, 5
 Chamba State, 4
 Chamiani, 30
 Chanakya, 25
 Chanchal Nath, Mahant, 463, 465
 Chand Kaur, 37, 456, 459
 Chandke, 118

Chandigarh, 107, 191, 328, 340, 379, 394, 405,
408, 444, 446, 458,
Chandke, 118
Chandragupta Maurya, 25, 209, 486

Chanlia, 10
Chataurgarh, 12
Chaunta, 9
Chenab, 452
Chheharta, 338
Chhina, 46, 118
Chuhar Chak, 118
Curzon, Lord, 43

D

Dabhawala, 125
Dacca, 95
Dadu, 94
Dalhousie, 4, 7, 46, 55, 143, 216, 217, 289, 295,
467
Damdama, 28
Dane, L., Sir, 361
Dane, L.W. Sir, 289
Dara Shikoh, 457
Daranagar, 71
Dargawal, 126
Darman, 388
Dayanand, Swami, 461
Deep Chand, 460, 461
Delhi, 32, 34, 39, 56, 70, 72, 444, 461
Dera Baba Nanak, 5, 68, 73, 107, 130, 131, 141,
168, 193, 195, 207, 209, 217, 263, 264, 270,
278, 322, 346, 359, 381, 420, 430, 431, 433,
452, 454, 455-457, 459, 460
Dera Ghazi Khan, 94
Dera Ismail Khan, 95
Dhaja Nath, Mahant, 463, 465
Dham, 53
Dhamrai, 8
Dhamral, 126
Dhamtal, 474, 475
Dhandoi, 131
Dhangu, 3
Dhar, 129
Dhar Block, 134
Dhar Kalan, 5, 129, 264, 270, 278, 322, 400,
420
Dhar-Khurd, 132
Dharam Singh, 53
Dharmasala, 217, 467
Dhariwal, 45, 46, 73, 74, 131, 151, 161, 163,
168, 169, 176, 177, 181, 193, 194, 202, 206, 217,
252, 322, 346, 359, 365, 366, 381, 393, 399,
401, 409, 411-413, 431, 433-435, 437, 442,
443, 447, 456, 457, 468
Dharmal, 472
Dhawan, 12
Dhianpur, 457
Dhoong/Doong, 132, 400
Dinanagar, 3, 36, 37, 50, 127, 141, 163, 165, 168,
202, 206, 207, 264, 278, 322, 346, 359, 365,
367, 371, 373, 379, 381, 395, 399, 401, 434,
435, 437, 443, 446, 447, 451, 457-459, 467,
472
Doda Chaudhary, 455
Dorangla, 131, 209, 278, 367, 399, 401, 458, 460
Draupadi, 25

Dula, 420
Dunera, 11, 37, 63, 132, 322, 400, 420
Duni Chand, Bhai, 32
Dunnetta, J. M., 294

F

Faridabad, 145
Farrukhsiyar, 31, 32, 453
Fateh Singh, 28
Fateh Singh Kanhaya, Sardar, 459
Fatehgarh, 459
Fatehgarh Churian, 37, 74, 125, 126, 127, 131,
132, 152, 155, 193, 195, 202, 207, 217, 264,
278, 322, 346, 347, 360, 365, 381, 401, 423
431, 433-435, 437, 452, 454, 456, 459
Fazal Khan, 27
Firozepur, 57, 124
Firoz Shah Tughlaq, 26, 460
France, 51

G

Galri, 28
Gandeki, 401
Gandhi Ji, 45, 48-51
Ganga Das, Mahant, 474
Ganga River, 80
Ganji, 209
Garhmal, 9
Germany, 51
Ghaniya Ki Bangar, 132
Gharota, 132, 400, 401
Gharota Kalan, 144
Ghazi Kot, 46
Ghazi-ud-Din, Wazir, 36
Ghazni, 26
Ghulam Ahmad, Mirza, 74, 75
Ghuman, 108, 151, 155, 202, 207, 460
Gobindpur, 381
Gobind Singh, Guru, 28, 69, 460
Gohot, 126
Gomate Nath, 465
Gopal Dass, Rai, 287, 288
Gorakh Nath, 463, 465
Goraya, 71
Govindgarh, 39
Govindwal, 450
Gujranwala, 94
Gujranwala District, 62
Gujrat, 94
Gujrat District, 122
Gumthala, 180
Gundoo, 53
Gurbaksh Singh Kanhaya, 37, 453
Gurdas Nangal, 32, 34
Gurdaspur, 1, 2, 5, 15, 25, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36,
38-42, 44-46, 48, 50, 63, 73, 74, 94, 118,
122-127, 129-131, 151, 156, 160, 161, 163,
164, 168, 170, 174, 177, 178, 180, 186, 189
193-195, 201, 202, 206, 209, 217, 241,
249-251, 256, 261, 265, 270-272, 276, 278,
281-283, 285, 287-290, 292-296, 300, 322-324,
326-328, 330, 334-336, 340-342, 346, 357-359
361-363, 365, 366, 368, 369, 371, 377-381,
385, 386, 388, 390-394, 399, 401-403, 405,
408, 409, 413-415, 423, 425, 426, 429-438,
442, 443, 445-448, 450, 452, 458, 460, 461,
467, 469-471

Gurdaspur Bhaian, 1
Gurdaspur District, 1, 4, 7, 11, 12, 50-52, 54,
57, 60, 62, 66, 69, 78, 81, 88, 89, 98, 100-102,
105, 115, 124, 127-129, 133, 136, 138, 142,
145, 152, 156, 161, 174-177, 180, 185, 191
210, 217, 247, 248, 252, 256, 258, 260, 265,
257, 269, 270, 294, 296, 300-302, 304-306
314, 320, 323, 324, 330, 337, 338, 357,
Gurdaspur Tahsil, 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 28, 55, 61,
64, 68, 70, 72, 73, 78, 81, 111, 115, 118, 131,
143, 144, 252, 258, 265, 288, 291

Gurdial Singh Dallewal, 34
Guriaji, Mahant, 1

H

Halsey, F., 142
Haquiqat Rai, Vir, 453
Harchowal, 108, 452
Harcourt, H., 48
Hardo Jhanda, 125
Hargobind, Guru, 28, 451
Hari Ram, Babaji, 475
Hari Ram, Mahant, 474
Harshavardhan, 26
Haryana, 145
Hasli, 36
Hasli Canal, 27
Hayatnagar, 126
Hazara, 95
Himachal Pradesh, 1, 4, 7, 55, 56, 134, 244
Himalayas, 10, 41
Hira Nath, 465
Hoshiarpur, 7, 30, 36, 57, 107, 123
Hoshiarpur District, 1, 4, 244
Hyderabad, 94, 455

I

India, 8, 429
Indus, 26
Indus-Yamuna, 7

J

Jafarwal, 209
Jag Deo, Raja, 71
Jagat Chand, Raja, 451
Jahandar Shah, 31
Jahangir, Emperor, 27, 474, 475
Jaimal Singh, Kanhaya, 37
Jaintipura, 46
Jaito Sarja, 125, 402
Jakhbar, 464
Jalalia, 8
Jallianawala Bagh, 46, 48
Jama Masjid, 46
James Naesmyth, 39, 41
Jamil Beg, 466
Jammu, 30, 41, 71, 91, 216, 217
Jammu and Kashmir, 1, 7, 56, 164, 192, 363,
462, 467, 468
Jammu Hills, 8
Jaspal Singh, Pathania, 469
Jasrath Khokhar, 36
Jassa Singh, Kalal, 36
Jaura Chatran, 126

Jayapal, 26
Jhako Lahri, 366
Jhang, 70, 94
Jharauli, 9
Jhelum, 26, 94
Jodhpuri, 463
Jognidernagar, 467
Jullundur, 2, 129, 147, 191, 217, 272, 369, 405,
452, 467, 468
Jullundur City, 444
Jullundur District, 57
Jullundur Division, 1
Jullundur Doab, 36, 458

K

Kabul, 37
Kahan Singh, 33
Kahnuwan, 27, 30, 31, 34, 107, 126, 129, 131,
145, 206, 264, 278, 322, 399, 401, 452, 465,
466
Kala Afghanan, 126, 180, 372, 374, 400, 443
Kala Kendra, 379
Kala Singh, 53
Kalanaur, 26, 28, 30-32, 128, 131, 193, 195, 264,
278, 322, 365, 402, 466
Kaler Kalan, 46
Kaleshwar, 466
Kanchan Nath, 465
Kangra, 1, 4, 7, 12, 25, 27, 36, 37, 192, 286, 467-
469, 474
Kangra District, 3, 144, 289
Kanpur, 144
Kapurthala, 1, 451, 452
Karachi, 94
Kartarpur, 28, 455
Kashmir, 26, 64, 67, 91, 143, 192, 216, 340, 461,
467
Kathaians, 25
Kathua, 1, 34, 141
Kesar Singh, 53
Keshav, Mahant, 474
Keshopur Chhamb, 8
Khalra, 338
Khanpur, 36
Kharak Singh, Maharaja, 37, 456, 459, 466
Khera, 126
Kiran, 8
Kirartpur, 80
Kiri Afghanan, 31
Kishankot, 118
Knox, 41
Kohat, 95
Kot Mirza Jan, 32
Kot Todar Mal, 53
Krishnadas Payahari, 473
Kulu, 7, 25, 41, 216, 467
Kunjar, 47, 131
Kurukshetra, 67

L

Labhoo, 53
Ladhupur, 53
Lahore, 2, 27, 30-32, 34, 36, 40-42, 94, 105,
374, 450, 452, 458, 468, 469
Lahore District, 62

Lahri Gujran, 442
Lakshmi Chand, 27
Lakhpat Rai, 34, 35
Lakshman Nath, 465
Lakshmi Dass, 454
Lal Dayal, Baba, 457
Lal Ji, Saint, 457
Lal Nath, 465
Lala Lajpat Rai, 49
Lamghan, 26
Lamin, 12
Larkana, 94
Lawrence John, 38
Lehna, Bhai, 450
Linlithgow, Lord, 51
Lohgarh, 28
London, 50
Ludhiana, 41, 170, 191, 424
Lyal, J.B. 287, 288
Lyalpur 62, 94

M

Machhander Nath, 463
Mackworth Young, 289
Madho Nath, 465
Madhopur, 6, 19, 39, 46, 143, 209, 400, 469
Madrach, 131
Maharashtra, 56, 460
Mahmud, Sultan, 26
Mahtab Kaur, 37
Majha, 31
Majhi, 63
Makhowal, 36
Malerkotla, 42
Malikpur, 127
Malwa, 35
Mamichak Ranga, 131
Manali, 216
Mand, 401
Mandi, 7
Manj Nath, Baba, 466
Mankot, 67
Marara, 10
Mardan, 95
Maedana, Bhai, 455
Markot, 74
Marrar, 399
Masanian, 125, 467
Masto, 8
Mayya Nath, 465
Meerut, 39, 144
Mehr Chand, 44
Mianwali, 94
Minto, Lord, 44
Mir Padma, 37
Mirzapur, 7
Mohammad Shah, 451
Mohan Bandari, 126
Montgomery, 94
Muhammad Amin Khan, 30
Muhammad Fazal Gilani, 453
Muhammad Ishaq, 31
Muhammad Kadiri Sheikh, 452
Muhammad Khan Mirza, 452
Muhammad Tughlaq, 209
Mukheshwar, 25
Mul Chand, 27
Multan, 26, 36, 94

Munshi, 53
Murad Khan, 36
Murad, Prince, 451
Muzaffargarh, 94

N

Nadir Shah, 35
Nainakot, 143
Nala Jandi, 9
Nam Dev, Baba, 460
Nanak Dev, Guru, 27, 28, 64, 451, 453, 455, 456
Narad, 8
Narain Dass, 461
Narain Ji, 27, 474
Narainwali, 8
Narara, 10
Narotam Dass, Mahant, 474
Narot Jaimal Singh, 1, 5, 63, 132, 143, 209, 264, 278, 322, 400, 401, 430, 433, 467
Narot Mehra, 306, 434, 435, 437, 462, 465
Nasir Ahmed, Mirza, 75
Nau Nehal Singh, Kanwar, 459
Naumuni, River, 8, 10
Naushahra, 399, 401
Naushahra Majja Singh, 118, 131, 209, 420
Naval Rai Pala Ji, 460
Nawal Shah, 94
Nepal, 56
New Delhi, 411, 412, 444
New Zealand, 192
Nicholson Brigadier-General, 40
Nikko-Sarai, 126
Noor-ud-din Hakim, Maulvi, 75
Nurpur, 37, 451, 469
Nurpur (H.P.), 141

O

O'Dwyer, Michael, Sir, 46

P

Pachhowal, 9
Pahar Singh, 28
Paharu Chak, 10
Pakhar Purah, 125
Pakhoke, 27, 28, 454, 455
Pakistan, 4, 8, 55, 62, 66, 68, 74, 83, 88, 91, 122, 145, 164, 167, 169, 462
Paniar, 8, 126
Parol, 34
Pataliputra, 25
Patha, 245
Pathania Rajput, 37
Pathankot, 1—3, 5, 7, 11, 17, 19, 23, 25, 45, 46, 55, 64, 91, 92, 129, 130, 132, 134, 141, 143, 151, 152, 170, 176—178, 180, 186, 192, 201, 207, 209, 216, 217, 242, 245, 255, 256, 262, 264, 270, 272, 276, 278, 284, 285, 287—291, 293, 296, 322—324, 328, 331, 334—336, 338—341, 346, 348, 350, 360, 362, 365, 366, 372, 374, 380, 381, 387, 388, 391—395, 400—402, 405, 415, 423, 425, 430, 431, 433, 435, 437, 442, 443, 447—449, 451—453, 456, 457, 460, 462, 467—470
Pathankot Tahsil, 1—4, 12, 15, 61—63, 81, 82, 108, 109, 168, 189, 192, 194, 209, 214, 258, 291, 306, 360

Patiala, 323, 335
Peshawar, 95
Pharwal, 132
Pindori, 10, 12, 27, 471, 473
Pokhar, 126
Poros King, 25
Prithviraj, 72
Punjab, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 25, 28, 32, 36, 38, 39, 43, 45, 57, 134, 136, 198, 301, 450, 451, 454, 458, 460, 465, 474
Puran Singh, 53

Q

Qadian, 4, 45, 50, 74, 108, 132, 151, 152, 193, 194, 197, 202, 209, 217, 322, 346, 348, 360, 362, 365—367, 374, 381, 401, 423, 434, 435, 437, 442, 443, 447, 452, 468, 469
Qamr-ud-Din Khan, 32
Qazi Abdul Haq, 30
Qila Darshan Singh, 169
Quetta, 95

R

R.M. Dane, Sir, 289
R. Temple, Sir, 287
Radhika Das, Mahant, 474
Rahila, 28
Raipur, 28, 29
Rajasthan, 71
Raj Devi, 37
Rajlali, 126
Ram Chandra, 71
Ramanand, 473
Ram Dass, Guru, 451
Ram Dass, Mahant, 474
Ram Deo, Rai, 452
Ram Krishan Dass, Mahant, 474
Ram Singh, 37
Ram Singh, Guru, 42
Ram Singh Pathania, 469
Rangoon, 42
Rania, 430
Ranipur, 132
Ranjit Singh, Maharaja, 37, 69, 105, 163, 453, 456, 458, 459, 466, 471
Ratta Dhar, 6
Ravi, 1, 3, 8, 10, 11, 25, 27, 28, 34, 40, 63, 105, 108, 109, 130, 291, 450, 454, 455, 467—469
Rawalpindi, 94
Riarki, 31
Rohila, 28
Ropar, 7, 123
Rustam Dil Khan, 30

S

Sailli Koliyan, 420
Salahpur, 132
San Francisco, 44
Sangala, 25
Sanghar, 95
Santa Singh, 53
Santokh Raj, 31
Saran Dass, 461
Sarna, 193
Sarti, 132
Satkoha, 125, 366
Satluj, 35, 36, 80, 452

Saunders, C.B., 3
Sayyad Muhammad Fazil-ud-Din Qadri, 30
Serah, 430
Shah Jahan, Emperor, 27, 105, 451
Shah Nahar, 27, 36
Shah Niamatullah, 452
Shah Niwaj Khan, 36
Shah Shuja, 37
Shahi Nahar, 32
Shahpur, 3, 94
Shahpur Kandi, 132, 144, 216, 322, 340, 400, 442, 443
Shakargarh, 3, 4, 52, 54, 56, 62, 63, 68, 88, 89, 138, 287—291, 293, 296, 388, 458
Shakti, 442
Shamas Khan, 28
Shamsher Khan, 452
Shankar Nath, 463, 465
Shardha Nath, 465
Sheikh Muhammad, Dayam, 31
Sheikh Mukhtar Ahmad, 44
Sheikh-ul-Hind, 30
Sheikhupura, 62, 94
Sher Shah Suri, 207
Sher Singh, 53, 453
Sher Singh, Raja, 3, 38, 371, 453
Shingarwan, 8
Shiwalik Hills, 6
Shyam Lal, 40
Sialkot, 3, 40, 56, 62, 63, 66, 68, 71, 88, 89, 94, 164, 453, 454, 561
Sikandar Lodi, 70
Sikandar Malik, 26
Sohal, 45, 46, 118, 155
Sohan Nath, 465
Sonepat, 145, 192
Spiti, 41
Sri Chand, Baba, 27, 28, 451, 454
Srigobindpur, 35, 68, 129, 132, 193, 209, 217, 263, 264, 278, 322, 346, 348, 360, 399, 430, 433, 435, 437, 452, 460, 468
Sriguriya Ji, 460
Srinagar, 75, 467
Subuddha Nath, 465
Sudhana, 9
Suhrah Khan, Faujdar, 31
Suja Singh, 470
Suja Singh, 45, 46, 132, 141—143, 169, 322, 346, 360, 366, 381, 400, 401
Sukh Nidan, Mahant, 474
Sukha Singh, 35
Sukher, 94
Sulakhni, 27, 454, 455
Sultanpur Lodhi, 30, 451
Surat Nath, 465
Swami Dayanand, 461

T

Talibpur, 206
Talibpur Pindori, 131, 195, 379, 470
Talwandi, 195
Tani Nath, 465
Taragarh, 443
Tara Singh, 453
Tarhari, 132
Tatar Khan, 452
Tehla, 53

488

GURDASPUR

Teja Kalan, 366
Teja Singh, Raja, 4, 289
Thakarpur, 41
Thanesar, 26
Thanewal, 118, 446
Tharparker, 94
Thikriwala, 12, 53
Tibber, 446, 447
Tibri, 126
Timur Shah, 36
Tind Nath, 465
Trilochanpal, 26
Tugalwala, 366

U

U.S.A., 44
Uch, 70
Udam Singh, 53
Udant Nath, 464, 465
Udanwal, 131
Udumbaras, 25
Ujh, 3, 8
Upper Bari Doab, 133, 470
Uttar Pradesh, 39, 56

Vadala, 9
Veer Singh, 53
Vikramajit, Raja, 71

V

Wazir Khan, 452
Wazirpur, 41
Willa Bajju, 131
Willa Teja, 126
Wiram, 126

W

Yahiya Khan, 34, 36
Yahiyapur, 35

Y

Zakriya Khan, 33, 35, 36, 451, 458

Z

G
V24316
N79

