

pig, nilgai and some other species. The punishment for infringement of the laws has been made more deterrent.

CLIMATE

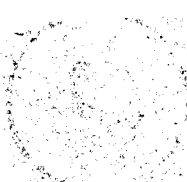
The climate of the Mainpuri district is characterised by a hot summer and a bracing cold season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season, from about the middle of November to February, is followed by the summer season, from March to about the third week of June. The succeeding period, lasting till about the end of September, constitutes the south-west monsoon seasons. October and the first half of November constitute the post-monsoon or transition period.

Rainfall—Records of rainfall in the district are available for seven stations for periods ranging from 80 to 95 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter. The average annual rainfall in the district is 710.9 mm. The rainfall in the district increases from the west towards the east and varies from 692.0 mm. at Shikohabad to 733.7 mm. at Karhal. About 88 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the south-west monsoon months, June to September, August being the month of the heaviest rainfall. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is appreciable. In the 50 year period, 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall, which was 154 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1917 while the very next year was one with the lowest annual rainfall which amounted to 39 per cent of the normal. In the 50 year's period, the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 10 years, two of them being consecutive. Considering the rainfall at the individual stations, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred thrice each at Mustafabad, Shikohabad and Gopalpur and once at Mainpuri and Karhal, three and four consecutive years of such low rainfall also occurred once at Bhongaon and Dhandaus respectively. The annual rainfall in the district was between 600 to 900 mm. in 33 years out of 50.

On an average there are 37 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number does not vary much over the district. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 281.2 mm. at Shikohabad on August 10, 1916.

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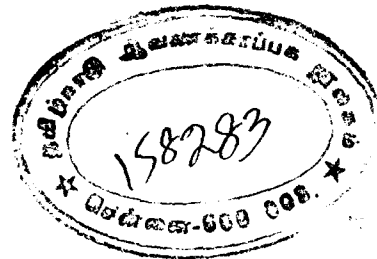
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o A statement regarding the frequency of annual rainfall in the district is given below for the period 1901 to 1950 :

Range in mm.	Number of years
201—300	1
301—400	1
401—500	5
501—600	4
601—700	10
701—800	11
801—900	12
901—1000	3
1001—1100	3



Temperature—There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Mainpuri and the records of this observatory may be taken as representative of the climatic conditions prevailing in the district in general. The Statement II at the end of the chapter gives the details about temperatures and relative humidities. After February there is continuous increase in temperature till May which is generally the hottest month. The mean daily maximum temperature in May is 42.2°C and the mean daily minimum is 26.2°C . The summer season is intensely hot and on individual days the maximum temperature rises upto 46.0°C . Hot dry dust-laden winds, blow often during the summer. With the onset of the monsoon in the district and by about the third week of June, there is an appreciable drop in the day temperature. However the nights during the monsoon season are as warm as nights in the summer. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the third week of September, there is a slight increase in day temperature but the nights become cooler. After October both the day and night temperatures decrease rapidly till January which is generally the coldest month, with the mean daily maximum at 22.7°C and the mean daily minimum at 7.7°C . During the cold season the district is affected by cold waves in the wake of passing western disturbances and on such occasions the minimum temperature occasionally drops down to about a degree or two below the freezing point of water and frost occurs.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Mainpuri was 49.2°C on June 1, 1961. The lowest minimum was 1.7°C on January 11, 1927.

Humidity—During the south-west monsoon season the relative humidity is high, exceeding 70 per cent on the average. After the withdrawal of the monsoon humidity decreases and by summer the air is very dry with humidity less than 25 per cent during day time.

Cloudiness—During the monsoon season and for brief spells of a day or two during the cold season when the district is affected by passing western disturbances, the sky is heavily clouded. In the rest of the year, the sky is mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Winds—Winds are generally light, throughout the year and blow on a large number of occasions from directions, between south-west and north-west. In the period May to September, winds blow from directions between north-east and south-east.

The following statement gives mean wind speed in km./hr in the district :

Month	Speed in km./hr
January	3.0
February	3.9
March	4.7
April	4.9
May	5.8
June	6.2
July	4.7
August	3.8
September	3.7
October	2.4
November	2.2
December	2.3
Annual	4.0

Special Weather Phenomena—During the monsoon season, depressions from the Bay of Bengal move in westerly to north-westerly direction through the central parts of the country and some of them affect the weather over the district causing widespread heavy rains and gusty winds. In the cold season western disturbances sometimes affect the weather of the district. Thunderstorms and duststorms occur in the latter part of the hot season. Rain during the monsoon season is often associated with thunder. Fog occurs during the cold season, the average incidence being about two days per season.

The following statement shows the special weather phenomena of the district:

Month	Mean number of days with				
	Thunder	Hail-storm	Dust-storm	Squall	Fog
1	2	3	4	5	6
January	0.6	0.1	0	0.1	0.6
February	1.1	0.1	0	0	0.1
March	1.8	0	0.1	0	0
April	1.3	0	0.5	0.1	0.1
May	1.5	0.1	1.0	0.3	0
June	2	0	1.3	0.2	0
July	3	0	0.1	0.1	0.1
August	3	0	1.0	0	0
September	3	0	1.0	0.1	0
October	0.2	0	0.1	0	0
November	0.1	0	0	0	0
December	0.4	0	0	0	0.5
Annual	8.1	0.3	3.3	0.9	1.4

STATEMENT I
Normal and Extremes of Rainfall

Reference Page No. 15

Station	No. of years of date	Annual															Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	15	16	17		18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mainpuri	50a	15.2	12.9	9.4	6.1	12.7	56.4	193.0	231.7	137.7	22.6	3.3	7.9	708.9	155	42	256.3	August
	b	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.7	1.3	3.4	10.2	11.0	6.7	1.0	0.3	0.7	38.9	(1949)	(1918)		18, 1949
Mustafabad	50a	13.2	13.5	7.4	4.8	8.4	57.1	204.7	213.4	136.9	23.9	3.3	7.9	694.5	198	32	279.4	October
	b	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.8	3.0	9.9	9.8	5.9	0.9	0.3	0.7	35.0	(1936)	(1918)		1, 1910
Shikohabad	50a	15.5	12.9	7.9	6.3	8.1	61.5	202.4	205.7	133.9	25.9	3.8	8.1	692.0	175	37	281.2	August
	b	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.8	3.2	10.0	10.7	6.2	0.9	0.3	0.7	36.7	(1936)	(1913)		10, 1916
Bhongaon	50a	15.0	14.0	10.4	4.6	11.7	53.1	202.7	236.7	143.3	24.6	3.6	7.9	727.6	146	42	214.6	October
	b	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.5	1.1	3.2	10.2	11.2	6.9	1.0	0.3	0.7	38.7	(1916)	(1918)		4, 1960
Karhal	50a	13.5	11.2	9.4	5.8	9.1	65.3	209.5	233.4	144.3	22.6	3.8	5.8	733.7	162	47	203.2	August
	b	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.8	3.3	10.0	10.7	6.7	1.0	0.3	0.6	37.3	(1947)	(1905)		3, 1887
Dhandaus	50a	12.7	13.0	7.4	2.5	8.1	44.2	215.4	242.1	150.6	18.0	2.3	4.3	722.6	194	25	223.5	July
	b	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.7	2.8	9.9	10.9	6.3	0.8	0.2	0.4	35.4	(1917)	(1918)		17, 1927
Gopalpur	50a	14.5	13.5	9.1	4.6	7.1	51.8	210.8	220.7	133.9	21.6	2.0	7.9	697.5	164	29	224.8	October
	b	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.7	3.1	9.9	10.3	6.1	0.8	0.2	0.5	35.3	(1917)	(1918)		1, 1910
Mainpuri (District)	50a	14.2	13.3	8.7	5.0	9.3	55.6	205.5	226.2	140.1	22.7	3.2	7.1	710.9	154	39		
	b	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.9	3.1	10.0	10.7	6.4	0.9	0.3	0.6	36.8	(1917)	(1918)		

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more) *Based on all available data upto 1970

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more) *Based on all available data upto 1970

STATEMENT II
Normal Temperature and Relative Humidity

Reference Page No. 16

Month	Mean daily maximum temperature Centigrade degrees	Mean daily minimum temperature Centigrade degrees	Highest Maximum recorded Centigrade degrees	over recorded Date	Lowest Minimum recorded Centigrade degrees	over recorded Date	Relative humidity	
							Hours	
							08.30	17.30
January	22.7	7.7	30.6	Jan. 27, 1946	-1.7	Jan. 11, 1927	80	53
February	26.0	10.1	34.4	Feb. 16, 1922	-0.6	Feb. 2, 1905	70	40
March	32.5	14.9	41.7	March 31, 1945	5.0	March 6, 1945	52	29
April	38.5	20.9	45.6	April 30, 1948	11.1	April 2, 1903	37	23
May	42.2	26.2	47.8	May 24, 1943	15.6	May 6, 1955	35	23
June	40.9	28.6	49.2	June 1, 1961	18.9	June 8, 1949	51	37
July	35.0	26.7	46.5	July 9, 1903	18.3	July 16, 1934	79	69
August	33.1	25.9	42.2	August 2, 1918	21.7	August 15, 1947	85	76
September	33.7	24.7	40.6	September 4, 1905	16.7	September 29, 1942	80	69
October	34.0	18.9	40.6	October 2, 1896	10.6	October 31, 1932	67	50
November	30.0	11.7	36.1	November 8, 1948	2.2	November 19, 1926	63	44
December	24.8	8.2	31.1	December 15, 1959	-1.1	December, eg. 1926	75	52
Annual	32.8	18.7					65	47

NOTE—Extremes of temperature upto 1974

CHAPTER II HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The history of the district may be traced back to remote antiquity. The presence of certain old indigenous people like Ahirs, Bhars, Chorus and Meos, who probably represent the remnants or the descendants of the aborigines, amply testifies that in primitive times the region including this district was inhabited, though the bulk of the area was covered with forest and only clearings here and there served as human habitations¹.

The mute memorials in the shape of fragments of masonry, broken pottery, etc. which have been found in a number of *kheras* or mounds on which stand many modern villages and towns bespeak the enjoyment of settled life and civilisation by this area since very early times².

The earliest people of the Aryan stock, who settled in this region were probably the Krivis, a Rigvedic tribe³. They originally resided on the banks of the Sindhu and the Chenab and seem to have moved from there to the east, across the Yamuna, to the area which afterwards came to be known as the Panchala⁴, lying within the bounds of Madhyadesa, a stronghold of Vedic culture and civilisation⁵. Their dominion roughly extended to the present districts of Bareilly, Badaun and Farrukhabad and the adjoining parts of Uttar Pradesh⁶ including portions of this district. Extending from the Ganga in the west to the Saryu in the east, it had two divisions—the northern, with its capital at Ahichhatra and the southern, with its capital at Kampilya, now in the Farrukhabad district⁷.

According to Pauranic tradition, Brihadvasu, son of Ajamidha, a Bharata king of Turvasu family, was the founder of the kingdom

1. Atkinson, E. T. : *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. IV, *Agra Division*, p. 262
2. Neave, E. R. : *Mainpuri-A Gazetteer*, p. 146
3. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, p. 257; Macdonnell, A. A. and Keith, A. B. : *Vedic Index of Names and Subjects*, Vol. I, pp. 125-126
4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 250
5. Rapson, E. J. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. I, pp. 45, 49; Macdonnell and Keith, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 125-126
6. Raychaudhari, H. C. : *Political History of Ancient India*, p. 59
7. Sircar, D. C. : *Studies in the Geography of Ancient and Medieval India*, (Delhi, 1960), p. 92; S. Muzaffar Ali : *The Geography of the Puranas*, (New Delhi, 1966), p. 135

which later came to be known as South Panchala with Kampilya and Makandi as its capitals. It stretched from the south of the river Ganga as far as the river Carmanvati (Chambal)¹, obviously including this district. The Panchalas are said to have been so named after the five sons of Bhrimyasva, the fifth in line from Brihadvasu. They were nicknamed 'the five capable ones', Panchalam², their territory, also being designated Panchala as it represented the kingdom for the maintenance of which five capable persons were enough³. According to some scholars, the Panchalas were a composite people made up of five Rigvedic tribes, or they represented a confederation of five such tribes⁴. The Panchalas were closely associated with the Kurus. The Kuru-Panchalas together were regarded as pre-eminent, *parexcellence* among the people living in Madhyadesa⁵. Their territory was the home of Brahmanism, they were noted for their orthodoxy, they spoke the best Sanskrit and possessed a learned academy, the Panchala Parishat, which had its centres in their cities⁶. They were examples of good manners and pure speech⁷.

After the death of Bhrimyasva, the kingdom was divided among his five sons, each receiving a small principality⁸. But Divodasa, an important king of this dynasty extended the kingdom considerably and probably integrated all the five units under him⁹. During the reign of Sudasa, probably fifth in descent from Divodasa, the kingdom rose to great eminence. He was the chief participant in the celebrated "battle of ten kings" and defeated the confederate tribes¹⁰. It is not known if he attempted any consolidation of his conquests¹¹. His successors were weak but in due course the kingdom of South Panchala was revived by its ruler, Nipa, with whom another dynastic change occurred and his descendants were called Nipas¹². Brahmadata known as Pitrvartin, was a prominent king of this dynasty. He is

1. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 296-297; Pargiter, F. E.: *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, pp. 113, 274
2. *Ibid.*, p. 275; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 293
3. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 275
4. Rapson, *op. cit.*, p. 105
5. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 257
6. Macdonnell and Keith, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 165
7. Tripathi, R. S. : *The History of Ancient India*, p. 43
8. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 117
9. *Ibid.*, p. 275; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 293
10. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, pp. 117, 281; Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 29
11. *Ibid.*, p. 30
12. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, pp. 117, 281

said to have made a *yogatantra* on the instructions received from his preceptor, Jaigisavya. Tradition has it that he revised and rearranged Vedic and exegetical texts. He is credited with having fixed the Kramapatha of the *Rigveda* and of the *Atharvaveda*, while his minister, Kandarika, that of *Samveda*¹. The other kings of this dynasty were Visvak-sena, Udak-sena and Bhallata². Ugrayudha of the Dvimidha dynasty, forced Prishtha, a prince of north Panchala to seek shelter at Kampilya, by killing his grandfather and annexing his realm. He also overthrew Nipas and killed Janamejaya, their king, whose death brought an end to the dynasty. The celebrated Paurava prince, Bhishma, killed Ugrayudha and restored to Prishtha his ancestral kingdom³. It seems that South Panchala also came under his sway⁴. Prishtha was succeeded by his son Drupada, who was a class-mate of Drona, son of Bharadvaja, a great sage. The two received instruction in military science from Bharadvaja and in other disciplines from another sage, Agnivesha⁵. Prince Drupada had assured Drona to favour and help him on becoming king⁶, but after ascending the throne he did not keep his word and showed discourtesy to his friend, Drona, who felt offended and decided to take revenge⁷. He asked the royal princes—sons of Pandu and Dhritarashtra to march against Drupada, who was defeated and captured and his country was overrun. An agreement was made between the victors and the vanquished according to which the conquered realm, south of the river Ganga, known as South Panchala, reverted to Drupada and the North Panchala was retained by Dronacharya⁸. Mainpuri district was, in all probability, a part of Drupada's dominion.

To avenge his defeat by Drona, Drupada practised austerity to beget a son, who would be able to fulfil his desire. As a result of performing *tapa*, he was favoured with a son, named Dhristadyumna⁹.

In course of time the Pandava brothers had to leave the kingdom due to the hostile attitude of their cousin, Duryodhana, son of

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 164-65; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 296
2. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 167
3. *Ibid.*, p. 166; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 298, 300
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 294-295; Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 117
5. *Mahabharata*, Adi-parv, Ch. 129/42; Ch. 130/40-42
6. *Ibid.*, Ch. 130/46
7. *Ibid.*, Ch. 130/64-73
8. *Ibid.*, Ch. 137/28-63
9. *Ibid.*, Ch. 183

Dhritarashtra, the king of Hastinapur. While wandering from place to place, they happened to arrive at the capital of South Panchala at the opportune moment of the *Svayamvara* of the king's daughter, Draupadi. Arjuna, the third Pandava, who impressed Drupada with his skill in archery and other qualities, won the king's daughter for himself and his brothers. The alliance proved a turning point in the fortunes of the Pandavas¹. They were offered a part of the kingdom with Indraprastha as its capital², but they were not allowed to live in peace. In a game of dice, Yudhishtira lost his kingdom to Duryodhana and had to go in exile for thirteen years spending the last year incognito³. After the expiry of the period of their banishment, the Pandavas, not receiving their due share in the kingdom, were forced to fight at Kurukshetra, the war known as Mahabharata, for their claim, about 1400 B.C.⁴ Drupada sided with the Pandavas. The Somakas and the Srinjayas, the remnants of the Panchalas, appear to have joined Drupada in the war⁵. Participation in the Mahabharata war gave Drupada an opportunity to pay off past scores by getting Drona killed at the hands of his son, Dhristadyumna, who himself was put to death by Ashvatthama, son of Dronacharya⁶. After the great war the Pandavas ruled over this region probably till the reign of Janamejaya⁷.

Practically nothing is heard in the post-Mahabharata period about the two divisions, the common name, Panchala, being used for the entire region. The principality of North Panchala seems to have merged into or become a dependency of the kingdom of South Panchala, and Kampilya, which had till then been the capital of the South Panchala, came to be its chief city⁸. It was one of the prominent centres of Brahmanical learning and culture⁹. No details about the kings who ruled this region are available and in the absence of any recorded material the history of this tract relating to this period is obscure.

1. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, pp. 66-67
2. Majumdar, R. C. : *Ancient India*, p. 72
3. *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parv, Ch. 76/21-24; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 305
4. *Mahabharata*, Vana-parva, Ch. 140/24-29
5. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 298
6. *Mahabharata*, Drona-parv, Ch. 192/62-63
7. Bajpai, K.D., *Ahichhatra*, p. 6
8. Law, B. C. : *Panchalas and their Capital Ahichhatra*, p. 7
9. Mookerji, R. K. : *Ancient Indian Education*, pp. 134, 367

That the Kuru-Panchala alliance continued, is testified by the tradition that Janamejaya, son of Parikshit, a Kuru king, performed a great sacrifice on the banks of the river Arind at Bardan, now known as Parham, a corrupt form of Parikshitgarh, of this district which formed part of Panchala. The occasion for the sacrifice was, allegedly provided by the death of Parikshit, of a snake bite. A masonry tank said to have been built by Janamejaya to mark the site of the sacrificial pit, known as Parikshit kund, still exists at this place. Close to this village a very large and high *khera* containing the ruins of a fort and some stone sculptures has been found. It is said to date back to the time of Parikshit. A popular belief is that as a consequence of the virtues of that sacrifice, snakes are still harmless in this place and its neighbourhood¹.

According to the *Chhandogya Upanishad* the whole of the northern doab, including the area covered by the South Panchala, of which this district formed part, suffered from natural calamities such as floods, locusts and hailstorms². The capital of the Kurus being washed away, Nichakshu, fourth in line from Janamejaya, shifted his capital from Hastinapur to Kausambi³. Their migration across the South Panchala and passage through that region brought about a fusion of the Kurus and the Panchalas about 820 B.C.⁴

For about three centuries the history of this region is shrouded in obscurity except that in the sixth century B. C. Bimbisara, a prominent ruler of the Haryanka dynasty of Magadha, extended his kingdom up to Kannauj, obviously including the present district of Mainpuri⁵. In that period Panchala ranked as a minor power. In the list of the sixteen premier states it figures as the tenth⁶. Again little is known about the history of this district till about the middle of the fourth century B. C. when the territory was annexed to the Nanda empire of Magadha, probably in the reign of Mahapadma, who was a great military genius⁷. This tract which was under the Panchalas was in all probability, a part of the Nanda dominion as its dependency. It appears from the

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 246
2. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 325
3. Ghosh, N. N. : *The Early History of Kausambi*, p. 5
4. Pargitor, *op. cit.*, p. 285
5. Majumdar and Pusalker : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, p. 11
6. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 84
7. Sastri, K. A. N. (Ed.) : *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, p. 17

Arthashastra of Kautilya that during this period the Panchala territory had its own republican form of government, the title of the head being raja¹. The prosperous condition of this area, the land being exceedingly fertile and the government efficient, was in striking contrast with the conditions prevailing in the area directly governed². It testifies to the fact that Nanda allowed a considerable amount of autonomy to the Panchala region including this district. In the Mauryan period Panchala retained its separate entity probably as a vassal of that empire³. Asoka, the most important king of the dynasty, patronised Buddhism⁴ and took keen interest in the regulations meant for a spiritual life⁵. A number of mounds containing the ruins of Buddhist shrines, the *viharas* at places like Anjani, Jasrao and Asauli, prove that due to the efforts of Asoka, the district came under the influence of Buddhism⁶.

With the downfall of the Mauryas, a new dynasty, known as Sunga, came to power under Pushyamitra (184-148 B.C.) who revived the Brahmanical religion⁷. During this period the region, covering this district, which continued to be known as Panchala, was overrun by the Yavanas (Greeks), along with the other parts of the empire, as mentioned in the *Yuga Purana*, a section of the *Gargi Samhita*⁸. The Yavanas stayed for a short time in this region and the last Yavana king, Menander, probably ruled over the South Panchala region⁹ which, according to Patanjali, extended to the east as far as the Kuru kingdom and to the south-east to the territory of the Surasena¹⁰.

The Greeks were followed by the Sakas and the Kusanas¹¹. In the beginning of the Christian era or the first century B. C., it is likely that the region containing this district passed over to the administration of a Saka Kshatrapa, Ranjuvuala, who made Mathura his capital¹². His coins are also found in this district.

1. *Ibid.*, p. 173; Shamasastry, R. : *Kautilya's Arthashastra*, p. 407

2. Sastri, K.A.N. (Ed.): *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, p. 21

3. *Ibid.*, p. 173

4. Bhandarkar, D. R. : *Asoka*, p. 135

5. Mookerji, R. K. : *Asoka*, p. 67

6. Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities and Inscription in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, pp. 92-93

7. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 95-97

8. *Ibid.*, p. 196

9. *Ibid.*, p. 114

10. Puri, B. N. : *India in the time of Patanjali*, p. 81

11. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 120

12. Puri, *op. cit.*, p. 51; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 121, 163

Thereafter the district came under the sway of the Kusanas. Kaniska, the greatest of the Kusana emperors, conquered the whole of Northern India¹. A number of coins of his reign and of that of Huviska, one of his descendents have been found at Mainpuri. A hoard of Indo-Sassanian coins discovered at Eka, a village in this district, prove that they had some kind of ties with the Kusanas.

Hereafter, no details are available about the history of this district till the time of Harsha, except that it became part of the kingdom of the Guptas and the Maukharis in succession. During Harsha's reign (606—647 A. D.), the Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen Tsang, travelled from Ahichhatra to Sansika². It may be presumed that during his journey he might have traversed a part of the Mainpuri district. He does not mention any place of this district probably because none was known to possess any significance from the Buddhist point of view.

For more than half a century after the death of Harsha, the history of this region as that of the rest of northern India spells anarchy and confusion³. In the first quarter of the eighth century a very powerful monarch, Yashovarman, occupied the throne of Kannauj, and ruled from 725 A. D. to 752 A. D.⁴ After his defeat by Lalitaditya of Kashmir, the history of the region, including this district, is completely obscure⁵. Another king who ascended the throne of Kannauj was Vajrayudha, whose accession may be placed about 770 A. D.⁶ His existence is borne out by an incidental reference made by Rajshekhar, a dramatist of the Pratihara court, in the *Karpuramanjari*. He mentions Kannauj as the capital of Vajrayudha, the king of Panchala, in reference to the record of a travel of a merchant named Sagardatta, who had gone on business to the royal city⁷. The reference may signify that Panchala was the name of a country, of which Kannauj was the capital. It is evident that the country comprising the present district was occasionally called Panchala.

The Ayudhas were ousted about the beginning of the ninth century A. D. by Nagabhatta II (805—833 A. D.), a Gurjara Pratihara king⁸, and the district continued for more than a century under the

1. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 122

2. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol. I, p. 332

3. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 186

4. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 316

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*, p. 317

7. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 212

8. *Ibid.*, pp. 230-233

subordination of the Pratiharas¹. In 1018 A. D. Mahmud of Ghazni, after sacking and plundering the magnificent temples of Mathura which were known for their fabulous wealth², marched across Mainpuri on his way to Kannauj. No resistance seems to have been offered to his advance in this district which probably had no holy or rich town to attract the conqueror's fanaticism or greed³. On reaching Kannauj, Mahmud gave a death-blow to the already tottering Gurjara-Pratihara power⁴. The reputed Arab scholar, Alberuni, came to India in the wake of Mahmud's invasions and wrote a book on India in which he has referred to Panchala as one of the nine great kingdoms⁵.

During the period of transition between the Gurjara Pratiharas and the Gahadvalas several small principalities sprang up. Taking advantage of the unsettled conditions then prevailing, the Rashtrakutas made themselves independent at Budaun. In an undated Budaun inscription, Vodamayuta (Budaun) is specifically described as the ornament of the land of Panchala, of which this district formed part, and is praised so profusely as to prove that it was the only prominent city in the possession of Chandra, a Rashtrakuta king. The omission of Kannauj, which was considered the most glorious city of that period in the inscription, implies that Kannauj presumably was not included in the territory of the Rashtrakutas⁶.

In the last decade of the eleventh century Chandradeva Gahadavala (1089—1100 A. D.)⁷ established his authority over Kannauj after defeating the Rashtrakuta ruler of Panchala⁸. The last great king of this dynasty was Jayachandra (1170—1194 A. D.), famous alike in legend and history, whose power and extensive jurisdiction struck even the Muslim historians⁹. In 1194 A. D. he was defeated and killed by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri at Chandawar¹⁰ in Agra district on the bank of the Yamuna near Mainpuri. The victorious army proceeded southward along the left bank of the Yamuna towards Rapri

1. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, pp. 325-26
2. Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. II, pp. 14-15, 44-45
3. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 140
4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 37; Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 233
5. *Ibid.*, p. 213; Sachau, E. C. : *Alberuni's India*, Vol. I, p. 298
6. Niyogi, R. : *History of the Gahadavala Dynasty*, pp. 18, 21-22
7. *Ibid.*, p. 4; Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 328
8. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 313
9. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 312
10. *Ibid.*, p. 329

which is situated about 72 km. from Mainpuri and attacked the petty chieftain of that place at Kharka about 5 km. north-west of Rapri and defeated the ruler. To commemorate the victory the name of the place was changed to Fatehpur. The conquests of Ghuri left the district in a state of anarchy¹.

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

By 1206 A. D., Ghuri had completed the conquest of the lower western doab, including this district², which thereafter became a part of the sultanate of Delhi. The same year, before his departure, Ghuri bestowed the government of the conquered tracts including this district, on his trusted lieutenant, Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1206—1210)³. During the regency of Aibak, the Hindu chiefs of this district tried to resist the Muslim over-lordship of this region, but their attempts to recover their lost domains failed as a result of Aibak's ceaseless campaigns against them⁴. Rapri in this district became the headquarters of an *iqta* or fief and continued to be the seat of government for several centuries under successive Muslim rulers⁵.

In 1259, Bhongaon in this district was given away as a fief to Malik Sher Khan, a nephew of Balban, by the then sultan, Nasir-ud-din Mahmud (1246—1265). He held it till 1260⁶.

In 1312, Malik Kafur, the veteran commander of sultan Ala-ud-din Khilji (1296—1316), stayed at Rapri while returning with huge quantities of rich booty from Malabar and Dwar Samudra in the Deccan. He founded here a mosque with an inscription which is an eulogy of Ala-ud-din's reign⁷. Subsequently upon Kafur was conferred the fief of Rapri by the sultan⁸.

In 1392, the district became the centre of intense political activity when Bir Bhan, the *muqaddam* of Bhongaon, supported by the Tomar raja of Gwalior and Sarvadhara of Etawah, raised the standard of revolt against sultan Muhammad Shah Tughluq (1390—1394). But

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 249
2. Habibullah, A. B. M. : *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, (Allahabad, 1961), map facing page 86
3. *Ibid.*, p. 86
4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 625
5. *Ibid.*
6. Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Adi Turk Kalin Bharat*, (Hindi text), (Aligarh, 1956), p. 79
7. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 625-626
8. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 143

the large force despatched by the sultan under Islam Khan, the vizier, crushed the rebellion, and devastated the district and its adjoining areas¹.

In 1393, Bir Bhan again rose in arms and was joined by Sarvadhara and Abhai Chand, the *muqaddam*. The sultan sent another expedition under Mukarrab-ul-Mulk, the governor of Jalesar, in Etah district, to deal with the rebels². When the two parties came in sight of each other, Mukarrab-ul-Mulk adopted a conciliatory course, and by promises and engagements, induced the *rais* to submit. The duped insurgents were then taken to Kannauj, where they were treacherously put to death with the exception of Sarvadhara of Etawah who made good his escape³.

Muhammad Shah died in 1394, and was succeeded by his son, Nasiruddin Mahmud Shah, who appointed Khwaja Jahan Malik Sarwar as the governor of Jaunpur. Malik Sarwar succeeded in extending his sway as far as Rapri in this district⁴, with the result that the administration of the district passed into the hands of the Sharqi rulers of Jaunpur.

A quarrel then arose the same year between sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud and Nusrat Shah, grandson of Feroze Shah Tughluq, the latter aspiring for the imperial throne. The two rivals fought with each other till 1398, when Iqbal Khan, a court noble, and a third aspirant for the throne, came upon the scene. Iqbal Khan (1398—1405) by means of violence and treachery, displaced Mahmud Shah and firmly established himself at Delhi.

Khwaja Jahan Malik Sarwar (1394—1399) was succeeded by his adopted son, Malik Mubarak Shah, who, by adopting the title of Sultan and striking coins in his name, deepened the rift with Delhi which had been caused earlier on account of the Jaunpur ruler's not rushing to the aid of the Delhi Sultan in 1398, when Timur had invaded the country. Iqbal Khan on capturing power at Delhi, had planned to attack Jaunpur and his army actually came face to face with the forces of Mubarak Shah at Kannauj in 1400-1401. These develop-

1. Elliot and Dowson: *The History of India as Told by Its Own Historians*, Vol. IV, p. 26; Sirhindi, Yahya Bin Ahmad Bin Abdullah: *Tarikh-i-Mubarakshahi*, Eng. trans. by K. K. Basu, (Baroda, 1932), pp. 160-161
2. Lal, K. S.: *Twilight of the Sultanate*, (Benlly), p. 8; Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, p. 27
3. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 8
4. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 46

ments, coupled with factional rivalry for the throne of Delhi, encouraged the Hindu chiefs of Mainpuri to declare independence. Their efforts to rule their territory themselves could not, however, succeed and they were defeated by Iqbal Khan near Patiali in Etah district in 1400-1401¹.

In 1405, Iqbal Khan was killed in the Punjab and the nobles at Delhi invited the exiled sultan, Nasir-ud-din Mahmud Shah, to re-occupy the throne on which he remained till his death in 1412². No important event took place so far as this district is concerned till Taj-ul-Mulk, the vizier of Khizr Khan, the Delhi ruler, marched in 1420, against the turbulent Hindu chiefs of the doab, sacked Mainpuri and destroyed the village of Dihuli which was their stronghold³.

In the years 1429-30, Qutb Khan, son of Hasan Khan, held the fief of Rapri which was resumed by Mubarak Shah (1421—1434), the successor of Khizr Khan, in 1429-30, when the former's complicity was suspected in the series of revolts organised by the Rajput chiefs against the authority of the sultan⁴. During the reign of Ala-ud-din Alam Shah (1444—1450) Rapri came again into the possession of Qutb Khan⁵ and Rai Pratap or Pratap Rudra held Bhongac⁶. Rai Pratap according to Sir H. E. Elliott was a son of Raja Sangat, the great grandson of Chatir Deo, the brother of Prithvi Raj, the last Chauhan king of Delhi, who was vanquished in 1193 by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri. The father of the Emperor's vizier, Hamid Khan had some years before, carried off the wife of Rai Pratap and plundered his estates. The Rajput chief, implacable in his vendetta, offered support to Ala-ud-din who needed assistance to strengthen his position as a ruler. The Rajput demanded as the price of his help the death of Hamid Khan. Ala-ud-din unwisely embraced the injured husband's cause and gave orders for Hamid Khan's execution, but the vizier escaped and seizing Delhi offered it to Bahlul Lodi. Ala-ud-din retired to Budaun and soon after resigned his crown to Bahlul, who, in 1450, assumed the imperial title. Thus the abduction of the

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 150; Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, pp. 46-47
2. *Ib id.*, p. 54
3. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 81; Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 47; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 151
4. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 151; Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, p. 68; Sirhindi, *op. cit.* p. 222
5. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 124
6. *Ibid.*; Pandey, A. B.: *The First Afghan Empire in India*, p. 52

Chauhan Rani of Bhongaon was an important cause of the downfall of the Saiyed dynasty.

The accession of Bahlul Lodi (1450-1488) did not affect Rai Pratap's status as he was confirmed in his position by the sultan. In 1452, during a visit to Rapri, Bahlul encountered Qutb Khan's intransigence but the defiant chief was pardoned as quietly as he was punished and restored to his jagirs. The chiefs of Bhongaon and Rapri promised allegiance to the sultan and were left in full possession of their territories. The same year, when sultan Bahlul was preoccupied in the task of consolidating his empire, Mahmud Sharqi (1451-1457), son and successor of Ibrahim Sharqi, attacked Delhi¹. After an indecisive engagement at Etawah, a treaty was made between the parties through the good offices of Rai Pratap and Qutb Khan. Under the truce Mahmud had to relinquish his claims to Shamsabad². But in 1457 Muhammad Shah Sharqi, who had succeeded his father Mahmud, attacked Shamsabad and occupied it. This success disturbed Rai Pratap and he went over to the victorious party of Muhammad Shah Sharqi by shifting his loyalty from sultan Bahlul³. The same year, war broke out between Muhammad Shah Sharqi and his brother Husain, in which the former lost his life. Bahlul made a truce with Husain Sharqi⁴ and Rai Pratap again professed loyalty to sultan Bahlul on the advice of Qutb Khan⁵.

In 1461, when Bahlul was in Shamsabad, Rai Narsing, son of Rai Pratap came to pay his respects to the sultan. Dariya Khan Lodi, the governor of Sambhal and a close relation of sultan Bahlul, killed Rai Narsing at Shamsabad to avenge the humiliation which he had suffered earlier at the hands of Rai Pratap who is said to have wrested the kettledrum and drum from him⁶. This heinous crime went unpunished and Rai Pratap and Qutb Khan, once again went over to the side of Husain Sharqi⁷. In 1479, another battle was fought between Jaunpur and Delhi near Rapri in which Bahlul emerged victorious⁸.

1. Lal, K. S., *op.cit.*, p. 135

2. *Ibid.*, p. 138

3. *Ibid.*, p. 140

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 141-142

5. *Ibid.*, p. 142

6. *Ibid.*, p. 143

7. *Ibid.*

8. *Ibid.*, p. 148

Bahlul died in 1488 and his son, Nizam Khan, ascended the throne in 1489, with the title of Sikandar Shah (1489-1517). His youngest brother Alam Khan was governor of Rapri at this time, and had asserted his independence by assuming the royal title¹. After celebrating his accession, Sikandar Lodi marched against Alam Khan, who shut the gates of Rapri, but, unable to stand a siege, fled. Sikandar conferred Rapri on Khan-i-Khanan Farmuli², the sultan's guardian in youth, who, in 1502, aided Sikandar against Binayak Deo of Dholpur and remained consistently loyal to his new master. In 1494, Barbak Shah, brother of Sikandar and governor of Jaunpur, who had turned hostile, was defeated by the sultan. With Barbak's death came the end of the Jaunpur kingdom, after an independent existence for a century, and thereafter Mainpuri and the surrounding doab ceased to be the battle-ground for the armies of the two kingdoms during Sikandar's reign³.

Sikandar Lodi died in 1517, and was succeeded by his son, Ibrahim Lodi (1517-1526). In 1518, the emperor's brother, Jalal Khan, asserted his claim as an independent ruler of Jaunpur and fought, but was defeated by the sultan and later on executed⁴. This brought to an end the vexed politics which had from time to time in the past influenced the fortunes of this part of the country.

In reorganising the affairs of the empire after defeating Ibrahim Lodi at Panipat in 1526, Babur (1526-1530) took the fief of Rapri from Husain Khan Nuhani, an Afghan chieftain, and conferred it upon Muhammad Ali Jang⁵, a veteran soldier and ex-governor of Bhira and Sindh. By 1527 the Rajput chiefs of northern India had stood united against Babur which furnished an opportunity to Husain Khan Nuhani to re-occupy Rapri⁶. But in the same year, when Babur sent Muhammad Ali Jang to eject Husain Khan Nuhani from the place, the latter offered unavailing resistance, and finally escaped from there. Muhammad Ali again entered Rapri and occupied it in April, 1527⁷.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 163-164

2. *Ibid.*

3. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 155

4. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 203

5. Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Mughal Kalin Bharat*, Hindi Text, Trans. of *Babur-nama*, (Aligarh, 1960), pp. 203-209

6. *Ibid.*, p. 235

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 255-256

In February, 1530, Babur stayed at Rapri where he was inspired to compose some devotional poems based on the thoughts contained in the *Walidia Risala* written by Ubaidullah Abrar Naqshbandi, a famous Sufi saint of Khorasan, employing a peculiar style, known as *Tarkeeb-i-Khati*¹.

After Babur's death in 1530, civil strife broke out everywhere and the region covered by the present district of Mainpuri and the adjoining parts turned into a theatre of war. The chaos and confusion which overtook the Mughal empire, enabled the Rajputs of Mainpuri to assert their independence, which was facilitated by the rise of the Afghans. Humayun (1530—1556), the son and successor of Babur, was unable to withstand these rivals. In 1540, when he was defeated by Sher Shah Suri at Kannauj, his escape was interrupted by a force consisting of 3,000 cavalry, mainly of Chauhan Rajputs who had assembled at Bhongaon in this district. They fought with the imperialists inflicting heavy casualties on them but they were ultimately routed².

During Sher Shah's rule (1540—1545), the chiefs of this district and the adjoining parts remained loyal to the sultan and maintained peace and tranquillity in this region³. Rapri was often visited by Sher Shah and his successors. The Phatak Ahirs and Mewatis who lived along the borders of the Yamuna in the Mainpuri district gave Sher Shah much trouble, and the latter had to send a force consisting of 12,000 horse to crush them. In 1556, the exiled Mughal emperor, Humayun, came to India and Mainpuri again came under the Mughals⁴.

During the early years of Akbar's reign some parts of the present district had turned hostile and complaints were received of their want only plundering the people of the region⁵. In 1562, Akbar proceeded to restore order. People, numbering 4,000, came to offer resistance and a severe fight took place in the village Paronkha of pargana Bewar in tahsil Bhongaon of this district. The emperor himself was hit by seven arrows of which five pierced his shield, but the insurgents were overpowered⁶.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 284, 303

2. Sir Haig and Burn, R.: *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, (New Delhi, 1957), p. 35; Ahmad, Khwaja Nizamuddin: *The Tabqat-i-Akbari*, Eng. trans. by B. De, Vol. II, p. 74

3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 632

4. *Ibid.*, Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 416

5. Smith, V. A.: *Akbar the Great Mogul*, (1958), p. 39

6. *Ibid.*

Under Akbar's regime (1556—1605), the Mainpuri tract was included in the subah of Agra and the *mahals* were divided among the sirkars of Agra and Kannauj. The *mahal* of Rapri in the present tahsil of Shikohabad, was in the sirkar of Agra and possessed a brick fort. This *mahal* consisted of the parganas of Ghiror in tahsil Mainpuri, Mustafabad in tahsil Jasrana and Shikohabad, having a cultivated area of 4,77,201 bighas and was assessed to a revenue of 1,35,08,035 dams. The area was chiefly inhabited by Chauhan Rajputs, who were bound to send a force consisting of 200 horse and 4,000 foot to the imperial army.

The rest of the district was within the sirkar of Kannauj. Bhongaon, the headquarter of the present tahsil was noted for a brick fort and a tank called Somnat "full of water extremely sweet." It had a cultivated area of 3,37,105 bighas and was liable to pay 45,77,010 dams as revenue and 53,316 dams as *suyurghal*. Among the residents, Chauhan Rajputs were prominent. They were expected to supply 1,000 horse and 10,000 foot to the imperial army. Patti Alipur in the present tahsil of Bhongaon was assessed at 11,53,632 dams on 38,418 bighas and was chiefly inhabited by Rajputs. It supplied 20 horse and 500 foot. Sauj in tahsil Karhal, was the home of the Dhakara clan of Rajputs, evidently a warlike rather than a cultivating race. This *mahal* had a cultivated area of 64,070 bighas and fetched 12,00,000 dams, supplying 200 horse and 3,000 foot. The *mahal* of Kuraoli in tahsil Mainpuri had a cultivated area of 40,445 bighas and was assessed to 14,09,988 dams with a liability of 20 horse and 1,000 foot. The inhabitants were mainly Rajputs. The *mahal* of Etawah in the sirkar of Agra included the parganas of Karhal and Barnahal. The chief castes were Chauhans and Bhadauriya Brahmins and the whole *mahal* paid 1,07,39,325 dams and contributed 2,000 cavalry and 15,000 infantry.

After Akbar's death in 1605, the district underwent no major change under his successors and this peaceful state of affairs remained unaffected till Aurangzeb's death (1707)¹.

MODERN PERIOD

After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, a keen contest ensued for the imperial throne, providing opportunities to adventurers to try their luck in grabbing territory. Muhammad Khan, a Targash Afghani,

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 159

born about 1665 A. D. and settled at Mau-Rashidabad (a suburb of Farrukhabad town), emerged at this stage as a powerful leader of a band of free-booters and was destined to play a very significant role in the subsequent history of the Mughal empire¹. He helped Farrukhsiyar in the battle of Samugarh near Agra² with 12,000 men, and was rewarded with honours and jagirs in Bundelkhand and Farrukhabad. He saw several ups and downs in the subsequent regime of Muhammad Shah (1719—48). His Farrukhabad jagir included practically the entire district of Mainpuri³.

In 1737, a few years before Muhammad Khan's death, a large force under Baji Rao's lieutenants, Malhar Rao Holkar and Pilaji Jadhav, crossed the Yamuna near Rapri and laid siege to Shikohabad. The Governor, Lalji Khatri, saved the town from destruction by paying a sum of one and a half lakh rupees⁴. The invaders were routed subsequently by Burhan-ul-Mulk Saadat Khan and driven back with heavy losses across the Yamuna. Muhammad Khan Bangash died in 1743, leaving his estate without a good administrator.

In 1748, emperor Muhammad Shah was succeeded by his son Ahmad Shah, who appointed Safdar Jang, as nawab vizier of Avadh. The inroads of the Marathas, and the Abdali raids between 1743 and 1750 further weakened the central authority and the provincial governors came to be invested with dangerous degrees of power⁵. The most influential of them were Ali Muhammad, the Rohilla, and the new vizier, Safdar Jang. On the death of Ali Muhammad in September⁶, 1748, after an abortive attempt to overthrow his successor by other means, an imperial firman was issued conferring on Qaim Khan, son and successor of Muhammad Khan Bangash, the *mahals* of Bareilly and Moradabad which had been usurped by Suddullah Khan, son of Ali Muhammad. Qaim Khan set out for the conquest of his new territories with a large force but was defeated and killed by Hafiz Rahmat Khan. Safdar Jang at once attempted to

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 159

2. Sir Haig, Wolesley and Burn, Richard : *Cambridge History of India*, (Vol. IV—*The Mughal Period*), p. 328; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 159

3. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 159; Sir Haig, W. and Burn, R., *op. cit.*, pp. 352-53

4. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 159; Srivastava, A. L. : *Avadh ke Pratham Do Nawab*, p. 149; *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, p. 356

5. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 160

6. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 117

seize the Farrukhabad nawab's territories, which included Mainpuri, but Ahmad Khan, son of Qaim Khan, collected his troops and in 1750 defeated Safdar Jang¹. Ahmad Khan entrusted the administration of the various parganas to his brothers and relations, Shikohabad (including Sakit, Kuraoli and Alikhera) going to Azim Khan and Bhongaon and Bewar to Majhle Nawab². Shadi Khan was sent to occupy Kora and Allahabad, much to Safdar Jang's alarm. Fortunately the fort of Allahabad was stoutly defended by Rajendra Giri Gosain and a band of Naga Sanyasis. Safdar Jang in the meantime completed his preparations and with the assistance of the Marathas he completely routed the Pathans and Ahmad Khan fled to Kumaon where he remained till 1752, when a fresh invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali made the Marathas and Safdar Jang anxious to patch up peace with the Pathans. It was agreed that the Bangash territories were to be evacuated on Ahmad Khan's undertaking to discharge the debt of rupees thirty lakhs due from Safdar Jang to the Marathas as pay for their services, and ceding, as security for the debt, sixteen and a half of the thirty three parganas comprised in the Bangash territories³. The management of the whole territory, however, remained in the hands of Ahmad Khan who paid the surplus revenue, after deducting the cost of management and the pay of the troops, to the two Maratha agents stationed at Kannauj and Aliganj in Farrukhabad and Etah districts, respectively. These payments continued to be made till the battle of Panipat in 1761, when the Marathas were routed⁴. No list is given of the parganas ceded to the Marathas, but they certainly included Shikohabad, Karhal and Barnahal in the present district of Mainpuri, for in 1754 these are stated to have been taken from the Marathas by Hafiz Rahmat Khan⁵.

In the same year (1754), Safdar Jang died and he was succeeded by his son, Shuja-ud-daula, as the nawab-vizier of Avadh. Towards the end of 1756, Ahmad Shah Abdali again swooped down on the plains of Hindustan and plundered Delhi, Mathura and Agra in 1757. Before quitting Delhi, Abdali planned and despatched an expedition against the rebellious provinces of Avadh and Allahabad, in accordance with his scheme which embraced the restoration of the

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 160

2. *Ibid.*; Srivastava, A. L. : *Mughal Empire*, p. 455

3. *Ibid.*; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 161

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

empire to Alamgir II and winning back for him the lost provinces of the empire from the hands of rebel governors. For various reasons Shuja-ud-daula was the first target of this scheme¹. Ahmad Khan Bangash also had not yet given up his long cherished desire of adding the Allahabad subah to his paternal dominions and through his envoy he instigated Shah Abdali to send an army against Shuja-ud-daula. Despite all this Abdali passed over the ambitious claims of the Bangash chief. Imad-ud-Mulk Ghazi-ud-din was asked to plan an expeditionary force against Shuja-ud-daula with some of the Mughal princes at the head of the army. Accordingly, the Delhi princes, Hidayat Baksh and Mirza Baba were sent to lead the expedition. The army reached Agra on 23rd March, 1757 and, crossing the Yamuna on 25th March at the Rajghat ferry, proceeded towards the town of Mainpuri and reached there on 31st March, being joined on the way by various allies². Here a five days' halt was made to chalk out a plan of action in consultation with Ahmad Khan Bangash before proceeding to Avadh. Their aim was to drive out the Marathas from the doab, including Mainpuri. On the approach of this army the Maratha officials fled away from Etawah and Mainpuri and the whole of this region came back to its legitimate master³. But hardly did this accession of territory prove profitable as the Abdali troops, habitually given to loot and plunder, ransacked the defenceless inhabitants and no civil administration could be established⁴. While the two princes were thus occupied in the doab, news came that Shuja-ud-daula had despatched an army to oppose the Delhi armament and that it was advancing with great speed towards Farrukhabad. This shook Ahmad Khan Bangash and he took leave in order to save his own capital. Gradually the Rohillas also left the imperial cause and Ghazi-ud-din Imad-ul-Mulk's mission failed. Shuja-ud-daula also asked for Maratha aid which was readily given because of the Maratha interests in the doab, particularly in the regions of Mainpuri and Farrukhabad. After minor skirmishes between the two parties, peace was concluded in June, 1757, and the Marathas recovered their lost possessions in the doab, including Mainpuri district⁵. With the Maratha defeat at the battle of Panipat in 1761, their dominions in the doab, including Bhongaon, Mainpuri,

1. Srivastava, A. L.; *Shuja-ud-Daulah*, Vol. I, p. 32

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 33-34

3. *Ibid.*, p. 35

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 36-49

Etawah were given over to Hafiz Rahmat Khan. Dunde Khan established himself at Shikohabad along with a few other *mahals* in the neighbourhood¹.

Shuja-ud-daula entered into a treaty of alliance with the British in August, 1765 agreeing to pay 50 lakh rupees, and all his dominions were restored to him in order to create a strong buffer state to check the Maratha in roads in the central doab, including Mainpuri district. But the Marathas, who had recovered after their set-back in 1761, re-entered the doab and plundered the country upto Rohilkhand in 1771. The parganas of Etawah and Mainpuri held by Hafiz Rahmat Khan after 1761, were recovered by the Marathas in December, 1770² and were occupied by their garrisons. In 1772, the Marathas were expelled by Sir Robert Barker from Rohilkhand and their reverse prompted Shuja-ud-daula (in 1774) to round off his dominion by the addition of this region of the doab. No opposition was made by the weakened Maratha garrisons to hold it and they withdrew from these districts³. Anup Giri Gcsain was appointed deputy governor of the entire mid-doab in his possessions (districts of Etawah, Etah, Mainpuri, etc.) and the territory was farmed out to him for an annual sum of fifty-one lakhs of rupees, payable in eleven instalments⁴. From this time onwards Mainpuri and other parganas of the neighbourhood continued to form part of the dominions of the Nawab vizier of Avadh and were finally ceded to the British in 1801⁵.

Mainpuri became the headquarters of the civil administration and small cantonments were established there and at Shikohabad. In 1803, the second Anglo-Maratha war broke out and such a formidable confederacy of the Marathas under Daulat Rao Sindhia and other Central India chiefs was formed against the British, that they launched a counter-offensive against them simultaneously in Northern India and the Deccan. In August that year Lord Lake advanced from Kanpur through Kannauj and Mainpuri against General Perron, the custodian of Agra and Aligarh on behalf of Sindhia, and defeated him at Aligarh⁶. While the British force was engaged at Aligarh, a body

1. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 117

2. Srivastava, A. L.; *Shuja-ud-daulah*, Vol. II, p. 162; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 162

3. *Ibid.*, p. 162; Srivastava, A. L.; *Shuja-ud-daulah*, Vol. II, pp. 236-238

4. Srivastava, A. L.; *Shuja-ud-daulah*, Vol. II, pp. 275-276

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 236-238

6. Sardesai, G. S.; *New History of Marathas*, Vol. II, p. 414; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 163; Dharma Bhanu : *History and Administration of North-*

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of 5,000 Maratha horses under M. Fleury, one of General Perron's lieutenants, suddenly appeared before Shikohabad and made a fierce attack on the cantonment which was commanded by Lt. Col. Cunningham¹, but the Marathas were repulsed with quite heavy losses². Two days later, another assault was made forcing the British commander to capitulate. The Marathas then burnt and pillaged the cantonment. On receiving this news Lord Lake despatched a detachment of cavalry under Col. Macan to Shikohabad but the Marathas avoided an engagement, and withdrew precipitately across the Yamuna³.

In November, 1804, Jaswant Rao Holkar, who was eluding the British, came to Farrukhabad where his army was overwhelmed by General Lake, and he fled through Mainpuri attacking the cantonment there. His force was, however, driven out and thrown across the Yamuna by the British cavalry under Capt. Skinner who had been following him from Farrukhabad in hot pursuit. Except for these two years or thereabout of turmoil the district generally remained peaceful after the advent of British rule in 1801 till the freedom struggle of 1857.

At the beginning of 1857, the commissioner of the Agra division was on tour in the Mainpuri district when his attention was drawn to a mysterious distribution of chapatis (loaves of bread) being made with astonishing rapidity. Nothing could be elicited from the bearers who appeared to know no more of the purport of the symbols than of the fact that on the receipt of a cake, five more were to be prepared and forwarded without delay to villages further in advance along the line of the Grand Trunk road where they could be called for. In this manner the cakes travelled often over 160 to 200 miles in a night. He saw some more which had that morning been delivered on the Etawah side of Mainpuri⁴. On the following day the commissioner heard of them at the extremity of Etah and Aligarh. Enquiries were made as to the meaning of this mysterious movement but beyond a conjectural tracing of its source in Bundelkhand or Nagpur and the fact that it was generally acknowledged to be of Hindu origin, the

1. Dharma Bhanu, *op. cit.*, p. 21

2. *Ibid.*

3. Neave, *op. cit.*, pp. 163-64

4. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 164

recipients being for the most part Hindus, nothing was discovered¹. In January, the sullen demeanour of the troopers of the 3rd Light Cavalry, who formed part of the commander-in-chief's escort through Mathura and Bharatpur was noticed and commented on, but these seemed to have been the only indications of the coming storm², and went unheeded.

On the 11th May, a broken telegraphic message announcing the revolt of the 3rd Cavalry at Meerut reached Agra, and the following day, the tidings arrived at Mainpuri³. A consultation among the officers in the station was held, and it was decided to send away the women and children to Agra, but only one family actually left. The alarm which prevailed among the Christian community in every military station after the rebellion at Meerut was to a certain degree shared by the residents of this station also⁴. Rao Bhawani Singh, the uncle of Raja Tej Singh of Mainpuri, and claimant of the *raj* volunteered to raise a body of Chauhan Thakurs and with his assistance, Mr. John Power, the magistrate and collector of Mainpuri, began to enlist a force with which he hoped to resist any attack by the revolutionaries.

On 19th May, the first symptoms of disaffection were displayed by the detachment of the 9th Native Infantry stationed at Mainpuri; on that day a sepoy who was guarding the *malkhana* fired his musket and shot a crow. The sepoy was immediately taken into custody and ordered to be escorted to Aligarh, the headquarters of the regiment, but was released by the guard *en route*. From then onwards the sepoys on guard assumed a threatening the defiant demeanour.⁵

In the afternoon of 21st May, Martin, head clerk of the collectorate, received a message that his wife was reaching Mainpuri as there was much excitement and alarm at Kanpur. She arrived with three other ladies in the evening. At about 5 A.M. on 22nd May, two sergeants, Montgomery and Scott, came galloping and roused everyone, informing that a strong force of freedom fighters was heading towards Mainpuri from Aligarh. On receiving this news Martin's wife left for Agra immediately and on the way did not come across anything untoward. Late at night on that date, news arrived at Mainpuri of the uprising at Aligarh where the sepoys of the 9th Native

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 164

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. Rizvi, S. A. A. (Ed.) : *Freedom Struggle in Uttar Pradesh* Vol. V, pp. 636-37

5. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, pp. 637-638

Infantry had murdered their officers and appealed to their brethren at Mainpuri to follow the same course. Arrangements were at once made for the removal of the ladies and children to Agra. It was ultimately decided that the detachment should be removed to Bhongaon where they should not get information about the revolt at Aligarh. Accordingly Lt. Dekantzow was sent on the advance with the main body and Lt. Crawford followed him after leaving a small guard at the treasury and at the quarter guard¹. About four o'clock the following morning Lt. Crawford galloped in and reported to the magistrate that his men had broken into open rebellion and had fired at him and added that he believed Lt. Dekantzow to have been killed². Lt. Crawford declared his own intention of riding off to Agra, as nothing more could be attempted. In this opinion Cocks concurred and as the sepoys were now approaching the station, firing their muskets and shouting, he and Rev. Kellner drove off with Lt. Crawford. John Power still hoped that Lt. Dekantzow must have escaped as Lt. Crawford had not actually seen him fall, and resolved to do what he could to prevent the outbreak from spreading to the city. With this object he proceeded to the bridge over the Isan siver on the Grand Trunk road accompanied by his brother, James Power, who had returned after escorting the ladies. At the bridge they were joined by Rao Bhawani Singh with a small force of horse and foot and by Dr Watson with sergeants Mitchell, Scott and Montgomery of the road and canal departments and Mc Glone, a clerk in the magistrate's office. Here they took up their position, in the hope of keeping the highway open and of preventing a junction between the approaching revolutionaries and their supporters in Mainpuri city.

In the meantime the rebels had returned to the station, firing into and plundering the houses of sergeant Montgomery and Dr Watson and breaking open and looting the magazine of the rear guard from which they carried off all the ammunition. Lt. Dekantzow was forced to accompany them as their prisoner, and while the rear guard was being plundered, his life was in great danger.³ Then they turned towards the Kachahri where they were met by the jail guard, who were prepared to oppose and fire at the sepoys. But Dekantzow prevented them from firing as they would have been outnumbered and badly mauled by them if they had tried to do so. Here a fear-

1. Neave, *op.cit.*, pp. 165-66; Rizvi, *op.cit.*, p. 638.

2. Neave, *op.cit.*, p. 166

3. Rizvi, *op.cit.*, p. 638

ful scene occurred. The fighters sepoys tried to force open the iron gates of the treasury and were opposed by the jail guard and Dekantzow who thrust himself between the treasure chest and the sepoys and made every effort to dissuade them from looting the government property. The fighters left the Kachahri for their lines after taking some public money (about Rs 6,000) from the quarter-guard. They left in the direction of Etah. While this scene was being enacted in the treasury and the Kachahri, John Power with some six other Europeans stood upon the bridge helplessly, greatly concerned about Dekantzow's fate. He intended to visit the treasury and help Dekantzow but was deterred from going by the urgent advice of Rao Bhawani Singh who informed him that it was impossible to face the hostile sepoys with the small force at their disposal. Moreover, he received a note from Dekantzow through a trusted emissary, dissuading him from going to the treasury, as the sepoys were getting quieter and that his presence would only make the matters worse¹.

Rao Bhawani Singh advised Power and others to go to the *gurhee* (fortress) as their houses were not safe from the attacks of the sepoys. The party, accordingly, took shelter there. Bhawani Singh then left for the Kachahri from where he brought Lt. Dekantzow to the *gurhee* (fortress)². Dekantzow joined Power and again took possession of the Kachahri but on his return he found the whole of the *malkhana* (room containing the unclaimed and confiscated property) looted, the sepoys having helped themselves to swords, iron bound sticks and other weapons which had accumulated during ages past³.

In the afternoon, the treasure amounting to rupees three lakhs was placed in the *gurhee* (fortress) under the charge of Rao Bhawani Singh and Power then took up his position in the court which was garrisoned and fortified. The garrison consisted of all those officers who were at the bridge at the time of the loot and some 200 matchlock men and a body of horse belonging to the irregular cavalry. These men were sent for patrolling and reconnoitring in order to prevent the sepoys from sacking the Kachahri in which the Europeans had taken shelter. So great was the fear of these fighters that no business was transacted and the revenue and criminal administration collapsed.

1. Rizvi, *op.cit.*, p. 639; Neave, *op.cit.*, p. 168

2. Rizvi, *op.cit.*, p. 639; Neave, *op.cit.*, p. 169

3. Rizvi, *op.cit.*, p. 638-39; Neave, *op.cit.* p. 168

The revenue collection was suspended as every collector was worried about himself and nobody bothered to realise the dues. Thanadars sent no reports. There was anarchy and confusion all over the district. The authority of the British, in their own words, was only confined within the range of their muskets. Not a day passed without the apprehension of the British being attacked by the rebels who were passing through Mainpuri on their way to Delhi¹. After the revolt at Fatehgarh, the fall of Etah to the revolutionaries and the sack of Etawah, John Power reported on 25th May that, though he was not an alarmist, he considered the position of the British to be very unpleasant. Lying on the high road to Agra, and Delhi, Mainpuri was the focus on which converged the revolutionaries from Jhansi, Kanpur, Farrukhabad and Gwalior on their great journey to Delhi² which they considered to be a pilgrimage. Every now and then there were bloody engagements between the British force and the refractory villages. One such engagement took place in the village, named Ghinsupur, where the British force had gone to liquidate the revolutionaries. The Avadh Irregular Cavalry, encamped at Kuraoli, showed signs of defiance³. On the 29th May, Maj. Hayes, military secretary of Sir Henry Lawrence and Capt. Carey of the 17th Native Infantry joined this cavalry. The former had come by forced marches from Lucknow to be under the orders of the Lt. Governor and had under his command three or four troops of an Avadh Irregular Regiment with Capt. Carey, Lt. Barbor of 20th Native Infantry and Fayrer, a volunteer. Maj. Hayes intended ordering his force to march to Fatehgarh, whether he had proceeded from Gursahaiganj, but being dissuaded from doing so by Col. Smith of the 10th Native Infantry and Probyn, the magistrate, at the instance of the troopers of the 10th Native Infantry, had sent orders to Lt. Barbor to march to Bhongaon on the 30th May and meet him at Kuraoli on the 31st⁴. The troopers arrived at Bhongaon on the 30th but their behaviour was so defiant that Lt. Barbor reported them in a letter which was intercepted by the troopers. On 31st May they broke out into open rebellion. In the meanwhile news arrived that they had not marched on the 31st May and Maj. Hayes wrote to enquire the cause but received no reply. So he prepared to go to Bhongaon personally but as he was proceeding some of his troopers

1. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, pp. 639-640

2. *Ibid.*, p. 640

3. *Ibid.*; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 169

4. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 170

arrived. They reported that the force had halted at Bhongaon because it was tired but was now proceeding to Sultanganj, for the night halt. The troopers had forcibly taken their officers to accompany them and the party which had met Hayes at Mainpuri was only sent to deceive him and to decoy him to Kuraoli. Maj. Hayes and Capt. Carey left Mainpuri on 1st June to join their force at Kuraoli and they found the troopers drawn upon the plain at Kuraoli to receive them. They saw danger to their life and turned back to escape. The troopers spread over the plain in pursuit. Maj. Hayes was overtaken, and receiving a deep sword wound cut across the face fell dead from his horse. Capt. Carey managed to escape and got safely back to Mainpuri. About the same time that Hayes was killed, the insurgents killed Lt. Barbor and Fayrer and marched towards Delhi¹.

When Maj. Hayes and Capt. Carey had left Mainpuri on 1st June, the loyal garrison guarding the Britishers at Mainpuri was joined by Maj. Raikes at the head of 70 troopers of the 1st Gwalior Cavalry. Some six or eight Sikhs from various disbanded Corps and about ten of the Native Infantry also joined the garrison. Power then proceeded to raise a body of mounted police and succeeded in collecting about a hundred well armed and mounted men. This force which was placed under the command of Lt. Dekantzow was surprised by the main body of freedom fighters at Bhongaon. The Britishers lost a number of men and Lt. Dekantzow received a severe wound on his head. The rebels then attacked the police station, the thanadar ran away and all the persons guarding the station were killed. They also plundered and burnt the tahsil².

Shortly afterwards sergeants Wills and his wife and children were wounded by the revolutionaries at the Nabiganj toll barrier, and the former died soon after his removal to Mainpuri³. "In the early part of June", writes Powers, "our position became extremely precarious, as all the surrounding districts broke out into open revolt and Mainpuri was the only spot in which authority was upheld. The worst information came from Kanpur, Fatehgarh, Lucknow and Jhansi. The Grand Trunk road swarmed with mutineers proceeding to Delhi whose spies intrigued about us and whose piequets

1. Neave, *op. cit.*, pp. 170-171, Rizvi *op. cit.*, p. 640; Sen, S. N. : *Eighteen Fifty-Seven*, pp. 183-184.

2. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 641

3. *Ibid.*

reconnoitred our position at Kachahri. The thanas, tahsils, schools, bungalows and chowkis along the Etah branch of the Grant Trunk road were burnt and all Mustafabad was in rebellion. Every night villages were seen burning in all directions around us, and every hour brought notice of some heavy affray having occurred, or the commission of some fearful murder¹. The police administration in the district was either overthrown or the members of the police force had themselves started revolting in different parts of the district. Towards the end of June the British authority in the district virtually came to an end. The mounted police also revolted and the telegraph connections with other districts were cut².

On 28th, June news came from Karhal to the British that the Jhansi insurgents were coming and on June 29th the advanced guard of that force actually reached Mainpuri town³. This consisted of the 14th Irregular Cavalry and the 12th Native Infantry. The jail was broken open on 29th with the help of Rao Bhawani Singh's men who had defected to the side of revolutionaries, the jail guards and jail officials, and that marked the fall the what little authority had remained with the British⁴. The collectorate *sowars* and mounted levies started plundering the government property. The British now hurriedly evacuated the district and prepared to move to Agra, leaving the government treasury to the care of Raja Tej Singh, (who till this time had posed as saviour of the British), and Rao Bhawani Singh.⁵ Some days after, the Sagar revolutionaries consisting of nearly five hundred sepoys on foot, and one thousand *sowars* with two large guns were reported to be arriving at Mainpuri. Power finding himself unable to oppose the revolutionaries immediately left the district for Agra⁶. The Raja took possession of all the guns, muskets and everything which was left in the office. Raja Tej Singh had been deprived the three-fourth of his estates by the Settlement of 1840, and though a money compensation had been paid, the wound caused to the honour of the house by the curtailment of its hereditary dignities still rankled, and finally provoked the Raja into taking

1. Neave, *op.cit.*, p 172

2. *Ibid.*, p. 172-73

3. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 646

4. *Ibid.*

5. Neave, *op.cit.*, p. 173

6. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, pp. 649-650

arms against the government. His uncle, Bhawani Singh, who had disputed his claim to the Mainpuri raj, threw in his lot with the British and by his steadfast loyalty to the aliens won back for himself both the title and the estate.

On 30th June, the Sagar revolutionaries entered the city. The Raja took possession of the district and appointed thanadars and tahsildars to bring order in the district and collect the revenue¹. In the meantime, the British refugees reached Shikohabad and stayed there for four days. The troops of Maj. Raikes who had loyally escorted the British upto Ferozabad, when ordered to proceed to Agra, revolted and marched off to Gwalior². Back at Mainpuri, the Sagar revolutionaries killed Richards, Donovan and Lawrence, three clerks, who had remained behind to try and save their property.

In Shikohabad, the rebellion was at its height. In Kuraoli too, there was an uprising.³ The Raja made a proclamation that any person carrying information to the Europeans would be severely punished. After this he went to Bharaul with a large number of his men, as the Zamindars of that place refused to submit to his arms. He killed many of the Bharaul Ahirs and having put them to flight plundered the village. After this he went to Bhongson where in July he came very near to engaging in a war with the Nawab of Farrukhabad but the two revolutionary leaders patched up their differences and thence forward displayed the utmost unanimity in their struggle against the British⁴. The raja offered no resistance to Sri Hopo Grant's column on its march through the district in October.

The position in this region towards the end of December, 1857 became highly intriguing. The doab districts down to Aligarh, including Mainpuri, came under British occupation in October, the Ganga forming the dividing line between the British and the revolutionaries with the result that Brig. Grant's column moved freely from Agra to Kanpur, including Mainpuri. But with the withdrawal of Grant's troops, the state of things in Mainpuri changed very much for the worse. British claims were openly repudiated. The raja of Mainpuri, Tej Singh, who had allied himself with the nawab of Farrukhabad was conducting the war of liberation in the upper doab. He plun-

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 650-51

2. Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 173

3. *Ibid.*, p. 174

4. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 651 ; Neave, *op. cit.*, pp. 174-75

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dered Mainpuri and reoccupied it. In December the whole of middle doab was more completely than ever in the possession of the liberators¹.

During this time Agra was also threatened and the people of Farrukhabad became restive and ventured to carry their plans of conquering British territories to the west and north and the intermediate districts (including Mainpuri) towards Agra were so much in danger of falling into the hands of revolutionaries that reinforcement from Delhi had to be sent to the fighting lines. Large bodies of Pathans and Rohillas assembled on the opposite bank of the Ganga and crossed it². On hearing that Brig. Seaton was coming with a force from Kasganj to join Walpole at Mainpuri, Tej Singh advanced to Kuraoli with the intention of stopping Seaton. Seaton, however, immediately outmanoeuvred him and the revolutionaries retreated with a loss of eight guns and about a hundred men³.

It was after this action that Hodson performed one of the most daring exploits of his adventurous career. Accompanied by his Second-in-command, McDowell, and 75 men, he rode across a countryside swarming with rebels to carry despatches to Commander-in-chief. At Bwar he left all his escort but 25 men and with them and McDowell pushed on to Chhibramau where he learnt that Sir Colin Campbell was not at Gursahaiganj as he had believed, but at Miran Ki Sarai 24 km. further off. Leaving the 25 troopers at Chhibramau the two officers rode on alone and reached Sir Colin Campbell's camp in safety having ridden 88 km. in ten hours without changing horses. On their return the same evening they came to know that after their departure a party of 2,000 revolutionaries had entered Chhibramau, killed the 25 troopers left there and were waiting for Hodson's return. Hodson, however, boldly continued his journey and when the two officers reached the village they dismounted and leading their horses along the soft earth at the side of the road passed right through the village unnoticed by the enemy. At Bwar they found a party sent by Seaton, who had heard of the disaster at Chhibramau, where he joined Walpole next day.

Although after the fall of Mainpuri to the British the rush of the revolutionaries started towards Lucknow, yet they gave tough fight to the British wherever both met each other. One such place was Sandi in Fatehgarh, opposite Mainpuri, where there was a force

1. Chaudhuri, S. B.: *Civil Rebellion in the Indian Mutinies*, pp. 51-52

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Weave, op. cit.*, p. 175; Chaudhuri, *op. cit.*, p. 52

of 4,000 men and several guns hovering about the nearby ghat on the Ganga and in the neighbouring ghat at Moorah several revolutionary chiefs including Raja Tej Singh of Mainpuri had assembled with a strong force of cavalry and infantry and some guns¹.

The complexion of the great uprising was, however, changing for the worse for the revolutionaries and to the advantage of the British. The capture of Lucknow and Jhansi had given it a decided turn in favour of the British. The struggle began showing unmistakable symptoms of collapse and by June 1858 every thing had been lost for the revolutionaries.²

The district was re-occupied by the civil authorities and though it was not by any means brought under complete control till late 1858, no other events of any importance took place within its borders. The raja of Mainpuri, after a vain effort to induce the insurgents in Farrukhabad to re-enter and once more raise the doab, a scheme which was foiled by Seaton's victory at Kankar in April, 1858, engaged in another campaign on his own account. But he met with little success being repulsed from Shikohabad and finally compelled to surrender to Hume at Etawah on 11th June, 1858. He was removed to Banaras where he lived on a nominal allowance of Rs 250.³ A trial was held in which Tej Singh was held guilty of creating disorder in the district. An article featured in the *Hindu Pat.* of 8th July, 1858, on the trial of Tej Singh pleaded for his acquittal on the ground, "that he was a victim of circumstances, that he had spilt neither white man's blood nor black blood and that he had been reduced to this state by his rival (Rao Bhawani Singh) who had been unrelenting in his efforts to compass his ruin",⁴ Tej Singh was, however, not granted pardon and Bhawani Singh became the new raja of Mainpuri.

The 20th century began with the resurgence of the spirit of nationalism in the whole of India and Mainpuri was no exception. The youth of the district had been restless for quite a long time. The year 1915-16 saw the birth of revolutionary activities in the district when Dammi Lal, Karori Lal Gupta, Sidh Gopal Chaturvedi, Gopinath, Prabhakar Pande, Chandradhar Jauhri and Shiv Kishan joined hands with Genda Lal Dixit of Etawah, who organised a group against

1. Chaudhuri, *op. cit.*, pp. 55-57

2. *Ibid.*, p. 59

3. *Sen, op. cit.*, p. 363; Chaudhuri, *op. cit.*, p. 84

4. *Ibid.*

the British. The news of their underground activities reached the authorities who arrested the prominent leaders and brought them to trial at Mainpuri, in what came to be known as the Mainpuri conspiracy case. Various terms of imprisonment were awarded to these revolutionaries¹.

In 1919-20, the foundation of a district Congress committee was laid in Mainpuri. The whole country was now humming with political activity which had been generated by the Khilafat movement and the Non-co-operation movement of the Congress. These movements were launched together after the League-Congress Pact of Lucknow in 1916 in which both the parties decided to join hands in order to attain independence from the British. The people of this district nearly forgot about the Mainpuri case and the people who had been harassed by the police kept out of this movement².

Thakur Digvijay Singh, a local leader addressed a public meeting in 1921 at Bewar exhorting the people to boycott everything foreign. A local Congress committee was formed at Barnahal in 1921 but all the office-bearers of this committee were apprehended by the police. Prominent among those who went to jail in the Non-co-operation movement of this district were Gulab Singh, Chandra Bhan, Raja Singh and Rewati Ram³.

As the movement was gaining momentum an unfortunate incident that took place at Chauri Chaura in the Gorakhpur district led Gandhiji to call off the movement which appeared to him to be lapsing into ways of violence. Nothing worth noting took place till 1929 when a District Political Conference was held at Bewar⁴. It was presided over by Sri Shri Prakash, of Banaras, a governor of Bombay in post-independence India.⁵

About the same time a conference of 'Nav Jawan Bharat Sabha,' a revolutionary organisation, was held at Bewar. It was presided over by Vinayak Sakharan Dandekar and it is said that Sardar Bhagat Singh and Chandra Shekhar Azad had also attended it in disguise⁶. Gandhiji and Jawaharlal Nehru who were on a hurricane tour of the whole of Northern India in order to mobilise support for the newly

1. *Swatantrata Sangram Ke Sainik*, (Mainpuri District) (Information Department, U. P.), p. 'ख'

2. *Swatantrata Sangram Ke Sainik* Mainpuri District, p. "ग"

3. *Ibid.*, p. 'घ'

4. *Ibid.*, p. 'घ'

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

launched civil disobedience movement after the visit of the Simon Commission, came to Mainpuri where they were accorded an enthusiastic welcome. Large numbers of volunteers were enrolled and Karori Lal, who had been previously convicted in the Mainpuri conspiracy case, headed the group of volunteers and accompanied Gandhiji from Makhanpur to Nabiganj.¹ Gandhiji addressed the people of the district and explained to them the significance of the Salt Satyagraha and Civil Disobedience movement.

Mahatma Gandhi's visit to the district imparted a keener edge to the political awareness of its people, and the declaration of 'Complete Independence' as the political goal at the Lahore Session of the Congress in 1929 greatly stimulated political activity in this district, bringing a number of local freedom fighters into prominence in the agitation which marked the year 1930 in the district. Large-scale arrests were made in the district to crush the movement. Among the most reputed Congress workers of the district in 1930 were Motilal, Shambhu Dayal, Govind Varma and Bhawani Singh². People made salt, discarded the use of foreign cloth and other goods and courted arrest by violating various laws made by the British government. To counteract the Congress movement the British government patronised 'Aman Sabhas' which were anti-nationalist bodies organised to create dissensions among the freedom fighters. To counteract the influence of these Sabhas, the Congress organised public meetings where their subversive activities were explained. Meetings were organised by the Congress to expose the unworthy designs behind these Aman Sabhas and their influence was largely dissipated. Congress also mounted a campaign for total prohibition. Palm trees were cut and liquor shops in the district were picketted. The police charged the picketteers with lathis arresting many of them³.

A batch of Congress workers of the district went to Sonon in the Etah district to participate in a massive rally organised there. The police opened fire on the demonstrators killing many persons. When the party was returning to Mainpuri after cremating the martyrs, its leader, Mathura Prasad Gupta, and some others were, and arrested, tried and jailed. All the political prisoners were, however, released in pursuance of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact of 1931.

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 'घ' ३.

Upon the failure of the Round Table Conferences, the Congress party was outlawed and a number of repressive ordinances was issued by the British government, and this served only to lend greater vigour to the civil disobedience movement. The Congress organised a no-tax campaign to dissuade people from paying land revenue with a view to paralyse the government¹. The appeal had the desired effect and land revenue practically remained unpaid leading to large scale arrests in the district. In 1934, when the ban was lifted from the Congress, the dissolved district committees were revived.

During the Second World War the Congress declined to lend support to the British in the war effort. The Congress ministers resigned. Meetings were held at Mainpuri to explain the stand of the Congress in relation to the war. The administration resorted to making mass arrests of Congress men. Shyam Behari Lal and Kunj Behari who were addressing a meeting on 19th September, 1940, were among those who were taken into custody and sentenced². But in 1941 all the political prisoners were released again to create a climate favourable for an agreement between the government and the Congress. A settlement could not, however, be reached as the Congress demanded complete independence which the British government was not prepared to concede. On 8th August, 1942 no sooner had the Congress passed the 'Quit India' resolution at its Bombay session than all its prominent leaders and active workers all over the country were rounded up, and put into prison. Those who escaped arrest went underground to run the party. Hartals were organised at many places in Mainpuri. Mass arrests were made, and educational institutions were closed down. The most disturbed spot in the district was Bewar, a small town with a population of 4,000 souls. On 13th August school boys, still even in their early teens, participated in a mass demonstration. Almost all the shops were emptied for fear of being looted. Groups of students holding the tricolour aloft demonstrated before courts and offered themselves for arrest. The police-station was attacked, government offices were forcibly closed and communications disrupted³. During the night a special police force combed the town, arresting numerous persons.

1. *Ibid.*,

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 'ख', 'च'

3. *Ibid.*, p. 'छ'

Curfew was imposed in the area. On 15th August police opened fire on an innocent mob consisting mainly of school boys. Many were killed and over 85 persons received bullet injuries.

Among those who lost their lives were Jumna Prasad Tripathi, Krishna Kumar, and Sita Ram Gupta. Seventy people were arrested and prosecuted for arson and looting government property¹.

The battle of India's struggle was subsequently taken to the legislatures and ultimately the British had to leave the country.

On August 15, 1947, the country and with it the district were liberated from alien rule and declared independent. The rejoicings on the occasion were not a little marred by news of ghastly happenings in Pakistan and elsewhere as a result of the partition of the country and the consequent displacement of large bodies of men from and to Pakistan. About 2, 939 displaced persons from Pakistan arrived in the district and were rehabilitated. Close on the heels of this unprecedented disturbance came the shocking news of the dastardly assassination of Mahatma Gandhi at Delhi on January 30, 1948. This plunged the district into great sorrow and mourning.

Markets, offices were closed and several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss to the nation caused by the murder of the Father of the Nation. Though he died, he still lives fresh in the memory of the people and is remembered on October 2, which is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti, in the district as in other parts of the State.

With the enactment and adoption of the Constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic.

CHAPTER III
PEOPLE

GROWTH OF POPULATION

The first rough estimate of the population of the district in 1847, gave a total of 4,79,599 people with a density of 313 persons per sq. mile. At the enumeration of 1850, the population was found to be 5,66,085 which rose to 6,34,087 in 1853, a rise of 12 per cent over the figures of the enumeration made in 1850. The density of population in 1853 was 414 per sq. mile which varied from pargana to pargana rising to 593 in Mainpuri and sinking to 309 in Sauj, 76 per cent of population relied wholly on agriculture for their livelihood.

At the census of 1865 the district was found to contain 7,00,220 people with an average density of 420 to the sq. mile. The census of 1872, gave the number of inhabitants as 7,65,845 and density 452 to the sq. mile.

The next census was undertaken in 1881 when the population of the district was 8,01,216 with a density of 472 to the sq. mile, the low rate of growth is attributed to the famine of 1877.

At the census of 1891, the population of the district fell to 7,62,163; the decrease is ascribed to agricultural calamities which swept the district during the decade. The decennial growth of population and its variation in the district, during the period 1901-1971 is tabled below :

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation	Males	Females
1901	8,29,358	—	—	4,51,357	3,78,001
1911	7,97,627	—31,731	—3.83	4,38,921	3,58,706
1921	7,48,029	—49,598	—6.22	4,11,982	3,36,047
1931	7,49,636	+1,607	+0.21	4,12,601	3,37,035
1941	8,72,603	+1,22,796	+16.40	4,74,184	3,98,419
1951	9,93,893	+1,21,290	+13.90	5,33,332	4,60,561
1961	11,80,894	+1,87,001	+18.82	6,34,951	5,45,943
1971	14,45,534	+2,64,640	+22.41	7,88,435	6,57,099

Thus, during the first two decades of the present century, the population had declined, largely due to epidemics, for instance, influenza which raged in 1918-19 carried away many lives, and partially due to migration of the people. Since 1931 there has been a regular increase in the population. The lowest rise of 0.21 was registered in the decade 1921-31 and the highest 22.41 per cent in the decade 1961-71, when the State average was 19.79 per cent. The tahsil-wise growth during the last decade was highest in Jasrana being about 24.31 per cent, followed by about 24.24 per cent in Shikohabad, 22.45 per cent in Karhal, 21.95 per cent in Mainpuri and 20.20 per cent in Bhongaon. The density of the population in the district in 1961, was 703 persons per sq. mile, tahsil-wise, Shikohabad having 850, Bhongaon 719, Mainpuri 675, Karhal 632 and Jasrana 242 persons per sq. mile. The rural density of population was 654 as against the urban density of 11,232 persons per sq. mile, the highest rural and urban densities of population being 756 and 44,624 persons per sq. mile in Shikohabad and Bhongaon tahsils respectively. The high density of population in Shikohabad tahsil was due to its fertility, while the lowest in Mainpuri is attributable to its precarious and less fertile tract.

On July 1, 1971, the area of the district, according to the central statistical organization, was 4,254 sq. km. The population of the district at the census of 1971 was 14,45,534 (7,88,435 males, 6,57,099 females). The district occupied the 42nd and 36th positions respectively in respect of area and population among the districts of Uttar Pradesh in 1971. The density of population in the district was 340 persons per sq. km. which was higher than the State average of 300 persons per sq. km. Among the tahsils the most densely populated was Shikohabad with 409 persons per sq. km. followed by Bhongaon with 334, Mainpuri with 318, Jasrana with 301, and Karhal with 299 persons per sq. km. In the rural and urban areas of the district, the density of population per sq. km. was 313 and 5,967 persons respectively. The highest rural and urban density of population were, per sq. km., 359 in Shikohabad and 22,018 in Bhongaon tahsils respectively. The number of females per 1,000 males in 1921, was 816; in 1931, 817; in 1941, 840; in 1951, 864; in 1960, 860; and in 1971, 833. It would thus appear that the sex-ratio was lowest (816) during the decade 1911-1921 and highest (860) during the decade 1951-1961. In 1971, the district had a much lower sex-ratio (833) than Uttar Pradesh (879) taken as a whole. The rural and urban sex-ratios in 1971 were 833 and 835 respectively.

Population by Tahsils

At the census of 1971, the district comprised the five tahsils of Mainpuri, Bhongaon, Shikohabad, Karhal and Jaserana with the municipal towns of Mainpuri, Shikohabad and Sirsaganj and the town areas of Bhongaon, Bewar, Kurauli and Karhal. In 1971 out of 1,429 villages in the district 1,386 were inhabited. The tahsil-wise distribution of the population and the number of villages and towns according to the census of 1971 are given below :

Tahsil	Villages		Towns	Population		
	Uninhabited	Inhabited		Persons	Males	Females
Bhongaon Tahsil (Rural)	22	392	—	3,78,669	2,07,407	1,71,262
Bhongaon T. A.	—	—	1	9,992	5,447	4,545
Bewar T. A.	—	—	1	7,182	3,900	3,282
Mainpuri Tahsil (Rural)	8	247	—	2,66,396	1,44,660	1,21,736
Mainpuri M. B.	—	—	1	43,849	23,738	20,111
Kurauli T. A.	—	—	1	9,497	5,150	4,347
Shikohabad Tahsil (Rural)	6	285	—	2,71,314	1,48,296	1,23,018
Shikohabad M. B.	—	—	1	31,442	17,457	13,985
Sirsaganj M. B.	—	—	1	10,572	5,695	4,877
Karhal Tahsil (Rural)	1	192	—	1,59,701	87,823	71,878
Karhal T. A.	—	—	1	9,488	5,096	4,392
Jaserana Tahsil	6	270	—	2,47,432	1,37,766	1,13,666
Total	43	1,386	7	14,45,534	7,88,435	6,57,099

The population and area of the district at the censuses of 1961 and 1971 are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Immigration and Emigration

According to the Handbook of census, 1961, about 85.3 per cent of the people were born in the district, 13.9 per cent in other districts of the State, 0.5 per cent in other parts of the country and 0.1 per cent in other countries. Among those from other countries 1,610 were from Pakistan, 106 from Nepal, 14 from Burma and 9 from

various other countries. Most of the immigrants from Pakistan came as displaced persons. Of the immigrants from adjacent States 2,610 persons were from Madhya Pradesh, 1,299 persons from Punjab, 781 persons from Rajasthan, 305 persons from Delhi and 93 persons from Bihar. The duration of residence of 60.2 per cent of the total immigrants was over ten years. About 89 per cent immigrants were returned from rural areas and 11.1 per cent from the urban.

A number of persons must have gone out from the district to other parts of the State or the country or abroad for purposes of education, employment, trade or commerce or on account of marriage, but their number is not available.

Displaced persons

Most of the displaced persons arrived from Pakistan. In 1951, their number in the district was 2,939. By 1961, however, it came down to 1,610. Nearly all of whom have been satisfactorily rehabilitated and have settled down.

Distribution of Population

The distribution of rural population in 1971, among villages of different size was as under :

Range of population	No. of villages	Persons	Males	Females	Percentage of rural population of the district
1	2	3	4	5	6
Less than 200	123	14,990	8,139	6,851	1.13
200—499	385	1,34,986	73,720	61,266	10.20
500—999	442	3,17,161	1,73,075	1,44,086	23.96
1,000—1,999	304	4,20,918	2,29,797	1,91,121	31.80
2,000—4,999	121	3,57,597	1,95,101	1,62,496	27.02
5,000—9,999	10	67,437	36,560	30,877	5.10
10,000 and above	1	10,423	5,560	4,863	00.79
Total	1,386	13,23,512	7,21,952	6,01,560	100.00

LANGUAGE

In 1971, the languages spoken by the inhabitants of the district were about two dozens. But Hindi-speaking people were the most numerous i.e. 97.65 per cent. Urdu was spoken by 2.25 per cent and the remaining 1 per cent were found speaking Punjabi, Sindhi, Bengali and several other languages.

The common dialect of the people in Mainpuri is Braj Bhasha which is the oldest form of Hindi. In the extreme south-west on the banks of the Yamuna, the influence of Bhadauri, a form of Bundeli, is noticeable in the words spoken by the residents.

The main peculiarities in pronunciation differentiating the local speech from ordinary Hindi are the habit of substituting a final "O" for all other vowel terminations; the alteration of initial "W" and "Y" to "J", as in *juh*, *jih* for *wuh*, *yih* and the use of a short "i" for "a" as *jhigra* for *jhagra*.

Principal Communities

Hindus—Of the people about 95 per cent are Hindus. The Hindu society in the district, as elsewhere, continues to adhere to the traditional four-fold caste system, the principal castes being the Brahmana the Kshatriya, usually called Rajput in the district, the Vaish and the Shudra, each of which has a number of sub-castes. There are some other groups which have acquired the status of independent castes, such as the Kayasthas, the Khatris, etc., who are again subdivided into sub-castes. With the spread of education and impact of new ideas, the caste system is gradually losing its rigidity.

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, the Shudras comprised the lowest strata of society. They are still backward. For rapid development a large number of their groups and sub-groups have been classified as Scheduled Castes whose distribution numerically among the tahsils in the district in 1971 is given below :

Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Bhongaon	73,535	40,834	32,701
Shikohabad	56,445	31,115	25,330
Mainpuri	54,635	30,389	24,246
Jasrana	39,307	20,958	18,349
Karhal	32,392	17,891	14,501
Total	2,56,314	1,41,187	1,15,127

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Muslims—1971, there were 69,849 Muslims of whom 37,571 were men and 32,278 women. They constituted about 10.27 per cent of the total population of the district. The majority of the Muslims belong to the Sunni sect. Their occupational groups consist of the Dhuniyas, Faqirs, Jogi, Ghazi, Turkiya, Regar, Bhangis or sweepers, Qasabs or butchers, Julahas, Kunjras, Manihars, Bhatiyaras, Banjaras and Rangrez or dyers.

Jains—In 1971, there were 5,593 Jains in the district out of whom 2,760 were women. They are most numerous in Mustafabad, Mainpuri and Shikohabad.

Christians—There were 1,409 Christians in 1971, 626 males and 783 females. Generally they are Roman Catholics and Protestants.

Sikhs—The Sikhs numbered 765 including 342 women in 1971. They are mostly immigrants from Pakistan.

Buddhists—In 1971, the number of Buddhists in the district was 447; 264 males and 183 females.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Of Hindus—Hinduism comprises diverse beliefs and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the divine essence. All these variations of religious thought and belief can be found here. A majority of the Hindus worship images of deities and incarnations (avatars). A visit to temples is not obligatory but it is common and frequent. Fasts are observed on many occasions and *kathas* (recitations from *Srimat Bhagwat*, *Ramcharitmanas*) and *satsang* (religious discourses) are arranged periodically. Superstitions and belief in ghosts and spirits continue to haunt the minds, particularly of the illiterate and ignorant members of the society.

The number of places of worship is quite large, the notable ones include the temple of Mahadeo at Bhongaon, the temples of Mahadev, Radha Ballabh, Murli Manohar, Baldevji, Rama, Panchmathi Mahadev and the shrine of Jasan Mahadeo at Shikohabad; and the shrine of Rikhi Asthan at Akbarpur Auncha, in tahsil Mainpuri.

A branch of the Arya Samaj, a Hindu sect founded by Dayananda Saraswati, was established in Mainpuri about 1890. In 1891, the number of Arya Samajists in the district was 329. The sect made considerable progress so that at the census of 1951, the number of Arya Samajists increased to 7,621. They believe in one God and repudiate idol worship and rituals.

Of Muslims—Any one believing in the one God and His prophet Muhammad, is a follower of Islam. A Muslim is enjoined to say prayers (*namaz*) either individually or collectively in a mosque five times a day, keep *roza* (fast) in the month of Ramadan, undertake *hajj* to Mecca and contribute in cash or kind for charitable purposes (*Zakat*). The *Quran* is their holy book. Many Muslims have faith in *pirs* (saints). There are many mosques in the district, the more important being at the Bhongaon, Karhal, Rapri, and Shikohabad. There are two *dargahs* located at Rapri and Shikohabad.

Of Jains—The Jains follow the creed of the Jinas or Tirthankaras and instal their images in temples. They uphold ahimsa as the highest dharma. The orthodox Jains do not eat tubers or take meals after nightfall or drink water without straining it.

Of Christians—The Christians believe in God, His son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost, the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. The *Bible* is their holy book which contains two main sections; the *Old Testament* and the *New Testament*.

Of Sikhs—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, which disavows idolatry and has no caste distinctions. It enjoins the preservation of kesh (hair) and use of *kanghi* (comb), a *kara* (iron bangle), a *kirpan* (dagger) and *kuchha* (shorts). The Sikhs attend congregational prayers in *gurdwaras* (places of Sikh worship). The *Granth* containing the *Vani* (sermons) of Guru Nanak Dev is their holy book.

Of Buddhists—The main tenet of Buddhism is that while there is woe in the world, the eight fold middle path of righteousness based on *Satya Vishwas*, (right belief), *Satya Vichar* (right aspiration), *Satya Bhashan* (right speech), *Satya Karma* (right action) *Satya Nirvak* (right living), *Satya Prayatna* (right effort), *Satya Dhyan* (right recollection) and *Satya Bhas* (right rapture) lead to the end of sorrow and the attainment of *nirvana*. Religionwise classification of the population of the district is as follows, according to the 1971 census :

Religion	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Hinduism	13,67,470	7,46,717	6,20,753
Islam	69,849	37,571	32,278
Jainism	5,593	2,833	2,760
Christianity	1,409	626	783
Sikhism	765	423	342
Buddhism	447	264	183
Other religion and persuasions	1	1	..

There is harmony in the relations between the various castes and their sub-castes found in the district. Long residence together and daily contact with one another have brought different communities close to each other but all of them retain their own socio-religious identities. They mix freely and share each others' joys and sorrows.

Inter-caste Relations—As in other parts of the country, inter-caste relations were very rigid a generation ago. The members of different castes and sub-castes lived in close watertight compartments, eschewing among other things inter-dining and inter-caste marriages. The picture has greatly changed, especially after political independence and the changes that have occurred in recent times are noteworthy. Inter-dining is no longer looked upon with disapproval by Hindus anywhere in the district, particularly in towns, though this restriction still persists in a diluted form in rural areas. Inter-caste marriages, though not very common, are more frequent than ever before and many of the traditional restrictions on marriage based on caste are gradually disappearing as a result of factors like the spread of education and the influence of western culture.

Festivals and Fairs

Hindu—Fasting followed by feasting is an important feature of festivity among the Hindus. Festivals are spread evenly over the whole year and are celebrated almost in the same manner as elsewhere in the State. Some of them are described below.

The ninth day of the bright half of Chaitra is celebrated as the birthday of Rama, believed to be an incarnation of Vishnu.

The fifth day of the bright half of Sravana is called Nagpanchami when the *nagas* or serpent gods are propitiated. It is also celebrated as a rainy season festival, women being the chief rejoicers, singing *kajaris* (folk-songs), swinging in the air from trees.

The last day of Sravana popularly known as Raksha Bandhan, is an occasion when *raksha sutras* or *rakhi* (protective threads or cords) are tied by sisters round the right wrist of their brothers. Fairs are also held at several places.

The eight day of the dark half of Bhadrapada, is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Lord Krishna, considered to be another incarnation of Vishnu. It is generally accompanied with a fast which is broken at midnight.

The first nine days of the bright half of Asvina are devoted to the worship of goddess Durga, and the tenth one is celebrated as

Vijaya Dasami or Dasahra to commemorate the victory of Rama over Ravana. On this occasion effigies of demons are burnt publicly to signify the victory of good over the evil.

On the Amavasya of Kartika, Dipavali, Divali or the festival of lights is celebrated with great enthusiasm. Dwellings are cleaned or whitewashed. Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth is worshipped and earthen lamps lighted in large numbers. The occasion synchronises with the advent of winter and the harvesting of the Kharif crop.

Kartiki-purnima is a bathing festival which falls on the full-moon day of Kartika, and attracts crowds on the banks of rivers, particularly the Ganga.

Sivaratri, the most important festival of the Saivites, is observed on the thirteenth day of the dark half of Phalguna as a fast accompanied with milk and Bilvapatra offerings to Lord Siva. For Arya Samajists it is a memorable occasion as Swami Dayanand, the great reformist and founder of Arya Samaj, received enlightenment on this night.

Holi is a spring festival which falls on the last day of Phalguna enthusing the masses into a spirit of revelry and brotherhood. Logs of wood are piled at road junctions in every town and village and set on fire at an auspicious moment symbolising the annihilation of the forces of evil (in the form of the demon goddess, Holika). It is, again, a crop festival, a significant feature of which is roasting of ears of barley and wheat in the community fire.

Sprinkling of coloured water and throwing of coloured powder on one another accompanied with mutual embracing among men characterise this merry occasion. Rural areas in particular resound to the tunes of folk-music which some times attains ecstatic heights.

The number of Hindu religious fairs in the district is quite large. On most festive occasions fairs are held. The fair of Deviji is observed from the eighth day of the dark half of Chaitra to the eighth day of the bright half of Chaitra at village Uddetpur (in tahsil Mainpuri) and attracts about 20,000 persons. The biggest bathing fair is held on Kartiki purnima at village Bidhuna in the Ghiror development block attracting about 18,000 people. Kans-ka-mela is held at Mainpuri proper on the second day of the dark half of Chaitra, being attended by about 10,000 persons. On the occasion of Dasahra, Ramlila fairs are held at Kurauli and Mainpuri each attracting gatherings of about 10,000 persons. Other fairs, which also deserve mention are Narain-ka-mela in Mainpuri town, Chaman Rishi-ka-mela at Akbarpur Aunchha and Bairoo-ka-mela at Bhanti.

Muslim—Among the Muslim festivals, Barawafat, the birthday of the prophet Muhammad, is celebrated on the twelfth day of Rabi-ul-Awwal when alms are distributed and discourses (Maulud sharif) are arranged on the prophet's life.

Shab-e-Barat is celebrated on the night of the fourteenth day of Shaban when prayers (*fatiha*) are offered for the peace of departed souls.

Id-ul-Fitr is celebrated on the first of the month of Shawal when thanksgiving prayers are offered for the successful completion of the fasts of the previous month of Ramadan. On this occasion Muslims attend congregational prayers in mosques.

Id-uz-Zuha (or Bakra-Id) falls on the tenth day of Zilhijja to commemorate the attempted sacrifice of his son, Ismail, by the prophet Ibrahim in submission to the will of God. Men attend morning prayers in mosques or Idgah and sacrifice sheep and goats in God's name.

Giarahveen Sharif is a festival of special importance for the Sunnis of the district and is observed on the eleventh day of the month of Rabi-us-Sani in honour of Abdul Qadir Jilani, an early Muslim divine of Baghdad, acclaimed as a descendant of the prophet Muhammad. Prayers, sweets and flowers are offered in his memory on this occasion.

Muharram is an occasion for mourning rather than festivity as the first ten days of the month of that name commemorate the tragedy of Karbala which witnessed the martyrdom of Imam Husain, the grandson of the prophet, Muhammad, and his companions. Although this occasion has special significance for the Shias, the Sunnis also take part in some of the observances. The *imambaras* (buildings for performance of religious ceremonies, etc., in memory of of Imams Husain and Hasan and their followers) are illuminated on the eights and ninth of the month, religious discourses are held from the first to the ninth and *tazias* (replicas of the tombs of Imams Husain and Hasan), generally made of coloured paper and bamboo, are taken out in procession separately by Shias and Sunnis on *Ashra*, the tenth day.

Jains—The Jains in the district celebrate the birth and *nirvana* anniversaries of Parshvanath and Mahavira, their twenty-third and twenty-fourth *tirthankaras*. The other important festivals of the Jains are *Paryushan*, the last ten days of Bhadra, and *Asthanika* falling on the last eight days of Kartika.

Christian—The main festivals of the Christians of the district are Christmas, which falls on December 25 and celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ ; Good Friday, which commemorates his crucifixion; and Easter which celebrates his resurrection. People attend services in churches and exchange greetings and presents. On Christmas eve scenes from the nativity of Christ are enacted and cribs are set up in the churches and people, particularly children, flock to see them.

Sikh—The Sikhs celebrate the birthdays of their *gurus*, Nanak Tegh Bahadur and Govind Singh. Portions from the *Granth* are read, congregational prayers are held at *gurdwaras* and processions taken out. The Baisakhi is another Sikh festival. Fairs are held at *gurdwaras* on these occasions.

Buddhist—The principal festival of the Buddhists is the Buddha-Purnima when Buddha took birth, got enlightenment and attained *nirvana*. On this occasion they worship in their temples and recite verses from the *Tripitaka*.

A list of fairs held in the district is given at the end of the chapter as Statement II.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

In matters of inheritance the Hindus, Sikhs and Jains are governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, the Muslims by their personal law, and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925. Before the enforcement on July 1, 1952 of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act no. I of 1951), the right to inherit rented agricultural land was governed by the provisions of the U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939. At present inheritance to agriculture land held by persons of all religions is governed by the provisions of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950.

Joint Family—In this district, as in other parts of the State, the institution of joint family, which has been a characteristic feature of Hindu society since ancient times, is breaking down owing to economic and social factors, the impact of modern ideas and the individualistic outlook of the younger generation. The rapid growth of industrialisation and urbanisation, the increasing demand for labour and the expectation of better wages in the cities have also accelerated the disintegration of the joint family.

Division of property other than agriculture land during the lifetime of the patriarch is becoming common.

MARRIAGE AND MORALS

The following statement shows the distribution of the population of the district according to marital status in various age groups in 1971:

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Age group	Total population	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced		Unspecified status	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—9	4,39,723	2,41,663	1,98,060	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—14	1,79,820	1,02,655	62,306	2,933	11,816	—	—	—	—	110	—
15—19	1,17,700	34,214	9,275	31,268	42,560	80	127	16	—	100	60
20—24	1,06,323	12,479	670	40,759	51,453	502	330	—	—	50	50
25—29	1,05,500	3,635	140	48,972	51,683	830	590	—	—	70	130
30—34	98,597	1,572	275	45,806	47,933	1,686	1,185	16	—	50	80
35—39	88,090	1,876	470	41,011	40,377	2,426	1,875	—	—	16	40
40—44	75,557	1,241	205	37,012	29,572	3,353	4,124	5	5	40	—
45—49	56,359	1,641	85	26,125	21,360	3,444	5,689	5	—	16	—
50—54	54,584	1,091	80	26,183	13,955	5,337	7,923	—	—	15	—
55—59	33,675	1,305	20	12,992	10,954	3,657	4,812	5	—	—	—
60—64	56,294	1,116	50	14,530	6,602	5,623	8,333	—	—	20	—
65—69	20,465	1,025	10	6,277	6,101	2,835	4,207	—	—	10	—
70 and above	32,825	946	5	10,259	2,721	8,130	10,744	—	—	20	—
Age not stated	22	56	—	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	14,45,534	4,05,921	2,71,651	3,44,065	3,37,089	37,903	47,959	41	10	505	390

Of Hindus—Among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere in the State, marriage is a sacrament, its rites being prescribed in the scriptures and to some extent by custom and tradition. A few variations in the performance of the different rites from caste to caste, or, even from family to family, within a caste, may occur.

According to the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, the marital age is 18 years for the bridegroom and 15 years for the bride but in the event of the latter not having completed the age of 18 years, the consent of the guardian has to be obtained. Under this Act, polygamy among the Hindus is illegal. In this context the term Hindu includes Jains and Sikhs. The customary restrictions, generally observed by the people of the district, such as those on marriages between persons of the same *gotra* (eponymous groups descended from a common ancestor in the male line of descent) have been abolished with the passing of the Act and now inter-caste and inter-sub-caste marriages and marriages among parties of the same *gotra* are not rare. Both law and custom prohibit *sapinda* (literally having the same *pinda* or funeral cake; an agnate within seven generations) marriages among the Hindus. The restrictions regarding endogamic marriages are not as rigid as in the past. Generally marriages are arranged by the parents, the bride's people approaching the bridegroom's party, sometime through intermediaries. A number of ceremonies, differing from caste to caste, and place to place, precede the nuptials. *Kanyadan* (giving away of the bride) an *bhanwar* or *saptapadi* (seven steps taken round the sacred fire) are essentials of every Hindu marriage.

Of Muslims—Islam permits polygamy to the extent of keeping four wives at a time. The Islamic marriage is a contract and every Muslim of sound mind who has attained puberty may enter into such a contract but a marriage is void if it has been brought about without the consent of either party. The amount of dower (*mahr*) may be fixed before, at the time of or after the marriage. The essentials of a Muslim marriage are that there should be a proposal by or on behalf of one of the parties and an acceptance by or on behalf of the other in the presence and hearing of two men or a man and two women witnesses who must be sane and adult Muslims (but according to the Shia law the presence of witnesses is not necessary in any matter regarding marriage). The proposal and acceptance both must be expressed at one meeting. The custom that prevails in the district is that after the settlement of the marriage, the *sagai* or *mangni* (asking for the bride) takes place. The

marriage ceremony (*nikah*) is performed by the qazi in the presence of witnesses. Among the Shias one *maulavi* from each side participates in performing the marriage instead of the qazi.

Of Christians—According to the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended by the Act of 1952, the minimum marital ages for the boy and the girl are 18 and 15 years respectively. The marriage customs of adherents of different denominations in the district usually follow the same general pattern. The marriage may be contracted by the parties concerned or may be arranged by their relatives. The period of engagement, which precedes the marriage, may be long or short. The banns are published 3 times (once every week) by the priest of the church where the marriage is to be solemnised, to invite objections, if any. On a fixed date, the marriage ceremony is performed in the church by the pastor. The essential parts of it are the giving away of the bride by the father (or other relative or friend), the repeating aloud, after the priest, of the marriage vows by the bride and bridegroom, the placing of a ring by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand (sometimes the bride and the bridegroom exchange rings), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the priest and the signing of the marriage register by the couple, and their witnesses.

Dowry—With the passing of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, offer and acceptance of dowry has become illegal, but as an age-old practice the evil persists in almost all sections of society.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for marriage to be performed and registered by a marriage officer appointed by the Government. In this system, the parties give to the marriage officer a month's notice, before the proposed date of marriage, of their intention to marry. The notice of marriage of exhibited on the notice board of the marriage officer or the deputy commissioner for objections, if any. After the expiry of the period for presenting objections, if no valid objection is held, the marriage is performed and registered. The parties sign the register and receive marriage certificates from the marriage officer.

Widow Marriage—The Hindu Marriage Act, 1956, provides for the remarriage of a widow. Even before that, widow marriages were performed amongst followers of the Arya Samaj, according to Vedic rites. However, the number of such marriages is very small, particularly among the higher classes.

Divorce—Among the Hindus, the dissolution of a marriage, once performed, was not permissible. Among Scheduled Castes, and that

too with the sanction of the community panchayat, divorce was, however, possible. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, made divorce legal under certain conditions and circumstances. The Muslim Law permits the husband to divorce the wife on payment of *mahr*. The dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, gives under certain conditions, the right to the wife to claim dissolution of her marriage. The Indian Divorce Act, 1869, is applicable to all civil marriages and generally to the Christians. Nevertheless, among the higher classes instances of divorce are rare. Details of divorce cases decided in the district during the past five-years are given below :

Year	Number of cases filed			Number of cases in which divorce was allowed
	Total	Men	Women	
1969	2	1	1	1
1970	4	2	2	—
1971	—	—	—	—
1972	12	6	6	4
1973	9	7	2	2
Total	27	16	11	7

Prostitution and Traffic in Women—In this district there have been no prosecutions for prostitution and for traffic in women in recent years, nor is there any centre here where such activities are carried on.

Economic Dependence of Women—In recent times women have successfully tried to free themselves from economic dependence on men. In all fields of activity they now play an increasingly significant role. A good number of women are employed as teachers, nurses, clerks and typists. There are also doctors and politicians among the women of the district. These are signs of the growing economic independence of women. Among the poorer classes, women work in large numbers as daily labourers, agricultural and industrial, and cases of the economic dependence of men on such women are not rare.

Gambling—Gambling is not unknown in the district but is only indulged in occasionally as a sort of harmless pastime. The number of prosecutions launched in the district for the years from 1970 to 1974 was 29, 26, 28, 31 and 18 respectively.

Home Life

The following statement shows the classification of households by their size and tenure status in the district :

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Total District Rural/Urban	Tenure status	Total of census house hold	Households having number of persons						Number of persons unspecified
			One person	Two persons	Three persons	Four persons	Five persons	Six and more persons	
District Total	Owred and Rented	2,44,460	12,970	17,690	24,440	33,970	37,103	1,18,255	30
	Owred	2,33,510	11,245	16,240	23,105	32,350	35,620	1,14,920	30
	Rented	10,950	1,725	1,450	1,335	1,620	1,483	3,335	—
Rural Total	Owred and Rented	2,23,250	11,285	15,700	22,380	31,335	34,240	1,08,280	30
	Owred	2,19,895	10,515	15,270	21,925	30,885	33,810	1,07,460	30
	Rented	3,355	770	430	455	450	430	820	—
Urban Total	Owred and Rented	21,210	1,685	1,990	2,060	2,635	2,865	9,975	—
	Owred	13,615	740	970	1,180	1,465	1,815	7,460	—
	Rented	7,595	935	1,020	880	1,170	1,055	2,515	—

Types of Dwellings—There is a vast difference in the shapes, sizes, and durability of residential buildings found in the rural and urban areas of the district.

In villages, small one-storeyed structures are most common. The walls are generally constructed of mud or unbaked bricks plastered inside and outside with clay and bearing thatched or tiled roofs. In 1971, about 63 per cent rural houses had unbaked brick walls. The poor generally live in congested and insanitary surroundings. In areas where community development schemes have been implemented, ventilators, bathing platforms, improved cattle sheds and better drainage are to be seen. Elsewhere a single door is generally provided to each house and is used of both as the entrance to and exit from the house. Ventilators and windows are to be rarely met with. The accommodation is scanty and the covered space usually consists of a room, sometimes with a dark cell inside and a verandah opening in the front. Sometimes a side room is added to serve as a lounge, study or office. A courtyard, however, is a must for every house. The entire accommodation is multipurpose with little privacy. These dwellings are neither comfortable nor hygienic from modern standards. Despite these shortcomings the houses are invariably kept tidy.

In the towns one generally comes across pucca houses built of kiln-burnt bricks with lime or cement plastering and stone, lime-concrete or ferro-concrete roofs. Steel suspensions are fast replacing the wooden beams. The dwelling consists of several apartments each earmarked for a specific purpose and provided with adequate ventilation and ingress.

Furniture and Decoration—In rural houses string cots, *takhats*, *morhas*, *chaukis* and mats are the usual pieces of furniture. Kitchenware consists of brass, aluminium and iron utensils. Water and grain is stored in earthen pots and tins. Glazed pottery is scarce and glass vessels are rarely used. The only decorations that meet the eye are caricatures and geometrical figures on the walls in dark shades. Occasionally printed pictures of deities, framed or loose, adorn the niches. Houses in urban areas generally possess modern furnishings, items of furniture, kitchenware, crockery and decorative pieces.

Dress—The normal dress of men, both Hindus and Muslims, is a shirt or a *kurta* and a dhoti or pyjamas. While going out, however, they put on trousers with a coat, shirt, or bushirt which

last has become an article of dress of the working class. Once back home they revert to the normal dress. On formal occasions, men wear *sherwani* or *achakan* and *churidar* or loose pyjamas. In villages men still wear turbans.

The normal dress of women is a sari and a blouse or a *choli* i.e., a short blouse. The Punjabi women, however, put on a *salwar*, a *kurta* and a *dupatta*. Some Muslim women still wear *churidar* pyjamas or a *garara* with a *kurta*, and a *dupatta*. In the towns young girls are also seen wearing shirts and slacks, *salwars*, *gararas* or *shararas* with *kurtas* and *dupattas* and, more recently, bell-bottomed pyjamas with *kamiz*. The use of *lahanga* (full long shirt) lingers among the women of the villages or on ceremonial occasions in Hindu families. Women usually cover their heads and men use cloth caps.

Ornaments—Men usually do not use ornaments except rings on fingers or sometimes gold chains, round necks. Women's craze for jewellery persists, silver ornaments being more common in the rural areas.

Food—The staple grains consumed by the people of the district are wheat, jowar, maize and *bajra* (Pearl millet) the last 3 being coarse grains, generally eaten by the poorer sections. The pulses consumed are *urad*, *moong*, gram, *masur*, *arhar* and peas. Most Hindus of the district are vegetarian by habit and preference and although the Muslims, the Christians and the Sikhs are generally non-vegetarian, in the villages, where meat is not easily and regularly available, they also mostly resort to a vegetarian diet.

Communal Life

Amusements and Recreation—*Kabaddi*, *gulli danda*, *gulhar*, *choon-ghora* and cards are the indigenous games and sports common in the district. The village folk generally look for recreation during the rainy season, and on winter nights when they are comparatively free. They sing folk-songs, called *dhola*, *rasia*, *holi* and *dharmik geets*, to the accompaniment of handy musical instruments like *dholak* and *majira* and often harmonium too. Of the modern games volley-ball, foot-ball, hockey, cricket, badminton and tennis are played mostly in towns.

The people with a religious bent of mind enjoy *kathas* and *kirtans*. Puppet shows are held in winter mostly and are very popular.

There are four cinema houses in the district with a total seating capacity for 1,889 persons. Documentaries are shown and mobile shows held in the rural areas also. Dramatic societies and circus

etc., also visit the district now and then. *Dangal* (wrestling matches), *navtankis* (indigenous open-air dramatic performances), *bhajan* and *Qawwali* programmes, *kavi-sammelan* and *mushaira* are also arranged at different places from time to time. Besides, in the local fairs, entertainments like swings, children's carnivals and magic shows are also arranged. Ramlila and Krishnalila provide entertainment in their own way. Occasionally artistes and troupes from outside visit the district and provide entertainment.

Recently the radio has become the greatest source of news education as well as entertainment. The All India Radio broadcasts special programmes for the rural listeners in. There are 7,562 privately owned licensed radio and transistor sets in the district. The government had also provided radio sets to *gram* panchayats but most of these are not maintained. Programmes for the youth, women and children through organisations like the *yuvak* and *mahila mandals* and *bal mangal dals* respectively, are organised in all development blocks.

IMPACT OF ZAMINDARI ABOLITION ON SOCIAL LIFE

The U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act No. 1 of 1951), came into force in the district on July 1, 1952, and brought about significant changes in social and economic life of the people. The rural elite which consisted mainly of the zamindars who had been exploiting the actual tillers of the land for centuries is now replaced by a community of progressive farmers owning land and cultivating it with full vigour, adopting modern methods. Not only has the per capita availability of farm produce increased but the general prosperity of the people has also gone up manifesting itself in better food, costlier and better articles of dress, improved dwellings, and more stylish pieces of house-hold furniture.

Now educational institutions are coming up rapidly through voluntary effort to combat illiteracy which had impeded general progress. The rural society is undergoing a fast transformation to meet fresh challenges of life successfully.

New Trends

The winds of change and improvement are blowing all round under the impact of the Five-year Plans. The modes of dress, ornaments, social customs, food and other habits of the people, their manner of living, religious attitudes and social practices have undergone almost complete transformation. The impact of the cinema is far-reaching but not necessarily healthy. With the diversification

of occupations and spread of education, the social barriers are gradually breaking down. The rigidity and the rigours of the caste system have disappeared to a large extent. As a result, cases of inter-caste and inter-provincial marriages have increased and society has become homogenous except in a few instances, where untouchability persists, particularly in the rural areas where the legislation for the abolition of untouchability has not so far made any very serious impact. The extension of general and technical education has opened up new vistas of employment in the schemes drawn up under the Five-year Plans. Women have shed their shyness and have secured for themselves a place side by side with men in society. The people have become politically conscious and take intense interest in the elections whether they be of the panchayats, the State legislature or of parliament. With the increase in agricultural production and the higher prices fetched by the farm products, the purchasing power of agriculturists has gone up tremendously enabling them to spend liberally on social requirements. With the introduction of the Panchayati Raj the farmers have acquired valuable insight into village administration and political power which has to be reckoned with especially in the elections to the district and higher level institutions.

STATEMENT I Area and Population

Reference Page No. 57

District and Tahsil	Area in sq. km.		Population			
	1971		1961		1951	
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Mainpuri District						
Total	4,254.0	4,349.6	14,45,534	7,88,435	6,34,051	5,45,943
Rural	4,233.5	4,329.5	13,23,512	7,21,952	5,87,091	5,06,644
Urban	20.5	20.1	1,22,022	66,483	47,860	39,299
Jasrana Tahsil						
Total	822.3	822.3	2,47,432	1,33,766	1,06,289	92,756
Rural	822.3	822.3	2,47,432	1,33,766	1,06,289	92,756
Shikohabad Tahsil						
Total	766.6	768.7	3,13,328	1,71,448	1,36,019	1,16,171
Rural	756.6	758.1	2,71,314	1,48,296	1,18,952	1,02,296
Urban	10.0	10.6	42,014	23,152	17,067	13,875
Karhal Tahsil						
Total	565.9	566.2	1,69,189	92,919	73,086	65,082
Rural	565.0	565.3	1,59,701	87,823	68,875	61,681
Urban	0.9	0.9	9,488	5,096	4,211	3,401
Mainpuri Tahsil						
Total	1,005.2	1,005.4	3,19,742	1,73,548	1,41,115	1,21,068
Rural	997.0	997.2	2,66,396	1,44,660	1,18,744	1,02,420
Urban	8.2	8.2	53,346	28,888	22,371	18,648
Bhongaon Tahsil						
Total	1,185.7	1,187.0	3,95,843	2,16,754	1,78,442	1,50,866
Rural	1,184.9	1,186.6	3,78,669	2,07,407	1,74,231	1,47,491
Urban	0.8	0.4	17,174	9,347	4,211	3,375

Notes-- 1. There has been no jurisdictional change in the district during the decade. The difference in area figures is due to revised calculation of area done by the Board of Revenue.

2. According to Central Statistical Organisation the area of the district in 1971 was 4,254.0 sq. km.

MAINPURI DISTRICT

STATEMENT II FAIRS

Reference Page No. 57

Place	Name of fair or its association with	Date	Average daily attendance
1	2	3	4
TAHSIL JASRANA			
Baragaon	Ram Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	500
Eka	Ram Lila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 3-12	600
Jasrana	Ditto	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 3-12	1,500
Khaigarah	Ram Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	500
Santhi	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	500
TAHSIL SHIKOHABAD			
Madanpur	Cattle fair	Jyaistha, <i>krishna</i> 10 <i>sukla</i> 10	2,000
Ditto	Ditto	Magha, <i>sukla</i> 5 to Phalguna, <i>Krishna</i> 6	1,000
Mohammadpur Newada	Ditto	Magha, <i>sukla</i> 5	1,000
Nayar	Ditto	Phalguna, <i>sukla</i> 2	1,500
Rupaspur	Ditto	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13 to <i>sukla</i> 7	1,000
Shikohabad M. B.	Ditto	Chaitra, <i>krishna</i> 6-8	3,000
Ditto	Ditto	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> to Asvina <i>krishna</i> 2	2,000
Ditto	Ditto	Asadh <i>krishna</i> 2 to <i>sukla</i> 2	4,000
Tiliani	Ditto	Magha <i>krishna</i> 2 to <i>sukla</i> 2	2,000
Urawar	Ditto	Phalguna <i>krishna</i> 2	1,000
TAHSIL KARHAL			
Bhanti	Mela Bairao	Chaitra <i>krishna</i> 2	1,000
Karhal T. A.	Mela Kali Devi	Chaitra, <i>krishna</i> 8	1,000
Ditto	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10-15	4,000
Keshpur	Mela Thakurji	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 2	1,500
Rajapur	Mela Mahabirji	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	2,500
Tilora Daulat	Mela Mahadeoji	Chaitra, <i>Krishna</i> 8	1,500

Continued.

Continued:

CM. III-PEOPLE

MAINPURI DISTRICT

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Tahsil Mainpuri

Akbarpur Anhhha	Chaman Rishi-ka-Mela	Chaitra, sukla 9	05,00
Bidhuna	Kartika Purnima	Kartika, sukla 15	18,000
Bigiprai	Devi-ji-ka-Mela	Vaisakha, krishna 8-10	1,000
Chiror	D asakra Jyaishta	Jyaishta, sukla 10	2,000
Ganga Jamuni	Cattle fair	Phalguna, sukla 1-11	15,000
Isai Sarai	Mahadeoji-ka-Mela	Bhadra, 14 ..	1,000
Kurauli T. A.	Ramlila	Asvina, sukla 12	10,000
Mainpuri M. B.	Gur Purnima	Asadha, sukla 15	5,000
Ditto	Mela Dadh Kano	Bhadra, krishna 9	1,000
Ditto	Ram Lila	Asvina, krishna 11 to sukla 11	20,000
Ditto	Radha Ashtami	Asvina, krishna 8	1,000
Ditto	Kans-ka-Mela	Asvina, krishna 8 Chaitra, krishna 2	10,000
Mainpuri T. A.	Mela Hanuman Ji	Asvina, krishna 8	1,000
Masratpur	Dasahara Jyaishta	Jyaishta, sukla 10	2,000
Uddetpur	Mela Sri Devi Ji	Chaitra, krishna 8 to sukla	20,000
Ujhaiya Fakirpur	Devi-ji-ka-Mela	Chaitra, sukla 15	1,000

Tahsil Bhongaon

Alipur Khara	Cattle fair	Jyaishta, sukla 10 to Asvina, sukla 10	1,000
Avam Sarai	Ditto	Jyaishta, sukla 10 to Asvina, sukla 10	2,000
Bewar	Ditto	Jyaishta sukla 10 to Asvina sukla 10	1,000
Ditto	Ram Lila	Asvina, krishna 10 to sukla 15	5,000
Bhongaon T. A.	Ditto	Asvina, krishna 11 to sukla, 15	6,000
Kundi	Cattle fair	Jyaishta sukla 10 to Asvina sukla 10	1,000
Mahabatpur	Cattle	(Every Sunday and Wednesday Jyaishta sukla 10 to Asvina sukla 10)	1,500

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Land Utilisation and Reclamation

The statement below gives the decennial figures of area (in hectares) of land utilisation in the district from 1951 to 1971:

Utilisation purpose	1951	1961	1971
Cultivated area	266235	275580	282263
Culturable or cultivable area including forests, groves, fallows, etc.	52138	58986	62473
Uncultivated area	115237	100401	90896
Total area as per district land records	433610	434967	435632

Cultivated Area

The statement below gives the figures of net i.e. actually cultivated area in the district in the years 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Cultivated area (hectares)	Percentage of total area
1951-52	2,66,202	61.4
1961-62	2,75,580	63.4
1974-75	2,84,555	66.0

Cultivable or Culturable Land

Forest land, groves, fallows, waste lands like pastures and grazing grounds and land generally classified as unculturable or uncultivable due to high proportion of sand or *reh* (alkaline ingredient) in the soil or on account of ravine-scouring or overgrowth of dhak and other pernicious vegetations, constitute the culturable land. Some idea of its growth in size may be had from the following table :

Year	Culturable land (in hectares)
1951-52	52,138
1961-62	58,946
1974-75	62,75

Such land in 1974-75 included 7,418 hectares of forests, 2,432 hectares of groves, 18,788 hectares of culturable waste, 2,873 hectares of pastures, besides fallows measuring 31,247 hectares. Barren and *usar* land constituted 58,995 hectares and the total area of the land put to non-agricultural uses, e.g. that under water, roads, graveyards, etc. accounted for 26,745 hectares.

Precarious Tracts

The district suffers more from wet seasons than dry ones. In fact it is among the most secure from drought in the whole of the State, though there are tracts that are insufficiently protected by irrigation, notably those along the edge of the Yamuna.

In wet years the northern sandy tract particularly the portion lying north of the Grand Trunk Road, suffers from the overgrowth of *kans* grass and the cultivated area tends to decline. The Kali Nadi *terai* especially is liable to the effects of supersaturation. Another tract liable to evil effects from wet seasons is a groups of villages along the Bhognipur canal in the Sirsa Nadi tract of pargana Shikohabad, where *reh* formation is impeding cultivation. The canals which are of immense value to the district have nevertheless processed large quantities of *reh*. There are some 44 villages in pargana Shikohabad and 25 in tahsil Karhal in which the phenomenon is very manifest, and there are some others along the canals in tahsils Jasrana, Mainpuri and Bhongaon.

The *baisuri* weed has also seriously interfered with cultivation in 56 villages in the district, of which 49 lie in the Mustafabad pargana and 7 in Shikohabad pargana, these 56 villages forming one practically continuous group lying south of the Sengar river. Besides these Fakhrpur in pargana Barnahal and Qutabpur Buzurg, on the Karhal road, north of Karhal, are seriously infested with *baisuri*. The weed is a light green bushy plant, 25 cm. to 50 cm. high, with woody stalks and excessively long roots, and comes to maturity in May and June. During the rains it dries off temporarily, but in dry weather, and particularly in years of scanty rainfall, overruns fallow land. The Kharif harvest is generally unaffected, but in the Rabi, it is a serious pest if it is not weeded out very carefully entailing large expenses. Canal water is the only satisfactory remedy as the plant cannot withstand copious irrigation and on this account it is not complained of in areas covered by canals. The weed flourishes in *dumat* soils only. In pargana Mustafabad it is associated in many villages with brackish or alkaline well water, which is used sparingly, if at all, for irrigation.

No doubt, the spread of the weed is connected with the brackish water in the 'bitter water tract', which appears to be a continuation of that in the adjacent Etah and Mathura districts. Neither the weed nor the alkalinity have been proved to be one the cause of the other, nor has any scientific local study been conducted into the extent or the causation of the spread of either. It would appear, however, both from the traditions of the villagers and from the records of well-water, that they are both actually spreading.

Soil Conservation

The bed of the river Yamuna in the south of the district is very deep. As a result there are very extensive ravines (*behars*) in this part which have eaten away large chunks of fertile cultivated area. It is estimated that the total area of such land in the district is about 46,000 hectares. In the extreme north there is a belt of *bhur* land which can be utilised for intensive cultivation after proper leveling. There are also vast *usar* plains in the district, the reclamation of which has been a challenge to the agriculturists.

The government has taken up soil conservation schemes in the district since 1964-65 and in 1974-75, there were five soil conservation units working at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Kurauli, Bewar and Baroli.

The following statement gives the area of land covered under various soil conservation works till 1974-75:

Work	Area covered (in hectares)
Ravine reclamation	13,360
Contour bunds	9,522
<i>Usar</i> reclamation	931
Dry farming	1,340
Conservation of soil through adoption of scientific irrigation practices	641

IRRIGATION

The district has ample means of irrigation like canals, wells, including tube-wells, *jhils* and rivers. The rivers are not of much direct use for irrigation, but their *khadir* or *tarai*, needs, as a rule, no further watering for growing good crops. An unsatisfactory feature of the canals has been that in the years of scanty rainfall, there is a short supply of water in them due to the low level of the Ganga and

the diversion of water in the canals to the less favoured districts lower down the doab. The Ramganga project, taken up in 1962 and nearing completion and the Tehri project, to be taken up in the near future are meant not only to augment the supply of water in the canals but also to increase the number of branches and distributaries in the area. Wells and tube-wells constitute a major and more reliable source of irrigation. As a result, their number is quite numerous in the district.

The statement below gives the figures of gross irrigated area in the district in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Gross area irrigated (in hectares)
1951-52	1,52,098
1961-62	1,30,156
1974-75	2,21,962

Means of Irrigation

The statement given below shows the extent of area irrigated from the canals, wells (including tube-wells) and other sources in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Area irrigated from wells, including tube-wells (in hectares)	Area irrigated from canals (in hectares)	Area irrigated from other sources (in hectares)
1951-52	68,558	77,245	6,295
1961-62	52,884	59,650	5,700
1974-75	1,38,369	78,820	4,773

Wells—Wells continue to be an important source of irrigation in the district. Even after the advent of the canals in the district during the close of the last century, the area irrigated from the wells has not shown any decrease. Formerly the kutchha wells were quite numerous, but their uneconomic nature has resulted in the increase in the number of pakka wells. The following figures regarding the number of pakka and kutchha wells being used for irrigation in the district are interesting :

Year	No. of wells	
	—Pakka	Kutchha
1951-52	16,617	12,098
1961-62	17,337	3,941
1974-75	14,440	34

Since the fifties of the present century, the tube-wells have given a new, scientific and more economic shape to the well-irrigation system. Besides the government taking up the programme of constructing state tube-wells, the cultivators are also provided with liberal financial assistance by the government and the nationalised banks for installing their own pumping sets and Persian wheels in the wells. There were 258 state tube-wells in the district in 1975, providing irrigation to an area of 31,700 hectares. The tube-wells have proved most useful and beneficial in the tahsils of Jasrana and Shikohabad.

Under various schemes taken up in the district since 1951-52 for the installation of private irrigation works, generally named as minor irrigation works, 12,621 new pakka wells, were constructed and 26,889 wells were bored, 14,016 Persian wheels and 19,280 pumping sets (operated by electricity or diesel oil) were installed till the year 1974-75. These sources were capable of providing irrigation to an area of 1,55,876 hectares.

Canals—The Ganga canal originating from the river Ganga at Hardwar was for the first time opened in 1854 and its two branches, the Kanpur and the Etawah ones, traversed the district. The amount of irrigation obtained from the canal was very limited, so it was decided by the government to remodel and supplement the supply of the water by a new canal taken out of the Ganga at a lower point. A new canal, named the lower Ganga canal, was taken out of the Ganga at Narora in Aligarh district and feeding the Kanpur and Etawah branches by a supply channel, it finally terminates in the Isan Nadi in this district through the Bewar branch opened in 1880. The work was taken up in 1872 and completed in 1880, when four branches of the lower Ganga canal were opened for irrigation in the district. They are the Bhongipur branch, the Etawah branch, the Kanpur branch and the Bewar branch. They cover the whole of the district. The total length of these branches and their distributaries is

nels in the district is about 1,220 km. With the additional water available by the commissioning of the Ramganga project, the supply of water in the canals in the district has increased and nearly 23 km. of new channels had been constructed up to the year 1974.

Drainage Lines

As briefly mentioned in the opening chapter of this gazetteer, the natural drainage lines of the district have been to a great extent interfered with by the canals, and resort has, therefore, been had to artificial channels. It will be most convenient to consider them in connection with the various canals. In the central tract, where the Kanpur branch follows the watershed of the Isan and Arind, several artificial channels have been made to induce the obstructed drainage to fall into one or the other of these rivers. To the left bank of the canal are cuts at Bharera (in Etah), Sathni Dalippur, Nagla Golal (Kurauli), Nagla Galabi, Raihar, Pusena, Bhanwant, Singhpur and Ajitganj, leading into the Isan. On the other bank, drains have been dug at Pachawar, Rustampur, Kasardh, Chinari, Nagla Sujampur (Bhanwat) and Sathgawan leading into the Arind, which has been widened near Gopalpur and Uresar in connection with the Arind Nadi improvement. There are two syphons under the Tarha distributary, and along the Etawah branch, especially in its south-eastern portion where a considerable amount of artificial drainage has been found necessary. There are drainage cuts at Jodhpur, Patikra, Kusiari, Jarasi (Kosma) Dibrauli, Sikandarpur Patara and Gangsi into the Arind, and at Koson, Jawapur, Agrapur, Urthan, Nitaoli, Begampur and Karhal into the Sengar. There are also numerous syphons on the distributaries of this branch. The Bhognipur branch below Jera (Eka) crosses by syphon the Sengar at Yaghmurpur Patrai, the Senhar at Dihuli and the Sirsa at Araunj near Shikohabad. Near Raseni the Sengar has been improved, and two cuts on either side of the canal join the river at its crossing. The Bhognipur and Fatehpur Katona drainage is syphoned under the canal at the 12th mile and flows northward into the Sengar. There is a small drain at Chhichhamai near Shikohabad, falling into the Sirsa on its right bank and on the left bank is the Nagla Balua drain. The Aonri and Dundiamai drains fall into the Nandia ravine at Siarmau Ram Lal and the Kesri upin meets the same ravine in Fatehpur Karkha, from where

their drainage falls into the Yamuna, cutting with disastrous effect through the fertile *bhagna* of Punchha. From Bhandri eastwards the country along the main canal suffered severely from water-logging in the wet period and numerous drains have been dug to give relief and prevent the growth of *reh*, which seems to have been unknown prior to the construction of this canal. On the north of the canal are the Surajpur, Ahmadpur, Chirhaoli and Bachhemai drainage cuts flowing into the Sirsa, and on the south flowing into the Patsui Nala are the Patsui, Ujrai, Jahemai, Amhar, Rajaura, Bachhemai, Nagla Tal, Alampur, Jhapta, Lahtai and Machhela drains. There are syphons under the Ahmadpur, Surajpur, Khonrai Bhadan, Ujrai, Ubti, Nain, and Hanwantkhera distributaries and a syphon under the main canal at Aswa. On the Bewar branch there are drains into the Kali Nadi at Panwahi in connection with the Saraiya (Sarai Latif) escape, Walipur, Sirsa, Lahra, Bilon, Rajwana, Chaumajhi, Bewar, Sakat Bewar, Bajhera, Todarpur and Janaura. On the right bank of the Bewar branch flowing into the Isan or its distributaries are cuts at Rampura (flowing into the Kak), Sultanganj (flowing into Chhachha Nala), Bajhera and Arjunpur. The lower Ganga canal has a drainage cut at Sarabpur draining Eka, Uresar and the neighbourhood, Syphoning under the canal at Sarabpur and joining the Arind between Uresar and Eka. In Mainpuri town there are two drains carrying the water from two depressions near the police lines into the Isan, and a third drain connects with these two on the Bhongaon road.

AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

Land and Soils

The parent material of the soils of the district is generally calcareous. They are neutral to moderately alkaline and have sometimes well developed clay accumulation horizon in the subsoils. The organic matter and nitrogen reserve is low as a general rule and they have low to medium levels of phosphorus and potassium contents.

There are three main soil tracts, the northern sand tract between the Isan and the Kali, the central loam tract between the Isan and the Kak Nadi on the north and the Sirsa on the south and the southern mixed tract between the Sirsa and the Yamuna.

Of the four natural soils, *matiyar* is a stiff, unyielding clay of a dark colour, shrinking and cracking in dry weather

into a network of fissures, but expanding when moistened into a sticky clayey mass. In favourable circumstances *matiyar* yields good crops of rice and can also be utilised for the *rabi*. But its worst quality, known as *maiya* or *kabar* is a miserable soil capable of producing only poor rice and a scanty crop of barley.

The second natural soil is *bhur*, which is in all respects the opposite of *matiyar*, being loose and sandy and quite incapable of retaining moisture. *Bhur* can be ploughed at all seasons with little labour and rapidly absorbs the rainfall, allowing it to drain to the subsoil beneath. *Puth* is the name given to the *bhur* where it runs in even ridges above the level of the surrounding country. In the sandy circles of pargana Kurauli, there is a peculiar soil resembling but easily distinguished from *bhur*, which is known as *tikuriya*. It is harder and redder than *bhur*, and requires more watering than *bhur*. Neither *bhur* nor *matiyar* possess the characteristics of really good soils the maximum of productiveness is found in the soils which combine in moderate proportions the qualities of the two. These are the loams, *dumat* and *pilia* or *pira*, which form the remaining two natural soil divisions. *Dumat*, as its name implies, comprises sand and clay in almost equal proportions, while in *pilia* the sand somewhat predominates. The former is generally of a rich brownish colour, adhesive without tenacity, friable without looseness, slippery and greasy when wet, and with a soapy feeling when dry, and cutting like a cheese when ploughed wet. The *pilia*, as its name shows, is of a yellowish colour. A mixture of *dumat* and sand, found in Kurauli, is there called *milauna*, and the red sand underlying the watershed between the Isan and the Kali is known as *kabasa*.

For revenue purpose the soils are classified on the basis of their situation in relation to the village site. The belt immediately surrounding the village site which is always well-manured and highly cultivated, is known as *gauhan* or *bara* and pays the highest revenue. The next strip, which shares to a less degree in the same advantages, is called *manjha*, of which the outlying land are termed *barha*. Soils are also classified according to their position in relation to the rivers and their levels or altitude. They are the *bangar* or upland and *terai* or the lowlying alluvial strip along the river valleys. In the Yamuna ravine tract there is a further local subdivision, the *uparhar* or the land on the plateau level, the *behar* or ravine proper where are found some inferior soils known as

jhori and *dands*; and the *kachhar* and *tir* soils along side the streams and the *bhagna* or old bed of the river.

Cultivation

Since about the close of the last century when the canals were opened for irrigation, a marked change in the technique and pattern of cultivation has been noticeable in the district. The Krishi Sabha, a voluntary organisation, established in 1908, with the collaboration of the agriculture department commenced educating the farmers in the use of new implements, better seeds and improved cultural practices. From 1950 onwards, with a further increase in irrigation facilities provided by the state tube-wells and other private minor irrigation works, considerable progress in the farming pattern has been achieved, particularly in the extension, of the double-cropped (*dofasli*) area and also in the crops themselves, the more valuable and high-yielding staples having largely taken the place of the indigenous varieties that constituted the principal products in the district till the fifties of the present century.

Harvests

The agricultural year is divided into the three generally recognised seasons of harvests which here also go by the usual names of *kharif*, *rabi* and *zaid*. The last named is of very little importance and consists of melons, *kakri*, *khira*, vegetables, spices, tobacco, legumes and a number of low grade cereals. The cucurbitaceae are mostly grown in the *khadirs* and along the sandy banks of the rivers. The *kharif* crops are sown in Asadha-Sravana and reaped in Asvina-Kartika after the cessation of the rains, usually well before the preparation of the fields for the *rabi* sowings, which begin in October-November i.e. Kartika-Agrahayana and are harvested in April-May (Chaitra-Vaisakha-Jyaistha). The relative figures of the area covered by the *kharif*, *rabi* and the *dofasli* crops in the district are given below :

Year	Area under <i>kharif</i> (in hectares)	Area under <i>rabi</i> (in hectares)	<i>Dofasli</i> area (in hectares)
1951-52	1,55,153	1,81,110	51,140
1961-62	1,80,934	1,79,659	86,934
1974-75	1,75,074	2,12,263	1,04,702

Principal Crops

Kharif—Jowar, *bajra* and maize were the main *kharif* harvests in the district till the beginning of the present century. In the intervening period, mainly because of the extension of the irrigation facilities, the cropping pattern has much changed in the district. The area under jowar has now very much decreased and rice and maize have very appreciably gained in area. Now the main *kharif* cereals in the district in order of the area they cover are, maize, *bajra*, and rice. Among the *kharif* pulses *urd*, *moong* and *moth* are the main crops though they occupy very small areas.

The following statement gives some details about the areas under the main *kharif* cereals and their yield in the district in 1971-72 :

<i>Kharif</i> crops	Area sown (in hectares)	Total production (in tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (in quintals)	Average yield per hectare in State (in quintals)
Maize	48,070	34,635	7.21	5.65
<i>Bajra</i>	42,512	31,025	7.29	5.58
Rice	39,002	33,829	8.67	7.98
Jowar	6,817	3,149	4.62	3.67
<i>Urd</i>	464	73	1.58	1.86
<i>Moong</i>	25	5	1.92	1.55
<i>Moth</i>	112	34	3.05	3.05

Rabi—In the *rabi* the lead is taken by wheat, which is the most valuable of all the food-grains. It is sown alone as well as mixed with barley, gram, pea or mustard. The area under pure wheat has no doubt increased in recent years, but the old practice of sowing it mixed with other crops has not altogether disappeared. Barley was a favourite *rabi* crop in the past and it maintained its hold till the fifties of the present century when it occupied more than 20,234 hectares in the district. Thereafter its area continued to decline and by 1971-72 it had gone down to a mere 11,757 hectares. Other important *rabi* cereals are gram and pea. Of the pulses only *arhar* and *masur* are important. An interesting feature of *arhar* is that it is sown with the main *kharif* crops and harvested after most of the *rabi* crops. This is perhaps why it is hardly ever sown as a single crop, being usually combined with *bajra* or jowar

which are harvested by November, leaving it standing alone in the field. It surpasses *masur* in point of area sown with it.

The following statement gives some particulars about the areas under the principal *rabi* cereals and their yields in the district in 1971-72. The district averages surpass the State averages for all the major *rabi* cereals :

<i>Rabi</i> crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average yield per hectare in State (quintals)
Wheat	1,24,953	1,61,487	12.92	12.66
Gram	17,466	18,379	10.52	7.88
Barley	11,757	17,797	15.14	10.41
Peas	16,213	21,071	13.00	8.30
<i>Arhar</i>	5,844	10,360	17.74	12.81
<i>Masur</i>	61	42	6.86	6.35

Non-food Crops

Sugarcane, oil-seeds like ground-nut, mustard, sesame, rapeseed and linseed, vegetables and fruits, sunn-hemp, jute, cotton and tobacco are the non-food crops in the district. The district has never been a sugarcane producing area. Cotton, indigo and tobacco were flourishing cash crops in the district till the early years of the present century. But their cultivation has very much declined and now indigo has totally disappeared from the district and cotton and tobacco cover very insignificant areas.

The district is an important ground-nut and oil-seeds growing areas and stood second in the Agra division in 1971-72, for the areas under them and their total yield. Vegetables, though they occupy a small area in the district, specially around the towns and, large villages, constitute valuable crops. Potato is one of the most important of these and covers the largest area of all the vegetables. The district was first in point of area and total yield of potato in the whole of the Agra division in 1971-72. The statement given below provides information about the areas under important cash crops and their yields in the district in 1971-72:

Crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district	Average yield per hectare in State
1	2	3	4	5
Sugarcane	1,965	59,946	305.07	387.35
Ground-nut	10,559	4,781	4.53	5.59
Mustard and rape-seed	778	3,219	3.67	3.76
Til	668	128	1.92	1.30
Cotton	95	52	0.99	0.93
Sunn-hemp	244	94	3.85	3.85
Tobacco	96	92	9.58	9.81
Potato	6,565	62,955	95.89	95.89

Improvement of Agriculture

The ever-increasing demand for food-grains necessitated far-reaching improvements and changes in the pattern and technique of agriculture. After the achievement of independence, the development of agriculture has been given an important place in the country's Five-year Plans. Scientific methods of growing crops by proper tillage, sufficient and timely manuring and watering, sowing of seeds of improved and high-yielding varieties and protection of crops against pests and diseases, have been popularised among the cultivators through publicity and laying out demonstrations in the fields.

Seed Supply

The most common high-yielding varieties of seeds of cereals are the exotic paddy and millets, hybrid maize, Mexican wheat, U. P. wheat, U. P. maize and Hybrid *bajra*.

Seeds are supplied by the government through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture department and the Pradeshik Co-operative Federation. There were 60 such seed stores in the district in 1974-75, and they distributed nearly 18,166 quintals of seeds of *kharif* and *rabi* crops in that year. The seed stores, however, meet only a small fraction of the total demand of the farmers for them, the bulk being supplied by the local dealers who obtained them from the National Seeds Corporation and Tarai Seed Development Corporation, Pantnagar, and other agencies or through mutual exchange. The two government farms at Karauli and Gaggarpur are also en-

gaged in the production of improved seeds and they produced nearly 940 quintals of *kharif* and *rabi* cereals in 1974-75. The seeds grown in the farms are also sold to the farmers for further multiplication. Under the seed saturation programme it is proposed to get the entire areas under the *kharif* and *rabi* crops sown with improved and high-yielding varieties of seeds. Till 1974-75 the achievement in the seed saturation programme in the district was 45 per cent in *kharif* and 65 per cent in *rabi*.

Soil Nutrients

The traditional manures are cattle dung, farm refuse and stable litter. The usefulness of green manure crops, such as *lobia*, *guar*, *dhaincha*, *sanai* and *moong* which provide nitrogenous matter to the soil and increase its fertility is being increasingly realised by the cultivators. The seed stores distributed more than 1,000 quintals of seeds of green manure crops and a total area of 27,465 hectares was covered by such crops in 1974-75.

The application of chemical fertilisers, has become quite popular among the cultivators. The nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are the most widely used ones. The seed stores meet a small part of the total requirement of fertilisers, the bulk being obtained by the cultivators from licensed dealers. The total quantity of fertilizers distributed in the district by the government and various private agencies in 1971-72 was 8,250 tonnes. The seed stores of the agriculture department supplied 3,080 tonnes of chemical fertilizers to the cultivators in 1974-75. The government also distributed *taqavi* and loans amounting to Rs.2,50,000 for the purchase of chemical fertilisers, seeds and improved agricultural implements in the same year.

Agricultural Implements and Machines.

The farmers make their own arrangement for the purpose of improved implements, which are also sold through the agriculture department and the State Agro-Industrial Corporation. In the five year period from 1970-71 to 1974-75 a total sum of Rs.5,83,89,200 was disbursed in the district as *taqavi* and loans for agricultural purposes.

Rotation of Crops and Mixed Cropping

The practice of leaving the fields fallow for at least one season was considered necessary to allow land time to recuperate its fertility. But of late this practice is being abandoned as the system of

rotation of crops and mixed cropping are proving more beneficial by giving increased yields and also relieving soil exhaustion. The agriculture department, agricultural universities and research centres are evolving better and more scientific rotations and mixtures of crops and propagating them among the farmers. The most common rotations being practised in the district are maizz-wheat, maize-potato-tobacco, paddy-wheat, maize-early potato-late-potato, *bajra*-wheat, ground-nut-wheat and green manure wheat. The system of mixed cultivation of land gives an additional harvest increasing the overall yield and making for the maximum utilisation of the nutrients and other inputs. Almost always *arhar* is sown mixed with jowar, *urd*, til or ground-nut; *bajra* with *urd*, *arhar* or ground-nut, wheat with gram, pea or mustard; barley with gram or pea; maize with *urd*, and cotton with *urd*. Potato is sown mixed with *Methi* (fenugreek) or onion, sugar-cane with *moong* and rainy season vegetables and late paddy with coriander or fenugreek.

Agricultural Co-operatives

The practice of cultivating the land jointly (*Sajha*) is very old. Forest and pasture lands are still used in common. Farmers of ten pool their implements, bullocks, and labour for a season or two. Costly implements and machines like tractors and threshers are also usually owned or hired jointly and used in rotation.

In recent times co-operative societies have been formed in the villages for farming, distribution of seeds, loans, fertilisers, implements, cattle breeding, marketing, etc. In 1974-75 there were in the district, 30 seed stores, 4 agricultural marketing societies at Mainpuri, Bewar, Shikohabad and Ghiror, 455 co-operative credit societies and 30 co-operative farming societies.

Horticulture

The district is well-wooded on the whole, except the comparatively bare *usar* plains. In addition to the tree jungle it is abundantly provided with groves of fruit and timber trees.

The total area of groves and fruit orchards in the district was 2,432 hectares in 1974-75 tahsil Bhogaon having the largest such area, 1,546 hectares. For the most part the groves consist of mango, *jamun*, tamarind, guava and *ber*, trees and papaya and banana plants. The horticultural needs of the district are met by the government nursery at Mainpuri and the horticulture garden at Agra. In 1974-75, the government supplied in the district, 26,810 fruit

plants, 12,00,000 seedlings of vegetables and 25 quintals of seeds of vegetables, flowers and other commercial crops.

Agricultural Pests and Diseases

The district losses, on an average, 15 to 20 per cent of its agricultural produce every year due to the depredation of various pests and diseases. These pests are usually insects, birds, animals like the nilgai, stray cattle and jackals and rodents like rats and rabbits. The only way that the villagers have of protecting their crop is by watching them, scaring them away and at times filling the fields with water. Poisoned bait and fumigation are also used sometimes for destroying the rats. Insects, however, are the most destructive of these. They include white ant, aphid, grasshoppers, pyrrilla, white-fly, cotton leaf roller, red-pumpkin beetle, lemon butterfly, singhara-beetle, caterpillars and *gujia*. Spraying and dusting of insecticides and pesticides are carried out by the local plant protection staff in the district at moderate charges. The grain in the stores is also destroyed by the weevils and *pai*, D. D. T. and B. H. C. powder is used, besides fumigation, to save the grain from these pests. Plant diseases like rust, smut, blight canker and various other diseases are harmful to wheat, barley, jowar, *bajra*, gram, *arhar*, fruit, like lemon and oranges, tomatoes and chillies. The methods of controlling and checking them are sowing of disease-resistant seeds, treatment of seeds with chemicals before sowing and timely spraying of insecticides and pesticides over the crops. The diseased plants are also weeded out and burnt to check the spread of disease in the whole crop.

The most common weeds which harm the crops are the *hiran khuri*, *baisuri*, *doob* and *bathua*. Weeding and interculturing are the usual methods that are adopted by the cultivators to destroy them.

Being near the desert area in Rajasthan the district is susceptible to locust invasions. They do immense harm to the standing crops when they visit and settle down in any area, the loss to crops ranging from 80 to 90 per cent.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

There are no peculiar breeds of domestic cattle in the district, and the animals are for the most part of the ordinary type. In the early years of the present century some attempts were made to improve the breed. Stud bulls were imported from Hissar,

two of them a cross between a Nagor bull and a Haryana cow. There was a great demand for their services and the experiment was a success. Two bulls, one each of Khairigarh and Kosi breed were also later brought in and stationed at Baroli and Arjunpur. At Sirsaganj, Ghiror, Karhal, Ganga Jamuni, Shikohabad, Lakhra pur and Bhongaon in the district are held important cattle fairs. The climate of the district is too dry and grazing too scanty for successful horse breeding. The common country ponies are of small size and of poor stock. The live-stock population of the district, according to the live-stock censuses of 1961—1965 was as follows:

Live-stock	1961	1966
Cattle	2,34,511	2,54,673
Buffaloes	3,27,060	3,73,282
Goats	82,343	95,259
Sheep	38,155	66,223
Pigs	15,434	1,729

Sheep and goats are generally reared by the Gadariyas for their flesh and skin. Goat milk is useful for patients suffering from stomach troubles and often sells costlier than cows or buffaloes milk. Wool obtained from the sheep is used for making coarse blankets locally. The bulls, male buffaloes, ponies donkeys, camels and mules are the main beasts of burden besides being used as draught animals.

Development of Live-stock

Considerable progress has been made in recent years in improving the breed of the cattle through selective breeding, culling undesirable animals and upgrading indigenous cattle by improved bulls of well-known and tried Indian breeds, distribution of seed of improved varieties of fodder and cattle feed at moderate prices. Artificial insemination service for breeding cows and buffaloes has been started in the district and there were 12 centres for this purpose in 1974-75. More than 1,36,456 cows and buffaloes were served with artificial insemination at these centres in the years 1973-74 and 1974-75. Loans are also given by the government to breeders for the purchase of cows and buffaloes of improved stock. An amount of Rs 7,200 was distributed for this purpose in the afore-mentioned two years.

For improving the breed of sheep and goats pedigree stud rams and bucks of Barbari and Jamunapari stock are stationed at the veterinary hospitals and are also distributed among the breeders.

Poultry Development

Poultry farming is rapidly gaining ground with the increasing demand for animal protein. According to the live-stock census of 1966 the total number of poultry birds in the district was 37,078. To encourage poultry farming as a subsidiary industry in the rural areas, the government supplies birds of improved breeds. There was one poultry farm with 400 birds at Mainpuri in 1975. Nearly 31,552 birds were distributed by the government in the district in the two years 1973-74 and 1974-75.

Cattle Diseases and Treatment

The common cattle diseases are rinderpest (*pokna*), malignant sorethroat (*galaghontu*), black-quarter (*padsuja*), anthrax (*tilsuj*), dysentery (*pechis*), foot-and mouth disease (*khurha*) and haemorrhagic septicaemia.

There is a live-stock officer who is in charge of the animal husbandry department in the district. To help him there is a veterinary officer, who looks after the schemes related to improving the breed of live-stock through artificial insemination. There were 19 veterinary hospitals and 24 stockman centres in the district in 1975. During the last two years (1973-74 and 1974-75) the total numbers of animals treated, vaccinated and castrated at these dispensaries and centres were 2,52,524 and 1,37,451 and 43,839, respectively.

Housing and Feeding

Domestic animals are generally housed in thatched kutcha sheds, pakka and well-ventilated byres with roofs of iron or asbestos sheets are to be seen only in the government farms and farms owned by big cultivators. Government provides monetary help to the cultivators for constructing community cattle-sheds.

Grazing facilities for the cattle are available in the forests, waste lands, groves and harvested or fallow fields. On the canal banks and within the precincts of the railways, cattle are allowed to graze under stipulated conditions. In 1974-75, the total area covered by culturable waste land, pastures, forests and fallow land was 59,863 hectares. Barren, *usar* and unculturable land measured 85,740 hectares in the same year.

The crops which provide cattle fodder are maize, jowar, *bajra*, *barseem*, *lobia* and *guar*. The husk and dried and crushed stalks

of wheat, barley, arhar, urd, moong, pea, gram and paddy are also used by the farmers to feed the cattle.

Fisheries

The fish found in the district are *nain*, *bhakur*, *rohu*, *karaunch*, *parhin*, *gonch*, *tengar*, *singhi*, *sauli* and *magur*. The best fishing is on the Kali and the Isan. *Mahseer* are also occasionally caught in the canals. The modes of fishing in vogue do not differ from those employed in other districts the sweep-net, hand-net, funnel-net, basket and dam being all made use of according to circumstances and locality. Nearly 500 fishermen's families in the district depend on fishing as a means of subsistence. The government has taken up a few schemes for the development of pisciculture in the district in the third Five-year Plan. Fingerlings are supplied by the government to private pisciculturists and *gaon* panchayats at concessional rates. Total number of fingerlings supplied by the government in the district for being hatched in the tanks, *jhils* and ponds from 1966-67 to 1974-75 was about 16 lakhs.

FORESTRY

A considerable area of the barren land in the district is covered with dhak jungle, the remains of the extensive belt of dhak which formerly ran through this district from Etawah in the south to Etah, Aligarh and Bulandshahr. At Uresar and Eka in the north of Mustafabad there are patches of such jungle. Stretches of the same jungle are noticed near Rasemar, Jawapur, Bidhuna and Pundri also while near Saman and Sauj, in the south-east of the district, there is, besides dhak, a great deal of waste land covered with the coarse grass known locally as *ganra* (*gandar*) or *sinkh*. It is used for thatching and for making ropes and mats. The lower pointed leaves are known as *patel* and are used for thatching, the leaves close to the stalks are called *munj* and used for making ropes, the stalks are called *sirki* or *senta*. The babul grows in large clumps on the *usar* plains, it is indeed the only tree which flourishes there. That is why its plantation has been encouraged in the district. Its timber which is hard and close-grained is useful for building purposes, fuel, and charcoal. Its bark is used in tanning and its gum in medicine and in dyeing. The roadside and canal avenues abound in plantations of mango, *jamun*, guava, neem and *shisham*.

The total area of the forests in the district in 1974-75 was 6,960 hectares, of which an area of 4,709 hectares was under the forest

department and the remaining area was under the management of the *gaon* panchayats.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

Famines

There are no records of the famines which afflicted the district in the eighteenth century or before it, but there is little room for doubt that the district must have shared in the great droughts that devastated the northern parts of the country in 1770 and 1783 and unprotected as it then was by the canals, it must have suffered from the full violence of those visitations. During the early years of the nineteenth century a succession of droughts and famines afflicted the whole doab. In early 1803, the crops were much injured by hail-storms and the failure of rains resulted in almost total loss of the *kharif*, a calamity followed by the failure of the winter rains, and consequent partial loss of the *rabi*. The distress was great and widespread, and, though to some extent relieved by large suspensions of revenue and fair harvests in 1805-06, left the country in no position to face another untimely cessation of the monsoon in August 1806, and the consequent loss to the *kharif*. The years 1810 and 1812 were also years of drought and in 1813-14, the scarcity was serious enough to be declared famine. Drought also visited the district in a number of years between 1814 and 1837 but that of the latter year caused a really severe famine. Cultivation was in a very bad shape and the condition of cultivators and their cattle was pitiable. The famine of 1860-61, found the district authorities better prepared to meet it. As a relief measure the construction of the Shikhabad road was taken up and an amount of Rs 29,665 was spent on providing relief to the famine-stricken people. Government distributed an advance of Rs 20,113 to the cultivators for the purchase of seeds and cattle and remissions of the unrealised amount totalling Rs 1,06,421 were allowed. In 1877, the rains failed almost entirely. Less than a third of normal *kharif* area was sown and the germination was hopelessly poor. In the south-west of the district near the Yamuna, the drought was most severe. A number of road works were taken up and a poor-house was opened at Mainpuri and a large number of persons was provided with relief through it till December 1878.

In 1896, the rainfall was deficient, but by this time the district was no longer dependent on rainfall alone. Four main branches

of the lower Ganga canal now protected it, and nearly fifty per cent of the *kharif* was saved. Barnahal and Shikohabad were the only parganas in which the scarcity was at all severely felt, and to them assistance was provided in various ways. Advances were given for the construction of wells. Two poor-houses, one each at Mainpuri and Shikohabad, were opened and improvement work on the Shikohabad-Batesar road was undertaken as a relief measure. The famine of 1906-07 scarcely affected the district at all and in the following year it was nearly as fortunate. In 1913 and 1918 the rains were deficient and ceased prematurely, adversely affecting the *kharif*. The years from 1928 to 1932 were of general distress in this part of the country. Droughts and hail-storms visited the district adversely affecting the crops. The depression of 1931 was critical in the sense that the prices of *kharif* and *rabi* crops had gone down to such an extent that the cultivators were unable to pay even their rent. During the last 25 years, drought hit the district in 1964-65, 1965-66 and in 1967-68 but the damage caused to the crops was not serious enough to warrant the taking of any relief measures.

Floods

Records of the rainfall in the district available from 1844, exhibit very noticeable fluctuations. The average rainfall during the six years ending 1849-50 was only 502 mm., but between 1860 and 1873, it had risen to 815 mm. The decade 1881-90 was a decidedly wet one and was exceedingly disastrous on account of the floods and water-logging which it brought about, and the average rainfall came to be 887 mm., exceeding 1,016 mm. in four of the years. In 1885 in which the Nadrai aqueduct was overtaken by disaster, the Bhongaon tahsil received no less than 1,421 mm. of rainfall. After the turn of the century the Isan was in heavy floods in October-November 1910, heavy rains continued for 17 hours between October 30 and November 1. Water entered the town of Mainpuri at several places and was about a metre deep.

In the statement given below are mentioned some details about the calamities which befell this district during the last 25 years. It would be seen that floods and water-logging have been almost an annual feature of the district variegated only by their extent and intensity.

Year	Calamity	Area or number of villages affected	Amount spent on relief measures (in rupees)	Amount of land revenue remitted (in rupees)
1934-36	Floods and water-logging	2,980 hectare	—	—
1936-37	Ditto	14,344	—	—
1937-38	Ditto	28,100	—	—
1938-39	Ditto	1,40,000	—	—
1939-40	Ditto	84,644	—	—
1940-41	Ditto	15,665	3,27,120	—
	Hail-storm	39 Villages	—	—
	Fires	531	—	—
1941-42	Floods and water-logging	152	1,10,000	3,83,037
	Hail-storm	39	—	—
	Fires	—	—	—
1942-43	Floods and water-logging	1,128	—	—
	Frost	198	—	—
	Hail-storm	41	—	—
	Fires	23	—	—
1943-44	Water-logging frost, hail-storm and fires	180	—	—
1944-45	Water-logging, drought, hail-storm and fires	1,640	—	—
1945-46	Water-logging drought hail-storm and fires	1,530	—	—
1946-47	Water-logging, hail-storm, frost and fire	1,598	—	225 (for victims of fire)
1947-48	Drought, hail-storm and fire	1,440	—	1,420 (for victims of fire)
1948-49	Water-logging, hail-storm, frost and fires	260	—	—

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CHAPTER V INDUSTRIES

The district has a sound agricultural base but the industrial potential is low. The lack of enterprise and technical training and insight among the people has been the major constraint in the industrial growth of the district. For lack of information it is not possible to trace the development of industries and the level of excellence achieved in them in the past, but it is certain that in the ancient times and also in the Mughal period many villages of this region constituted self-sufficient economic units producing their own cloth, crude agricultural implements and other necessities of life. It is, however, likely that during the peaceful reigns of the first five Mughal emperors, some handicrafts prospered and received considerable encouragement from them.

The old time manufactures of the district are few but significant. A considerable amount of crude glass was manufactured in the district and was exported to other parts of the country. A certain amount of the glass was worked up into bangles at Jasrana and Urmara Kirar near Shikohabad in particular. The glass was prepared from the *reh*, or saline efflorescence, found plentifully on the *usar* plains, especially in the neighbourhood of canals. Glass-making was not confined to any particular caste, but was chiefly practised by Muslims, and the manufacturer was always an independent man, employing hired labour. As far as the making of glass bangles was concerned, the glass was once more melted and mixed with the colouring matter. The bangle makers were invariably Muslims, and the furnaces generally belonged to one joint family, who shared expenses and profits equally. Boys were employed at the furnaces and outnumbered men, while women and girls were employed to tie up and pack the bangles. The average daily earnings were less than 12 paise per head, and it was only by making use of small children, who were not big enough for other work, that the manufacturer was made to pay. Mainpuri has also been noted for its beautiful wood-work inlaid with brass wire, known as *tarkashi* (wire-drawing). Artisans use the best dark *shisham* wood for the manufacture of clogs, penholders, small boxes of various shapes, plates and photograph frames of different kinds. They are carpenters, who are generally identical with *lohars* in this district. They buy chips or scraps of sheet brass and cut out a thin ribbon-like strips to form the wire. Stars were made of loops of this ribbon. The carpenter

does all the work himself. For the inlaying of a new or intricate design, the pattern is copied by a stencil from the original design. The chief drawback of this industry is that it is time-consuming and the articles are costly. With the modern trend towards mass manufacture, the prospects for this specialised handicraft do not appear to be very bright. The district produced ginned cotton about the end of the last century six power ginning mills were functioning. The district was also famous for the production of saltpetre, sometimes by a solar evaporative process which became obsolete. Nitre earth was common all over the district and in 1909, there were 295 factories at Mainpuri, Bewar, Bhongaon and Dihuli, which were kept running from the month of November until June and each factory produced from 50 to 100 maunds of crude saltpetre. The whole production of crude nitre was exported to the saltpetre refineries at Farrukhabad. For running a factory only three to four persons were required and the process of manufacture was simple. About the turn of the last century impure sulphate of soda (*khari*) was made at Nasirpur in 20 factories and a quantity of about 3,000 maunds of the material was exported to Kanpur leather factories.

Rassi, crude carbonate of soda also used to be made in the district. All these industries have almost ceased to be in vogue in the district now.

Power

Electric power is available in the district from the U. P. Grid. The per capita consumption of power was 35 K.H.W. in the district in 1969-70 while in the State it was 37 K. H. W. in that year.

The consumption of power in various sectors of the economy in the district in 1974 was as follows :

Sector	Total consumption of power (in units)	Number of connections
Industries	1,09,41,655	632
Agriculture and irrigation	1,40,95,144	4,151
Domestic, street and others	17,57,085	12,228

Rural Electrification—In 1969-70, 342 villages were electrified, their number increased to 343 in 1970-71, and to 394 till November 1975. The U. P. State Electricity Board intends to electrify every village having a population of 500, by the end of the Fifth Five-year Plan.

Large Scale Industries

There are two large scale units producing electric lamps, shells for glass lamps, glass tubing and strawboard.

Electric Lamps and Allied Articles—Established in 1952, the Hind Lamps Limited, Shikohabad, specialises in the manufacture of electric lamps, shells for lamps and glass tubing. In 1974 it had a net investment of Rs 292.33 lakhs and a total turnover of Rs 634.2 lakhs and employed 1,714 people. The raw materials used for the manufacture of these items are filament, lead wire, molybdenum wire, phosphate powder, aluminium strip, brass strip, soda ash and silica sand and their consumption in this unit in 1974 was valued at Rs 255 lakhs.

Strawboard—Shri Mahavir Strawboard Mills (Private) Limited, established in 1965 at Mainpuri, is engaged in the manufacture of strawboard. The raw materials used are bagasse and paddy straw. In 1974, the capital outlay of the factory amounted to Rs 21 lakhs, and it employed 104 persons, producing goods worth Rs 16,30,000 and consuming raw materials valued at Rs 2,40,000.

Small Scale Industries

Oils, wheatflour, dal, rice, engineering goods, chemicals, furniture, footwear, electric bulbs, bricks, and articles of glass, etc. are produced in a large number of small scale industrial units, which are mainly located in the urban centres.

The following statement gives comparative figures of progress of small scale industries in the district in 1956 and 1974 :

	1956	1974
Total number of units	316	361
Total number of persons employed	3,663	3,710
Total investment (in Rs)	45,73,740	1,99,36,234
Total production (in Rs)	1,38,98,500	1,33,44,000

The investments in the small scale industries sector have gone up by more than twice since 1956. It is, therefore, obvious that the small scale industries have tended to be markedly capital intensive.

The local small scale industries may be mainly classified as those processing agricultural products, manufacturing agricultural implements, chemicals, wooden furniture, electrical goods, leather goods, and glass articles.

Agro-based Industries—Oil from oil-seeds, dal from arhar, and rice from paddy are produced in 30 units which are located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj and Ghior. The units are operated by electric or diesel power.

Agricultural Implements and Allied Articles—Ploughs, crushers, buckets and motor parts are produced in 123 units located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj, Bawar and Kushamara. The units are operated by electricity and use iron and coal as raw materials. Chemicals sodium silicate, soap, cadmium sulphide, bone meals and ink are manufactured in 32 units which are located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad and Bhongaon. Soda ash, silica slate, yellow cadmium, folic acid and spirit are used as raw materials.

Furniture Making—Wooden furniture and allied articles are produced in 72 units, which are mainly located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj, Karhal, Jasrana, Bhongaon, Kushmara and Bawar.

Electrical Goods Manufacturing—Manufacture of electric lamps, and assembling radios and batteries are undertaken in 11 units, located at Mainpuri and Shikohabad.

Footwear—Shoes and chappals are manufactured in 52 units, located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj, Bawar, Kushmara and Kurauli.

Glass Industry—A variety of glass wares is manufactured in 5 units located at Shikohabad and Makhanpur. This industry was started in 1922 in the district. The raw materials is imported from Calcutta, Shankergarh, Katni, Amritsar and Ferozabad.

Other Industries—Bricks, dairy products, hosiery and printing work is done in 30 units which are located at Mainpuri, Jasrana and Shikohabad.

The following statement gives the total investment, value of goods produced and number of persons employed in the small-scale industries of the district in 1974 :

Industries	Total investment (in Rs)	Total production (in Rs)	Cost of raw materials consumed (in Rs)	Number of persons employed
Agro-based	1,04,58,974	6,20,000	5,80,00,000	335
Agricultural implements	35,02,152	72,00,000	50,00,000	804
Chemicals	19,96,673	11,00,000	10,00,000	170
Electrical goods	8,21,211	75,000	55,000	91
Furniture making	4,66,550	3,54,000	2,10,000	249
Footwear	8,34,757	3,20,000	2,00,000	210
Glass	Not available	2,75,000	1,40,000	1,250
Others	18,38,917	34,00,000	20,00,000	601

Village and Cottage Industries

The village and cottage industries include handicrafts handed down from generation to generation. *Telghani* (oil presses) carpentry, footwear, *moonj* products, soap-making, palm *gur*, pottery, basket-making, handloom cloth and combs are goods falling under this group of industries, which are manned and owned by particular sections of the village community.

A survey of the village and cottage industries in 1956 revealed the following salient information related to them :

Total number of units	34,661
Total number of persons employed	98,124
Total investment (in Rs)	5,43,900
Total cost of raw-materials used (in Rs)	80,07,890
Total value of goods produced (in Rs)	1,16,80,010

Telghani—There are 3 registered oil expellers in the district, located at Karhal, Bantapur and Signi, manned by 14 persons. Generally the machines are driven by bullocks. About 103 quintals of oil valued Rs61,853.50 was produced in 1974. Mustard seed worth Rs51,174 was used as raw material and the total investment of these units was Rs21,277.89.

Footwear—Shoe-making and the manufacture of other leather goods are the age-old industries, dependent mostly on traditional skill and workmanship. The shoes made conform mostly to indigenous designs and utilize locally tanned leather.

Though the industry is scattered throughout the district, only 9 units are registered. They are located at Sirsaganj, Karhal, Faradpur, Kuchela, Kergoat, Bewar and Mandhatra. Leather valued at Rs6,29,205 was used as raw material and 40,745 articles worth Rs9,10,132 were produced in 1974.

The total investment in these registered units manned by 141 persons was Rs1,04,556.60.

Ban Making—This industry is being run from time immemorial but at present there are only two registered units located at Kuberpur and Sarain Muslidhar in the district. The basic raw material, *moonj*, is easily available in the district. *Moonj* worth Rs23,825 was consumed in these units in 1974 when *ban* worth Rs16,450 was produced. The total investment in the industry, which employed 31 persons, amounted to Rs1,500.

Carpentry—Wooden frames for doors and windows, beds, wheels for carts, ploughs and some pieces of furniture are manufactured by old families of carpenters, but only one registered unit, located at Mainpuri,

is engaged in this industry. Wood worth Rs15,832.70 was consumed as raw material in 1974, and 319 items valued at Rs18,000, were produced. The total investment in the unit, which employed 11 persons, amounted to Rs12,391.89.

Soap—Washing-soap is manufactured in a registered unit which is located at Mainpuri. Non-edible oil, soda ash and silicate worth Rs2,400 were used as raw materials by this unit. The total investment in this industry amounted to Rs6,900 in 1974 while the production was valued at Rs2,880 and 9 persons were employed.

Gur Making—The production of *gur* from palm trees is done in a registered unit, located at Lahara. The total investment in this industry amounted to Rs 5,371 while the production was worth a sum of Rs3,160 and the raw material worth a sum of Rs2,647 was consumed in 1974. As many as 4 persons were engaged in this industry.

Dal and Rice Pounding—Rice is produced from paddy and dal from pulses in a registered unit located at Signi. A sum of Rs9,813 was invested in the industry in 1974, when rice and dal worth an amount of Rs2,195 were produced from paddy and pulse seeds costing Rs 2,030, and about 10 persons were employed in this industry.

Other Industries—Pottery, baskets, combs, handloom fabrics, smithy goods, utensils, tin goods and fire works are produced in a large number of unregistered units in the district.

Industrial Estate—At present there is no industrial estate in the district but there is a proposal for the establishment of two such estates one at Mainpuri and the other at Shikohabad in the Fifth Five-year Plan period.

Aid to Industries

Mainpuri is one of the industrially backward district of Uttar Pradesh. The U.P. Financial Corporation, which acts on behalf of the State Government also, as announced liberal terms for advancing loans to industrial units in such districts. A number of further concessions, like giving power subsidy, providing developed land of which the cost may be paid in instalments, price preference, exemption from sales-tax and octroi and supply of machinery on the hire-purchase system are given to new entrepreneurs to take up industrial ventures. As a mark of special concession to industrially backward regions, the repayment of loans advanced for the establishment of industrial units commences only after one to two years and even three to four years of the advancement of the loans in case of economically inferior units.

The Central Financial Institutions—Industrial Development Bank of India and the Industrial Financial Corporation of India advance loans

up to Rs.1 crore to entrepreneurs at a rate of interest lower by one per cent than the normal rate.

The U.P. Financial Corporation, Kanpur, extends assistance to industrial concerns on its own behalf also. Its own plan of disbursement is known as the corporation loan scheme, while the loans advanced on behalf of the State Government fall under the liberalised loans scheme and the ordinary loan scheme. Under the former scheme, loans are advanced at reduced rates of interest, and for longer periods extending upto 15 years. The corporation has been authorised to carry on and transact various types of business but at present it has confined its activities to the granting of loans to industrial concerns and the issue of deferred payment guarantees to industrial units for the purchase of indigenous machinery from manufacturers and suppliers, and acting as an agent of the State Government for various schemes. The corporation can grant loans under the corporation loan scheme to the extent of Rs 30,00,000 in the case of private and public limited companies or registered co-operative societies and Rs 15,00,000 in the case of proprietorship concerns. The rate of interest is 11.5 per cent per annum with a rebate of 2 per cent for prompt payment.

The loans under the ordinary loan scheme and liberalised loan scheme are advanced for amounts ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 50,000. The applications of loans under the scheme are channelised through the district industries officer, Mainpuri. The interest charged is 8 per cent per annum with a rebate of 2 per cent for prompt payment.

The loans are recoverable in eight equal instalments. The number of instalments are increased in the case of liberalised loan scheme. The following statement gives an idea of the loan assistance provided by the corporation:

Scheme	No. of units	Loans disbursement as on 31-3-74 (in Rs in lakhs)
Corporation Loan Scheme	4	11.69
Liberalised Loan Scheme	12	6.57
Ordinary Loan Scheme	—	—

The other institutions which have rendered assistance to the industries of the district are the U.P. Small Scale Industries Corporation, Kanpur, and the National Small Industries Corporation. The State Government has also extended help to industries under schemes relating to the handloom industry, Khadi development, the intensive development, industrial co-operative societies.

The district can obtain additional financial assistance and loans and grants under the State Aid to Industries Act, and the Credit Guar-

tee Scheme of the State Bank of India, but the available credit facilities are not being fully utilized.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PLANS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

With the introduction of modern methods of cultivation and the guarantee of a minimum price for agricultural produce, the economic condition of the people has improved, providing the district with a better base for the industrial development. The prospects for the establishment of new industries in the district may be based on the availability of resources and the existing and anticipated demand for various manufactured items in the district. Since there are only two large scale units in the district, there is some scope for the establishment of few more such units and also for the coming up of their ancillary units.

Means of communications play an important role in stepping up industrialisation by enabling quick movement of finished goods to the markets and of the raw materials to the production units. There is a network of roads, connecting all important places within the district with one another, and also with those outside the district which is located midway between Agra and Kanpur. Delhi is also not far off. Though Mainpuri does not lie on the main railway line, a branch line of the Northern Railway passes through it, making for the easy and quick transportation of goods to and from Mainpuri. The district also receives plenty of electric power from the U.P. Grid, which is a great help in industrial expansion.

The district is, however, poor in natural resources and only agriculture produce can provide material which can be processed and utilized by a few small scale units. The district leads the State in respect of production of oil-seeds, potatoes, ground-nuts and peas while barley, maize and pulses are grown in considerable quantities. Generally speaking, industries may either be resource-based or demand-based. Under the former category some industrial units may be established to utilize the available resources of the district. A solvent extraction plant may be opened in the district which produces oil-seeds in large quantities and considerable percentages of oil, ranging from 7 to 10 left in the oil-cakes may be extracted by the solvent extraction process. This would bring the dual advantages of the recovery of considerable quantities of oil from oil-cakes, and the residual drier oil cakes would be an exportable item, for earning foreign exchange. A potato chips plant may be established at some trade centre and a cement manufacturing industrial unit may also be established. At present there is no rice-bran oil mill in the district, though there is a considerable quantity of rice-husk derived from rice-mills.

Much of the rice husk is wasted. An industrial unit for the manufacture from it of activated charcoal, used as a decolouring matter by vegetable oil mills and in paints, may be established. A small scale unit for manufacturing straw board can also be established in the district as paddy, wheat, and maize-husk, the raw material of this industry, are plentifully available. The district produces green peas in a large quantity, and the people relish these in off-season as well. The feasibility of the establishment of a factory for dehydrated peas would clearly seem to exist. The flour is milled by *atta-chakkis* and there is no roller flour mill in the district. With the increasing demand for *maida* and *soojee* a roller flour mill may be established. There is scope for opening a few more dal mills also.

The size of the market, levels of income, educational standards, degree of urbanization, habits and outlook of consumers are major factors which determine the prospects of the successful establishment of demand-based industries. With the advancement of medical aid and expansion of hospitals and primary health centres, the demand for distilled, saline and glucose water has increased and so for these items some manufacturing units can be easily set up to meet the demand. Units for the manufacture of steel furniture, rolling shutters, conduit pipes, utensils, electric goods, hosiery items, ready-made garments, cycle parts, polythene sheets and bags, plastic novelty items, toys and toilet articles can be set up in the district. There is a scope for a few more cold storages also. The old cottage industries need serious attention and efforts to revive them might well be amply repaid.

Labour Organization

There were 5 trade unions registered in the district in 1974, with a total membership of about 2,600 workers. The main objects of these unions are to ensure fair wages, good living and working conditions, proper medical and educational facilities for the workers and their general welfare. They also help in creating healthy relationship between the employers and employees.

The district has a labour welfare centre at Shikohabad. It provides medical, educational, cultural, recreational and sport facilities to members of the trade unions.

Labour Welfare

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1962, the Employment of Children Act, 1936, the U. P. Maternity Benefit Act, 1938, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, are in force in the district. In 1974, there was a labour inspector in the district to ensure the enforcement of labour laws, advancement of labour welfare schemes and maintaining liaison between employees and employers.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of Banking

Details about indigenous banking in the district are not available, but it may be presumed that general practices which prevailed in the trade centres of Northern India also obtained here. The giving and taking of loans was in vogue even in ancient times, the word *rina* (debt) is mentioned repeatedly from Rigvedic times onwards¹. In the mediaeval period, particularly in the reign of Akbar, trade was flourishing and money was available with the rich. Merchants, who were very rich, were known as Jagat Seths, and even the government sometimes borrowed from them. Artisans were independent, but possessed scanty resources. They were financed by merchants and middlemen, who did not fail to exploit them. The middlemen in particular left the artisan with little profit to meet periods of scarcity and distress. Akbar abolished many taxes levied on artisans but the local officials defied the emperor's orders.² With the passage of time, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the financial control of the middlemen and merchants increased and the artisans migrated under economic stress from one place to other. Treasuries in the mediaeval period were many but in a bad state. Akbar introduced many reforms and the state treasuries were put under responsible officers. The district received its supply of coins from a mint at Farrukhabad.

The British established their own treasury at Mainpuri after 1801, on taking over the administration of the district. Subsequently sub-treasuries were established at the five tahsil headquarters. For more than a century, treasuries were the main centres for the collection and expenditure of money. The district magistrate was the *ex officio* officer-in-charge of the treasury. He was assisted by a treasury officer and other staff. The system of co-operative credit societies originated in 1901 in Mainpuri. In 1910, there were 16 village banks financed in the main by the central bank at Mainpuri established for this purpose.

1. Jain, L. C. : *Indigenous Banking in India*, p. 3 (London 1929)

2. Edwards, S. M. ; Garret H. L. O. : *Mughal Rule in India*, p. 182

The great trading and money-lending caste of Banias with its Mahajan and Marwari subdivisions was represented by 22,459 members in 1910. A considerable number of the trading community also operated as indigenous bankers. Thus, as far back as 1873, many indebted agriculturists parted with their land to the Banias who held 4.53 per cent of the district as proprietors; the percentage increased to 8.21 per cent in 1910. In the beginning of this century, the tendency of land to pass into the hands of the trading classes was pretty general all over the district, and only in parganas Kuraoli and Bewar it was resisted. Very few Banias took to cultivation as tenants and, they did not make good landlords. Generally absentees, they regarded their villages purely in the light of investments, and their management was accordingly strict and merciless.

General Credit Facilities

The Imperial Bank of India (now the State Bank of India) was the first bank to establish a branch at Sirsaganj in 1935. The bank has 8 branches in the district in 1975 located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj, Kuraoli, Karhal, Jasrana, Bhongaon and Bewar. The Central Bank of India opened a branch at Mainpuri in July 1939, and another branch at Shikohabad in 1946. The Punjab National Bank, and the Bank of India, each has a branch operating at Mainpuri. Besides, the district Co-operative Bank, Ltd, opened its head-office at Shikohabad in 1961, and at present 8 of its branches are functioning in the district. In 1970 the U. P. Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd, established a branch at Mainpuri followed by four others at the remaining tahsil headquarters. The different credit agencies operating in the district had advanced a sum of Rs 4,28,04,000 to the agriculturists, by the end of December, 1970.

Rural Indebtedness

In the first decade of twentieth century, the people of the district were poor as compared to people residing in upper doab. Many of the big Zamindars were absentees, living in other districts and the great mass of the proprietary communities were living close to the margin of mere subsistence. Failure of the monsoon, therefore, told upon them heavily. And they were not a thrifty class in the most prosperous times. The petty Thakur proprietors, owing to their expensive marriages and other customs and their large needs in general, lived more or less habitually beyond their means, a fact which explained the large transfers of property, which took place.

Most of the proprietary communities were financially embarrassed, and their ultimate extinction and deposition to the rank of tenants could hardly be averted and was only postponed by their constitution and the difficulty experienced by any outsider to make a footing among them. The unfortunate position could not be attributed to the pressure of state demand. Apart from the small proprietors, the condition of the people was good, and compared favourably with that of the districts further east.

The scarcity of labour and the high wages it commanded clearly showed the absence of any poverty among the tenants and labourers, and the fact that 77 per cent of the tenantry had the rights of occupancy in their holdings, indicated a high degree of well-being. Another indication of prosperity was to be found in the large number of masonry wells which were built in those days, and the total investment in the construction of masonry wells was estimated at Rs 6,00,000. Though the people were comfortable, they were content with a low standard. Very few had pukka or masonry houses and the majority of the houses were built of mud.

The rates of interest varied with the security offered, the status and the credit of the borrower, and the nature of the transaction. The common loan of seed corn carried interest at 25 per cent for one harvest or 50 per cent for two, 1 1/4 maunds being exacted in the former case and 1 1/2 maunds in the latter, on each maund advanced. In addition, the borrower had to return the value of the seed grains advanced at the rate prevailing at the time of sowing, which was much above the harvest rate. For petty agricultural advances on personal security, one anna per rupee for each month of the season, *kharif* or *rabi* was charged, and two annas if the amount be not paid up at the end of the harvest for which the sum was borrowed. Very often the rate was four annas a rupee, and in the case of sugar-cane, which occupied the fields for two seasons, the rate was eight annas in the rupee. For other small loans on personal security an advance of, say, Rs 10 was made, and in return Rs 12 were realised in monthly instalments of one rupee for 12 months. The system still prevails in the district and the advances are known as 'quists'. Where articles of silver were given in pledge, the rate varied from 1 pie to 3 pies per rupee per month, or from 6 to 15 per cent per annum. Where the security was real property there was also a great deal of variation, as low a rate as 4 1/2 per cent per annum being sometimes charged on un-

encumbered and well situated estates. The maximum rate for this class of security was 24 per cent. Besides the ubiquitous *bania* or grain merchant who was the village money-lender, there were indigenous bankers, who generally operated in the *mandi's* (wholesale markets) of Mainpuri, Sirsaganj and Shikohabad. The principal money-lending classes were Marwari Brahmanas (Bohras), *banias*, Mahajans and Khatris.

A large number of the residents of the district joined the army in the wake of the First World War (1914—18), and substantial amounts of money were diverted from the salaries of these men to their relatives in the villages. However, it is not possible to say to what extent exactly they were assisted by cash remittances from outside.

The economic depression of the years 1928—32, led to a fall in the incomes of the agriculturists as prices decreased sharply. The prices began to rise slowly in 1934 and they increased further in the wake of the Second World War (1939—45). A large number of villagers again joined the army and a considerable amount of money was sent by them to their relatives residing in the villages. The high prices of agricultural commodities gave the agriculturists good returns in terms of money and some of them were able to repay many old debts. The prices have continued to rise ever since the fifties, but the cost of other consumer goods and farm inputs like cloth and fertilisers has also gone up, involving extra expenditure by the agriculturists. The population of the district grew by 18.8 per cent in the decade 1951—61, and by 22.4 per cent in the decade 1961—71. The Reserve Bank of India made a survey in 1971, of the assets and liabilities of the rural households of Uttar Pradesh. Mainpuri lies in the western region of the State, and it has been estimated that an average agriculturists' family of the western region was indebted to the extent of about Rs 500. The family of an agricultural labourer had a credit liability of Rs 247.

Urban Indebtedness—Industrial and office workers residing at Shikohabad and Mainpuri and other urban centres find it difficult to make the two ends meet.

The artisans of the district earn about Rs 7.50 per day and they appear to be satisfied. The Reserve Bank of India survey in 1971, estimated that the average family of an artisan was indebted to the extent of Rs 300.71.

Debt-relief Legislation

The government made attempts to regulate the terms and conditions of money-lending through legislation in 1918, when the Usurious Loans Act, 1918, authorised the courts to reopen monetary transactions between the parties and relieve the debtor of all liability when the interest was 'excessive' and the transaction 'unfair'. By an amendment in 1926, the Act was made applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage, but it did not define the words 'excessive' and 'unfair', and the courts could not take effective decision. By another amendment affected in 1934, the Act was made applicable to all debtors, and debts, and it also provided definite limits beyond which the rate of interest should be deemed to be excessive. The other enactments that followed the economic depression of the thirties were the United Provinces Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1934, the U. P. Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, and the United Provinces Debt Redemption Act, 1940. They enabled a considerable reduction of rates of interest and fixed easy instalments for the payment of debts. They also protected the person and the properties of debtors from being proceeded against in execution of decrees.

Role of Private Money-lenders and Financiers

The money-lenders in the district are generally commission agents or merchants. According to a survey of the Lead Bank in 1970, there were 5,000 private money-lenders in the district in that year. The rates of interest varied from 18 per cent per annum to 36 per cent per annum.

Commercial Banks

There are 12 branches of four commercial banks in the district. The following statement gives the location of each branch :

Bank	Location of branches
State Bank of India	Bowar, Bhongaon, Jasrana, Karhal, Kuraoli, Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Sirsaganj
Central Bank of India	Mainpuri, Shikohabad
Bank of India	Mainpuri
Punjab National Bank	Ditto

The Bank of India, which is the lead bank of the district, made an economic survey of the district in 1970. On September 30, 1970 each branch of the commercial bank served, 1,21,000 persons, the

corresponding state average was 91,000, and the national average--52,000. The per capita credit increased from Rs 3.0 in 1967 to Rs 6.4 in 1970. The per capita deposits increased from Rs 11.3 in 1967 to Rs 18.1 in 1970. The following statement gives the per capita deposits and credit of the district in 1970 as compared to State and national averages :

Per capita averages (in Rs)			
	District	U. P.	All-India
Deposits	18.1	30.60	77.50
Credit	6.4	13.10	53.70

However, in the past the bulk of the monetary advances was made to big businessmen and traders. This trend has changed and as much as 69.8 per cent of the total advances were diverted on a priority basis to agriculturists, small-scale industrialists, transport workers, retail traders and self-employed persons in 1975. The total deposits of the commercial banks amounted to Rs 6,66,30,000 on November 13, 1975, and the total advances as on that date amounted to Rs 1,45,76,000. The following statements gives the total advances made to the priority sector by November 13, 1975 :

	Amount (in Rs)	No. of accounts
Agriculturists	43,38,000	679
Small-scale industrialists	38,13,000	78
Road and water transport workers	9,30,000	75
Retails traders	9,70,000	301
Self-employed persons	1,21,000	93

Co-operative Movement

The co-operative movement in the district was initiated in 1901 and in 1906 four agricultural co-operative credit societies had been established. The following statement shows the growth of primary agricultural co-operative societies in the district :

Year	No. of primary agricultural co-operative societies
1910	31
1920	124
1930	168
1940	365
1950	521
1960	781
1970	526
1975	478

After 1961, small societies were amalgamated to form large societies and therefore the total number of societies was reduced to 526 in 1970 and 478 in 1975.

According to the figures available, the co-operative movement has been making steady progress in the district. The following statement gives figures of total membership and total loans advanced by the primary societies in 1950, 1960, 1970 and 1975 :

Year	Total membership	Loans advanced (in Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1950	30,000	8,63,000	7
1960	60,000	69,48,000	8.75
1970	1,05,000	1,33,86,000	9.50
1975	1,38,000	1,22,51,000	14 to 15

Other Co-operative Institutions—The District Co-operative Development Federation, Ltd, was established at Mainpuri on August 3, 1949. The total investment in it amounted to Rs 7,14,700 in 1974. It is the Central institution for consumer's co-operatives and is engaged in the business of purchasing and sale of food-grains and other goods. It sold food-grains and other goods (fertilisers, implements, etc.) worth an amount of Rs 10,30,936.59 in 1970, and worth Rs 2,70,305.11 in 1974. The sales have decreased, but the profit of the institution has increased from Rs 6,645.41 in 1970 to Rs 12,000.71 in 1974.

There are four large co-operative marketing societies situated at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Bewar and Ghiror. Food-grains, fertilisers, kerosene oil, vegetable oil, cloth, sugar and cement are purchased and sold by the societies. The largest amount of profit, a sum of Rs 9,954 was earned by the Ghiror unit in 1974 and the profits earned by the units at Mainpuri and Bewar amounted to Rs 7,578 and Rs 1,283 respectively while the Shikohabad unit incurred a loss amounting to Rs 1,283.

Co-operative Banks—The Mainpuri District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was established at Shikohabad in 1961. It has eight branches located at Jasrana, Bewar, Mainpuri, Eka, Karhal, Bernahal, Kishani, and Kurauli. The bank advanced loans amounting to Rs 1,08,36,496 in 1974, when its total deposits amounted to Rs 54,78,778. The bank finances the co-operative institutions of the district and also provides banking facilities to its members.

The Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd, has four branches in the district located at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Jasrana and Bewar. The bank provides medium and long term loans for the development of agriculture, and had advanced loans amounting to Rs 2,42,77,000 up to December 31, 1970.

National Savings Organisation

The post-office savings bank scheme has been in operation in the district since the last decade of the nineteenth century. This and other subsequent small savings schemes have been formulated to tap the savings of those who generally do not subscribe to government loans and to inculcate the habit of thrift in people in order to make funds available for investment in development schemes. The border war with China in 1962 led to the introduction of the defence deposit and national defence certificates in order to raise funds for the defence of the country.

Various securities have been floated from time to time to promote national savings. The Government of India have introduced a 15 year public provident fund scheme in 1974-75 for the benefit of people who have no regular savings schemes for old age like pension or provident fund. Every one may subscribe to the fund either on his own behalf or on behalf of a minor, of whom he is the guardian. The Bank of India undertook a survey of the national savings scheme in 1970, and the following statement gives the value of the investments made in the district under the scheme in its various forms in each of the five years beginning from 1966 :

Year	Small Savings (in Rs)		Cumulative Time Deposits (in Rs)	National Savings certificate (in Rs)
	No. of accounts	Value (in Rs)		
1966	36,628	1,62,66,000	3,10,000	6,10,000
1967	36,704	1,74,33,000	4,28,000	6,94,000
1968	43,148	1,81,29,000	4,42,000	6,51,000
1969	49,869	1,99,34,000	4,25,000	10,56,000
1970	52,781	2,21,61,000	4,67,000	18,52,000

Life Insurance

The life insurance business was taken over by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in 1956, and a branch office of the Corporation was opened at Mainpuri in 1958. The office is manned by three class I officers, 14 class II officers and 23 others. The following statement gives the total premium collected in each year beginning from 1967-68 :

Year	Premium collected (in Rs)
1967-68	12,85,197
1968-69	12,97,360
1969-70	13,49,889

Government Loans

It has been a tradition among the rulers of the country to provide relief to the agriculturists, in times of agricultural distress in the form of loans, known as *tagavi*. However, with the attainment of independence in 1947, the loans are advanced not only for distress, but also for the development of the agricultural economy.

The following statement gives the amounts of loans advanced by the U. P. Government to agriculturists in the district :

Year	Purpose	Amount (in Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1972-73	Distress, for buying live-stock	1,16,350	5½ to 8½
1973-74	Ditto	44,600	5½ to 8½
1974-75	Ditto	1,17,600	5½ to 8½

Currency and coinage

In the mediaeval period there were mainly three types of coins the dam, the rupee and the *mohar*. A rupee comprised 40 dams and 10 rupees were computed as equal to a gold *mohar*.¹ Farrukhabad rupee was mainly in circulation, and this coin was of 169.2 grains.

The British issued their own rupee of 180 grains. A rupee comprised 16 annas and an anna was divided into 12 pies or four paisa (old).

The decimal system of coinage was introduced on October 1, 1958. The rupee has been divided into 100 paise. There are coins of one paise, two paise, three paise, five paise, 10 paise, 20 paise, 25 paise and 50 paise. However, old coins of four annas (25 paise) and eight annas (50 paise) are still in vogue.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Course of Trade

Most of the trade and traffic of the district in the past flowed along the Grand Trunk road, which ran through the district, dividing at Bhongaon into two branches, one of which went off north-west towards Delhi, and the other south-west, towards Agra. The Delhi route passed through Kuraoli and the Agra route passed through Mainpuri and Shikohabad. Bewar was connected with Farrukhabad and Etawah and also with Kishni which formed the principal line of traffic in the eastern portion of the district. The district was also linked by a road with Etah, which originated at Kuraoli and proceeded to Etah via Mainpuri. Another road linked Jasrana, Shikohabad and Etah. Shikohabad was connected with a place, which was situated within four miles (6.4 km.) of Batesar, in the Agra district, famous for its horse fair. There were sarais located at Nabiganj, Kuraoli, Mainpuri and Shikohabad where the traders could rest and relax in the course of their journeys, generally undertaken by horses, mules, ponies, and camels or

1, Pandey, A. B. : *Later Mediaeval India*, p. 491 (Allahabad, 1963)

carts drawn by these animals. Inside the district, the agricultural commodities were transported in bullock-carts. There was also an extensive flow of traffic on the river Yamuna in the mediaeval and earlier periods, when big boats carried passengers and merchandise to Agra and Delhi in the west, and to Etawah and Allahabad in the east.

The roads were considerably improved under the British rule, and with the construction of the railway in 1905, the trade of the district has increased considerably. The main line of the Northern Railway runs for about 37 km. in the south-west of the district and with a junction station at Shikohabad. The Shikohabad-Farrukhabad branch line runs through the centre of the district with Mainpuri situated midway on the line. The line crosses the Kali Nadi into the Farrukhabad district, and Farrukhabad is connected with Kanpur and Agra by the metre-gauge line of the North Eastern Railway.

The main trade centres of the district in the first decade of the twentieth century, were Shikohabad and Sirsaganj, and each was served by the railway. The trade of Sirsaganj was roughly estimated at over Rs 6,00,000 per annum, and that of Shikohabad at about Rs 12,00,000. The main items of export were cotton, corn, ghee and crude glass, known as *Kanch*, in the form of blocks. Ghee in particular was exported in large quantities to Calcutta, where there was a large demand. The ghee was largely produced in the pastoral villages along the Yamuna ravines. Mainpuri was the third important centre of trade in the district with an annual trade of about Rs 6,00,000. There was a large number of small trade centres in the district. The main imports of the district were cloth, jaggery (*gur*) and food-grains. The growing and export of cotton declined sharply in the thirties in the wake of the economic depression and by the fifties there was very little cultivation of cotton in the district.

Jaggery, Ghee, food-grains, and consumer goods are the main items of trade in the district. Wheat is exported from the wholesale markets in large quantities. In 1971, as many as 14,413 persons were engaged in trade and commerce.

With the development of roads, the trade has increased in volume and a large number of trucks operate in the district, carrying goods to and from Kanpur, Agra, Delhi, Farrukhabad, Etawah, Etah and other towns. About 850 km. of roads were available in the district in 1970-71, of which 403 km. were metalled.

with the development of communications, more people are taking to trade and commerce. There were about 2,000 traders in the district in 1970, and it was estimated by the Bank of India that each trader, on the average, needed an amount of Rs 3,000 annually to pursue his trade. The amount of credit is now being supplied by the commercial banks of the district.

Exports and Import

Export—The agricultural commodities dominate the export trade of the district. Wheat, pulses, potatoes, oil-seeds, ghee, rice and oil are the main commodities which are exported outside the State to south India, Bihar, Bengal, Delhi, Rajasthan and to Agra, Kanpur, Farrukhabad, Hathras, Bareilly and Lucknow within the State. Fish is exported to Calcutta. Glassware, electric bulbs and leather goods are sent to Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi, while bones and skins go to Magarwara in district Unnao and oil-cakes, potatoes and strawboard are sent to Kanpur.

The following statement gives the value of commodities and goods exported from the district in 1971 :

Names of commodities/goods	Value (in Rs)
Food-grains and ghee	9,00,00,000
Ground-nut oil	3,00,00,000
Electric bulbs	2,50,00,000
Oil-cakes	1,50,00,000
Glassware	1,50,00,000
Potatoes	15,00,000
Strawboards	15,00,000
Tobacco	5,00,000
Leather goods	5,00,000
Hides and skins	5,00,000

Imports—Cloth, general merchandise, chemicals, utensils, fertilisers, gunnies, electrical goods, paper, petrol, coal, kerosene oil are imported from Kanpur, Delhi, Agra, Firozabad, Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. Most of the goods are brought to the district by trucks, and about one-third of the total imports are transported to the district by rail. Transport by trucks has its advantages. The goods generally reach their destinations in a shorter time and the difficulties

of transshipment are avoided. Moreover the transport companies deliver the goods at the very spot where the importer desires. The railways have, of the late, created such facilities and goods are delivered wherever required. Even so, the transport companies have a considerable edge over the railways in this regard.

The following statement gives the value of goods imported into the district in 1971 :

Name of goods	Value (in Rs)
Fertilisers	4,00,00,000
General Merchandise	3,00,00,000
Cloth	3,00,00,000
Agricultural implements	50,00,000
Arms and ammunition ..	25,00,000
Cement	20,00,000
Coal	15,00,000

Trade Centres

Mainpuri is the main distributing centre and wholesale regulated market of the district. It is about 125 years old. There were about 40 traders in the market in 1950, and at present there are about 100 traders. The shops are owned by the traders, and the municipal board, Mainpuri, looks after the sanitation, lighting and general upkeep of the market. Food-grains and ghee are carried to the *mandi* by trucks, bullock-carts, hand-carts, donkeys and porters. Roads connect it with Kuraoli, Karimganj, Chhabramau, Alipurkhera, Bewar, Bhongaon, Kusmara, Karhal, Barnahal, Ghiror, Kuchela, Jyonti, Bhanwant and Albans. These places constitute the main catchment area of the market.

In 1956, 2,40,000 quintals of paddy, 60,000 quintals of wheat, 14,000 quintals of gram, 12,000 quintals of *bejhar* (wheat, gram and barley) and 400 quintals of ghee arrived in this market.

The railway station at Mainpuri, is situated at a distance of about 4 km. from the *mandi*. It is located on a branch line of the Northern Railway running between Shikohabad and Farrukhabad. In 1970, about 5,01,900 quintals of food-grains and ghee were

assembled in the market. The value of the commodities was estimated at Rs 2,28,32,000.

There is also a flourishing market at Mainpuri where consumer goods like cloth and utensils are sold. Mainpuri is also an important trade centre for leather and fish, which are generally bought by the merchants of Bengal, and exported to Calcutta.

The other wholesale regulated markets (*mandis*) are located at Shikohabad, Bwar, Kusmara, Sirsaganj and Ghiror. The *mandi* at Shikohabad is situated at a distance of 3.2 km. from the railway station. Ghee, jaggery (*gur*), wheat, pulses, oil-seeds and oil are sold in this market. Ghee is tested in a laboratory located in the *mandi*. In 1956, quantities of about 40,000 quintals of wheat, 20,000 quintals of *bajra*, 16,000 quintals of *bejhar*, 12,000 quintals of paddy and 2,800 quintals of ghee were sold.

Sirsaganj *mandi* is situated at a distance of 6.4 km. from the Kaurara railway station. In 1956, quantities of about 28,000 quintals of wheat, 20,000 quintals of *gur*, 8,000 quintals of pulses and 400 quintals of ghee were sold in this market. Gram is also sold in this market. Two bullion merchants operate in the market.

In the other important *mandis* at Bwar, Kusmara, and Ghiror mainly wheat, pulses, jaggery and oil-seeds (mustard and groundnut) are sold.

The following statement gives the quantity and value of commodities that arrived in each of the wholesale markets in 1969-70 :

Mandi	Total arrivals (in quintals)	Value of arrivals (in Rs)	No. of licensed traders
Mainpuri	5,01,900	2,28,32,000	100
Sirsaganj	1,31,400	61,97,000	39
Shikohabad	75,780	45,72,000	27
Bwar	87,300	49,33,000	26
Ghiror	61,694	21,88,000	16
Kusmara	49,500	30,43,000	8

Warehousing—The various trading organizations have 141 warehouses in the district, with a total storing capacity of 21,753 tonnes. The following statement gives a break-up of the figures :

Trading institution	No. of godowns	Capacity (in tonnes)
State Warehousing Corporation	52	11,000
Food Corporation of India	50	6,685
Co-operative Department	24	48
Agriculture Department	15	4,120
Total	141	21,853

There are about 300 godowns belonging to individual owners and having a capacity of about 22,000 tonnes.

Retail Trade—The common requirements of villagers are generally supplied by small traders and pedlars frequenting local bazars, known as *hats*. These markets are scattered all over the district, and are held once or twice a week. Cloth, food-grains utensils and pottery are the main items of goods brought to these markets. The following statement gives the number of such markets held in each tahsil of the district :

Tahsil	No. of markets held
Bhongaon	19
Karhal	9
Jasrana	9
Mainpuri	6
Shikohabad	4

Price Control and Rationing

As a result of the outbreak of the Second World War, the prices of all commodities increased, and, in order to arrest their further rise, and to give relief to the consumers, chiefly in the urban areas, the prices of a large number of commodities were controlled and supply of many of them to consumers was rationed. Some of the more important commodities thus controlled or rationed were food-grains, cloth, matches, drugs and petrol. Dealers in these commodities had to take licences from government officers. Various schemes for the

rationing of food-grains, chiefly wheat and its products, gram, rice and sugar and kerosene oil, have however, persisted ever since, with varying spheres of applicability and at present there are 551 fair-price shops in the district. Of those 65 are located in the urban centres, and 486 in the rural area. At present sugar is being sold in these shops. For the sale of kerosene oil there are four wholesale agents and 212 retail traders. Vanaspati (vegetable ghee) is sold through 28 wholesale agents. Coal is available at 49 depots which are situated in urban centres.

Fairs

A majority of the fairs are religious ones and trade in such fairs is of little importance.

The Jakhia fair is the only important fair, where cattle, utensils, handloom cloth, pottery and items of confectionary are sold in large quantities. It is held at Paindhat in tahsil Jasrana in the month of Magh, when the full moon is visible.

Weights and Measures

The weights and measures in use in the district in the past, differed little from those in vogue in the rest of the doab. The increase in inter-district trade and communications tended to do away with local weights and measures whose disadvantages were acutely felt in dealings with strangers. And the milestones on the roads, the hours fixed for hearing of cases in courts, together with the removal from circulation of old copper currency, on which the old fashioned measures of weights and capacity were based, all aided to enforce uniformity. But in the villages, the old system prevailed. The English mile was the usual measure of distance, and the *kos* was equivalent to 2 miles. For shorter distances the vague terms—*goli ka tappa* or musket shot, *khet* or a field were used. The former denoted an interval of 150 and the later the side of a *pakka bigha* which varied from 56 to 60 yards. The *pakka bigha* was 2,776.25 square yards or 5736 of an acre and 1.743 *bighas* made one acre. It was subdivided, as elsewhere, into 20 *biswas*; each of 20 *biswas* made one *biswansi*, 20 *anwansi* made one *kachwansi*, and 20 *anwansi* made one *nanwansi*. The *bigha* used in poppy measurements was $\frac{5}{8}$ of an acre. The *kachcha bigha*, about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an acre, varied in size often in the same village. However, as a rule $2\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 *kachcha bighas* made one *pakka bigha*, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ formed the average. Besides the English yard (*gaz*), there were local varia-

tions of the *gaz* used in particular marts and for certain classes of goods, the one short, from 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 35 inches, and the other long, from 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 45 inches. The latter was commonly used for country cloth and the former for silk. Solids and liquids were sold by weight. For spirits the British reputed quart (bottle) was the standard, and *ghantis* (small brass vessels) which could hold about a quarter of a seer, for milk. Two *kachcha maunds* made one *pakka maund*, and one *pakka maund* was equivalent to 1.25 standard maund or 50 standard seers. The *pakka seer* was supposed to weigh 32 *takas* or double pice of the old currency, and the standard seer only 26, and was thus strictly of 101 $\frac{9}{16}$ tolas to the others' 80 tolas. But it generally weighed 100 tolas. This was not, however, the only seer used. In the east of the district, in Bewar, Kusmara, Ilahabas, Nabiganj and Saman, the seer weighed 112 tolas. In the town of Bhongaon the standard was 102 tolas, in Sultanganj 105 tolas, and in the remainder of the district 100 tolas, and in some places 101 $\frac{9}{16}$ tolas. This weight was used in every local market except Sirsaganj and Mainpuri in wholesale trade and especially for cotton. In retail trade the seer of 80 tolas was often used. A *kachcha panseri* (5 seers) was in common use and weighed 250 tolas or 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ standard seers or $2\frac{1}{2}$ *pakka seers*. The word *dhari* was chiefly used for 5 *pakka seers* or 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ standard seers. A *pakka maund* comprised eight *dharis* and a *kachcha maund* 4 *dharis*.

The metric system of weights and measures which was introduced in the district with effect from October 1, 1960, is being enforced strictly by the district supply officer, who is ex officio an assistant controller of weights and measures.

An idea of the penalties imposed for the use of non-metric weights and measures during recent years may be had from the following table :

Year	No. of traders punished	Fines realised (in Rs)
1972-73	362	12,265
1973-74	443	11,825
1974-75	247	6,905

CHAPTER VII COMMUNICATIONS

TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS

Old-time Trade Routes and Roads

The region covered by the present district of Mainpuri formed part of the ancient kingdoms of the Mauriyas and the Guptas and of Harsh Vardhana. The old imperial highway which ran from the north-western region of the country of Bengal has existed since the times of the Mauriyas. It traversed the district connecting the Punjab, Delhi, and Agra to Allahabad and places further east up to Calcutta. It enters the district from Agra and after passing through Shikohabad and Sirsaganj passes into the Etawah district. It was the practice of the Hindu kings in ancient India to provide wells and avenues as well as roofed shelters on the main roads.

Before the introduction of railways in the district it was the main line of communication. The old imperial highway came to be known from Sher Shah Suri's times as the Badshahi road and it was the precursor of the Grand Trunk road. This road was well maintained having milestones, wells and serais and long avenues of fairly well-preserved trees. Another important provincial road was the section of the Grand Trunk road which ran through the district, dividing a-Bhongaon into two branches, one of which went north-west towards Delhi and the other south-west towards Agra. The former branch passed through Kuraoli and the latter through Mainpuri town and Shikohabad. The total length of the road in the district was 142.4 km. The only other provincial road in the district was the Farrukhabad—Etawah road which crossed the Grand Trunk road at Bewar and ran south to Kishni, forming the principal line of traffic in the eastern portion of the district.

During the reign of Akbar the main roads in the district were the same as they are at present except that they were unmetalled and there were ferries on the rivers instead of bridges as now. During the rainy season the ferries were generally difficult to negotiate. Some improvements were effected under the Bangash and Rohilla administrations when some more places were connected with roads.

After the cession of the district to the East India Company in 1801, an effort was made to hold the landowners responsible for the upkeep

of the roads passing through their estates, but it did not prove of much help. Then the roads were sought to be improved by the imposition of a road cess and the formation of a road and ferry fund committee to administer the proceeds. Till 1857, all the land routes were treated as local and no road had been metalled, but thereafter, a network of roads sprung up, leading towards every direction. In 1876, the metalled roads consisted of the Mainpuri-Etawah, Shikohabad-Etah, Shikohabad Sirsaganj, Bhongaon-Agra, Mainpuri-Karhal and Fatehgarh-Gwalior roads, besides certain third class and village roads.

Many more roads were added in the following three decades but even in 1908, the majority of the roads were poor, many of them being impossible to travel upon during several months of the year. Many rivers flowing through the district presented obstacles in the construction of roads. The roads approaching the ferries passed over expanses of drifting sand skirting the river.

The following statement gives the lengths of metalled roads in the district in 1908 :

Road	Length (in km.)
Provincial	
Grand Trunk road—Aligarh, Etah and Kanpur section	60.00
Grand Trunk road—Agra, Mainpuri and Bhongaon section	73.60
Etawah, Bewar and Fatehgarh	33.00
Local	
Etah—Shikohabad	32.00
Shikohabad railway feeder	2.40
Jasrana—Mustafabad	11.00
Sirsaganj—Batesar	3.40
Ghiror-Jasrana	15.30
Ghiror-Kosma feeder	4.50
Other roads	25.50
Total	260.70

In addition, there were 274 km. of unmetalled roads in the district. There was very little development of roads in the first half of the twentieth century. However, planned development of means of

communication and the construction of new roads was undertaken after 1947 by the public works department of the State. In 1947, the total length of metalled roads in the district was 375 km. which rose to 518 km. in 1963.

Highways

The roads of the district are now classified as national highways, State highways, district roads, roads in the jurisdiction of the forest department and the local bodies. The State public works department looks after the national highway on behalf of the Central Government and it also maintains the State highways and the major district roads. The forest department and local bodies maintain roads lying within their jurisdictions. The Agra-Etawah-Fatehpur road is a national highway which runs 41.82 km. in the district.

The following statement gives the names of the various highways, national and State, along with their lengths in the district. The roads are metalled and bridged throughout their lengths :

Highway	Length in district (in km.)
National Highway	
Agra-Etawah-Fatehpur road	41.82
Grand Trunk road	60.00
Bareilly-Etawah	32.46

The following statement gives the lengths of the district roads maintained by the public works department :

Name of the road	Length in district (in km.)
Shikohabad-Bhongaon	61.80
Sirsaganj-Kishni	58.18
Etah-Shikohabad	32.98
Etawah-Mainpuri	29.83
Shikohabad-Batesar	19.72
Mainpuri-Kursauli	17.80
Sirsaganj-Kaorara	5.58
Kosma railway feeder	5.23
Chhachha-Alipur Khara	5.00
Bhongaon railway feeder	3.20
Mainpuri railway feeder	2.00

There are also the following 3 *shramdan* roads in the district, measuring about 18 km.:

Name of the Road	Length of Road (in km.)
Mainpuri-Sansarpur Belon	9.75
Alipur Khara-Kali Nadi	7.00
Bachela road	1.27
Total	18.02 km.

The Zila Parishad, Mainpuri, maintains 42 roads in the district of which 17 are metalled. The total length of the unmetalled roads which connect various villages is 236.20 km. The following statement gives the lengths of the metalled roads :

Road	Length (in km.)
Kusiyari feeder	0.80
Mustafabad-Eka	10.40
Parham feeder	0.40
Bareilly-Etawah road extension to Kusmara	0.60
Bareilly-Etawah road extension to Kishni	1.00
Great circular road	4.47
Little circular road	0.80
Gola Bazar-Sansarpur	0.41
Khuria-Mainpuri	1.60
Sirsaganj-Mainpuri	2.40
Katra hypass	0.80
Kishni-Harchandpur	1.80
Radha Raman road	1.42
Isan bridge to Diwani	1.17
Jait to Diwani	3.77
Aron-Sirsaganj	9.45
Aron-Sirsaganj-Devi road	1.65
Total	42.94

The municipal board, Mainpuri, maintains 41.44 km. of roads within its limits of which a length of 33.44 km. is metalled. The municipal board, Shikohabad, has 49.30 km. of roads of which a length of 37.17 km. is metalled.

MEANS OF CONVEYANCE

From the earliest times till the coming of the railways the usual means of transport and travel were palanquins, horses, camels and vehicles drawn by bullocks, buffaloes, horses and camels. The bulk of the heavy goods was moved by means of pack animals but valuable goods were usually carried in carts and carriages.

Horses and ponies were very rarely used for draught purposes during Mughal period and the familiar conveyance of later days, the ekka, appears to have been developed since Akbar's time. People in the villages depended largely on bullock carts and on vehicles drawn by horses and camels. Camel carts (which have now disappeared from the roads) were a common sight in olden days. With the construction and improvement of metalled roads, speedy mechanised transport, which has the added advantage of being able to ply in almost any kind of weather, also made its appearance and today motor cars, buses, trucks, tractors, motor-cycles, scooters, bicycles, bicycle-rickshaws speed along the roads in the towns and the countryside. As an economical and convenient means of transport the bicycle is very popular both in the rural and urban areas of the district. Cycle-rickshaws are a recent addition to the modes of public conveyance and are so popular that they have almost driven ekkas and tongas off the roads. However, carts driven by bullocks and buffaloes are even today the main forms of conveyance in the rural areas of the district. In the urban areas the bicycle and cycle-rickshaw is a popular means of conveyance. In 1974-75, there were 50 tongas, 155 ekkas, 450 rickshaws and 9,000 bicycles in the district.

Vehicular Traffic

Motor trucks and buses started operating in the district since the thirties of the present century. However, there were only a few motor vehicles in the district before 1947. In the following years the prices of buses and trucks declined due to the conclusion of the Second World War (1936-46) and motor vehicles began to be used on the roads in large numbers. In 1974-75 as many as 88 private passenger buses, 7 mini-buses, 80 trucks, 80 private cars and jeeps, 70 taxi-cars and station wagons, 381 motor cycles and scooters, and 127 other motor vehicles operated in the district.

Bus Service—Road transport was nationalised in the State in 1947 to provide such facilities to the travelling public as stoppages at definite wayside places on the prescribed routes, punctuality in the arrival and departure of vehicles, fixed rates of fares and freights and avoidance of overcrowding in buses.

The U. P. Government Roadways was constituted into the U.P. State Road Transport Corporation in 1972. The number

of nationalised routes and public buses plying from Shikohabad and Mainpuri sub-depots has increased. The following statement gives the names of the routes in 1974-75 on which the buses of the U. P. Road Transport Corporation, Agra region plied :

Routes	Mileage (in km.)	Number of trips
Shikohabad-Mainpuri	51	6
Shikohabad-Madanpur—Korara	29	1
Shikohabad-Kishni Baya	101	1
Shikohabad-Kusmura	304	1
Shikohabad-Farrukhabad	121	2

The district is linked by the roadways to the districts of Kanpur, Lucknow, Agra, Etawah, Etah and Farrukhabad. Buses may also be reserved for sight-seeing, excursions and marriage parties.

Railways

A railway line of the East India Railway was opened for traffic in the second half of the nineteenth century, traversing the southern corner of the district. It enters the district from Agra at Makhanpur station and then after running 37 km. in the district through stations at Shikohabad, Korara and Bhadan leaves for Etawah.

A branch line between Shikohabad and Mainpuri was opened for passenger traffic in 1905, bringing the district headquarters on the railway map of the country. Later the whole line between Shikohabad and Farrukhabad was completed and opened on January 1, 1906 for traffic. It starts from Shikohabad in the south-west and goes to the south-east of the district, running through, besides Shikohabad, the stations at Araon, Takha, Kosma, Tindauli, Mainpuri city, Mainpuri Kuchehri, Bhongaon, and Mota in the district.

In November 1951, the railways were nationalised and divided into zones, Mainpuri now lies on the Northern Zonal railway with headquarters at New Delhi.

Bridges and Ferries

Bridges—There are a number of bridges and culverts on the railway lines and roads in the district, besides ten ferries under the Zila Parishad.

Travel Facilities

It is mentioned in the *Jatakas*, that in past, the roads were not dangerous for travelling and in the Ashokan edicts there were rest-houses and wells on the high roads. The Mauriyas had a separate department to look after roads and transport and provided a number of amenities to travellers. Sher Shah Suri and the Mughal emperors, particularly Jahangir, took great interest in reducing the hardships of travel by planting trees, building of serais and wells along the sides of main highways.

Due to the construction of big serais on the old imperial road in the district, certain places have developed as commercial centres. There were serais at Nabiganj, Kuraoli, Sirsaganj, Bewar, Bhongaon, Sarai Latif, Mainpuri and Shikohabad. A few are now used as rest-houses but some others have been converted into such institutions as hospitals and schools.

The town of Mainpuri is centrally located having road links with all the adjoining districts of Farrukhabad, Etawah, Agra and Etah and other districts of the State such as Mathura, Lucknow and Kanpur. It possesses amenities like dharmshalas, rest-houses, post and telegraph offices, telephones and a hospital, besides, of course, a police-station.

The inspection houses, rest-houses and dak bungalows in the district are maintained by different departments of the government and are chiefly for the use of their own officers, but officers of other departments, members of the public and tourists are also accommodated in them on payment, if accommodation can be spared.

A few hotels at Mainpuri and Shikohabad provide lodging and boarding.

There are dharmshalas at Shikohabad, Kishni and certain other places also in the district. They are privately managed and the charge is a nominal rent for the accommodation; the visitor has to make his own arrangements for boarding. Lists of inspection houses, dharmshalas etc., are given at the end of the chapter in Statements A and B respectively.

POST, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE

Post-offices—After the suppression of the struggle for the freedom of the country launched in 1857, the work of carrying and distributing the mails was entrusted to the police and for that purpose offices were opened at the tahsils and the principal thanas. The system proved unsatisfactory, and in 1865, a new scheme was introduced, whereby the police were relieved of postal duties and the distribution of the district dak started with a regular staff. The whole district was divided into a number of circles, with a post-office in each, the police-stations being generally selected on account of administrative convenience, and the mails were carried by runners. There were imperial dak lines from Mainpuri to the branch lines and district dak runners were employed to deliver the despatches. With the introduction of the railways in the district the dak began to be carried by trains, the runners being employed in the interior of the district. In 1870-71 about 1,18,747 deliveries were made by the department and an amount of Rs 14,139 was earned. Further improvements were made with a view to ensure the regular delivery of letters in the villages and the system remained in force till 1876. In 1876-77, the administration of postal services was taken over by the Imperial Government. The district dak was not, however, altogether replaced, only important offices were taken over by the Imperial Government. There were 9 imperial post-offices functioning at Mainpuri, Bewar, Bhongaon, Karhal, Kuraoli, Mustafabad, Sirsaganj, Shikohabad and Jasrana. The district dak offices numbered 13 and were located at Azamabad, Araun, Ekah, Barnahal, Ghiror, Kurara Buzurg, Kishni, Kusmara, Ponchha, Nasirpur, Akharpur Aunchha, Pharha and Sultanganj. In 1907, the district dak services were abolished and the post-offices were placed under the management of the Government of India.

The development and extension of roads and the consequent increase in vehicular traffic and growth of population have led to the opening of more and more post-offices. In 1908, there were 10 sub-offices and 22 branch offices in addition to a head office in the district. In 1974-75, they totalled 207; about 9 villages being served by a post-office. The number of post-offices per 100 sq. km. in rural areas of the district is shown in the following table :

Tahsil	No. of post-offices per 100 sq. km.
Mainpuri	4
Shikohabad	4
Bhongaon	4
Jasrana	3
Karhal	3

The Post and Telegraph, a Central Government establishment, is presided over by a director-general, under whom are the postmasters generals of the various States. The district is in the administrative jurisdiction of the superintendent of post-offices, Etawah, postal division with headquarters at Etawah. He works under the administrative control of the postmaster general of Uttar Pradesh with headquarters at Lucknow.

STATEMENT A
List of Inspection House

Reference Page No. 130

Village/town	Name	Managing department
TAHSIL MAINPURI		
Mainpuri	P. W. D. Inspection House	Public Works Department
Ditto	Zila Parishad Inspection House	Zila Parishad
Ditto	Hydel Inspection House	State Electricity Board
Ditto	Canal Inspection House	Irrigation Department
Dumnahar	Ditto	Ditto
Ghiror	Ditto	Ditto
Aurangbad	Ditto	Ditto
Sarai Latif	Ditto	Ditto
Gangari	Ditto	Ditto
Brijhia	Ditto	Ditto
Kurra	Ditto	Ditto
Karhal	Dak Bungalow	Revenue Department
TAHSIL JASRANA		
Jasrana	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Khona Pati Kara	Ditto	Irrigation (Canal) Department
Jhal Gopalpur	Ditto	Ditto
TAHSIL BHONGAON		
Darapur Rasim	Inspection House	Irrigation (Canal) Department
Belon	Ditto	Ditto
Semrai	Ditto	Ditto
Sewa	Ditto	Ditto
Ong	Ditto	Ditto
Saman	Ditto	Ditto
Dhandhos	Ditto	Ditto
Ram Nagar	Ditto	Irrigation (Canal) Department
Barauli	Ditto	Ditto
Nabiganj	Ditto	Public Works Department
Kusmara	Ditto	Zila Parishad
TAHSIL SHIKOHABAD		
Shikohabad	Canal Inspection House	Irrigation (Canal) Department
Ditto	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Ditto	Ditto	Zila Parishad
Sirsaganj	Ditto	Irrigation (Tube-well) Department
Bhadan	Ditto	Irrigation (Canal) Department
Aleypur	Ditto	Ditto

STATEMENT B
List of Dharmsalas

Village/town/mohalla	Names of Dharmsala
Mainpuri	Narain Dharmsala
Ditto	Parvati Dharmsala
Ditto	Sabitri Dharmsala
Ditto	Jain Dharmsala
Ditto	Chauho Dharmsala
Ditto	Kr. Lal Singh Man Singh's Dharmsala
Ditto	Agrawal Dharmsala
Kuraoli	Adhati Singh Dharmsala
Ditto	Tiwari Dharmsala
Mahloli Village	Lala Bilas Rai Dharmsala
Karhal	Dharmasala
Jasrana	Jain Dharmasala
	Dharmasala

CHAPTER VIII MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In 1971, the population of the district was 14,45,534, of which 4,01,413 were workers. A study of the occupational structure of the working population reveals that 72,732 persons were engaged in miscellaneous occupations. The break-up is given below according to the census report of 1971 :

Occupations	No.
Industry	20,699
Trade and Commerce	14,413
Live-stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	1,579
Transport, storage and communication	4,048
Construction	1,959
Mining and quarrying	43
Other services	29,991
Total	72,732

Public Services

With the growing responsibility of the government towards planned economic and social development of the country, employment opportunities under the Central and State Governments at various levels have increased considerably. In addition, the activities of the public corporations and local bodies have also greatly multiplied. An idea of the number of the persons employed under the semi-government or quasi-government institutions and local bodies may be had from the following table :

Type of establishment	No. of reporting establishments		No. of employees	
	1972-73	1973-74	1972-73	1973-74
Central Government	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
State Government	69	69	6,954	6,944
Quasi-government (Central)	12	15	263	255
Quasi-government (State)	2	1	1,047	815
Local bodies	26	26	5,549	5,432

Persons in the above services fall under the category of fixed wage earners who are hard hit by the rise in the cost of living. However, the comparative position of Central Government employees is much better than of those under the employment of the State Government or the local bodies. Dearness allowance is paid to all classes of such employees at rates varying in accordance with their salaries and the government or authority they serve under. Benefits like provident fund and free medical treatment are available to the government servants as well as employees of the local bodies, while pension facilities are extended to government servants only. Leave rules have been revised by the government to provide greater relief to the temporary employees. Other benefits include advances for the purchase of conveyances and construction or repair of houses. Residential accommodation at moderate stipulated rates of rent is also provided in government-owned buildings or house rent allowance is paid in lieu thereof to the employees. Non-practising allowance is paid to certain categories of the employees of the medical and health department holding posts prohibiting private practice.

The employees are allowed to form their service associations or unions under the Societies Registration Act XVI of 1860, for their welfare and for the protection and promotion of their service interests. The State Government employees in the district are members of the State Employees Joint Council or the Ministerial Employees Association which is affiliated to the State level body. The employees of the local bodies are members of the Local Authorities Employees Association and the employees of the State Road Transport Corporation are members of the Employees' Road Transport Corporation Joint Council which are both affiliated to their apex organisations at the State-level.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Education

In 1961, the district had 2,512 teachers including 233 women. With the expansion of educational institutions with the passage of time, the number of teachers had risen to 6,420 in the year 1974-75, and the statement given below shows the numbers of teachers employed in primary and secondary schools run by different agencies in that year :

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Agencies running the institution	No. of teachers		Total
	Male	Female	
Government	35	59	94
Local bodies	3,573	538	4,111
Private	1,974	241	2,215
Total	5,582	838	6,420

Since 1964, the triple benefit scheme has also been extended to the State-aided educational institutions run by the local bodies or under private management bringing the advantages of contributory provident fund, compulsory life insurance and pension, which includes family pension, to the teachers. Payment of salaries to the teachers of the institutions which receive grants from the State Government are made through cheques signed by the managers of the institutions concerned, and a nominee of the district inspector of schools.

Wards of the teachers are entitled to free tuition up to the intermediate classes. Needy and disabled teachers are provided financial help from the national foundation for teachers welfare fund and those suffering from tuberculosis are admitted to the Bhowali T. B. Sanatorium where a number of seats are reserved for teachers.

The teachers of the higher secondary schools in the district are members of the Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh and those of junior high schools and primary schools are members of the Prathmik Shikshak Sangh. These associations are affiliated to their State-level apex bodies. The main aims of these associations are to protect and promote the service interests of their members. There is also an association of the teachers of the degree and post-graduate colleges in the district. The teachers of these colleges draw their salaries direct from the government treasury in the district.

Medicine

In 1961, there were 71 nurses, 781 midwives and health visitors, 23 nursing attendants, 137 pharmacists, 21 vaccinators and 53 sanitary technicians. Physicians trained in the allopathic, ayurvedic and homoeopathic and other systems totalled 56, 21, 821 and 43 respectively. The number of dentists was 4. In 1974-75, the government hospitals and dispensaries had 54 doctors, one hakim, 3 homoeopaths, 60 compounders, 6 nurses, 62 midwives and 60 *dais*.

A branch of the Indian Medical Association was established in the district in 1951, to promote and advance medical and allied services in the different branches of medical practice to promote medical education and to maintain the honour and dignity of the medical profession. The total number of members on the rolls of this association was 17 in 1974-75.

Law

The legal profession attracts law graduates and a few retired persons possessing a degree in law. They have one or more *moharrirs* (clerks) depending on the size of their clientele. The State Government appoints district government counsels for conducting criminal, civil and revenue cases in courts, from among qualified legal practitioners. To assist them a number of lawyers are appointed by the government, known as panel lawyers, and special counsels, depending on the quantum of work. For the purpose of conducting cases in the courts of magistrates, lawyers and other persons with legal qualifications are appointed as public prosecutors.

In recent years, with the influx of a large number of new entrants, the legal profession has become highly competitive. Various malpractices have also crept into it. Nonetheless the profession has retained a high legal standard. The very nature of the profession provides ample opportunities to the lawyers to maintain very close touch with all sections of people. Naturally the lawyers take a very active part in all walks of public life in the district, particularly in the social educational and political activities. Generally the lawyers practise at the district headquarters as most of the case work is dealt with in the courts located there. A few also practise at the tahsil headquarters where a number of subordinate courts are located.

In 1961, there were in the district 216 jurymen, 18 judges and magistrates, 188 legal practitioners and 10 legal technicians.

The lawyers of the district who numbered 300 in 1974-75, are members of two bar associations, the Civil Courts Bar Association and the Collectorate Bar Association at Mainpuri, the latter having a branch at Shikohabad. The associations aim at inculcating a feeling of brotherhood among their members, maintaining harmonious relations between the bar and the bench, safeguarding civil liberties and educating people in their proper use and enjoyment, and to provide free legal assistance to deserving persons.

Engineering

There are mainly four branches of government engineering services in the district, the public works, the irrigation, the local self-government engineering and the hydel. They all have their own divisions of survey, design and construction. In 1974-75, the total number of engineers in all these branches in the district was 29. The Zila Parishad and the municipal boards of Mainpuri, Shikohabad and Sirsaganj have one engineer each under their employment. Overseers, now designated as junior engineers, linesmen, and draughtsmen also form part of the engineering services.

The industrial establishments in the district particularly those at Shikohabad also employ graduate engineers and diploma holders. A number of qualified engineers, architects and surveyors work privately. The number of surveyors and architects was 3 and 7 respectively.

In 1961, the number of persons in the engineering profession was 119 including those employed by government and 3 surveyors and 7 architects.

Domestic Servants

Domestic servants comprise a fair proportion of the workers in the district. They are not necessarily unskilled workers though they get lower wages as compared to other members of the labouring classes. They render wholtime as well as part time services in the private houses, hotels, private concerns or business houses. Full time servants are usually employed by well-to-do persons. They are normally paid in cash but remunerating them partly in kind like providing board, lodging, and garments and partly in cash is also in vogue. They dwell in rented shums or out-houses. Generally there is no security of job for them and they often change their place of work.

With the changing times the workers under this category are slowly becoming more conscious of their rights and steps are afoot to organise them into unions and association with the objects of safeguarding their interest and improving their working conditions.

In 1961, in the district, there were 700 house keepers, cooks, maid servants and others doing related jobs, of whom 198 were cooks and cook-bearers, 473 butlers, bearers and waiters and 14 nurses, ayahs and maids. The number of cleaners, sweepers and watermen was 2, 538 of whom 1,342 were women.

Barbers

In the past barbers or *nais* used to visit families either deaily or weekly for rendering service. But the practice is dying out fast and now to satisfy the craze for modern establishments, hair-dressing shops and saloons have cropped up. Such saloons are mostly confined to the urban areas and they are usually manned by more than one person, the owner employing paid assistants. Some barbers attend to their customers on roadside pavements of busy thoroughfares, in fairs and other festive occasions.

The barbers held a very prominent position during ceremonial occasions among the Hindus. Even now they, besides carrying their main work of hairdressing, also attend to their age-old traditional duties in rituals and sacraments like birth, naming of the newly born, babies, *mundan*, *yagy-pavita*, marriage and death. In these rituals they are assisted by their womenfolk as well. In 1961, there were 3,090 barbers and workers doing related jobs, in the district, of whom 307 were in the rural areas.

Washermen

In spite of the change over to laundaries, washing shops and dry-cleaning shops in recent years, the washerman is still a common sigat in cities and towns, collecting dirty clothes for washing on the banks of some nearby river, rivulet, nullah or tank.

The rising costs of washing materials and the coming into vogue of synthetic fibre clothes have adversely affected the trade of the washermen. A substantial number of clothes being washed at home, only the woollens, silken and other delicate clothes find their way to the laundaries and dry-cleaning shops in the cities. The conditions in the villages, however, have not undergone any substantial change. In 1961, there were 4,305 washermen including dry-cleaners of whom 434 were in the urban area.

Tailors

Since times immemorial tailoring has been considered to be a fine art, as it requires hard, sustained and specialised training, particularly under an expert in the profession. Noted tailors in the cities only attend to the cutting of the cloth for various items of dress and leave the stitching and sundry jobs to their assistants who are either

close relations or employed on daily or monthly wages or on a commission basis. They also specialise in ladies' or gent's garments.

In the rural area the entire job is handled by a single individual — the *kurta*, shirt and *pyjama* being the traditional items of tailored dresses. In 1961 there were 2,611 tailors and dressmakers of whom 773 were in the urban areas.

Other Occupations

Among those pursuing other occupations in the district in 1961, there were 2,150 spinners, weavers, knitters and dyers ; 3,290 carpenters, wood-workers and coopers ; 1931 hawkers, pedlars and street vendors ; 1,040 basket weavers ; 1,996 brick layers, plasterers and construction workers ; 6,521 potters, kilnmen and glass blowers ; 1,027 oil-seed crushers and pressers ; 100 *khandsari*, sugar and *gur* makers ; 876 religious workers ; 60 compositors, printers, engravers and book-binders ; 696 book-keepers and cashiers ; 2,132 millers, pounders, huskers, parchers and related food workers ; 996 bakers, confectioners, candy and sweetmeat makers ; 1,400 leather workers and shoes makers and repairers ; 28 fishermen ; 495 drivers of vehicle drawn by animals ; 171 musicians ; 765 jewellers, goldsmiths and precision instrument makers and repairers ; 259 electricians and electronic workers ; 466 loggers and forestry workers ; 551 blacksmiths, hammersmiths and forgers, 509 *malis* ; 88 astrologers and palmists ; 2,606 salesmen and shop attendants ; 188 cycle-rickshaw drivers ; 839 machinists and tool makers ; 15 palm-tappers ; 116 tobacco product makers ; 13 authors ; 3 editors and journalists, 8 painters and commercial artists ; 10 actors ; 171 musicians ; 61 dancers and 4 artists and related workers.

CHAPTER IX ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Workers and Non-workers

In 1961 the percentage of workers and non-workers in the district was 32.4 and 67.6, the corresponding figures for the state being 39.1 and 60.9 respectively. Of the total workers in the district, cultivators and agricultural labourers comprised 75.8 per cent. Next come 'other services', claiming 9.9 per cent followed by household industry and other manufacturing concerns with 8.3 per cent, and trade and commerce 4.1 per cent. In other categories the number is small, all together accounting for 1.9 per cent. The extent of female participation in work was 4.4 per cent against 6.7 per cent of the State. The corresponding percentage in agricultural activities was higher than in non-agricultural activities being 53.8 and 46.2 respectively.

The total rural population, 10,93,735, of the district in 1961 comprised 32.6 per cent workers and the remaining non-workers. The corresponding percentages for the urban population were 29.9 and 70.1 respectively. Thus the proportion of workers was lower in towns than in villages, of the total 3,56,373 workers in the rural areas in 1961, cultivators and agricultural labourers were 84.4 per cent and workers engaged in non-agricultural activities were 15.6 per cent only. As usual, there was a preponderance of non-agricultural workers in the urban areas, the percentage being 90.4. The comparative figures for 1961 and 1971 regarding livelihood pattern are tabulated below :

Year	Total population	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total population			
			Agricultural workers	Non-agricultural workers	District	U. P.
1961	11,80,894	3,82,420	24.5	7.9	32.4	39.1
1971	14,45,534	4,01,413	22.7	5.0	27.7	30.9

At first sight, the figures indicate a substantial decrease in the working population reflecting unemployment even amongst the already employed persons of 1961. This anomaly has cropped up

due to a change in the definition of 'worker' in 1971. The use of term 'worker' was so comprehensive at the 1961 census that a person doing as little as one hour's work in a day was to be treated as a worker. Accordingly, a woman, who mostly attended to household duties was classified as worker if she even took food to the field, tended the cattle or did some such other work. In the census of 1971 a man or woman who was engaged permanently in household duties such as cooking for his or her own household, whether such a person helped in the family's economic activities as a part-time worker; was not treated as worker but categorised as a non-worker. This explains the sudden decline in the percentages of workers in 1971.

At the 1971 census, workers were classified into nine major categories, the basis of the classification being those economic activities, which were similar in respect of process, raw materials and products. The details of the nine categories of workers in 1971, are as follows :

Number and name	Male	Female	Total	Percentage to total workers	Percentage to total population
I. Cultivators	2,80,595	2,078	2,82,673	70.4	19.5
II. Agricultural Labourers	45,289	719	46,008	11.4	3.2
III. Live-stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	1,520	59	1,579	0.4	0.1
IV. Mining and quarrying	43	—	43	0.0	0.0
V. Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs:					
(a) Household industry	11,282	768	12,050	3.0	0.8
(b) Other than household industry	8,606	43	8,649	2.1	0.6
VI. Construction	1,946	13	1,959	0.5	0.2
VII. Trade and commerce	14,249	164	14,413	3.6	0.9
VIII. Transport, storage and communications	4,014	34	4,048	1.1	0.3
IX. Other services	28,528	1,463	29,991	7.5	2.1
Total workers	3,96,072	5,341	4,01,413	100.0	27.7
Non-workers	3,92,363	6,51,758	10,44,121	—	2.3
Total population	7,88,435	6,57,099	14,45,534	—	7

As will be observed all the non-workers have been grouped together in one single class though they were classified at the census into the following categories :

- (a) Full-time students
- (b) Those attending to household duties
- (c) Dependants and infants
- (d) Retired persons and rentiers
- (e) Persons of independent means
- (f) Beggars and vagrants
- (g) Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions
- (h) Others.

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

Prices

No records of prices are extant in the district for the years prior to 1840, but it is probable that they did not differ materially from those obtaining in the neighbouring districts of Etah and Farukhabad in which during the first half of the nineteenth century wheat sold at an average rate of about 35 seers per rupee, barley at 50 seers and jowar at 47 seers a rupee with slight variations on either side. Between 1859 and 1871, however, a remarkable change took place. The average price of wheat rose by 53 per cent, that of barley by 49 per cent, of jowar by 39 per cent with an alround increase of 47 per cent. This hike was part of a general price movement experienced throughout the country and presumably triggered by the expansion of markets, development of communications and introduction of rapid means of transport. The drought of 1868-69 caused little suffering in the district though the prices remained high due to large-scale export of grain to the central parts of the country. The average rates between February 1869 and March 1870 were 12 seers per rupee for wheat, 16 seers for barley, 17 seers for *bajra* and 10 seers for ordinary rice. Excluding the scarcity period, the average market rate between 1870-74 stabilised in the neighbourhood of 20 seers to a rupee. The prices thereafter, again recorded a change and by 1900 become almost steady at about 15 seers for wheat and 20 seers for jowar to a rupee. About 1911 normal prices for the district were recorded to be 12.5 seers per rupee for wheat, 8.5 seers for rice, 14 seers for both gram and dal *arhar*.

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, prices fluctuated vigorously and a considerable rise in the cost of food-grains

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was witnessed in the succeeding years. In comparison to the price level of 1911 in the district goods value rose by 21 per cent higher in 1916 and 60 per cent more in 1928.

The world-wide economic depression of 1930s caused the prices to decline from January, 1930, in the district and they came down to 13 seers per rupee for wheat, 16 seers for barley and 11.5 seers for gram in September of the year as compared to 7.25 seers, 8.75 seers and 7.00 seers for wheat, barley and gram respectively in October, 1929. The depression continued with greater severity in the years that followed. The average rates in the revenue year 1930-31 further fell to 17.69 seers per rupee, 25.06 seers, 18.00 seers, 12.12 seers and 12.49 seers for wheat, barley, gram, dal *arhar* and rice respectively. The price level in 1934 shrunk by about 44 per cent and 25 per cent as compared to those of 1928 and 1916 respectively. Generally in the State the effects of depression lasted till the end of 1936, but in the district the agricultural depression continued till October, 1938. During the period from 1931 to October, 1938 the rates of wheat, gram, rice and dal *arhar* ranged from 11 to 15 seers, 12 to 15 seers, 8 to 12 seers and 9 to 12 seers respectively per rupee. The prices were then beginning to show a tendency to stabilise when the Second World War broke out in September, 1939, and prices soared during the close of the year, registering a rise of nearly 43 per cent over those prevalent in 1934. In the following year there was a sharp rise in prices largely due to speculation and profiteering other factors like the holding back of stocks in anticipation of further shortages, contributed in no small measure to the maintenance and even to the scaling up of the high level reached in prices. The annual average prices during the war period registered the following rising trend :

Year	Annual average rates in seers per rupee			
	Wheat	Gram	Rice	Dal <i>Arhar</i>
1940-41	11.00	14.25	8.49	10.50
1941-42	7.00	9.06	4.56	6.81
1942-43	4.12	4.94	3.56	3.31

In March, 1942 price control measures were put into operation, by the district authorities and a district advisory committee was

formed to discuss ways and means to ease the situation. This had no effect in lowering the prices and in August, 1943, prices touched the highest level reached till then. Wheat was sold at 2.14 seers per rupee. The price control measures were then vigorously enforced which included fixation of prices (as modified from time to time), institution of prosecutions to check profiteering and licensing of the food-grains trade. Even then the prices continued to go up and they registered a rise of about 181 per cent over those of 1939. It was realised that effective control of prices was not possible without a corresponding check on supplies. Hence during 1943—1952 different rationing systems—partial rationing, hundred per cent rationing and total rationing—at different periods were witnessed by the towns of Shikohabad and Mainpuri. In February, 1949 wheat was sold at 1.5 seers to a rupee and there was total rationing only in the town of Shikohabad. All rationing systems were withdrawn, throughout the State from the middle of 1952 but food-grains to ration-card holders, however, continued to be issued by licensed shops. Towards the end of 1953, prices tended to come down a little. The normal forces of demand and supply once again started to operate. Neither the cultivator was sure of getting a fixed minimum price for his produce nor the trader was assured of his commission. This uncertainty led to a further decline in prices. By 1955 the prices fell by about 23 per cent for wheat, 39 per cent for gram, 12 per cent for rice and 26 per cent for *arhar* dal as compared to those prevailing in 1950. This was a countrywide trend, which require to be checked to stabilise the economy and sustain the growth of agriculture. The government, therefore, took measures in 1953-54 to support agricultural prices, and the results were conducive to production. The prices in 1950 and 1955 were as follows :

Year	Price (per kg.) in rupees			
	Wheat	Gram	Rice	<i>Arhar</i> dal
1950	0.43	0.36	0.61	0.50
1955	0.33	0.22	0.54	0.37

Thereafter the prices showed an upward trend till 1965. Drought conditions in 1967 and crop failure in 1969 enhanced the prices to an extent of 50 to 60 per cent over those prevailing in 1965. The damage caused to successive crops of *kharif* and *rabi* by the dry spell and frost which raged in 1974 brought about 95 per cent or more rise

in the price level. The average yearly retail prices for certain years from 1960 to 1974 are given in the following statement :

Year	Approximate average yearly retail prices in Rs per kg.			
	Wheat	Gram	Rice	Dal arhar
1960	0.44	0.41	0.60	0.60
1965	0.81	0.75	0.84	0.84
1970	0.98	0.94	1.20	1.70
1974	1.71	2.11	1.99	3.00

The retail prices in the headquarters town for certain commodities in 1970 and 1974 were as follows :

Commodity	Prices in Rs per kg.	
	1970	1974
Gur	0.74	1.55
Sugar	1.83	4.49
Mustard oil	4.99	8.27
Ghee	11.25	18.90
Firewood	0.12	0.22
Kerosene (per litre)	0.65	1.21

Wages

The general rise in the level of the prices of agricultural produce has induced a pronouncedly upward trend in the level of wages. Thus, a casual labourer in 1866 got Re 0.12 and a skilled labourer about Re0.35 for a day's work, but they received double those amounts about the year 1910. Even at these higher wages it was difficult to hire people in requisite numbers, with the result that the new railway track between Shikohabad and Farrukhabad had to be laid largely with imported labour.

The first wage census was carried out in the State in 1906. The results of the survey of wages made at that time and in succeeding years are tabulated below :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1906	0.16	0.31
1911	0.18	0.37
1916	0.19	0.45
1928	0.31	0.75
1934	0.19	0.55
1939	0.22	0.53
1944	0.84	1.62

After the First World War a general rise in the wages occurred as was revealed by the wage census of 1928. The year 1930 was one of world-wide economic depression which was reflected in the census of 1934. Thereafter wages began to mount. The steep rise in 1944 was attributed to the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. The wages moved for an adjustment, but there was no coming down and they continued to go upwards as would appear from the following statement :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1955	1.50	3.00
1960	1.64	3.50
1965	2.50	5.00
1970	3.70	5.60
1974	5.80	11.45

In 1974 wages for various agricultural operations e.g. weeding, reaping, ploughing etc., were about Rs 4.75 per day of eight working hours.

The approximate average wages paid to the workers at the district headquarters in the middle of 1975 for certain occupations were as follows :

Occupation	Unit of quotation	Wages (in Rs)
Chowkidar	Per month	120.00
Wood-cutter	Per 40 kg. of wood turned into fuel	1.00
Herdsmen	Per cattle per month	6.00
Casual labourer	Per day	6.00
Domestic servant	Per month with food	40.00
Carpenter	Per day	12.00
Midwife	(a) For a boy	20.00
	(b) For a girl	15.00
Barber	(a) Per shave	0.30
	(b) Per hair-cut	1.00
Scavenger	Per month for a house with one latrine for one cleaning per day	4.00
Motor driver	Per month	300.00
Truck driver	Per month	300.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment Trends

The statement given below shows that there has been a considerable increase in the number of persons employed in the public sector though in the private sector there has been an erratic trend during the years 1970-74. The data relate only to a few selected establishments which were subjected to the enquiry conducted by the employment exchange authorities:

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1970	111	93	204	5,849	11,792	17,641
1971	108	96	204	6,108	11,818	17,926
1972	112	104	216	5,364	13,370	18,734
1973	117	112	229	6,256	13,813	20,069
1974	114	111	225	5,567	13,446	19,013

The number of persons relating to the last two years, in the foregoing statement, may be further classified according to work categories in the following manner:

Nature Less of activity	No. of reporting establishment		No. of employees					
	1973	1974	1973			1974		
			Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
Agriculture live-stock hunting and fishing	3	3	—	604	604	—	603	603
Manufacturing	35	35	2,593	—	3,593	2,838	—	2,838
Construction	11	10	5	1,268	1,273	—	1,294	1,294
Electricity, gas water and sanitary services	6	5	81	1,091	1,172	866	862	1,728
Trade and commerce	18	20	73	295	368	81	388	469
Transport, storage and communication	8	8	105	—	105	111	—	111
Services (public, legal, medical, etc.)	146	146	2,389	10,555	12,944	2,451	10,399	12,850

Employment of Women

The extent of employment of women workers in 1974 is indicated by the following statement showing their number in the private and public sectors:

	No. on December, 1974
Number of reporting establishment	225
Number of women employees in public sector	1,011
Number of women employees in private sector	170
Total number of women employees	1,181
Percentage of women employees in private sector to total employees in that sector	3.05
Percentage of women employees in public sector to total employees in that sector	7.52

The proportion of women workers in different spheres in the quarter ending December, 1974 was as follows:

Sphere	Percentage
Education	71.46
Medical and public health	24.30
Manufacturing	00.93
Construction	00.17
Trade and commerce	00.08
Services, etc.	3.06

Unemployment Trends

Educationl standards of men and women who registered for employment during the year ending December 1974 were as follows :

Educational standard	Men	Women	Total
Post-graduate	79	3	82
Graduate	750	19	769
Intermediâte	2,717	33	2,750
Matriculate	1,982	68	2,050
Below Matriculate	1,853	113	1,966
Illiterate	163	40	203

During the quarter ending December, 1974, the district employment exchange was required to recommend candidates for 61 posts, the Central Government needed 7 candidates, State Government 27, quasi-government (Central) undertakings 1, local bodies 14 and the private sector 12.

The district experienced shortage of typists and stenographers (Hindi and English) and qualified compounders. There was a surplus of persons having educational qualifications up to graduation, trained B. T. C. teachers and technicians with I.T.I. certificates but with no previous experience to their credit.

Employment Exchange

A sub-employment exchange was established in the district in 1955, to provide job assistance to the unemployed and the employers of the district. In 1960, it was up-graded to a full-fledged employment exchange. The following statement gives an idea of the assistance rendered by the employment exchange during 1970 to 1974:

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	No. on 'live registers'	No. of person provided with employment
1970	1,452	8,143	4,195	751
1971	855	7,750	5,111	518
1972	1,058	9,307	8,476	992
1973	1,183	9,448	7,217	11,203
1974	518	7,463	7,617	437

The employment market information scheme has also been functioning in the exchange since 1962. Under this scheme an intensive study is carried out to ascertain the number of persons employed, vacancies created, and the types of jobs for which qualified candidates were not available and other allied information in public undertakings and some selected private enterprises.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The subject of national planning and rural development received little attention under the British rule, and the few steps that were taken to recondition the village economy and society were mostly conciliatory in nature and seemingly motivated by political expediency. They largely consisted of improvement in sanitation, expansion of agriculture and extension of irrigational facilities. When the first popular government came into office in 1937, a scheme for rural development was adopted in certain villages of the district.

Gradually, it was expanded and a rural development association was formed at the district level. The functions of the association, having a non-official as chairman and a sub-divisional magistrate as secretary, were more or less advisory in nature. They covered rural hygiene, construction of roads, establishment of libraries, construction of panchayat ghars (houses), holding of night educational classes for adults and allied developmental activities. With the peoples' government going out of office in 1939 the rural development programme suffered heavily. In 1946, the rural development department was merged with the co-operative department and the rural development association was replaced by the district development association with a non-official as its chairman and the district co-operative officer as its secretary. In 1951, the district planning committee, having the district magistrate as its chairman and the district planning officer as its secretary replaced

the district development association. It had a number of sub-committees for the preparation and execution of Five-year Plan schemes and projects. Its role, however, continued to be advisory. The development blocks, were the units of operation into which the district was divided for the implementation of the plan programmes of each department.

The First Five-year Plan started functioning from April 1951, with the main objective of raising the standard of living of the people and opening out to them opportunities of a wider and more varied life. It was largely a collection of departmental programmes. In the wake of the problems created by partition, emphasis was laid on agriculture, irrigation and transport. Consequently, efforts were made for improving agricultural practices and developing the village community through national extension service schemes and peoples' participation in different activities. Earth-work for buildings and villages roads, digging of soakage pits, etc., was done by voluntary labour (*shramdan*). Improved methods of agriculture and use of compost were also introduced. Tube-wells and other means of irrigation were augmented.

Sultanganj in tahsil Bhongaon was the first community development block of the district opened in October, 1952, followed by Madanpur in January 1955 and Eka in January 1956.

The scope of the Second Five-year Plan (1956-61), was enlarged to include industrialisation with stress on the development of heavy industries and on the enlargement of the scope of the public sector. The aim was to increase the national income by 25 per cent and to reduce unemployment. In the field of agriculture, schemes relating to Japanese method of paddy cultivation, U. P. method of wheat cultivation, expansion and training in the use of agricultural implements, chemicals and green manures were taken up. The whole district was divided into 14 development blocks for implementation of the plan schemes.

In 1958, the Antarim Zila Parishad, which was the precursor of the present Zila Parishad, was formed by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. For the co-ordinated execution of the different plan schemes, the resources of the agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, panchayat raj and some other departments like health and plant protection, called the plan departments, were pooled and put under the control of the district planning officer.

During the Third Plan period (1961-66) a three tier structure of rural self-governing bodies was set up with effect from December 1, 1963 to ensure peoples' participation in the successful implementation of the planning and development programmes. Now the panchayats function at the village level, the Kshettra Samitis at the block level and the Zila Parishad at the district level. The district has 15 development blocks, all of which are now in Stage II. Some other details of these blocks are given below :

Tahsil	Name of block	Date of inauguration	Number of		Population (as in 1971)
			Gaon sabhas	Nyaya panchayats	
Bhongaon	Sultanganj	1-10-52	59	7	1,03,178
Do.	Kishni	1-4-57	69	9	1,08,080
Do.	Bewar	1-4-59	100	12	1,08,280
Do.	Alau (1)	1-4-60	44	5	59,131
Jasrana	Eka	26-1-56	65	8	1,00,991
Do.	Jasrana	2-10-58	56	7	67,330
Do.	Khairagarh	1-4-60	74	9	79,111
Karhal	Karhal	2-10-56	81	10	87,759
Do.	Barnahal	2-10-59	72	8	71,942
Mainpuri	Mainpuri	..	61	8	1,02,682
Do.	Ghiror	2-10-57	69	9	86,206
Shikohabad	Kuraoli	1-4-60	102	12	77,508
Do.	Madanpur (2)	26-1-55	94	12	1,20,116
Do.	Araon	1-4-58	56	7	69,562
Do.	Shikohabad	1-4-59	78	9	21,636

1. Headquarters at Sagamai

2. Headquarters at Sirsaganj

The Third Five-year Plan was conceived as the 'first stage of a decade or more of intensive development leading to a self-reliant and self-generating economy'. It sought to ensure a minimum level of living to every family while narrowing economic and social disparities. Some special programmes such as the sowing of

improved varieties of seeds, particularly those of the dwarf variety, intensive method of wheat and paddy cultivation and crop protection measures were taken up in hand.

The next three years from April, 1966 to March, 1969 did not form part of the next Five-year Plan. Yearly plans for these three years were, therefore, formulated with the following broad objectives :

- (i) Bringing about growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector and 8 to 10 per cent in industry
- (ii) Inducing an annual growth rate of 6.9 per cent. in production of food-grains to achieve self-sufficiency
- (iii) Maximising employment opportunities
- (iv) Redressing imbalances arising from high rate of population growth and the inadequate expansion in agricultural production, by reducing the fertility rate to 25 per thousand in the shortest possible time.

The Fourth Five-year Plan (1969—74), defined more precisely the wider and deeper social values as 'that the structure of socio-economic relations should be so planned that the result not only in appreciable increases in national income and employment but also in greater equality in incomes and wealth'. It sought to enlarge the income of the rural population and to achieve self-reliance in agriculture and industry. Consequently new small industrial units in the district were established, besides arranging for increased facilities for sanitation, transport and health services with special emphasis on improving the conditions of the Backward Classes and grant of subsidies to them for starting small crafts.

Removal of poverty and attainment of economic self-reliance have been defined to be the two basic objectives of the Fifth Five-year Plan and expansion of employment opportunities has also been given the highest priority.

The Plan programmes of the district are an integral part of the State Plan and they broadly reflect the same priorities. Without going into details, it may be observed that the implementation of various development plan schemes has helped in appreciable growth in agricultural production, power generation and consumption, industrial development, irrigation and road transport. The planned efforts have also resulted in raising the standard of living, providing better wages and living conditions all round and helping the general economic growth of the district.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Mainpuri is one of the five districts of the Agra Division of Uttar Pradesh with the divisional commissioner's headquarter at Agra. In 1801, it was the headquarters of the district Etawah which then comprised the present districts of Mainpuri, Etah and Etawah. In 1803, the revenue jurisdiction of the entire district was entrusted to a collector, residing at Mainpuri. Soon after, Sauj was transferred to Farrukhabad and in 1817 Kuraoli was received from Farrukhabad. In 1824, the old pargana of Rapri was dismembered and divided into *kismat awwal*, subsequently known as pargana Shikohabad, and *kismat duyam*, afterwards called the Mustafabad and the Ghiror parganas. Pargana Bibamau was broken up and distributed between Barnahal, Etawah and Shikohabad, and Karhal, also a *tappa* of Etawah, was constituted a separate pargana. In 1837, the jurisdiction of Mainpuri was restricted to Sahawar-Karsana, Etawah-Sakit, Sirhpura, Kuraoli, Shikohabad, Mustafabad, Ghiror, Sauj, Karhal, Kishni-Nabiganj, Bhongaon, Alipur Patti and Manchhana. Bawar was received from Farrukhabad in 1840. On the formation of the Etah district in 1845, the parganas of Sahawar-Karsana, Etah-Sakit and Sirhpura were handed over to it, and since that period the district jurisdiction has altered little. In 1850-51 pargana Bhongaon a taluka Manchhana were united under the name Bhongaon-Manchhana, and in 1861 pargana Sauj was broken up and divided between Karhal and Mainpuri. Later changes have for the most part been trifling, being exchanges of small areas of land between pargana and pargana within the district and with the neighbouring districts of Etawah, Etah and Farrukhabad between the years 1957 and 1961 as described in chapter I.

Commissioner

He functions as a vital link between the administration of the district under him and the government. He controls, guides and advises district and regional level officers, solves inter-departmental problems and assesses the performance of officers of various departments posted in his Division. On the judicial side, his jurisdiction extends to hearing appeals and revisions under the U. P. Land Revenue Act, U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act,

and several other enactments like the Arms Act. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority and exercises powers of supervision over the Zila Parishad, municipal boards and other local bodies.

District Magistrate

Usually, a member of the Indian Administrative Services and occasionally an officer of the State Civil Services, the district magistrate presides over the general administration of the district. He combines in himself the functions of a magistrate and collector, appointed under the Code of Criminal Procedure and the U. P. Land Revenue Act, respectively. In his capacity as head of civil administration in the district, he acts as a principal co-ordinator between functionaries of various departments represented in the district. Maintenance of law and order, enforcement of various laws, rules and regulations and miscellaneous governments orders, release of prisoners, appraisal of public opinion and avoidance of explosive situations are some of the important duties assigned to him as district magistrate and it is in their performance that he comes into close touch with the police who follow his instructions. He is the licensing authority in matters like possession of arms and ammunition, running of fair price shops and preparation of fireworks.

As collector he is responsible for recovery of land revenue and other government dues and maintenance of an up-to-date record of rights. Survey and record operations, Settlement, acquisition of land, rehabilitation of displaced persons and distribution of relief on calamitous occasions are some other subjects dealt with by him as the principal revenue officer of the district. It is also his responsibility to recommend suspension and remission of land revenue, whenever he considers it necessary. He also supervises the work of consolidation of holdings and hears appeals under the Consolidation of Holdings Act. The district treasury is also in his ultimate charge. He is expected to tour extensively for a long duration, particularly in the interior of his district, every year. He visits each tahsil during the rainy season for tahsil and thana inspections and in winter to acquaint himself with the condition of agriculturists and to watch the implementation of development schemes.

Necessary certification in the case of claimants to old age or political pension, payment of compensation under the Workman's Compensation Act in case of accidents causing disability, total or partial, combating strikes and other labour problems, extension of visas,

management of estates owned by the government and *nazul*, and supervision of the conduct of civil suits in which the State is a party, are also some of his manifold duties. The district officer acts as the chief protocol officer in the district. He has also to ensure equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities through fair price shops with the help of the district supply officer. He is *ex officio* district election officer and *ex officio* president of the district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board.

The multifarious role of the district officer makes him responsible for the successful implementation of projects and schemes which are introduced by the government from time to time and relate to the general welfare of the people. Census, Van Mahotsava, wild life preservation, securing investments for post-office securities, raising of loans for the State Government and, augmenting sale of State lottery tickets are among other functions of the district office.

He is the pivot of the planning set up in the district. For intensive social and economic development of the area in his jurisdiction he is assisted by a district planning officer at the district level and the block development officers at the block level.

The district officer has under him five subdivisional officers, who perform duties—revenue, executive and magisterial—similar to those of the district officer though confined only to their respective subdivisions. Since June, 1975, these officers are required to reside at their tahsil headquarters.

For the convenience of revenue administration each of the five tahsils—Jasrana, Shikohabad, Karhal, Mainpuri, Bhongaon is in the immediate charge of a resident tahsildar who acts as a magistrate in addition to being an assistant collector. His main duties include collection of land revenue, upkeep of land records, maintenance of law and order, disposal of cases and follow up of public welfare programmes. He is also called upon to undertake relief duties in calamities, when necessary. Each tahsildar is also the officer in charge of the tahsil sub-treasury.

The police organisation, which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district, is headed by the superintendent of police who, though not directly subordinate to the collector, assists him. The district magistrate is head of the criminal administration and in that capacity he controls the district police though the superintendent of police who is in over-all charge of the police

force and is responsible for its efficiency, discipline and proper performance of duties. He is assisted by deputy superintendents and a large number of subordinate officers as given in chapter XII.

The judicial organisation of the district is headed by the district and sessions judge with headquarters at Mainpuri. He is the highest authority for administration of justice in civil and criminal matters for the district. He was also the district registrar and exercised powers vested in him under the Indian Registration Act, but a recent change has conferred the powers of the district registrar on one of the additional district magistrates under the district magistrate, known as additional district magistrate (revenue). A sub-registrar, whose function is to register documents relating to movable and immovable property, titles and interests of the people, is stationed at the headquarters of each tahsil.

OTHER DISTRICT LEVEL OFFICERS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS

The other district level officers working under the administrative control of their respective departmental heads are :

Chief Medical Officer
Executive Engineer, Hydel
Executive Engineer, Irrigation
Executive Engineer, Tube-wells
Executive Engineer, L. S. G.
District Agriculture Officer
District Commandant Home Guard
District Employment Officer
District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer
District Industries Officer
District Inspector of Schools
District Live-stock Officer
District Panchayat Raj Officer
District Plant Protection Officer
District Probation Officer
District Statistical Officer
Basic Shiksha Adhikari
Basic Shiksha Adhikari (Mahila)

Sales Tax Officer

Superintendent of Jail

Assistant Registrar Co-operatives

Assistant Engineer, Rural Engineering Service

District Horticulture Inspector

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Central Excise

The district is in the charge of a superintendent of central excise, with headquarters at Mainpuri, under the administrative control of the assistant collector of central excise, Farrukhabad. It is divided into four ranges namely Mainpuri, Bewar and Kuraoli and the fourth range is a multiple officers range manned by eight inspectors who assess and collect excise duties on items like manufactured tobacco, electric lamps and tubes, glass and glasswares, sodium silicate, paper and paper boards, and caps of lighting bulbs.

Income Tax Department

The administrative head of the department is the inspecting assistant commissioner range II (Agra) with headquarters at Kanpur. The district is under the charge of an income-tax officer with an income-tax inspector to assist him.

Indian Post and Telegraph Department

The district lies in the postal division of Etawah and is administered by the postmaster with headquarters at Mainpuri, who performs supervisory duties.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal History

In the absence of contemporary records for the district it is not possible to trace the course of fiscal history from ancient times. However, it is likely that under the Hindu kings, in the remote past, the cultivators here, as elsewhere, paid one-sixth of their produce to the rulers in return for the protection of their lives and properties secured by the state.

In 1194, the region covered by the present district of Mainpuri was overrun by the Muslims, and here and there a few Hindu chieftains remained as vassals of the imperial authority and paid revenue to the suzerain power, thus playing the role of intermediaries between the king and the cultivator. The sultans of Delhi based their agrarian system on assignments, an assignee being granted authority to assess and collect the amount of revenue due to the sultans and ensure its payment in the form of grain. In 1259 A. D. Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud assigned the greater part of the region covered by this district to Sher Khan, a nephew of Ghias-ud-din Balban. Babur (1526–1530) and Humayun (1530–1556) did not interfere with the system of the collection of land revenue through intermediaries which they found in vogue at the time. During the reign of Akbar (1556–1605) the present district formed a part of the sirkars of Kannauj and Agra and was included in the subah of Agra.

Akbar began by adopting a schedule of assessment rates for general use, which had been framed by Sher Shah, claiming for the state a third of the average produce in terms of grain. He replaced the system of annual assessment by *nasaq* (group assessment or farming)¹ of a village or a pargana as a whole. This system was, however, replaced, perhaps in the fifteenth year of his reign, by rates fixed after enquiry from the *kanungo*, a revenue official, of the village. The ryotwari system was introduced under Raja Todar Mal, dealing directly with each individual peasant, and fixing the revenue payable by him for the land he cultivated.² The revenue was paid through intermediaries who deducted their own shares.

As has been pointed out the area comprising the present Mainpuri district was included in the sirkars of Kannauj and Agra and divided into *mahals* for revenue purposes. On each *mahal* a certain sum of revenue was fixed and a certain contingent of troops was levied as well.

Jahangir (1605–1627), introduced the institution of *allamgha* (grant under seal) which was given to deserving officers who applied for the grant of the village or parganas in which they had been born.¹

Aurangzeb issued a firman, in 1668-69 for the assessment and collection of revenue in accordance with the principles of Islamic law and fixing the revenue demand between one third and one half of the average produce.²

During the eighteenth century, a marked tendency towards the growth of semi-feudal interests appears to have sprung up and during the medieval period as a whole, the fate of the peasantry appears to have been wholly in the hands either of the farmer of the revenue or of the king's assignee who usually exacted as rent the maximum amount that he could. These conditions led to the emergence of powerful middlemen who later came to be known as zamindars.

In 1801, the whole territory covered by the present district passed to the British from the nawab of Avadh. And it was at the instance of the East India Company that the revenue settlements were carried out in the district subsequently.

The modern fiscal history of the district begins from 1801, when temporary arrangement for the collection of the revenue were made according to the accounts of the nawab of Avadh's subahdar. In 1802-3, a triennial Settlement under Regulation XXV of 1803 was carried out. The second triennial Settlement was effected in 1805-6; it expired in 1807-8 and was followed by the quadrennial Settlement which terminated in 1811-12. These three Settlements comprise what is commonly known as the decennial period. It had been the intention of the government, declared in the original proclamation to the zamindars of the ceded provinces, to conclude a settlement in perpetuity, at the end of the decennial period, of those lands which had been then in a sufficiently advanced stage of development. The Settlement for the quadrennial period was thus made with a view to permanency and a special commission was appointed to superintend it. The idea was, however, turned down by the court of directors. The government also found that the information required before the making of a permanent Settlement could not be

1. Moreland, W. H. : *The Agrarian System of Muslim India*, Allahabad, p. 85
2. *Ibid.*, p. 85-86

1. Moreland, W. H. : *The Agrarian System of Muslim India*, Allahabad, p. 127
2. *Ibid.*, p. 132

collected. In 1816, a regulation was enacted continuing the demands of the year 1816-17 for five years longer, with a view to collect agricultural statistics to serve as a basis for future action. In 1822, Regulation VII was enacted maintaining the existing assessments until a fresh Settlement could be made. Only a few scattered villages of Mainpuri were settled. This Regulation was found too cumbersome and in 1833, therefore, Regulation IX of 1833 was passed and it was under this Regulation that in 1839-40 the Settlement of Mainpuri was completed. These four Settlements may, perhaps, be more closely noticed.

The First Triennial Settlement (1802-03 to 1804-05) was very hurriedly conducted and the information at the command of the assessing officers was necessarily most imperfect, consisting of the accounts of the out-going subahdar of the nawab of Avadh, schedules of *malguzari* receipts furnished by *chaudharis*, *kanungos* and *talukdars* and statements of *kham* proceeds prepared by *amins* deputed to collect statistics. The total revenue assessed over the whole district as then constituted amounted to Rs 10,00,000.

The Second Triennial Settlement (1805-06 to 1807-08) was merely a continuation of the first Settlement. Rights of ownership were not inquired into, and simply the fulfilment of the previous engagement conferred the right of re-entry. The annual demand during this Settlement averaged very close on ten lakhs of rupees.

First Quadrennial Settlement

The first quadrennial Settlement was conducted in 1808-9. The new assessment was in excess of the preceding one by an amount of Rs 1,10,000, the enhancement falling principally on parganas Shikohabad, Mustafabad, Ghior and *taluga* Muhammadpur Labhua. The Settlement did not work well as the zamindars had fallen into heavy arrears, which they were either unable or unwilling to pay. No less than 136 estates, occupying one-eighth of the area of the whole district, had passed into the hands of the collector, who held them under direct management, generally at a loss, while the pargana officials were thoroughly corrupt, often placing themselves in opposition to the collector and supporting the zamindars in their recusancy.

Quinquennial Settlement

The quinquennial Settlement of the district was made under Regulation IX of 1812. The mode of estimating the gross assets was not very different from that employed in the preceding Settlement, but the enquiries made were far more detailed and conducted village by village. Moreover, a sifting investigation of proprietary rights was

also carried out. It was from this period, apparently, that the record of rights became part of the settlement operations, which had previously been confined merely to assessment. The revenue demand was fixed at about Rs 12,00,000. This Settlement, as revised, remained in force till 1839. Considerable reductions of revenue had to be made, and even a re-Settlement of a large number of villages in the west of the district had to be undertaken.

The first regular Settlement of the district, made under Regulation IX of 1833 was made in 1839-40 and gave a total revenue of Rs 12,45,000, an increase of Rs 43,000 on its predecessor. But the assessments broke down more or less over the whole district, and extensive reductions were necessitated almost immediately. The major reason attributed for this failure was the famine of 1837-38. A large proportion of land which had been thrown out of cultivation by the famine, was again brought under the plough. Not only were these lands assessed but the unploughed waste also was called upon to pay its quota of revenue. Subsequently the cultivation, instead of spreading, declined, the condition of the tenantry deteriorated and in consequence the zamindars found themselves unable to meet the government demand. The debts which they were obliged to contract during the famine years still hung over them, the money-lenders began to press for payment and refused further advances. The result was a revision of the assessment in 1844.

This revision resulted in a reduction of *jama* from Rs 12,45,000 in 1840 to Rs 10,45,000 in 1845-46, rising gradually to Rs 11,40,000 in 1850-51. These measures restored the district to prosperity. In 1850-51 the area under the plough was 9 per cent in excess of the cultivated areas of 1836-37. In the year when the revised assessments reached their maximum, we find the district in a higher state of prosperity and its revenue more punctually paid, than at any period since the cession in 1801. Neither the anarchy consequent on the freedom struggle of 1857-58 nor the famine appears to have inflicted other than a temporary check on the advance of the district to recovery.

The revised assessment raised the government demand in 1870 to Rs 12,76,430 an increase of Rs 1,55,141 or 13.84 per cent. The increase was justified on the grounds of increase in cultivation, irrigation, population and harvest prices. The assessment was made after a new and careful survey had been carried out, under supervision of the *patwaris* and *amins*, and the revenue represented rather less than half the estimated rental assets of the district. But the method of assessment employed differed from one pargana to another. The Settlement, however, worked well on

the whole, and the government, in a review of it, made some seven or eight years later, in 1880, while concluding that no interference with the assets was necessary, pronounced the new revenue lenient in the five parganas first assessed. They were Mainpuri, Kuraoli, Ghiror, Alipur Patti and Bewar. The revenue demand under this Settlement was Rs 12,76,430.

This Settlement also underwent a stage of revision in 1891-92 in four out of five tahsils of the district and resulted in an aggregate reduction of Rs 30,000 of the whole demand. The principal causes for this revision were floods in the Kali, deterioration of crops due to wet seasons and the spread of Kans grass and the damage from the super-saturation and waterlogging due to the Bhognipur branch canal.

Before the next Settlement was conducted in 1902-03 a traverse survey of the whole district was made during 1898 to 1901, and skeleton maps of each village were prepared. Actual possession was the basis of the new record, and all disputed entries were noted in a dispute list for subsequent adjudication. The field work which began in November 1899, and was completed in October 1903, at a total cost of Rs 1,52,895.

The attestation was carried on from November, 1901 to March, 1904. On receipt of the rough records from the survey office the *khatauni* and *khewat* slips were distributed through the *patwaris* to each tenant and zamindar affected. Disputed cases were either decided then and there in the presence of the assembled villagers or later on by trial.

Simultaneously with the work of attestation the survey officers supervised the work of the classification of the soils. The soil classes having been decided on by the settlement officer, the soils in each village were roughly marked off on the map by *kanungos* and *amins*, trained for this purpose by him and were checked by the deputy collectors. In due course they were examined personally by the settlement officer on the spot, and corrected where necessary. The prevailing rent rates were at the same time continuously ascertained and noted. But the actual circles formed at the assessment differed in no noteworthy respects from those adopted at the earlier Settlement, the natural soil division of the district affording a ready and sound basis for differentiation.

The assessment sanctioned aggregated Rs 13,57,361 an all-round percentage of 47.93 of the total net assets of the district : this aggregate revenue, however not being reached till after ten years, but progressively from an initial revenue of Rs 13,53,069. The expiring

demand of the year of record being Rs 12,69,923, the new aggregate was thus an increase of Rs 87,441 or 6.89 per cent. The distinguishing feature of this assessment was that it was based on the actual assets and, not like the previous settlement, on a valuation, that is, on an estimate of what the value of the land ought to be. The assessment rent rates were similar to those which prevailed twenty years before.

In 1926, the Agra Tenancy Act was passed in order to ameliorate the conditions of the tenants and to relieve them of the oppression of the zamindars. Under this Act most of the tenants were confirmed in their positions and the tenancies were made heritable.

In 1937, the first Congress ministry took over the government of the province and passed the U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939 (Act XVI of 1938), the tenants' rights in their holdings were made hereditary, and the fear of enhancement of rent except at the time of Settlement, was largely set at rest. The tenants were also given the right to make improvements on their lands. This security of tenure and fixity of fair rent was provided for tenants throughout the province.

Despite the protection extended to the tenants in the Act, the land-holders were still great impediments to the prosperity of the cultivators. Therefore, in 1946, when the Congress party resumed office, a committee to deliberate on the abolition of zamindari system was formed. According to the data collected by the committee there were in 1945 (1352 *Fasli*) 3,61,668 persons cultivating or otherwise occupying land and the total number of holdings occupied an area of 10,80,443 acres. The average size of a *khalsa* holding was 3 acres but land was most unevenly distributed.

Relevant particulars as on June 30, 1945 are given as below:

Size of holding (in acres)	Total number of persons occupying land	Total area (in acres)
0.5	54,248	17,626
0.5 to 1	38,859	31,236
1 to 2	55,174	84,832
2 to 3	34,370	88,219
3 to 4	21,698	76,767
4 to 5	13,648	63,157
5 to 6	9,379	52,751
6 to 7	6,553	42,905
7 to 8	4,245	32,672
8 to 9	3,120	26,818
9 to 10	2,372	22,882
10 to 12	3,042	33,964
12 to 14	1,930	25,182
14 to 16	1,128	17,161
16 to 18	684	11,777
18 to 20	507	9,649
20 to 25	700	15,798
Over 25	755	30,315

Abolition of Zamindari

After the attainment of Independence by India, the government upon the recommendations of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition Committee, 1946, introduced a bill which was passed as the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (U. P. Act 1 of 1951), doing away with the system of intermediaries and replacing the multiplicity of tenures existing in this district, as elsewhere, by only three types; the *bhumidhar*, the *sirdar* and the *asami*. Every intermediary whose right, title or interest in any estate was acquired under the provisions of the Act became entitled to receive compensation according to the scale laid down in the Act.

Upto 1974-75, the total amount of compensation assessed in the district came to Rs 1,24,64,555 of which a sum of Rs 14,43,725 was paid in cash and a sum of Rs 81,20,830 in bonds to 65,547 intermediaries. Intermediaries with comparatively smaller estates were entitled to receive a rehabilitation grant as well. Such intermediaries, numbering 18,016 received rehabilitation grant in this district till 1974-75 and an amount of Rs 11,48,097 was distributed among them out of which a sum of Rs 1,11,86,300 was paid in cash and a sum of Rs 2,94,797 in bonds.

Under the Act, intermediaries became *bhumidhars* of their *sir* and *khudkasht* lands and groves. Certain other tenure-holders also acquired the same status in land under their cultivation provided they fulfilled certain specified conditions. A *bhumidhar* possesses permanent heritable and transferable rights in his holding from which he cannot be ejected. Certain other categories of tenants who did not acquire *bhumidhari* rights became *sirdars* of the land in their cultivation. A *sirdar* has permanent and heritable interest in his holding but he can not transfer it. He may use his land only for purposes of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. He can, however, acquire *bhumidhari* rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum representing a specified multiple (now 20 times) of his annual rent. Certain *bhumidhars* and *sirdars* are entitled to sublet their lands, for example, those employed in the defence services or invalidated by age or injury. An *asami* is a lessee of a *bhumidhar*, a *sirdar* or the *gaon sabha*. He has neither heritable nor transferable rights and is liable to ejection for void transfers or on the extinction of the rights of the *bhumidhars* or *sirdars* concerned, or for contravention of any other provision of the Act.

In 1973-74 the numbers of tenure holders and holdings with their total areas were as follows :

Tenure holders	Number of tenure holders	Number of holdings	Area in hectares
Bhumidhars	1,63,015	1,52,015	2,41,771
Sirdars	3,24,529	3,04,029	5,43,771
Asamis	995	915	1,933
Adhivasis	17	15	20

Bhumidhars and *sirdars* have been made jointly responsible for the payment of land revenue to which their holdings are assessed. The Act also established land management committees for the management of lands not comprised in any holding or grove, forests within the village boundaries, tanks, ponds and fisheries, hats, bazars and *melas* and other sources of income vested in the *gaon sabha*.

Bhoodan

In 1951, Acharya Vinoba Bhave initiated in Uttar Pradesh the *bhoodan* movement with the object of receiving land gifts for the landless. The State Government, therefore, passed the U.P. Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1952. In response people donated 254 hectares of land out of which an area of 242 hectares has been distributed.

Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings

The U. P. Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1948, was passed to tax agricultural income in excess of Rs 4,200 per annum. The tax was not payable by a land-holder if he did not cultivate more than 30 acres of land. This Act was replaced by the U. P. Large Land Holding Act, 1957, which imposed a tax on all land holdings, the annual income of which exceeded Rs 3,600. A land-holder who did not cultivate more than 12 hectares of land was exempted from the payment of the tax under this Act. The tax was levied on a graduated scale so that the larger the holding the greater the incidence of the tax.

As a step towards social and economic justice by way of providing land to the landless and agricultural labour so as to bring about an equitable distribution of land, the Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1960 (subsequently amended in 1972), was enforced in the district on 3rd January, 1961. It

replaced the U. P. Large Holdings Tax Act, 1957. Under this Act, the maximum area of a holding was fixed at 16.19 hectares of fair quality land. If, however, the number of members of the land-holder's family was more than five, he was allowed to retain for each additional member, an area of 3.25 hectares of land, subject to a maximum of 9.72 hectares of such additional area. As the surplus land held by a tenure holder in excess of the ceiling area vested in the State Government, the tenure holders became entitled to receive compensation. The number of land-holders affected by the provisions of the Act was 19. So far an area of 363.8 hectares of land has been declared surplus, of which an area of 105 hectares has been settled with the tenureholders. The total compensation assessed amounts to Rs 48,947 of which a sum of Rs 31,996 has been paid.

The U. P. Imposition of Ceiling Act, 1972, has come into force from 8th June, 1973 in this district. Under this Act, 486 tenure holders have been served with notices, and 383 cases disposed of. An area of land measuring 862 hectares has been declared surplus.

ADMINISTRATION OF TAXES OTHER THAN LAND REVENUE

Central Taxes

The Central Government taxes consist of excise, income-tax, and estate duties.

Central Excise—For purposes of central excise, the district falls under the jurisdiction of the central excise division, Agra.

The excise revenue collected in the district from 1971-72 to 1975-76 was as under :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1971-72	2,69,210
1972-73	3,40,205
1973-74	4,62,444
1974-75	5,60,071
1975-76	10,35,548

Income-tax—This is one of the important sources of revenue of the Central Government. For collection of the taxes, the district falls within the administrative control of the income-tax officer stationed at Mainpuri.

Wealth-tax and Gift-tax—The taxes imposed under the provisions of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957, and the Gift Tax Act, 1958, are also collected by the income-tax department.

Estate Duty—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, on the property left by deceased persons. District Mainpuri falls under the Estate Duty circle, Agra, under the charge of an assistant controller.

The following statement shows the total number of assesses and the amount of estate duty collected in the years 1974-75 and 1975-76 :

Year	No. of assesses	Amount of tax (in Rs)
1974-75	3	19,350
1975-76	4	1,966

State Taxes

Excise, sales-tax, stamp duty, registration fee, tax on motor vehicles, entertainment tax, etc., are the other principal sources of revenue to the State Government.

Excise—Under the U. P. Excise Act, 1910, a deputy collector performs the powers of the district excise officer. For purposes of excise administration the district has been divided into two circles. Circle I consists of the Mainpuri and Bhongaon tahsils with headquarters at Mainpuri. Circle II with its headquarters at Shikohabad, consists of tahsils Shikohabad, Jasrana and Karhal. Two ware-houses, one at Mainpuri and the other Shikohabad, are in the charge of two excise inspectors posted in the district.

Liquor—At present there exists no distillery in the district. The contract supply system has been in operation since 1905. Each year, shops of country spirits, bhang and *tari* are put to auction and the highest bidder is generally given the contract and license for one year. The number of liquor shops at Mainpuri, Bhongaon, Shikohabad, Jasrana and Karhal are 9, 10, 8, 5 and 5 respectively.

Opium—The use of opium which was common in the district before 1857 has almost disappeared. There are only two permit holders in the district, one each at Mainpuri and Shikohabad. Opium is supplied to this district by the government factory at Ghazipur and its consumption aggregates about 55 grams.

There are no ganja and charas shops in the district, only bhang shops totalling 32 are operating in the district. The use of *tari* is exceedingly common and about 5,000 persons are addicted to it.

The following statement shows the sale of country spirit from 1963-64 to 1974-75 :

Year	Sale in L.P. litres
1963-64	48,131.1
1964-65	34,864.2
1965-66	50,801.6
1966-67	73,034.6
1967-68	91,308.8
1968-69	86,783.1
1969-70	79,023.5
1970-71	76,894.8
1971-72	83,760.7
1972-73	93,887.4
1973-74	1,15,831.8
1974-75	1,17,421.0

The following statement shows the consumption of opium and bhang in the district from 1963-64 to 1974-75 :

Year	Opium (in gms.)	Bhang (in kgs.)
1963-64	—	2,686
1964-65	—	3,689
1965-66	—	4,907
1966-67	115	4,533
1967-68	148	3,497
1968-69	66½	2,742
1969-70	17	2,273
1970-71	—	2,330
1971-72	—	2,333
1972-73	—	2,411
1973-74	—	2,661
1974-75	55	2,661

Sales-tax—Sales-tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1948, and also under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1957. The former has been amended from time to time to make certain changes in the limits of taxable turnover. Sugar and tobacco have been exempted from taxation. For purposes of administration of this Act, a sales tax officer has been appointed at Mainpuri who is often assisted by an assistant sales tax officer.

The number of assessees and the amounts collected in respect of important commodities in 1974-75 are given in the following statement :

Commodity	No. of assessees	Amount of tax (in Rs)
Food-grains	104	16,35,432
Oil-seeds	93	9,72,939
Glassware	5	8,12,672
Electric goods	13	20,47,945
Bricks	62	6,84,595
Cement	39	3,84,238
Bicycles	15	92,780
Kirana	48	1,78,562
General Merchandise	57	1,45,927
Iron and Steel	16	81,753

The following statement shows the total amount of tax collected in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1970-71	35,05,248
1971-72	38,97,723
1972-73	44,44,772
1973-74	61,17,731
1974-75	84,53,177

Stamps and Registration

Under the Indian Stamps Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial. The former are affixed where court-fee is to be paid and the latter on bills of exchange, receipts involving a sum of Rs 20 or more and documents in respect of which stamp duty is payable. Income from this source also includes fines and penalties realised under the Act.

The receipts under this head during the five years ending with the year 1973-74 were as follows :

Year	Sale (in Rs)	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1969-70	8,23,794.75	1,16,924
1970-71	10,68,857.00	1,32,288
1971-72	12,98,416.00	93,400
1972-73	10,72,212.50	67,422
1973-74	19,06,775.00	83,612

Documents such as instruments of gifts, sale or leases of immovable property, and those relating to shares in a joint-stock company have to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. There are five sub-registrars in the district who are posted at Mainpuri, Shikohabad, Jasrana, Karhal and Bhongaon.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure on the establishment of the registration department during 1970-71 to 1973-74 :

Year	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	No. of documents registered
1970-71	3,53,620	48,051	9,447
1971-72	3,36,755	52,628	11,885
1972-73	3,35,216	87,448	8,247
1973-74	6,01,832	49,547	12,571

Tax on Motor Vehicles

The motor vehicles in the district are taxed under the U.P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1933 (Act V of 1935), and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

The following taxes were realised under the different Acts in the Agra region.

Year	Act of 1935	Act of 1939
1971-72	99,40,540	8,30,197
1972-73	79,58,404	7,47,462
1973-74	68,85,881	7,99,411
1974-75	91,76,623	7,77,284
1975-76	1,05,70,862	7,85,581
Up to June 1976	26,83,718	2,85,093

Under the provisions of the U.P. Motor Gadi (Yatri-kar) Adhiniyam, 1962, a tax was imposed on passengers travelling in public or private motor vehicles on hire since October 15, 1962.

The following statement shows the amount of tax collection in the Agra region from 1971-72 to June 1976.

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1971-72	29,34,619
1972-73	31,23,071
1973-74	35,79,280
1974-75	32,55,699
1975-76	38,15,520
Upto June, 76	98,44,75

The Moor Gadi (Mal-kar) Adhiniyam, 1964, provided for the levy of a tax on goods carried by motor vehicles. It was enforced in the district on November 16, 1964. The following statement shows the amount of the tax collected under it in the Agra region from 1971-72 to June, 1976 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1971-72	36,89,779
1972-73	40,94,893
1973-74	43,14,542
1974-75	62,23,053
1975-76	52,61,469
Upto June, 1976	14,56,610

Entertainment and Betting Tax

Entertainment tax is realised from the permanent and visiting cinemas and other places of entertainment. The tax on entertainment is levied under the provisions of the U. P. Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. An entertainment tax inspector has been posted in the district. The following statement shows the amount of tax collected between the year 1969-70 to 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1969-70	2,44,619
1970-71	3,44,227
1971-72	4,47,304
1972-73	4,93,352
1973-74	5,81,240
1974-75	5,15,464

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

It has already been traced that the present district of Mainpuri formed part of the empires of the Mauryas and the Guptas and of Harshavardhan. They had made the inhabitants collectively responsible for the maintenance of peace and prevention of crime in their localities. With the growth of feudal institutions, the responsibility for maintaining peace devolved on the landlords, though the institution of *rakshaks* was retained. During the Muslim rule, *kotwals* were appointed in the towns and were paid a monthly allowance to meet the expenses on their staff of chowkidars and peons.

In the 16th century it was the duty of the *faujdar* to maintain peace, keep the roads free from robbers and enforce imperial regulations. To assist him thanadars were appointed. Due to frequent incursions of the Marathas and Rohillas in the eighteenth century, this district remained in a state of prolonged disorder. Taking advantage of the fluid state, a number of tribes, namely, Haburas, Sansiyas, Khangars, Nuts, and Kanjars inhabiting this tract indulged in criminal and other anti-social activities. Female infanticide was prevalent in the district in early times. Public opinion was mobilised against this serious crime and a special police force was employed to keep a close watch on villages where the crime was suspected to be highest in incidence.

The British acquired the tract covered by this district in 1801 and raised a police force for maintaining law and order. Escorts and guards were drawn from the army, special patrols were deployed for road and river traffic and a small force for detection of crimes was kept at the police-stations. In the beginning police duties were performed by revenue officials with the magistrate and collector acting as chief of the district police force. The tahsildars supervised police work in the tahsils and had a number of thanas placed under their jurisdiction. The combination of judicial, police and administrative functions in the magistrate and collector made him heavily overworked. The tahsildars paid more attention to revenue work and neglected their police duties. The duties of maintaining watch and ward were performed by the village watchmen who were employees of the landholders. They failed to exercise proper vigil and chaos and confusion ensued in the countryside.

The years following the freedom struggle of 1857 brought to the fore numerous administrative problems and it became imperative to organise the police on a regular basis. The government felt that the responsibility for policing the country must devolve upon the provincial administration and that it was necessary to maintain a paid force for this purpose. In 1860, a committee, was appointed to deliberate upon this matter and its recommendations led to the promulgation of the Police Act (Act V of 1861), still in operation with minor modifications. The Act has introduced an uniform police system. In the district a superintendent of police was appointed to act as head of the district police force. The district was divided into a number of police circles, which were further subdivided into thanas (police-stations), each under the charge of a subinspector.

ORGANISATION OF POLICE

In 1906, the district was divided into 12 police circles with police-stations at Mainpuri, Ghior and Kuraoli in the Mainpuri tahsil, at Bhongaon, Bewar and Kishni in the Bhongaon tahsil, at Kurra and Karhal in the Karhal tahsil, at Shikohabad and Sirsaganj in the Shikohabad tahsil; and at Mustafabad and Eka in the Mustafabad tahsil. These circles were redistributed, a new one being created at Mustafabad, while the four at Barnahal, Auncha, Pharha and Jasrana were abolished. There were police out-posts at Pharha, Auncha, Barnahal (to be transferred to Narangi Bah) and Punchha, the two last being on the Yamuna. The district is included in the northern range, and is under the charge of a superintendent of police with headquarters at Mainpuri. The district police is divided into two broad divisions, the civil police and the armed police.

Civil Police—For effective control the district is divided in four circles each placed under the charge of a circle officer.

The following statement gives the names of police circles, and of police-stations and police out-posts under them.

Police circles	Police-stations	Police out-posts
Mainpuri	Kuraoli, Kurra, Karhal, Kotwali	Ganeshpur, Agra gate, Devi gate, Railway gate, Karhal gate, Kuraoli, Karhal
Bhongaon	Bhongaon, Bewar, Kishni, Alau	Bhongaon, Kusmara, Mannukhora
Jasrana	Jasrana, Eka, Phariha, Ghior, Aunchha	Parham
Shikohabad	Shikohabad, Sirsaganj, Nagla Khangar, Barnahal, Khairgarh	Shikohabad, Rapri, Samuha, Makhanpur, Sirsaganj, Atteypur

Armed Police—The armed police unit of the district has its headquarters at the reserve police lines. The services of the armed police are utilised in escorting prisoners, guarding government property and treasuries, patrolling and combating dacoits.

Prosecution Staff—The prosecution staff, which is not a part of the police force, works under the control of the district magistrate and comprises a public prosecutor and eight assistants. The public prosecutor and his assistants conduct criminal cases in the courts of magistrates.

Village Police—The institution of village chowkidars came into vogue after the introduction of the North-Western Provinces Villages and Road Police Act, 1873 when the district magistrate was made the appointing and dismissing authority of the village chowkidars. The village chowkidars are attached to the police-stations and are paid by the government. Their main duty is to report to the local police, the occurrence of important crimes, and other incidents in their areas. They also act as process-servers of the *nyaya* panchayats for which they get a small remuneration. The number of chowkidars was 753 in the district in 1975.

Village Defence Societies—The regular police force in the district, as elsewhere, is quite inadequate to give full protection to the large number of villages in the charge of each police-station. Village defence societies have, therefore, been set up in villages throughout the district to provide ready protection against crime locally. Their members perform duties like night patrolling and apprehending lawless and anti-social elements themselves or with the assistance of police.

Government Railway Police—The government railway police is a separate branch of the State police, entrusted with police duties at stations on the railway tracks. The Mainpuri district falls in the Agra division of the government railway police. There are two out-posts in the district, one at Mainpuri and the other at Shikohabad. Both the out-posts come under the police-station of this branch of the police at Tundla.

DISTRICT JAIL AND LOCK-UPS

District Jail—The institution of the jail, as it exists today, is of British origin and an integral part of the judicial system introduced

by them. The exact date of the construction of the jail building in the district does not appear to be known. The earliest records available date it since before 1850.

The Mainpuri district jail is of the first class but has a bad reputation for the prevalence of dysentery. It is now under the charge of a superintendent. He is assisted by a jailor, a deputy jailor, and three assistant jailors. For medical aid required to be given to prisoners, a medical officer and a compounder are also posted there.

The district jail has the capacity to accommodate 427 convicts and under-trials. Its population figures from 1970 to 1974 are tabled below :

Year	daily average population	
	Convicts	Under-trials prisoners
1970	103	333
1971	109	349
1972	92	351
1973	109	362
1974	96	486

Handloom is the principal industry employing gainfully the inmates of the jail. The products consist of durries, bedsheets, towels, dusters and *dusooti* (a variety of cotton cloth). The prisoners are also put to work on the agricultural farm and the jail garden.

Welfare of Prisoners—There are two classes of prisoners, superior and ordinary. The superior class is assigned to prisoners by the district magistrate in deserving cases. Many amenities have been provided to the prisoners in recent years such as listening in to radio broadcasts and reading of newspapers, books and periodicals. They are allowed facilities for recreation such as taking part in indoor and outdoor games, dramatic and musical performances and religious discourses. They are given

due medical treatment and training in crafts is also imparted to them. All the prisoners are provided with two wholesome meals a day. They are given special diet on festive occasions. Sick or unhealthy prisoners are given such diet as may be prescribed by the medical officer. All the prisoners are given bedding. Under-trials and civil prisoners, who are unable to arrange for themselves sufficient clothing are provided with garments as may be necessary. Bathing and washing platforms are provided. All reasonable facilities are given to the prisoners for communicating with their friends, relatives and legal advisors. All prisoners, under 50 years of age and sentenced to a term of imprisonment of more than three months, are instructed in reading and writing. For their use, there exists a well-equipped library where newspapers are also made available. A panchayat of prisoners also exists of which prisoners themselves elect members, the *panches* and a *sarpanch* to carry on various activities under the supervision of the jail staff. The panchayat looks after the welfare of the inmates of the jail and attends to the complaints of the prisoners, and matters connected with breach of discipline, rules and regulations. A teacher having B. T. C. training has been appointed to educate prisoners and reform them.

Revising Board—For premature release of prisoners, a revising board reviews periodically the cases of all convicts, sentenced to terms of imprisonment of three years or more.

Official Visitors—The ex officio visitors of the jail are the director of medical and health services and family planning, U. P., the commissioner of the division, the district and sessions judge and the district magistrate.

Non-official Visitors—The appointment of non-official visitors is made by the State Government on the recommendation of the district committee of the Uttar Pradesh Apradh Nirodhak Samiti.

All local members of Parliament and State legislatures, members of the standing committee of the State legislature on jails, chairman of the central committee of the U. P. Apradh Nirodhak Samiti, the chairman, municipal board, Mainpuri, and the *adhyaksh*, Zila Parishad, are ex officio non-official visitors of the jail.

Probation—There is in the district a probation officer, who makes enquiries and submits his recommendations in cases referred to him by the courts in respect of juvenile delinquents or where it is

proposed to release a first offender with admonition or on probation of good conduct for a specified period.

Lock-ups—Lock-ups are provided at the district headquarters and the police-stations, for detaining male and female suspects, before their production in courts. They are mere halting places, well guarded by the police.

JUSTICE

In the middle of the last century the Mainpuri judgeship carried on judicial administration of three districts, namely Mainpuri, Etah, and Etawah. Etah parted from this judgeship in the last decade of the last century and the district judge held his court at Mainpuri and Etawah only. This continued upto 1958 when Etawah became a separate judgeship. The district judge, Mainpuri, was thus left with jurisdiction over this district alone. The crimes in the district so multiplied that the district judge could not cope with the work and temporary civil and sessions judges were appointed to assist him.

The new code of criminal procedure has come into force from 1-4-1974 and since May, 1974, the cadre of civil and sessions judges has been replaced by that of additional district and sessions judges.

At present the civil judiciary at Mainpuri consists of the courts of a district judge, an additional district judge, an assistant sessions judge, *munsifs* and an additional *munsif*.

The position of civil cases in the year 1973 was as under :

Cases	Number of suits
Pending at the beginning of the year	2,614
Instituted during the year	1,891
Disposed of during the year	1,861
Pending at the end of the year	2,644

In the same year the number of suits involving immovable property was 246, the number of mortgage suits was 1, those concerning matrimony were 12 and those relating to other important classes were 335.

The number of suits instituted in 1973 according to valuation were as follows :

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	68
Exceeding Rs 100 but not Rs 1,000	637
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not Rs 5,000	209
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not Rs 10,000	50
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not Rs 20,000	12
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not Rs 1 lakh	3

The total valuation of the property involved in the suits so instituted was Rs 17,23,158.75.

Details of the modes of disposal of suits in the year 1973 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	No. of suits
Disposed of after trial	224
Dismissed for default	356
Otherwise decided without trial	835
Decreed <i>ex-parte</i>	264
On admission of claims	9
On compromise	171
On reference to arbitration	2

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of in the year 1973 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil appeals	196	140
Miscellaneous civil appeals	98	90
Regular rent appeals	30	14

Criminal Justice—In the beginning of the present century there were in the district four magistrates, three of them exercising first class powers and one with third class powers. At the tahsil level there were five tahsildars, invested with third class magisterial powers. There were also three honorary magistrates exercis-

ing third class criminal powers. They were all subordinate to the district magistrate. The district and sessions judge constitutes the chief criminal court of the district. In sessions trials, he is assisted by an additional sessions judge and an assistant sessions judge. A chief judicial magistrate, a judicial magistrate, two *munsif* magistrates and an additional *munsif* magistrate also try criminal cases and work under him.

Some information about the disposal of criminal cases between 1971 to 1973 is tabulated below :

Nature of offences	No. of cases tried		
	1971	1972	1973
Affecting life	571	523	591
Kidnapping and abduction	73	86	78
Hurt	96	72	107
Rape	26	25	9
Extortion	—	2	—
Unnatural offences	—	—	—
Robbery and dacoity	534	472	346
other cases	31	29	28

The number of persons tried in the years 1971, 1972 and 1973 were 5,230, 4,712 and 4,263 respectively.

The following statement gives the numbers of persons awarded various forms of punishment :

Punishment awarded	Year		
	1971	1972	1973
Death	5	4	12
Life imprisonment	41	51	46
Rigorous imprisonment	704	642	435
Simple imprisonment	187	56	19
Fine only	20	11	8

The state of cognizable offences under Indian Penal Code in the years 1971 and 1972 was as follows :

Crimes	1971	1972
Murder		
Reported	71	81
Convicted	35	22
Acquitted	25	33
Dacoity		
Reported	88	99
Convicted	58	8
Acquitted	12	35
Robbery		
Reported	120	100
Convicted	23	5
Acquitted	12	13
Theft		
Reported	1,000	833
Convicted	304	47
Acquitted	52	42
Riot		
Reported	211	140
Convicted	43	18
Acquitted	39	29
Housebreaking		
Reported	699	649
Convicted	96	21
Acquitted	38	28
Kidnapping		
Reported	62	47
Convicted	16	2
Acquitted	18	9

SEPARATION OF JUDICIARY FROM EXECUTIVE

Partial separation of the judiciary from the executive was tried soon after the attainment of independence by the country though the appointment of judicial officers to dispose of cases involving offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code. These officers had different designations in different periods of time but they had to work under the direct control of the district magistrate, or an additional district magistrate who was himself a member of the executive service. Occasionally a senior judicial officer was made incharge of the team of judicial officers in the district but the overall supervision of the commissioner at the divisional level went a long way in retaining executive authority over the lower judiciary. The experiment regarding serving judiciary from the executive however, reached a decisive stage, when all the judicial officers including the additional district magistrate (judicial) were placed under the direct control of the district and sessions judge of the district within the administrative jurisdiction of the High Court on October 2, 1967. The subsequent amendment of the Code of Criminal Pro-

cedure and its enforcement with effect from April 1, 1974, completed the separation of the judiciary from the executive.

Nyaya Panchayats

The panchayat *adalats*, now called *nyaya* panchayats, were established in the district in 1949 under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act 1947, to adjudicate upon petty civil and criminal disputes arising in the rural areas. In 1975 their number was 132.

The jurisdiction of such *nyaya* panchayats usually extends over five to ten *gaon sabhas*, depending on the population of the constituent villages. Their scope, powers and functions have been defined in the Act referred to above, and revisions against their decisions lie to subdivisional magistrates in criminal cases and to *munsifs* in civil suits.

The *panchs* are nominated by the district magistrate from amongst the elected members of the *gaon* panchayats. Members of the *gaon sabhas* may also be nominated as *panchs* in case the members of *gaon* panchayats with requisite qualifications are not available. In 1973, there were 132 *sarpanchs*, 132 *sahayak sarpanchs* and 2,420 *panchs* of *nyaya* panchayats in the district.

The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of 5 years. Their term may be extended by another year by the State Government. The cases are heard and disposed of by benches consisting of 5 *panchs*. The presence of at least three *panchs* including a *sarpanch* is essential at every hearing.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try the following cases :

- (a) All cases under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947.
- (b) Cases brought under :

Sections	140	269	290	352	403	431	—
	160	277	294	357	411	447	—
	172	283	323	358	426	448	—
	174	285	334	374	428	504	509
	179	289	341	379	430	506	510

of the Indian Penal Code but involving property not exceeding an amount of Rs 50.

(c) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871.

(d) Sub-section 1 of section 10 of the U. P. District Boards Primary Education Act, 1926.

(e) Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13 of the Public Gambling Act, 1867.

The *nyaya* panchayats also have original jurisdiction to try civil suits up to a valuation of Rs 500 and bring about any settlement or compromise on oath if the parties concerned agree in writing to such a course. They are not authorised to award any sentence of imprisonment and can impose fines up to one hundred rupees only.

The number of cases instituted before the *nyaya* panchayats and disposed of by them during the years 1971 to 1974-75 was as follows :

Year	Cases pending at the beginning of the year	Cases instituted during the year	Cases disposed of
1971-72	14	240	227
1972-73	27	10	9
1973-74	28	61	40
1974-75	49	586	560

Bar Association

There are three registered associations of legal practitioners in the district viz., the bar association, civil courts, Mainpuri, the district bar association, Mainpuri ; and the bar association, Shikohabad.

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CHAPTER XIII OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The organisational set-up for the general administration and revenue administration of the district, and for the maintenance of law and order and dispensation of justice, in it have already been dealt within chapters X, XI and XII respectively. The structures of the departments of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operative, education, horticulture, industries, irrigation and public works at the district level, is briefly discussed below.

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The main function of this department is to boost farm produce. In order to achieve this object the department arranges training of farmers in modern scientific techniques and ensures quick supply of various inputs such as improved seeds, chemical fertilisers, improved implements, insecticides and pesticides against cash or *taqavi* loans.

Demonstrations at government and private farms are held to impart the latest know-how to cultivators. As a further, incentive to them short term courses are also held periodically at the block and village levels to disseminate knowledge of improved techniques in the field of agricultural production. If agricultural diseases assume epidemic proportions, the department undertakes quick measures to combat them. Arrangements are also made to provide costly agricultural implements like tractors and threshers to cultivators on hire at reasonable rates. This district comes under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture having headquarters at Agra. Locally, the district agriculture officer runs the administration of the department with the aid of a team of workers consisting of a senior horticulture officer, a district horticulture inspector and other staff. These officers supervise the various steps taken for extension of agriculture and assist in the formulation and implementation of the Five-year Plan scheme, which, *inter-alia*, include cotton, jute and oil-seeds development programmes.

The functions of this department at the block and field level are carried out by the assistant development officer (agriculture) and village level workers respectively.

Soil Conservation

The district has a soil conservation officer who supervises the ambitious programme of soil conservation, he is assisted by a technical assistant, a demonstrator and other staff.

Every year new areas are selected by the soil conservation officer for the purpose of soil conservation. He prepares estimates of the income and expenditures of the new areas, the details of work to be undertaken and familiarises the cultivators with the programme. Overseers prepare estimates of the plans including masonry work. Four soil conservation inspectors supervise the work of planning, budgeting, and evaluation and undertake measurements in their respective sub-units. The assistant soil conservation inspectors assist in the execution of the masonry work within their jurisdictions. Construction of contour bunds and check dams, escapes, afforestation and minor irrigation works are carried out by the department.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry, stationed at Agra. The district live-stock officer is in charge of schemes for the development of live-stock and fisheries in the district. His job involves undertaking schemes to improve cattle breeds and other herds, develop poultry, prevent animal diseases, control epidemics, popularise green fodder and achieve the targets set in the Five-year Plans.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the jurisdiction of a deputy registrar having his headquarters at Agra.

This department deals with the organisation, registration, supervision and working of various co-operative societies in the district, besides attending to administrative and disciplinary functions like supervision and control over departmental staff and inspection of co-operative units.

The assistant registrar (co-operative) at the district level, besides exercising control over the co-operative staff and institutions, supervises all activities connected with the management and promotion of co-operative societies in the district. He is assisted by 3 additional district co-operative officers, who look after the officers of the wholesale co-operative consumer stores, co-operative marketing societies and the societies functioning in the blocks. There is a separate inspector to deal with the 30 farming societies working in the district.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education and regional inspectress of girls' schools, both having their headquarters at Agra.

The regional inspectress of girls' schools, Agra region, is in overall charge of girls' education in the region. She is assisted by a deputy inspectress of girls' schools who looks after girls' education upto the junior high school level. In addition, there are 4 assistant inspectresses of girls' schools.

The district inspector of schools is responsible for the supervision, control and inspection of educational institutions upto higher secondary level. In addition, there are two deputy inspectors and 19 subdeputy inspectors of schools. These officers are responsible for the inspection and running of basic schools falling in the blocks in their charge.

The Zila Basic Shiksha Adhikari (Mainpuri) has, since 1972, been supervising education in all primary and junior high schools, he controls and guides the teaching and other staff of these institutions including those serving under the municipal boards.

The department, besides imparting education, tries to place due emphasis on the need for building up a sound moral character and physique among the students; games, physical education, and training in scouting, have been introduced in the educational institutions with this end in view.

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The department was originally affiliated to the department of agriculture and undertook the task of rejuvenation of old orchards through improved methods.

The main functions of the department are implementation of various horticulture schemes in the district such as growing of nurseries on scientific lines, supply of plants, vegetable seeds; seedlings and also providing technical guidance to horticulturists and vegetable growers. The department also supplies insecticides and pesticides.

The senior horticulture inspector is responsible for the extension of horticulture in the district. He is assisted by a junior inspector and several *malis* in the laying out of orchards, supply of plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings and related work.

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the western sub-zone, Agra. At the district level the department is headed by the district industries officer, who is responsible for promotion of industries, effective control on the use of raw material and procurement of financial assistance and other inputs for entrepreneurs. He carries out periodical surveys to assess the industrial potential of the district, with a view to advise about the setting up of new industries. He is assisted by 2 industries ins-

pectors whose duties include intensive development of small-scale industries and expansion and diversification of industrial activities in their respective areas.

There is an Industrial Training and Extension Centre at Shikohabad. The staff comprises a foreman, 3 senior instructors and some other staff.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

Canal

The office of the executive engineer with headquarters at Mainpuri is under the control of the chief engineer, irrigation department U. P., with headquarters at Lucknow.

The executive engineer, lower Ganga canal division, Mainpuri, is assisted by 4 assistant engineers and 14 junior engineers, his duties covering general administration, supervision and regulation of canals.

The executive engineer is responsible for the execution and management of all works within his division, assessment of water rates and sending demand statements to collectors of districts for realization of irrigation charges, general administration, supervision and regulation of canal.

Minor Irrigation

The minor irrigation works of the district relating to boring of wells, operation of pumping sets, *rahats*, masonry wells, private tube-wells (diesel or electrically operated), are looked after by an assistant engineer who is assisted by one senior mechanical inspector, a mechanical inspector, 15 assistant development officers (minor irrigation), 11 boring mechanics, 13 assistant boring mechanics and other staff.

Tube-wells

The tube-well division, Mainpuri, is headed by a superintending engineer, tube-wells circle, Mainpuri.

The division constructs and maintains the State tube-wells and the lined and unlined *guls*, and provides irrigation facilities to the cultivators.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The district is the headquarters of a division under the charge of an executive engineer in the IIInd circle P. W. D., Agra, responsible for the construction and maintenance of buildings and roads. The executive engineer is assisted by 4 assistant engineers whose duties include construction and maintenance of national and State highways, district roads and other link roads, bridges and government buildings.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

The concept of local self-government has been known in India since ancient times. As far back as the Vedic period, although the king was at the head of all administration, the village assembly, known as Samiti and Sabha and the Gramani, the village headman, represented the king's authority in civil and military administration and collected dues on behalf of the king. These assemblies acted as effective checks on the power of the king and also as the mouthpiece of the people's will. There is also mention of terms like Gramyavadin or village judge, Dasagrami, Vimasapati, Satagrami, etc. They represented officials at the head of ten, twenty or a hundred villages respectively.

In the later stages, we find mention of Nagaradhyaksha (city prefects) who dealt with the affairs of urban life and enforced respect for law and order in the peoples' minds. In the Buddhist and Mauryan period mention of terms like *gamas* (villages) and *nigamas* (small towns), *bhojaka*. Agronomoi, Astynomoi, Gopa and Sthanika proves that considerable autonomy was enjoyed by the local institutions.

Since the region in which this district lies also formed part of the Mauryan empire it can well be assumed that institutions of local administration must have existed here also. These institutions continued to thrive during the reign of the Guptas and in later periods till the advent of Muslims.

Although details of the local administration during the Muslim rule are not available, it is quite clear that the traditional institutions lost some of their importance and were only suffered to exist till they did not come into conflict with the Central Government. Similarly during the early British rule in this tract these institutions existed but in a very neglected state. It was only in the year 1856 when the Bengal Chowkidari Act, (Act XX) was passed and the first real step was taken to encourage local self-government and decentralization.

An account of the various local bodies in the district is given in the paragraphs below.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS

Mainpuri

After 1856, the town came to be administered under Act XX of 1956. It was not till the 16th March 1866, that the Mainpuri town was raised to the status of a municipality under Act XXVI of 1850. A committee was then appointed consisting of four European officers, one Indian official and four non-official members. The first meeting of the municipality was held on 25th April, 1866. All the members were nominated. In 1868, the Municipal Improvement (N. W. P.) Act, 1868 introduced the principle of election along with nominations and in that year five members were elected. Two other municipal Acts (XV of 1873 and XV of 1883) were passed before the Municipalities Act, I of 1900, came into operation. The notified area, civil station, Mainpuri, which included Gola Bazar and was administered under Act XX of 1856 till 1909 was amalgamated with the municipality of Mainpuri. Thereafter provisions of the U. P. Municipalities Act, (Act II of 1916) were made applicable to Mainpuri town and they, as amended from time to time, govern the present local body.

At the 1971 census this municipal town extended over an area of 7.77 sq. km. and had a population of 43,849. In the last municipal elections 18 members were elected from 7 wards, for a period of five years, and the main functions of the municipal board are briefly mentioned below :

Water-supply—The water-works of the municipal board was completed in the year 1958. The total length of pipe-lines laid in the town was 19.98 km., providing 2,300 private water connections. The amount spent on this amenity in 1974-75 totalled Rs 1,43,491.

Street Lighting—Electricity reached the town in 1953. The board makes arrangements for the lighting of roads, streets and other public places in the town. There were 900 electric lamp-posts including 96 fluorescent tubes and 96 kerosene oil lamps in the year 1974-75. A sum of Rs 80,740 was spent by the board on this item of public utility.

Public Health and Sanitation—Vaccination is carried out through a team of vaccinators. Arrangements for the control of infectious diseases exist in the town. The board employed two sanitary inspectors, 139 sweepers, 21 *bhisties*, 7 *Jamadars* and other staff in 1974-75. The town was served with 21 km. of paved and unpaved

drains. The pakka drains are water-flushed daily. To remove garbage, sweepers use baskets and wheel-barrows the total expenditure incurred by the board on these essential services in 1974-75, amounted to Rs 7,67,396.

Special Achievements—The board provides lighting and sanitation and conservancy services in the P. W. D. colony. It has also laid out 4 public parks known as the Bhairon park, Waterworks park, India park and a children's park. There is no municipal library in the town but the board gives aid to three registered libraries in the town.

The total receipts and expenditure of the board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 are given in Tables I (a) and I (b) at the end of the chapter.

Shikohabad

The town was administered as an Act XX town under Bengal Chowkidari Act, 1856. It was then declared a notified area in 1908 and placed under the control of the tahsildar who acted as its president. The committee had two members nominated [from the residents of the town. A non-official president took over the administration in November, 1925. Under Act III of 1929, Shikohabad also became a wholly non-official body with a chairman elected from the public. It was upgraded as a municipal board in the year 1949 and is at present administered as such under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916.

At the census of 1971 the population of the municipal town was 31,447 spread over an area of 10.36 sq. km. For the purpose of representation, the town is divided into 6 wards and at the last municipal elections 17 members were returned. The normal term of office of the members is 5 years. The president of the board is elected by the members by a single transferable vote. The major items from which income is derived are the circumstances and property tax, *tahbazari*, fees from slaughter houses for animals, licence fees on *ekkas*, *thelas*, carts and various trades.

The main services furnished by the board are noticed below.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme was completed in 1961 and placed under the management of the board in October the same year. There are three tube-wells and one storage tank of 75,000 gallons capacity. The water is supplied for 16 hours a day. During

1974-75 the number of public hydrants and private connections was 130 and 1,457 respectively. The total quantity of water supplied was 25,04,53,000 gallons involving an expenditure of Rs 1,19,138.

Street Lighting—The town was electrified in the year 1939. There are 763 electric street lamps and 27 kerosene oil lamps in the town. An amount of Rs 36.045 was spent on this amenity in 1974-75.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board has employed 2 sanitary inspectors, 6 *safai* havaldars, 122 sweepers, 34 *bhisties* and 3 drivers to run sanitary services in the town. There are 27 nallas in different localities of the town besides side drains which are flushed daily. Town refuse is converted into organic manure.

There is a wholetime vaccinator. The expenditure incurred on these essential services totalled Rs 5,01,834 in 1974-75.

Education—Prior to the taking over of Basic education by the State Government, the municipal board of Shikohabad was running quite a few junior and senior Basic schools. But with the taking over of Basic education by the State Government, the board is left with one degree college for girls, having 107 students on roll and 7 teachers, one intermediate college for girls having 1,214 students and 37 teachers, and a Montessori school having 323 students on rolls and 15 teachers to manage. The board also gives aid to the Gangeshwar Sanskrit Pathshala and the Ahmadia junior high school. The total amount spent on education by the board in 1974-75 was Rs 3,69,117.

The board also maintains two children's parks namely Jawahar park and Babu Bal Udyan.

A statement of the total receipts and expenditure of the board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 under various heads is appended in Tables II (a) and II (b) at the end of the chapter.

Sirsaganj

Sirsaganj was initially administered as a town under Act XX of 1856, but with the introduction of the U. P. Town Areas Act of 1914, it was administered under the modified provisions till 1964 when it was constituted into a municipality. The population of this municipal town according to the census of 1971 was 10,565 distributed over an area of 0.21 sq. km. For local administration the town has been divided into 5 wards which returned 15 members for a term of 5 years. The members of the board elect the president by a majority vote for a term of five years. A description of the main activities of the boards is given in the following paragraphs.

Water-supply—Piped supply of water was made available to the town from a tube-well in 1971. There is a storage tank with a capacity of 30,000 gallons. The number of public and private water connections is 35 and 411 respectively with a twelve hour service. The length of the pipe-lines was 7,781 metres. The total amount spent on this item by the municipal board was Rs 6,000 in 1974-75.

Street Lighting—Electricity came to the town in the year 1955. There were 145 fluorescent tubes, 50 ordinary electric street lamps and 10 kerosene oil lamps in the town in 1974-75. The board spent a sum of Rs 12,231 over street lighting in 1974-75.

Public Health and Sanitation—For the maintenance of conservancy services the board has one sanitary inspector, 2 jamadars and 59 sweepers. The total length of kutchha and pakka drains is 5,000 and 20,000 metres respectively. The length of the drains which are cleaned daily is 15,000 metres.

Under the slum clearance programme, the board has undertaken a scheme to improve three localities namely Mehataran Tola, Jatwan Tola and Mohalla Kanjar.

The board has also laid out two parks which are named as Gandhi park and Shaheed park. They are maintained by the board.

The details of income and expenditure of the board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 are given in Tables III (a) and III (b) at the end of the chapter.

TOWN AREAS

Bhongaon

Bhongaon was administered as a town under the Bengal Chowkidari Act (Act XX of 1856) till it was declared a town area in 1916 under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. In 1971 its population was 9,987 spread over an area of 0.44 sq. km. There are ten elected members from 4 wards including 2 representatives of the Scheduled Castes. They hold office for four years. The chairman is directly elected by the public and the term of his office is four years.

The main sources of income of the town area are toll tax, license fee, cattle-pound charges and rent from shops. The total earnings amounted to Rs 6,62,525 in 1974-75.

The water-supply scheme of the town area was completed in 1970 when pipe-lines measuring 2,000 metres in length were laid. There were nearly 200 public and private taps in the town.

Electricity was made available to the town in 1963. The total number of electric street lamps in 1974-75 was 285 comprising 150 fluorescent tubes. The total expenditure incurred by the committee in 1974-75 on street lighting was Rs 4,195.

Other items of expenditure of the committee are general administration, provision of other public amenities and grants to a higher secondary school for girls on which it spent Rs 51,452 in 1974-75.

Karhal

Karhal was also administered as an Act XX town till 1914 when it was upgraded as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The town had an area of 0.85 sq. km. and its population was 9,340 in 1971. The committee consists of 10 members and a chairman elected directly through adult franchise, for a term of four years.

Electricity was made available to the town in 1964 and there were 164 electric street lamps. An amount of Rs 4,800 was spent on this account in 1974-75.

The local body also makes provision for sanitation and public health. It employed 21 sweepers, 9 *jamadars* and 5 *bhisties* to keep the town clean in 1974-75.

The total income of the town area committee as derived from the government grants, toll tax and other taxes in 1974-75 amounted to Rs 2,15,994 against an expenditure of Rs 2,39,073.

Jasrana

It was constituted a town area in 1916 and since then it is administered as a town area. The total area covered by this local body was approximately 12.6 sq. km. Its population was 6,274 in 1971. The committee consists of 9 members and a chairman elected directly through adult franchise for a term of four years.

There are 56 electric street lamps in the town. A waterworks is nearing completion. At present water is drawn from wells.

The committee's main sources of income are toll tax, cattle pound charges and grants from the government and other agencies. The total revenue collected from these sources in the year 1974-75 was Rs 1,36,028. The committee's main heads of expenditure are general administration, public health and sanitation, and public works. The total expenditure incurred by the committee in 1974-75, was 1,49,625.

Kuraoli

Kuraoli was administered under the Bengal Chowkidari Act, 1856 since 1860 but was upgraded as a town area under the U. P.

Town Areas Act, 1914. The town had an area of 0.47 sq. km. Its population was 9,497 in 1971. The committee has ten members and a chairman elected directly by residents of the town, for a term of four years.

A water-supply scheme of the town was completed in the year 1975 and at present there are 20 public and 9 private water connections. A total length of 6,515 metres of pipe line has been laid.

Electricity came to the town in 1972 and the number of electric street lamps in 1974-75 was 156. A total sum of Rs 3,545 was spent in 1974-75 on this amenity.

For the maintenance of public health and conservancy services, the committee has employed a vaccinator also and the number of vaccinations carried out during 1974-75 was 1,450. The committee spent a sum of Rs 90,000 for providing public health and sanitation facilities to the people in 1974-75.

The committee has taken up a scheme for the disposal of sewerage with the help of a government grant. The scheme would soon be completed. The committee has also paved number of lanes with bricks and laid out some black-topped streets.

The total income of the local body from various sources during 1974-75 was Rs 4,06,419 and the expenditure amounted to Rs 1,94,308.

Phareha

This town came to be administered in 1864 under the Bengal Chowkidari Act (Act XX of 1856). In 1916 it was upgraded as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. This town had an area of 638.5 hectares and its population was 2,506 in 1971. The committee has 10 members and a chairman who are elected for a period of four years. There is no electricity in the town and the committee arranges for street lighting with kerosene oil lamps.

The main heads of income are a cattle pound tax, toll tax, and government grant. The total income of the town area committee was Rs 20,223 in 1974-75. The committee spends its funds mainly on general administration, public health and sanitation and other public works. The total expenditure incurred by it under various heads during 1974-75 amounted to Rs 8,160.

Bewar

The town of Bewar was made a town area in 1953 under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The town area had a population of 9,000

souls and an area of 3 sq. km. in 1971. The committee has 9 members and a chairman who are elected by the people through adult franchise for a period of four years. The town was electrified in 1962 and has at present 275 electric street lamps and 12 kerosene oil lamps. A total sum of Rs 2,952 was spent in the year 1974-75 on street lighting.

A water-supply scheme for town was completed in 1969 and a length of 5,580.5 metres of pipelines has been laid. The town has 29 public and 212 private water connections.

The main sources of income are a few taxes levied by the local body and the government grant which it receives from time to time. The total income derived by the committee in the year 1974-75 was Rs 5,94,795. The committee spends its funds on several items of public utility such as pavement of lanes, conservancy and general administration. The total expenditure amounted to Rs 9,19,293 in 1974-75.

The details of income and expenditure of the town areas of the district for the last ten years ending 1974-75 are given in Tables IV to IX at the end of the chapter.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was passed after Independence. It reorganised the ancient system of panchayats on the modern pattern of elected *gaon* panchayats and delegated to them adequate powers for the administration of villages.

The setting up of national extension blocks for community development started from 1951-52. They had block development committees which were advisory bodies, meant to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks for speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes. The enactment of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, made a radical change in their status and these *samitis* (committees) became statutory bodies with wide executive and financial powers. A three-tier organisation, viz., the *gaon* panchayats at the base, the *kshettra samitis* in the middle and the Zila Parishads at the apex was introduced for the co-ordinated planning and execution of development work in the rural areas.

Zila Parishad

The district board in this district came into existence on 19th June 1882, and its constitution was ratified by Act XIV of 1883.

Prior to the year 1882, there functioned in the district, a local funds committee with a corresponding education and dispensary committee under the Local Rates Acts XIV and XVIII of 1871, and the corresponding Acts III and IV of 1878. When these Acts were superseded by a government order in 1882, a new district committee was formed on 19th June, 1882, which later came to be known as the district board. The board in 1910 consisted of 16 members, of whom 4 were ex officio and the remaining 12 were elected members. The ex officio members were the district magistrate, who acted as the chairman of the board, and the subdivisional magistrates, one of whom was usually appointed secretary of the board.

The scope of the work of this board was very large, including education, medical care, vaccination, sanitation, local public works, cattle pounds and ferries.

In 1922, the U. P. District Boards Act, 1922 extended the territorial jurisdictions of the district board to the whole of the rural area and made it more broad-based by introducing a system of partial elections. The Mainpuri district board was also re-organised in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the number of elected members rose to 18 with a total strength of 22. The post of the secretary which used to be filled by an official became non-official and honorary. In 1923, the board became a completely non-official body consisting of 27 elected and 3 nominated members. The official members were dropped and an elected chairman took over in 1930. Further some more sub-committees were formed to look after the various functions of the board. Besides this, a whole-time paid secretary was appointed in 1926. There was no further enactment for the district boards and the U. P. District Boards Act, 1922, with its later amendments constituted the basis of the U. P. district boards till in 1958, when the Antaram Zila Parishads Act, 1958 was passed and it converted the district boards into Antaram Zila Parishads. This body is now known as the Zila Parishad, and was established in the year 1963 under the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961. The present parishad has been functioning since 1974 after the election of the Adhyaksha.

It has 61 elected members whose terms of office as also that of the Adhyaksha are 5 years which may be extended by the State Government in special circumstances.

The functions of the Zila Parishad are almost akin to those of the old district board. They include co-ordination of activities of

vikas khands (development blocks), implementation of inter-block schemes and utilization of funds allotted by the government for the purposes of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, co-operation, village industries, public health, education, construction as well as repair of roads, bridges, ferries, cultural activities, and welfare of children, youth and women.

The principal sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical care, public health, public works education, fairs, etc.

Details of income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad for the last ten years ending 1974-75 are given in Tables X (a) and X (b) at the end of the chapter.

Education

Institutions upto the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of the Zila Parishad till June 25th, 1972 when they were taken over by the State Government. The junior Basic schools both for boys and girls maintained by the Zila Parishad numbered 1,084 and those of the senior Basic stage numbered 152.

At present there are two higher secondary schools being maintained by the Zila Parishad, Mainpuri, with a total of 640 students on roll in 1974-75. The number of teachers in these schools was 24 and the total expenditure incurred by the Zila Parishad on their functioning in 1974-75 was Rs 87,721.

Medical Care and Public Health—There are 2 allopathic dispensaries run by the Zila Parishad. Besides, the Parishad has employed 19 vaccinators and spent a total sum of Rs 1,37,269 for providing medical and health facilities to the rural masses during the year 1974-75.

Public Works—The Parishad constructed and maintained 42.94 km. of metalled and 236.8 km. of unmetalled roads in the district in 1974-75. Besides this, the Zila Parishad managed 10 ferries on different rivers and maintained 4 bridges. The total amount spent on these items in 1974-75 was Rs 1,37,698.

Kshettra Samitis

The community development blocks established in the fifties for intensive social and economic development of the country side, had

block advisory committees to help and advise the extension agency. With the enforcement of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961, the functions that were previously carried out by these committees were taken up by the *Kshettra Samitis* in 1963. The number of these *samitis* was 15 in 1974-75 one for each development block. The term of *kshettra samitis* is normally five years but it can be curtailed or extended by the government. The membership of the *kshettra samiti* consists of all the *pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas*, chairman of the town area committees within the block, representative of the co-operative societies of the block, and all members of the Central and State legislatures representing or residing in any part of the *kshettra*. The *samiti* also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the total number of members of such *samitis* in 1974-75 being 1,325. The *kshettra samiti* is headed by a *pramukh* and two *up-pramukhs* elected by the members. The block development officer acts as the executive officer of the *kshettra samiti*, which is responsible for the formulation and execution of all development plans of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, live-stock, fisheries, minor irrigation works and also for opening maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village industries and co-operative institutions.

Every *kshettra samiti* constitutes a *karya-karini* (executive) and *utpadan* (production) and a *kalyan* (welfare) *samiti* headed by the *pramukh*, and the two *up-pramukhs* respectively. Since 1964, the services of the officers and others employed in the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of the *kshettra samiti*. The *samiti* acts as a co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within its jurisdiction in the implementation of various schemes and programmes.

Gaon Panchayats

The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, which was enforced in this district on 27th December 1949, brought four institutions into existence in each village, namely the *gaon sabhas* (deliberative wing), the *gaon panchayat* (executive wing), the *nyaya panchayat* (judicial wing) and the *bhumi prabandhak samiti* (land management committee). A *gaon sabha*, whose minimum population must be 250, consists of all adults ordinarily resident within its jurisdiction. It has an executive

body, named *gaon* panchayat. The *pradhan* (president) and the *up-pradhan* (vice president) of the *gaon sabha* are the ex officio *pradhan* and *up-pradhan* of the *gaon* panchayat. These are elected by the members of the *gaon sabha* from amongst themselves, for a term of five years. The *pradhan* and *up-pradhan* have the right to take part in the proceedings of the panchayat. The *pradhan* has a casting vote in case of a tie.

The number of *gaon* panchayats in the district in 1947 under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was 552 but in 1974-75 their number in the district rose to 1,072.

The functions of the *gaon* panchayat include construction repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of sanitation and prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, lands and other property belonging to the *sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provisions for drinking water and welfare of women and children.

For the fulfilment of these objectives the *gaon* panchayats largely depend on voluntary contributions and to some extent on government grants. They enjoy the powers to levy some taxes, rates and fees to augment their resources for fulfilling their role as effective instruments of social change and rural reconstruction.

The statement given below indicates the amount of taxes realised by the *gaon* panchayats in the district from the years 1971-72 to 1974-75:

Year	Income from taxes (in Rs)
1971-72	1,90,215
1972-73	1,93,896
1973-74	6,17,672
1974-75	9,02,157

The total income and expenditure of the *gaon* panchayats in the district during the year 1974-75 was as under :

Income	Amount (in Rs)	Expenditure	Amount (in Rs)
Taxes realised	5,02,157	Construction	4,30,038
Land management committee	64,088	Administration	70,673
Grants	—	Others	85,802
Other heads	57,068	—	—
Total	6,23,313	Total	5,86,513

Some of the main achievements of the *gaon* panchayats of the district during the last three years from 1972-73 to 1974-75 are as follows :

Name of the project	Years		
	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Kutcha road construction (km.)	28	2	79
Pakka road construction (km.)	1.2	3.57	—
Kharanja (brick-laid lanes (km.))	0.85	5.06	0.97
Culverts	19	—	1
Panchayat-ghars	2	2	3
Schools buildings	12	33	14



Table I (a)—Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Mainpuri (Reference No. 191)

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property etc. other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	3,11,050	7,280	83,919	65,228	441	2,09,023	6,77,839
1966-67	2,66,533	6,042	69,348	79,298	364	1,80,066	6,12,551
1967-68	3,33,166	7,873	1,13,774	70,352	433	81,034	6,13,252
1968-69	4,56,536	7,415	1,38,628	83,092	866	67,337	7,54,474
1969-70	4,39,801	6,204	1,41,309	1,69,078	908	77,817	8,34,202
1970-71	5,28,721	7,449	1,42,148	1,49,216	732	16,185	9,44,451
1971-72	5,79,778	9,035	1,79,548	2,88,630	408	21,980	10,79,388
1972-73	6,30,264	8,691	1,49,086	1,64,775	366	1,09,471	10,63,253
1973-74	6,32,148	7,501	1,80,863	1,00,287	313	13,123	9,34,236
1974-75	6,37,310	8,910	1,93,408	2,03,664	358	3,36,499	13,80,149

MAINPURI DISTRICT

Table I (b)—Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Mainpuri (Reference No. 191)

Year	General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public institutions	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	59,402	34,721	1,80,067	92,975	—	27,337	2,98,197	6,93,599
1966-67	65,092	35,254	2,09,129	93,448	—	25,378	2,20,933	6,40,234
1967-68	66,871	43,000	2,42,105	1,03,208	200	28,735	1,17,002	6,01,121
1968-69	85,989	43,966	3,27,762	1,15,520	—	32,626	1,26,332	7,32,195
1969-70	87,666	77,191	3,67,268	1,30,144	395	36,834	1,28,102	8,27,600
1970-71	85,033	62,707	5,08,544	1,50,307	500	32,485	77,650	9,17,226
1971-72	1,06,511	58,470	5,14,241	1,83,928	300	49,030	1,34,048	10,46,528
1972-73	1,39,434	70,130	5,74,498	1,22,989	260	35,115	15,662	9,58,088
1973-74	1,61,432	91,734	6,35,886	—	250	42,274	76,980	10,08,556
1974-75	2,29,003	80,740	8,75,542	—	832	54,760	2,31,204	14,72,111

Table II (a)—Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Shikohabad (Reference No. 192)

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	3,10,387	2,011	1,65,229	1,54,969	—	4,27,672	10,60,268
1966-67	2,85,174	2,346	1,18,993	1,65,676	—	3,94,472	9,66,661
1967-68	3,14,844	3,568	91,081	1,43,376	—	4,253	5,93,122
1968-69	4,74,114	1,729	1,09,002	1,44,432	—	260	7,29,537
1969-70	5,40,776	1,248	95,184	2,19,724	—	1,238	8,58,170
1970-71	7,86,779	1,379	97,411	3,25,219	2,022	—	12,12,810
1971-72	9,32,399	3,080	1,38,114	2,42,541	8,641	—	13,24,775
1972-73	10,48,731	4,494	1,68,893	2,38,071	6,395	—	14,66,584
1973-74	8,11,942	3,348	2,06,934	2,05,797	13,687	—	12,41,708
1974-75	9,29,638	2,945	2,29,724	3,34,372	93,473	—	15,90,152

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Table II (b)—Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Shikohabad (Reference No. 192)

Year	General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instructions	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	69,414	34,436	2,62,760	1,76,464	1,001	72,451	4,27,312	10,43,838
1966-67	88,816	24,354	2,34,632	1,82,260	—	63,429	3,94,475	9,87,966
1967-68	92,078	19,143	2,48,022	1,67,177	—	39,982	40,175	6,60,577
1968-69	1,07,118	32,032	2,93,909	2,04,987	—	50,637	—	6,88,683
1969-70	94,684	24,095	4,46,028	2,28,455	—	47,728	2,264	8,43,254
1970-71	1,03,310	73,043	6,27,657	2,36,105	250	51,970	1,490	10,93,8251
1971-72	1,19,874	72,390	6,38,109	2,92,476	30,450	47,982	—	12,01,28
1972-73	1,36,525	38,852	6,52,248	2,84,289	250	98,159	2,287	12,12,610
1973-74	1,85,000	48,212	7,42,223	3,21,946	501	1,25,423	10,860	14,34,165
1974-75	2,38,735	36,045	8,03,781	4,27,917	—	72,576	2,43,056	18,22,110

Table III (a) — Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Sirsaganj (Reference No. 193)

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total receipts
1965-66	72,010	802	13,512	22,743	8,905	—	1,17,972
1966-67	73,747	443	14,610	19,773	206	—	1,08,779
1967-68	77,093	480	23,169	22,967	90,380	—	2,14,089
1968-69	1,42,250	1,037	18,669	1,04,076	55,011	—	3,21,043
1969-70	1,15,605	1,360	15,311	58,972	8,769	—	2,00,017
1970-71	2,94,089	2,420	31,533	1,06,019	18,375	—	4,52,436
1971-72	3,86,409	21,407	85,739	32,914	25,439	—	5,51,908
1972-73	4,45,028	3,453	1,18,212	55,372	27,107	—	6,49,172
1973-74	3,06,364	6,343	97,843	37,923	15,964	—	4,64,437
1974-75	2,36,221	13,536	92,510	1,00,740	50,996	—	4,94,003

MAINPURI DISTRICT

Table III (b) — Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Sirsaganj (Reference No. 193)

Year	General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instructions	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	37,681	9,721	58,088	—	982	15,364	—	1,21,836
1966-67	45,027	2,184	72,895	—	—	6,448	—	1,26,554
1967-68	53,246	7,919	1,40,454	193	794	10,978	—	2,13,584
1968-69	52,667	9,658	2,14,512	1,771	1,437	34,720	—	3,14,762
1969-70	58,952	8,154	83,807	1,431	—	30,271	—	1,82,615
1970-71	71,894	40,322	2,06,745	5,389	—	53,972	—	3,75,322
1971-72	88,436	26,278	4,06,607	8,132	—	1,16,496	—	6,45,949
1972-73	94,305	12,544	4,85,971	8,064	1,000	39,169	—	6,41,053
1973-74	1,05,668	17,409	2,76,898	832	—	62,472	—	4,63,279
1974-75	1,94,335	15,376	4,88,382	—	—	37,261	—	7,35,354

Table IV--Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Bhongaon (Reference Page No 196)

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)				Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1965-66	26,561	32,405	10,113	69,079	15,871	15,597	28,768	4,431	64,667	
1966-67	14,144	54,764	1,28,650	1,97,558	16,355	16,529	62,959	24,787	1,20,630	
1967-68	12,491	1,66,774	24,560	2,03,825	22,193	2,15,560	74,002	15,640	1,33,305	
1968-69	27,456	2,48,948	18,121	2,94,025	22,434	40,750	57,680	1,88,091	3,08,955	
1969-70	17,364	2,47,874	12,523	2,77,761	27,229	34,583	1,74,629	63,930	3,00,371	
1970-71	19,657	2,64,671	34,389	3,18,717	32,473	35,998	3,06,310	1,16,143	4,90,924	
1971-72	1,10,694	4,02,751	97,566	6,11,011	37,781	95,479	1,98,257	2,48,160	5,77,677	
1972-73	29,685	6,81,950	16,045	7,27,680	52,235	1,24,591	3,38,846	2,47,080	7,62,752	
1973-74	95,976	7,72,810	20,958	8,89,744	77,014	1,07,458	2,52,231	2,96,701	7,33,404	
1974-75	—	4,58,674	2,03,851	6,62,525	1,32,688	1,13,594	3,29,681	2,57,708	8,33,671	

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CH. XIV—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Table V--Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Karhal

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)				Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1965-66	13,919	24,351	4,255	42,525	14,147	17,215	2,325	8,399	42,086	
1966-67	6,431	22,728	6,097	35,256	14,175	18,504	5,694	5,807	44,180	
1967-68	12,686	20,915	5,174	38,775	13,085	17,120	3,149	3,075	36,429	
1968-69	14,354	22,786	5,926	43,066	12,405	20,148	—	2,311	34,864	
1969-70	28,517	20,151	4,864	53,532	10,579	19,278	4,947	2,821	37,625	
1970-71	17,437	19,913	5,671	43,021	9,735	19,433	6,581	2,686	38,445	
1971-72	12,673	51,589	6,200	70,462	17,453	24,340	24,133	4,630	70,556	
1972-73	58,468	89,875	8,571	1,56,914	25,989	35,071	25,574	6,733	93,367	
1973-74	30,366	98,929	7,245	1,36,540	32,437	42,633	85,933	6,125	1,67,128	
1974-75	1,01,354	92,563	22,077	2,15,994	79,675	1,22,427	26,621	10,350	2,39,073	

Table VI—Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Jasrana (Reference page No. 196)

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)			Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	7,962	7,163	2,139	17,264	1,613	8,871	6,582	266	17,332
1966-67	7,883	6,482	2,716	17,081	1,617	8,289	6,101	1,279	17,286
1967-68	27,099	8,042	3,723	38,864	2,326	7,901	6,040	842	17,109
1968-69	23,842	10,525	2,859	37,226	2,683	9,738	18,693	1,698	32,812
1969-70	8,751	9,855	4,267	22,873	4,282	9,372	30,733	2,516	46,603
1970-71	12,625	11,925	3,911	28,461	3,477	6,530	9,517	13,495	33,320
1971-72	24,000	15,001	47,030	86,031	26,983	18,414	920	29,944	76,261
1972-73	1,09,200	7,524	34,079	1,50,803	16,972	19,995	18,418	92,362	1,47,747
1973-74	1,03,502	10,538	70,742	1,84,782	34,804	23,478	16,993	1,04,064	1,81,339
1974-75	47,959	15,749	72,320	1,36,028	57,078	56,296	25,754	10,497	1,49,625

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Table VI—Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Kurauli (Reference page No. 196)

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)			Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	18,676	43,006	4,801	66,483	17,484	19,876	22,904	N.A.	60,243
1966-67	9,620	27,911	1,08,499	1,46,030	27,739	23,902	28,852	5,987	86,480
1967-68	19,415	30,845	1,39,729	1,39,989	29,462	35,872	10,083	2,530	77,947
1968-69	32,325	30,237	9,43,200	1,46,882	29,462	40,261	1,03,478	19,468	1,92,669
1969-70	27,642	1,39,286	16,988	1,83,916	31,514	46,851	58,593	2,180	1,39,143
1970-71	10,371	1,86,295	6,499	2,03,165	28,351	1,30,235	21,671	13,480	1,93,757
1971-72	13,945	3,10,790	2,039	3,26,774	34,939	1,20,344	1,09,718	29,412	2,94,413
1972-73	14,274	4,40,964	9,150	4,64,388	16,342	2,20,344	82,787	17,497	3,30,970
1973-74	56,126	6,35,549	15,010	7,06,680	1,65,547	3,64,727	19,131	22,477	5,71,882
1974-75	37,590	3,61,586	9,343	4,06,419	14,084	51,619	1,350	528	1,94,30

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Table VIII—Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Pharchia (Reference page No. 196)

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)				Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expendi- ture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1965-66	6,223	3,264	1,967	11,554	1,476	5,210	582	433	7,601	
1966-67	7,022	4,205	2,967	14,194	2,331	1,810	5,220	302	9,663	
1967-68	6,473	901	2,577	9,950	1,608	4,651	—	1,814	8,073	
1968-69	1,743	1,155	3,176	6,074	1,510	5,378	5,070	888	12,846	
1969-70	7,515	4,932	3,016	14,463	1,343	5,784	500	1,709	9,336	
1970-71	551	2,716	5,916	9,183	1,844	4,530	—	607	6,976	
1971-72	551	4,551	2,189	7,290	2,005	4,344	1,000	194	7,543	
1972-73	3,473	3,607	3,073	10,153	2,021	6,660	—	1,121	9,802	
1973-74	2,314	2,665	2,386	7,365	1,972	7,485	—	2,177	11,634	
1974-75	7,078	5,007	8,138	20,223	1,382	6,450	—	328	8,160	

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Table IX—Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Bewar (Reference page No. 196)

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)				Expenditure (in Rupees)					
	Govern- ment grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General Adminis- tration and collection charges	Public Health	Public works	Other expendi- ture	Total Expendi- ture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1965-66	5,000	40,527	119	45,646	20,751	15,334	35,362	9,013	89,460	
1966-67	5,000	38,105	34	43,139	32,306	18,683	84,570	14,284	1,49,843	
1967-68	20,000	1,71,619	—	1,91,619	30,494	23,148	59,456	7,232	1,20,330	
1968-69	5,000	2,46,665	23,157	2,74,822	33,530	26,565	46,666	33,822	1,40,583	
1969-70	25,000	1,61,306	12,214	1,98,520	32,466	25,180	33,790	57,434	1,48,870	
1970-71	7,500	2,83,848	11,811	2,93,159	33,121	34,437	1,16,986	51,884	4,36,448	
1971-72	6,000	4,21,871	14,136	4,42,007	40,127	38,765	1,19,374	1,68,087	3,66,353	
1972-73	11,200	6,76,004	24,070	7,11,274	52,209	54,390	3,06,508	4,43,837	8,56,944	
1973-74	21,542	7,98,175	24,086	8,43,823	1,07,533	1,11,638	4,25,293	2,19,224	8,63,688	
1974-75	10,000	5,57,826	26,969	5,94,795	1,12,006	1,11,095	3,17,578	3,78,524	91,9,293	

Table X (a)—Receipts (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Mainpuri (Reference page No. 198)

Year	Government grants	Education	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Other sources	Total receipts
1965-66	31,26,929	2,21,000	—	25,000	3,15,878	36,88,807
1966-67	36,90,425	3,13,925	—	23,956	2,89,506	43,26,412
1967-68	42,19,979	2,70,927	—	23,875	3,13,589	48,38,170
1968-69	44,47,075	2,79,548	—	16,873	4,31,953	51,75,255
1969-70	48,41,514	2,87,326	—	26,805	3,29,501	54,82,146
1970-71	63,23,123	2,90,909	—	33,475	1,92,146	68,39,653
1971-72	63,22,968	3,20,788	1,870	23,929	2,28,381	69,97,936
1972-73	63,22,968	2,90,433	2,370	23,929	3,51,286	69,90,986
1973-74	2,39,653	12,679	2,268	20,745	4,38,906	7,64,351
1974-75	1,03,952	35,690	1,181	19,242	4,11,286	5,71,351

MAINPURI DISTRICT

CH. XIV—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Table X (b)—Expenditure (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Mainpuri (Reference page No. 198)

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1965-66	90,622	32,84,140	99,049	2,08,720	18,276	37,00,807
1966-67	86,981	37,68,068	2,01,000	3,28,527	63,963	44,48,539
1967-68	95,596	43,96,773	70,000	4,07,886	16,154	49,86,209
1968-69	97,224	45,70,481	90,548	5,13,710	23,254	52,95,217
1969-70	98,428	46,74,855	88,186	4,92,783	5,591	53,59,853
1970-71	98,747	63,54,298	82,453	2,49,518	18,630	68,03,646
1971-72	1,09,309	61,13,126	1,02,687	2,05,740	78,184	66,09,046
1972-73	1,09,309	61,11,126	1,02,657	2,05,740	1,76,695	67,05,527
1973-74	1,28,380	13,000	91,694	2,70,772	22,679	5,26,325
1974-75	3,27,064	88,206	1,37,269	1,37,698	17,624	7,07,861

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

In ancient times the area included in the present district of Mainpuri formed part of the south Panchala kingdom.

Education in those days began at home, followed invariably, for students coming from the upper strata of society, by their admission into some *ashrama*. Regular studentships, in *ashramas* began with the initiation ceremony called the *upanayana*.¹ The pupil was allowed to pursue studies of his choice accompanied by special teaching in the Vedas and the traditional branches of learning such as *itihasa-purana* (history and legend), *vyakarna* (grammar), *philology*, *chandshastra* (prosody), *arthashastra* (political economy), *ganita* (mathematics), *jyotish* (astronomy and astrology), *dharmashastra* (law and discipline), *shastravidya* (statecraft and military science) and *Ayurveda* (the science of longevity).²

In ancient times education was imparted for the sake of learning and spiritual advancement and not for providing a means to earn a livelihood. It was arranged with the best of care, free of cost and was not controlled by the state. One of the important features of the system was to create an intimate relationship between the teacher and the taught which was expected to inculcate in the latter the attitudes of obedience, service, austerity and purity of conduct.³

In course of time *pathshalas* (schools) emerged, as elsewhere, in this region also. A majority of them were attached to temples in which, in addition to the subjects taught ordinarily (Sanskrit and grammar, the regional languages, astrology), mathematics, etc., preparation for priesthood became an important feature for those desirous of taking up that profession.⁴

It is difficult, however, to determine fully the impact of Muslims on the educational system in this region but it may be presumed that they established their own *maktabs* (schools) mostly attached to the mosques. In those days *pathshalas* and *maktabs* were almost

always privately owned and run, receiving no regular financial aid from the government except occasional gifts of land, cattle or money.

At the time of the advent of the British, there were some elementary schools in which reading, writing and a little arithmetic were taught. These schools were in addition to indigenous religious institutions. The artisans gave their children mainly vocational education required for professional skill such as carpentry, smithy and tailoring. Schooling of girls was not in vogue but they were generally given training in domestic works like cooking, house-keeping and embroidery, at home by elderly ladies of the family who also familiarised them with the tenets of their faith and religious legends (Puranas). The first attempt for imparting education was made by government in 1850 when *tahsili* (primary school) established at the headquarters of a tahsil, and indigenous schools were established in the district, on receiving a report on the condition of indigenous schools in 1848, when there were 152 schools attended by 1,149 pupils. There were only 79 towns and villages provided with schools, and 1,380 without them. The general feeling was described as being 'unfavourable to literary pursuits even of the most humble and practical character'. Later on a zila or district school was opened in 1867. It has been raised to the status of an intermediate college. There was previously only one Anglo-vernacular school in the district. It was run by the American Presbyterian Mission, and at present it has risen to the status of an intermediate college. With the passage of time, education spread in the district in a marked fashion, and in 1875, there were 32 schools in the district attended by 6,872 students. Of these 145 were indigenous schools with 1,443 students. In 1909, the number of government and aided schools rose to 167 with 6,937 boys and 621 girls as students. Of these six were secondary schools with 1,080 boys and one girl. Beside these there were several private indigenous schools throughout the district in which religious instruction either in Sanskrit or in Arabic was given and in some of them the Kaithi script, the multiplication table and rudimentary arithmetic was also taught.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

In 1881, it was found that 37 males and 8 females in a thousand were literate. In 1891, these figures had risen to 38 and 14 respectively and in 1901 to 42 and 18 respectively. Thereafter, there has been a slow but steady rise in the number of literate persons, both

1. Mookerji, R. K. : *Ancient Indian Education*, p. 67

2. Majumdar, R. C. : Raychaudhari, H. C. and Datta, K. : *An Advanced History of India*, p. 51

3. Altekar, A. S. : *Education in Ancient India*, pp. 261-65

4. Rice, L. : *Appendix to the Report of Indian Education Commission of 1882*, p. 73.

male and female. Achievement in this field between 1951 to 1971 depicted below :

Year	Percentage of literacy in			
	Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1951	13.6	1.5	40.1	17.6
1961	27.9	6.9	50.7	27.1
1971	31.9	10.7	54.1	35.5

In 1961, the district occupied the 19th place in literacy among the districts of the State. The following statement gives an insight into the extent of the expansion of literacy and education in the district.

Educational standard	Persons	Males	Females
Urban			
Literate without educational level	19,885	12,246	7,639
Primary or junior Basic	4,535	3,907	628
Matriculation or higher secondary	8,229	5,959	2,270
Technical diploma not equal to degree	1,155	1,155	—
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	1,034	936	98
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree :			
Engineering	20	20	—
Medicine	41	41	—
Agriculture	3	3	—
Veterinary and dairying	1	1	—
Rural			
Literate without education level	1,37,359	1,09,155	28,204
Primary or junior Basic	52,645	46,424	6,221
Matriculation and above	8,248	7,980	268

In 1971, the percentage of general literacy rose to 24.24 and the percentages of literacy for males and females were 33.74 and 12.83 respectively.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Education now starts generally with the pre-junior Basic class or nursery level and goes up to the university stage. There are two nursery schools in the district.

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior Basic education, imparted to children up to six years of age, is of recent origin. The following statement gives certain particulars about institutions imparting such education :

Name and location	Management	Date of establishment	No. of students	Income	Expenditure
Saraswati Shishu Mandir, Shikohabad	Private	—	226	4,158	1,711
Nagar Palika Bal Mandir, Shikohabad	Nagar Palika	1968	314	52,006	52,006

Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Education at the junior and senior Basic stages is based on the Wardha scheme of education initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937, which was adopted by the State Government with certain modifications. It comprises the junior Basic stage from class I to V, and the senior Basic stage from class I to VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education ought to draw out the best in the pupil in body, mind and spirit. It implied that free and compulsory education for a term of eight years be provided by the State, that the mother-tongue be the medium of instruction, that the process of education centre around some useful handicraft enabling the child to channelize his creative ability the moment his training is begun, and that, every school be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency Basic education has been nationalised through the Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam since July 25, 1972. The management of Basic schools has accordingly been transferred from the local bodies to the board of Basic education. Control at the district level is vested in the Zila Shiksha Samiti and at the village level in the Gaon Shiksha Samiti. A district Basic education officer and an additional Basic education officer (women) are posted in the district to look after Basic education.

To enforce the attendance of boys and girls of the school-going ages at appropriate schools, their enrolment was made compulsory in 1927 in the urban areas of the district.

The Statement I at the end of the chapter shows number of junior Basic, senior Basic and higher secondary institutions and students in them from 1965-66 to 1974-75.

Secondary Education

Secondary education covers the courses of study after the senior Basic stage up to class XII. With the establishment of the board of high school and intermediate education, U. P. in 1921 the high school and intermediate examinations began to be held at the end of class X and class XII respectively. To encourage female education, the State Government has made girls' education free up to high school standard, since January 1, 1965. The details of higher secondary schools functioning in the district in 1974-75 are given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

Re-orientation Scheme

The re-orientation scheme aims at introducing agriculture as a central craft in the schools. In 1974-75, there were 64 schools teaching agriculture under this scheme in the district. They had 64 extension teachers. The following statement gives certain details regarding various types of schools teaching agriculture in 1974-75:

Type of schools	Name of schools	Total acreage
Senior Basic	41	324.34
Higher secondary and intermediate	233	106.12

EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

To encourage education amongst the Scheduled Castes, incentives like free education, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for purchase of books and stationery have been provided by the State. From class I to X they receive free education and poor and deserving students get scholarships. In the intermediate classes they are entitled to scholarships besides free education subject to certain conditions. Those who fail for the first time in a class get free education after fulfilling certain conditions. Poor and deserving students

of the 'Other Backward Classes' also receive scholarships. The following statement shows the number of students of the Scheduled Castes in 1974-75 in various classes :

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
Junior Basic	17,059	6,838	23,897
Senior Basic	2,495	3,126	5,621
Higher secondary (up to class X)	2,161	168	2,329
Higher secondary (up to class XII)	785	265	1,050

Higher Education

In 1974-75, there were 6 degree colleges in the district out of which one was for girls. The following statement gives certain details about them. All institutions are affiliated to the Agra University :

Name and location	Year of establishment	No. of students	No. of teachers	Management
A. K. Degree College, Shikohabad	1916	340	22	Private
Narain Degree College, Shikohabad	1956	1,637	69	Ditto
Paliwal Degree College, Shikohabad	1969-70	170	14	Ditto
P. D. M. Municipal Girls' Degree College, Shikohabad	1974-75	160	7	Municipal Board
Shri Chitra Gupta Post-graduate College, Mainpuri	1973-74	799	15	Private
National Degree College, Bhongaon	—	835	24	Ditto

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Before the mechanisation of industries there was hardly any scope for opening institutions of technical and professional education. In the age of handicrafts, skill in the production of goods was acquired through apprenticeship, and manual dexterity was passed on from generation to generation. But with the advent of machine technology and its application to spheres of production, propagation of professional and technical education became imperative.

An industrial training institute was started on November 1, 1962 by the State directorate of training and employment. It imparts training in trades like those of fitter, carpenter, blacksmith, turner, electrician, wireman and stenographer. In 1974, the number of trainees was 256. About one-third of the trainees are entitled to get stipends.

To meet the growing demand for trained teachers for Basic schools a number of training institutes are being run in the district by the education department. Their position in 1974 is indicated below :

Name and location	Degree/ certificate awarded	No. of students	No. of teachers	Duration of training
Government Normal School, Mainpuri	B. T. C.	147	15	1 year
Government Girls' Normal School, Mainpuri	B. T. C.	60	5	1 year
Government Normal School, Kuraoli	B. T. C.	100	11	1 year

ORIENTAL EDUCATION

Sanskrit—In 1973-74, there were 5 Sanskrit *pathshalas* (schools) in the district which imparted education in subjects like Sanskrit literature, *vyakarna* (grammar), *ganita* (mathematics), *darshan* (philosophy), etc. and were affiliated to the Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi. The following table gives some particulars about these *pathshalas* :

Name and location	Year of establish- ment	No. of students	No. of teachers	Course of studies
Rangeshwar Vidyalaya Gurukul, Shikohabad	1933	37	4	Uchatar Madhyama
Shri Sangved Vidyalaya, Gurukul, Nauner	1942	175	10	Acharya
Shri Onkareshwar Sanskrit Vidyalaya Ashram Akitarnidham, Usmidha	1943	56	4	Uchatar Madhyama
Ekvasa Nand Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Mainpuri	1944	130	11	Acharya
Arya Gurukul Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Sirsaganj	1953	107	15	Acharya

The Lal Singh Man Singh Industrial School, Mainpuri, established in 1918, imparts vocational training to the blind in arts like music, and crafts like weaving of the seats of chairs with cane strips.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical training is given to boys and girls in all educational institutions in the district. There are 21 units of the national cadet corps in the district of which 18 are in the urban and 3 in the rural areas of the district. Scouts' training sponsored by the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association is compulsorily given in all the senior Basic and higher secondary schools and scouts and guides' camps and rallies are organised every year. The national fitness corps, created by the Central Government provides training in 15 schools colleges of the district and for that purpose 16 instructors have been appointed in the district.

LIBRARIES AND READING-ROOMS

Libraries—In 1974-75, there were 8 libraries in the district. The following statement gives an idea of their status :

Name and location	Number of			Manage- ment
	Books	Magazines	Periodicals	
Dr Ambedkar Library, Nagla Bariyar	350	2	3	Private
Nehru Library, Lalpur Sagaoni	437	2	2	Ditto
Buddha Ambedkar Library, Bhaonroly	330	1	4	Ditto
Mathur Chaturvedi Library, Mainpuri	8,998	4	10	Ditto
Nav Jeevan Library, Mainpuri	3,560	6	12	Ditto
Dr Ambedkar Library, Mainpuri	2,430	5	9	Ditto
Anand Library, Shikohabad	2,385	6	3	Ditto
Mahavir Digambar Jain Library, Sirsaganj	2,429	4	5	Ditto

Reading-rooms—In 1974-75, the extension education department of the State Government was running 21 reading-rooms in the rural areas of the district.