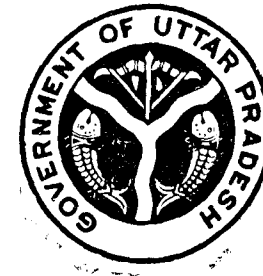




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GAZETTEER OF INDIA
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UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



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ALIGARH

BALWANT SINGH
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PREFACE

This is the forty-eighth in the series of the revised district gazetteers which are being published by the State Government under the scheme sponsored by the Government of India. The early official accounts of this type relating to the area covered by the district of Aligarh were the *Allygurh Statistics* by J. R. Hutchinson being published in 1856 and the *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Volume II, by E. T. Atkinson (1875). In 1909 was published H. R. Nevill's *Aligarh : A Gazetteer*, being Volume VI of the *District Gazetteers of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh* which was supplemented by volumes B, C and D in 1914, 1924 and 1934 respectively. The varied sources utilised in the preparation of the present gazetteer have been indicated in the bibliography which appears at the end of the book. The census data of 1961 and 1971 in general have been made the basis for the statistics used in this volume.

The work on the Aligarh District Gazetteer was taken up in the time of Sri D. P. Varun, State Editor. It was continued under the able guidance and supervision of his successors Sri Mata Prasad, Sri Om Prakash and (Dr) Parmanand Misra. In this task they were ably assisted by the Editors and the Compilation Officers.

My grateful thanks are due to my predecessors in office whose admirable work has greatly facilitated my task. These are also due to all the Editors, the Compilation Officers and others without whose help I could not have given final shape to the work so easily.

I should like to place on record my sincere thanks to the chairman and members of the State Advisory Board, Dr P. N. Chopra, Editor, Gazetteers, Central Gazetteer Unit, Government of India, New Delhi and to all other officials and non-officials who have helped in bringing out this volume.

LUCKNOW :

October 19, 1981.

BALWANT SINGH

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Origin of Name of District

The district is named after its headquarters town Aligarh which itself receives this name from the celebrated fort of Aligarh originally built in 1524 by Muhammad Khan, the governor of Koil under the Lodies. It was rebuilt in 1717 by Sabit Khan, a Turkoman governor during the reigns of Farrukhsiyar and Muhammad Shah, and its name was changed to Sabitgarh. In 1757 it was taken by the Jats and was named Ramgarh. It received its present appellation of Aligarh in the time of Afrasyab Khan, who succeeded Safdar Jang, the Nawab Vizir of Avadh, in 1782 as Amir-ul-Umra.

Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

Location and Boundaries—The district of Aligarh comprises the northernmost portion of the Agra Division and lies in the upper Ganga-Yamuna doab. It extends from 27° 29' N. lat. to 28° 11' N. lat. and 77° 29' E. long to 78° 38' E. long. To the north the boundary is purely conventional and touches the district of Bulandshahr; on the north-east the Ganga separates it from district Budaun; on the east and south-east lies the district of Etah; on the south-west lies the district of Mathura; and on the west it is separated from Haryana by the river Yamuna. The greatest length of the district is about 120 km. from the Yamuna to the Ganga near the northern border and the maximum breadth from north to south is some 72 km.

Area—According to the central statistical organisation the district covered 5,024 sq. km. in 1971 and stood 27th in the State in respect of area. According to the board of revenue the area of the district for the same year stood 5,030 sq. km.

Population—According to the census of 1971 the district has a population of 21,11,829 (females 9,60,366), the rural population being 17,34,798 (females 7,88,993) and the urban 3,77,031 (females 1,71,373). It stands 12th in the State in respect of population.

History of District as Administrative Unit

In 1803 the whole of the upper doab of the Ganga and the Yamuna passed under the administration of the East India Company and was divided into four portions; the first embracing Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar and a large part of Meerut administered for a time from Moradabad; the second

*Figures of Population and area in this chapter pertain to 1971 unless otherwise indicated.

including 30 *mahals* in the present Meerut and Bulandshahr district entrusted to the resident at Delhi, the third comprising Koil, Kanka, Atrauli, Dibai, Chharrā, Bhamaufi Pindrawal, Khair, Nohjhil, Chandaus, Barauli Morthal and Pitampur attached to Farrukhabad; and the fourth including 15 *mahals* to the south made over to Etawah. In 1804, however, the Aligarh district was formed by the union of the second, third and fourth divisions together with Anupshahr, transferred from Moradabad and pargana Sikandra Rao of district Etawah. This big district remained unaltered till 1816 when parganas Firozabad, Khandauli and Sahpau were transferred to Agra while tahsil Kasganj, including parganas Bilgram, Soron, Faizpur Badaria and part of Marahra, was made over to Aligarh from Etawah. Two years later seven parganas in the north were given to Meerut, and in 1824 tahsil Kasganj was assigned to district Sahswan (Budaun); the parganas of Dibai, Shikarpur, Anupshahr, Khurja, Jahangirabad, Ahmadgarh and half of Pitampur were transferred to the newly created district of Bulandshahr; and Sadabad, Sikandra Rao, Mahaban, Mat, Sonai, Raya, Jalesar, Awa Misa and Nohjhil were given to the new district of Mathura. Subsequent changes were numerous but of less importance. In 1828-29 the Chandaus and Somna parganas were transferred to Bulandshahr, but were restored two years later, while in 1832-33 Sikandra Rao was made over to this district from Mathura. Tahsil Kasganj for a time was included in Fatehgarh, but was given back to Budaun in 1837, part of Marahra, transferred to this district; but in 1845 it was attached to the Patiali subdivision, afterwards the Etah district, to which were added Marahra and Pachlana in 1856. In 1854 as many as 17 villages of pargana Barauli and one of Atrauli were transferred to Bulandshahr.

By 1854 the district at first contained the parganas of Koil, Atrauli, Gangiri, Sikandra Rao, Tappal, Chandaus, Jalali and Akrabad, all of which were in existence in the days of Akbar. It also included Khair, Gorai, Morthal, Hasangarh and Barauli, which were mere talukas of Koil and the two estates of Hathras and Mursan, formed out of the old *mahal* of Jalesar. All these were treated as separate parganas from the early days of the British rule. There have been innumerable changes in the boundaries and areas of these parganas.

Koil was once a much larger pargana, as it included Barauli, Khair, Morthal, most of Hasangarh and Gorai, as well as parts of other parganas. Its dismemberment took place during the eighteenth century and several changes were made in the next century. Major changes occurred in 1851-52, when 65 villages were transferred to Gorai, 6 to Khair, 5 to Hasangarh and one each to Morthal and Chandaus, while only two were received from Khair in exchange. In 1862, however, on the abolition of pargana Jalali, 32 of its commonest village and 23 from Akbarabad were assigned to Koil.

The pargana of Atrauli underwent several changes since the time of Akbar. In the early days of the British rule it comprised the Pathan Taluka of Bhamauri Nah, and five smaller estates which gradually broke up and disappeared from the map of the district. In 1848 a village was transferred to Bulandshahr and another to Morthal, while in 1851 the pargana received two villages from Morthal. Further changes occurred in 1854 when 14

villages were added from Faizpur Badaria in the Etah district and three were given to Gangiri. Again in 1863 Atrauli obtained 29 villages from the abolished pargana of Jalali and 22 from the portion of Akrabad lying to the north of the Kali Nadi; but the addition was counterbalanced in 1870 by the transfer of 123 villages to Gangiri.

Gangiri was a pargana in the days of Akbar, but it has since undergone extensive modification. When ceded to the Company in 1802, it was included in the Akrabad tahsil. The pargana was, in fact, a mere strip of land running along the eastern side of Atrauli from north to south with 23 villages. In 1840 it was transferred to the Atrauli tahsil and in 1854 three villages were added from the Atrauli pargana. In 1870 much of the old Akrabad and Jalali parganas, were transferred to Gangiri from Atrauli. At the same time four villages were given to Morthal and two were received from that pargana.

Sikandra Rao gave its name to a pargana at least as early as the days of Akbar. It is doubtful whether it then included any part of taluka Hasayan, which was held by the Porach Rajputs after their expulsion from Mendu at the hands of the Jats and was drawn mainly from pargana Jalesar. Its formal union with Sikandra Rao took place at the settlement of 1868. As many as 4 villages were added to the pargana from Hathras in 1840, while in 1862 Kachaura and two others were transferred from Marehra in district Etah and 42 villages of Hasayan were added to Sikandra Rao.

Tappal was an old *mahal* during the days of Akbar. Towards the close of the eighteenth century the pargana was assigned as jagir to Begam Somru of Sardhana and it remained in her possession till her death in 1836. In 1840 an addition of 15 villages was made from pargana Jewar in Bulandshahr, which received 13 in exchange, while in 1851-52 one village was transferred to Khair.

Chandaus was a pargana at the time of the rule of Akbar, though probably the boundaries have undergone considerable alterations since then. During the British rule few changes occurred and most of these were made at the settlement of 1840, when one village was received from pargana Koil, one from Khair and two from pargana Khurja (district Bulandshahr).

Pargana Jalali was abolished in 1862 and was divided between Koil, Gangiri and other parganas.

Akrabad or Akbarabad is said to have first become a pargana in the days of Akbar but its area was then very different. The boundaries were inextricably mixed up with those of Jalali, and in the beginning of the nineteenth century there were numerous villages to the north of the Kali Nadi and some of which are now included in pargana Koil. The Akrabad and Jalali parganas were made into a single tahsil but in 1862 Jalali was divided up among its neighbours. At the same time 23 villages of Akrabad were given to pargana Koil, 22 to Atrauli from which they were subsequently transferred to Gangiri, and four to Hathras. In the same year as many as 50 villages were received from Jalali.

The pargana of Hathras owes its origin to the growth of Jat supremacy in this part of the district. The greater part was originally included in Jalesar and comprised the estates of Hathras, Mendu and Daryapur. In 1752 Baran Singh, one of the Jats of Jawar, obtained the grant of Hathras from the subahdar of the Nawab Vizir of Avadh, and eight years later Suraj Mal of Bharatpur gave him Mendu. Later large additions were made to these acquisitions by Daya Ram, who till his expulsion held the whole of the pargana, representing parts of the parganas of Koil, Sadabad, Mahaban and Jalesar. In 1840 the Simardhari, Karas, Karil and Barha talukas, comprising 43 villages in all, were transferred to tahsil Iglas and in exchange Hathras received 28 villages forming the Jat taluka of Sansi, hitherto a part of Jalali; the taluka of Moheria, 44 villages, from Mursan; four villages from district Mathura and four from Akraabad. About the same time 17 villages were transferred to Mursan, four to Sikandra Rao and three to district Mathura.

Originally pargana Khair seems to have formed part of Koil and it attained an independent existence during the days of Maratha supremacy. In 1841 two of its villages were added to Koil and one to Chandaus, while in 1851 one was given to Hasangarh. During these ten years six villages were received from Koil and one from Tappal.

Gorai was originally part of pargana Koil, and its separation was due to the Jats. In 1803 it comprised the talukas of Iglas and Beswan as well as several other villages. Subsequently large additions were made, partly by the transfer of villages from Koil, Hathras and the Mathura district, and partly by the inclusion of talukas of Kanka and Kajraut, forming the eastern portion.

The pargana of Morthal originally a taluka of Koil was at first included in tahsil Atrauli but in 1852 it was transferred to tahsil Aligarh (Koil). At the same time 18 villages were given to district Bulandshahr and two to pargana Atrauli, in exchange of one village each from the Atrauli and Koil parganas.

Pargana Mursan was originally included in Jalesar and owes its origin to the Jats. Shortly after the first settlement (1833—1838) 17 villages were transferred to it from pargana Hathras, while 33 villages were given to pargana Mahaban in district Mathura, 44 to Hathras and six to Hasangarh.

Pargana Hasangarh was originally a part of pargana Koil. Its boundaries, were enlarged about the time of the first settlement by the addition of 43 villages from Hathras, six from Mursan, five from Koil and one from Khair.

Barauli was a taluka of pargana Koil till the end of the 18th century. In 1854 as many as 17 villages were transferred from the pargana to pargana Pahasa in district Bulandshahr.

Since 1854 no major change took place in the administrative history of the district which then contained 14 parganas, those of Koil, Atrauli,

Gangiri, Tappal, Sikandra Rao, Chandaus, Akraabad, Hathras, Khair, Gorai Morthal, Mursan, Hasangarh and Barauli.

Tahsils were formed shortly after the introduction of the British rule, only those parganas being omitted which were entrusted to farmers, such as Mursan, Hathras, Gorai and Hasangarh. The Koil or Huzur tahsil comprised at first the Koil and Barauli parganas to which Gorai and Hasangarh were added in 1908. Tahsil Atrauli included the Atrauli, Morthal and Pachlana parganas; that of Sikandra Rao the pargana of the same name and Marahra; that of Khair the Khair and Chandaus parganas; that of Akraabad the Akraabad and Gangiri, while Jalali was a separate tahsil and Tappal was part of the jagir of Begum Samru. A general reconstitution was effected in 1840 when the whole district was divided into eight tahsils. That of Aligarh (Koil) included parganas Koil, Morthal and Barauli; that of Atrauli the parganas of Atrauli, Gangiri and Pachlana; that of Akraabad the Akraabad and Jalali parganas; that of Hathras the Hathras and Mursan parganas; that of Iglas the Gorai and Hasangarh parganas, while tahsils Khair and Sikandra Rao remained unchanged and Tappal was constituted a tahsil by itself. The subsequent alterations in the area of the district necessitated further changes, and by 1865 the present arrangement had come into force. The district was divided into six tahsils. Tahsils Hathras, Aligarh (Koil) and Iglas remained the same as before and so was Atrauli, less the pargana of Pachlana transferred to Etah. Pargana Tappal was transferred to tahsil Khair, and parganas Sikandra Rao and Akraabad formed tahsil Sikandra Rao, Jalali having been abolished and absorbed in Koil and other parganas.

Subdivisions and Tahsils

The district is divided into six subdivisions, namely Koil, Khair, Iglas, Hathras, Atrauli and Sikandra Rao, each comprising a single tahsil bearing the same name.

Tahsil Koil (Aligarh) is bounded on the north by district Bulandshahr, on the west by tahsils Khair and Iglas, on the south by tahsils Iglas, Hathras and Sikandra Rao and on the east by tahsils Atrauli and Sikandra Rao. It has an area of 917.9 sq. km. and a population of 5,69,297, (females 2,59,214), the rural population being 3,16,983 (females 1,44,649) and the urban 2,52,314 (females 1,14,565). There are 340 inhabited and 17 uninhabited villages and the town of Aligarh in the tahsil.

Tahsil Khair is bounded on the north by district Bulandshahr, on the east by tahsil Koil, on the south by tahsil Iglas and on the west by the Haryana State. The tahsil has an area of 1040.4 sq. km. and a population of 3,25,074 (females 1,48,781) and has 278 inhabited and 5 uninhabited villages.

Tahsil Iglas is bounded on the north by tahsils Khair and Aligarh, on the east by tahsil Hathras and on the south and west by district Mathura. It has an area of 552.2 sq. km. and a population of 1,91,978 (females 86,643) and possesses 189 inhabited villages.

Tahsil Hathras is bounded on the north by tahsil Koil, on the east by tahsil Sikandra Rao, on the south by districts Etah and Mathura and on the

west by tahsil Iglas. The area of the tahsil is 755.2 sq. km. and the population 3,70,423 (females 1,66,433), the rural population being 2,83,939 (females 1,27,353) and the urban 86,484 (females 39,080). There are in the tahsil 365 inhabited and 13 uninhabited villages and the towns of Hathras, Sasni and Mursan in the tahsil.

Tahsil Atrauli comprises the tract between the Ganga (which separates it from district Budaun) and the left bank of the Kali Nadi. The latter river forms the boundary on the west and south separating Atrauli from tahsil Aligarh and Sikandra Rao, while to the north lies district Bulandshahr and to the east district Etah. It has an area of 891.5 sq. km. and a population of 3,53,298 (females 1,61,617), the rural population being 3,32,318 (females 1,51,868) and the urban 20,980 (females 9,749). There are 298 inhabited and 11 uninhabited villages and the town of Atrauli in the tahsil.

Tahsil Sikandra Rao is bounded on the north by tahsil Atrauli, which is separated from it by the Kali Nadi, on the east and south by district Etah, on the west by tahsil Hathras and on the north-west by tahsil Aligarh. Its area is 872.8 sq. km. and population 3,01,759 (females 1,37,678), the rural population being 2,84,506 (females 1,29,699) and the urban 17,253 (females 7,979). There are 247 inhabited and 6 uninhabited villages and the town of Sikandra Rao in the tahsil.

TOPOGRAPHY

The district lying in the upper Ganga-Yamuna doab is a plain of remarkable fertility. It slopes gently from north to south and south-east. The surface is varied by several depressions, formed by the river valleys and natural drainage lines, while the elevations consist merely of slight ridges of sand. The most prominent of these ridges are to be found in tahsil Khair to the north-west, where there are three irregular lines running from north to south. The first follows the boundary between pargana Tappal and Chandaus, the second may be seen along the right bank of the Karwan, and the third which is more interrupted and less defined than others lies some kilometres east. These ridges are continued through the upper portion of tahsil Iglas and two of them enter pargana Mursan of tahsil Hathras. In places they throw off transverse spurs which reduce gradually into the level surface of the plain. To the west of Aligarh there are two parallel lines of high sandy ground running north and south; but elsewhere they are not of such length or extent as to need special mention.

The configuration of the ground is very similar to that of the doab. From the Ganga *khadar* the level rises sharply to the high sandy upland which is flanked by the old high bank of the Ganga. From the high bank the level descends inland gradually to a depression drained by the Nim and the Chhoiya, beyond which it again rises to the bank of the Kali Nadi. Along the right bank of the Kali is a sandy belt, rising from the low and narrow *khadar* of that stream and this is followed by a fertile belt of loam soil, which gradually sinks into the broad central depression. The latter traverses the entire district in a south-easterly direction roughly parallel to the course of the Ganga. Entering the north of tahsil Aligarh it passes

through that tahsil into Sikandra Rao, occupying practically all but the south-western corner of the tahsil and eventually passing into the Etah district. This tract is characterised by clay soil, imperfect natural drainage and numerous lakes in which the surface water collects without finding an adequate outlet. In consequence of the resultant saturation the tract is marred by frequent stretches of barren *usar* and the exudation of salt in the form of *reh*. Beyond this depression the surface rises once more into a level plain of lighter but richer soil, assuming a sandy character in the west of the district. In the north-west the general characteristics of the doab are maintained, loam alternating with clay in the depressions and with lighter ground on the banks of the few drainage channels, till finally there comes the high cliff of the Yamuna, from where the level drops to the *khadar* of that river. The south-western part of the district presents somewhat remarkable features, for tahsil Iglas and part of tahsil Hathras contain a sandy tract of a very homogeneous type, in which there are practically no depression, while the only variations in the general level are those formed by the minute valley of the Karwan.

The general level of the district is extremely regular. The greatest height of the ground surface is about 195 m. above sea-level at Chandaus and Tappal in the north-west, dropping to 189.58 m. at Somma in the central depression. The height where the Ganga canal enters the district is 193.24 m. above sea-level, and from this there is a gradual slope eastwards in the direction of the Ganga, the height above sea-level being 186.84 m. at Atrauli and 180.74 m. at Dadon, while in the *khadar* the heights at the points of entry and exit of the lower Ganga canal are 178 m. and 176.78 m. respectively. Further south the level drops from 189 m. on the bank of the Karwan near Khair to 185.32 m. at Aligarh and to 183.49 m. at Jalali, all these places lying in much the same latitude. South of this the recorded heights above sea-level are 180.14 m. at Gorai, 177.09 m. at Iglas, 180.14 m. at Sansi and 176.78 m. at Sikandra Rao. On the southern border the typical heights above sea-level are 176.78 m. at Hathras, 175.56 m. at Hasayan and 175.95 m. where the Ganga canal leaves the district. The Grand Trunk Road follows the general line of the slope pretty closely, and in a length of roughly 80 km. the level drops from 190.50 m. to 173.76 m. giving an average gradient of about one-fifth of a metre per km.

RIVER SYSTEMS AND WATER RESOURCES

The district is not traversed by any major river, the Ganga merely touches it in the north-east, while the Yamuna flows along its western boundary for a short distance. The other streams running through the district are, the Kali and the Isan, the tributaries of the Ganga, the Nim, the tributary of the Kali, and the Rind, the Senger, the Karawan and the Patwaha, the tributaries of the Yamuna.

Ganga—The river merely touches the district and its immediate effect is small, since it receives no tributaries and directly drains only the narrow belt of *khadar* and a small portion of the uplands from which the surface water is carried down by a few ravines of little magnitude. The deep stream

forms the boundary between this district and Budaun. In former days the river was constantly changing from side to side within the limits of its bed; but after the construction of the Narora dam in district Bulandshahr these changes have been reduced considerably. From Sankra a subsidiary and almost abandoned channel known as the Burhganga, flows through the *khadar* between the present stream and the high bank; but it is of no importance save for the injury apt to be caused by its changes to the lands in its vicinity in times of floods, since the bed is practically dry except in the rains.

Kali Nadi—This is the only tributary of the Ganga which traverses through the district. It rises in district Muzaffarnagar and passing through district Meerut, Ghaziabad and Bulandshahr enters this district on the northern border. It then flows south-east and forming the western and southern boundary of tahsil Atrauli which it separates from tahsils Aligarh and Sikandra Rao it passes into district Etah near village Barhari. The river, which is of perennial nature, receives the surplus water of the Ganga canal. Occasionally it rises in flood doing much damage to the *khadar* along its course, which after a series of wet seasons becomes saturated and takes many years to recover. Its water is used to some extent for irrigation only in the *khadar* and *tarai*. The only tributary of the Kali Nadi in the district is the Kathia, a small drainage channel, which has its origin in the depression to the south-east of Atrauli and falls into the river just above Hidramai.

Nim—This river rises in district Bulandshahr and after entering tahsil Atrauli at Chakhathal flows in a south-easterly direction through the eastern part of the tahsil, past the villages of Bijauli, Bhikampur and Gangiri. At Ramamai, it is joined on its right bank by a small drainage channel called by the generic name of Chhoiya, which has its source to the north of Atrauli, close to the district border, and during the rains carries off a good deal of flood water from the low ground in its vicinity. The Nim almost invariably carries some water, and is utilised for irrigation purpose. It has a sandy bed with slopping banks and on either side has a small strip of *tarai*, especially in its southern reaches. It joins the Kali Nadi a short distance beyond Barhari within the borders of Etah district.

Isan—This stream is a tributary of the Ganga but only by courtesy can it be styled a river of this district. It has its origin in several shallow depressions to the east of Sikandra Rao, in the villages of Iklalpur, Kheria and Bargawan. It then flows in a south-easterly direction into district Etah, between the Grand Trunk Road and the Kanpur branch canal.

Yamuna—This river first touches the district about 3 km. north-west of Gharbara in the north-western part of tahsil Khair and runs southwards separating this district from that of Gurgaon in the Haryana State. It leaves the district after a course of some 20 km. about 3 km. south of Antasani in tahsil Khair. The river, like the Ganga, affects only the strip of *khadar* lying below the old bank. Its variations are very much less extensive than those of the Ganga for the actual stream has a well-defined bank, which is topped only in years of heavy floods.

Rind—It rises in the lowlands between the Kanpur and Etawah branches of the Ganga canal, its principal feeder being a depression at Sahaoli, a short distance south from Nanau. There are several other contributory depressions, notably that of Ladhawa, between Akrabad and Gopi, which discharge their overflow into the Rind or the Ratwa, as it is called in this part of its course. The stream at times causes much injury to the lands in its vicinity, which have in many places shown signs of saturation, hardly a village near the river being free from *reh*. The Rind throughout its course in this district flows almost midway between the two lines of canal, and passes into district Etah at the village of Ismailpur. It joins the Yamuna in district Fatehpur.

Sengar—This stream, the tributary of the Yamuna has its source in the broad central depression, and like most of the rivers of the doab, is at first a mere disconnected chain of mud holes, gradually becoming more frequent till they form a continuous channel. It rises from the Adhawan lake to the south of Panefiti on the Grand Trunk Road. The stream is strengthened by a large drain called the Lehtoi which starts near the village of Barauli in the north of the district running southwards and collecting all the drainage from the numerous lakes and depressions to the west and south of Harduaganj. From Adhawan the Sengar flows almost southwards through the south-east corner of tahsil Aligarh, and then after traversing the west of pargana Akrabad for a few km., leaves that pargana at Barhad and enters Hathras, continuing in the same direction till it quits the district at Nurpur. Its banks are sloping and in most places the bed is of soft clay. In former days the Sengar received the overflow from the Sahaoli depression, but the construction of the Etawah branch has entirely shut off that source of supply.

Ganda—The central portions of tahsils Aligarh and Hathras are drained by a channel which may be regarded as wholly artificial and goes by the name of the Ganda nullah or the Aligarh drainage cut. It starts near Khurja in district Bulandshahr and flows southwards through pargana Koil to the west of district Aligarh, subsequently continuing past Sasni and Hathras into district Mathura, where it discharges into the Karwan. In the upper part of its course it follows a natural line of drainage as far as possible, but south of Aligarh it is merely an excavated drain.

Karwan—This stream also known as the Karon is a natural water-course which rises in the north of district Bulandshahr, and flows in a southerly direction through tahsil Sadabad of district Mathura to join the Yamuna at Shahdara close to the city of Agra. It forms the arterial drainage line for the west of districts Bulandshahr and Aligarh. In tahsil Khair it has a broad basin with a good deal of low ground on either side of the stream, but further south is the sandy tract of tahsil Iglas the channel is narrow though well defined.

Patwaha—It is a small drainage channel between the Karwan and the Yamuna, which has its origin in district Meerut. At first it is a mere series of depressions and swamps, its progress being interrupted in places by undulations in the surface as also by canals and artificial drains. Before

leaving Bulandshahr, however, it assumes a defined channel and thereafter it increases in size till it meets the Yamuna at Nohjhil in district Mathura. In tahsil Khair it is known as Patwaya and its course runs almost direct from Moron on the north to Salpur on the south. The stream is reinforced by two minor drainage channels.

Lakes—There are broad tracts of lowlands especially in tahsils Aligarh and Sikandra Rao. In this part of the district natural depressions are numerous, but there are no permanent lakes. Lakes increase in number and extent from the northern border of the district to southwards, the chief in tahsil Aligarh being those of Gursikaran. Ikri and Adhawan of which the last is also the original source of the Sengar. In pargana Akraabad the largest lakes are at Ladhawa, Sahadi, and Gopi, while in Sikandra Rao there is the extensive group of depressions to the south and east of Sikandra Rao itself, another group comprises the broad lakes of Hasayan. Bakayan, Nagla Sheikha and Jao, and several detached lakes in different parts of the pargana, notably at Bhisi and Mau Chirail. Tahsil Atrauli has none of any size excepting that near Dadon, though there are several shallow lakes in the depressions to the south-east of Atrauli. There are no lakes in Iglas and very few in Hathras, while Khair is similarly devoid of lakes save in the extreme north-east corner, which belongs to the central depression and contains the large lakes of Ogar and Morehna.

GEOLOGY

The geology of the district is simple and rather monotonous comprising only the Gangetic alluvium of early Quaternary to Recent age. The main constituents of the alluvium are clays, silts, sands and *kankar* in several horizontal layers piled up in varying proportions and vertical thickness. Although several tube-wells exist in the district the bed rock below the alluvium has not so far been touched anywhere. However, it is presumed that the alluvium may be a few hundred metres in thickness. The Gangetic alluvium being generally devoid of economic mineral deposits the district has no place among the mineral producing areas. The only minerals found in the district are *kankar*, *reh* and clay.

Kankar—The limestone conglomerate known as *kankar* is found almost in all parts of the district. Two varieties of the *kankar* are often met with viz., soft disintegrated concretions in nodular form and large and hard concretions of ashy to blue colour found in comparatively thick beds or lenses. The former is used for metalling the roads and the latter for masonry work and ballast. Lime of good quality is obtained by burning *kankar* in ordinary kilns, which are to be seen in the vicinity of all the principal quarries.

Reh—Carbonate of soda or *sajji* is found in abundance in the *usar* tracts and goes by the generic term of *reh*. *Reh* is alkaline or saline efflorescence, deposited as thin superficial encrustations on the ground. It also results from *in situ* mechanical break down, chemical decomposition and solution of mineral particles such as plagioclase feldspar and soda sericite

present in the alluvium. As a result of rains during the monsoon, solutions are washed down towards the rising water-table; during the ensuing dry weather the solutions ascend up to the land surface by capillary action and stimulated by extensive evaporation and finally the encrustations are left behind. Periodical scraping of these encrustations is said to arrest the development of efflorescence process.

Reh is used by washermen as a substitute for soap for washing coarser clothings. It is used in purer form for the manufacture of bangles, crude glass, saltpetre, etc. In former days large quantity of saltpetre was manufactured in the district, especially in tahsil Sikandra Rao. Crude saltpetre is still extracted in considerable quantity.

Clay—Clay (suitable for making bricks, earthen wares and toys) is a by-product of the efflorescence process.

FLORA

Till the time of the passing of Aligarh into the hands of the British in 1803, large parts of the district were covered with heavy dhak (*Butea monosperma*) forests. Gradually these forests were reclaimed for cultivation and other purposes. In the course of nearly a hundred years the forest area in the district was greatly reduced and was limited to a few patches maintained by some of the chief landowners as fuel reserves, the largest of such tract being in pargana Chandaus. A certain amount of dhak was seen in scattered patches in the clay and *usar* tracts, particularly in tahsil Atrauli and to some extent in tahsils Sikandra Rao and Aligarh. The *khadars* of the Ganga and the Yamuna contain tamarisk forests along the banks, the latter having broad stretches of waste covered with thatching grass. Besides these scattered patches of natural growth were found close to the villages. The canal department raised plantations along the banks of the upper Ganga canal and its distributary branches. In 1940, the forest department took over the management of canal plantations. The forests close to the villages were transferred to the forest department after the abolition of zamindari in 1952. These were mostly barren, scattered areas devoid of any tree growth and in various stages of erosion as a result of over exploitation, excessive grazing and mismanagement. In recent years sporadic attempts have been made to reclaim such tracts and put them under the control of the forest department.

The total forest area in the district was about 1,769 ha. in 1976-77 of which nearly 800 ha. was under the control of the forest department. The protected forest tracts along the banks of the Ganga canal and its branches have been planted with dry deciduous species. The rest of the area contains scanty and sparse natural vegetation which includes trees like *faras* (*Tamarix* spp.), *pilua* (*Salvadora oleoides*), *cheonkar* (*Prosopis spicigera*), *reoni* (*Acacia lucophloea*) and *babul* (*Acacia arabica*), and shrubs namely *kairi* (*Dichrostachys cinerea*), *chapat* (*Grewia flevescens*) *karil* (*Capparis decidua*), *hins* (*Capparis zeylanica*), *hansi* (*Crotalaria* spp.) and grasses like *dab* (*Desmostachya bipinnata*) and *munj* (*Erianthus munja*). Plantations of more valuable species like *scssoo* (*Dulbergia sissoo*), *Jamun*

Syzygium cumini siris (*Albizia spp.*), *kanji* (*Pongamia pinnata*), and *babul* have been grown along the canal banks and other tracts.

FAUNA

The number and variety of the animals and birds in the district are extremely limited owing to openness of tract and sparseness of vegetation. The leopard (*Panthera pardus*) is said to visit the *khadar* tracts from the neighbouring districts till the beginning of the present century. Among the large animals the most common species is the nilgai or blue-bull (*Boselophus tragacamelus*). It is a large antelope but is mis-named as nilgai or cow and as such enjoys immunity at the hands of the local Hindus. The result has been that it has multiplied and is met with in herds. The Indian black-buck (*Antelope cervicapra*) is also found in the district but is not very common. The wild pig or boar (*Sus scrofa cristatus*) was earlier found in the *khadar* tracts of the district in large number. But of late its number has gone down considerably. The hyaena (*Hyaena hyaena*) locally known as *lakarbaggha* is met with at places. The Indian fox (*Vulpus bengalensis*) keeps to open country and rarely enters forests. The black buck (*Antelope cervicapra*) is seldom seen but the *chinkara* or Indian gazelle (*Gazella gazella*) is met with in the ravine tract. The spotted deer (*Axis axis*) does not occur locally. The langur (*Presbytis entellus*), the common mongoos (*Herpestes edwardsi*), the hare and the porcupine are met with in all parts of the district.

Birds—Owing to the sparseness of the natural vegetation the birds are scarce though the varieties met with in the neighbouring districts are also found in this district. The common peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), which is seen in the forest is a protected species, being national birds. The grey partridge (*Francolinus pondicerianus*) the black partridge (*Francolinus francolinus*) and the painted partridge (*Francolinus pictus*) are the chief game birds found in the forests of the district. The chief non-game birds generally met with in the district are quail (*Coturnix coturnix*), the jungle bush quail (*Perdix asiatica*), the common sandgrouse (*Pterocles exustus*), the ring dove (*Streptopelia Chinensis*), the green-pigeon (*Treron phaeniceptera*), the blue rock (*Columba livia*) and the comb duck (*Serkidiornis malanola*).

Reptiles—The majority of species of snakes found in the district are non-poisonous. Among the venomous snakes found in the district are the common krait (*Bangarus caeruleus*) and cobra (*Naja naja*). Of sauria the most important is the goh (*Varanus monitor*) which inhabits hollows of tree trunks.

Fish—There are few permanent lakes, and the big rivers the Ganga and the Yamuna, merely touch the fringe of the district. The chief species of fishes found here are *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*), *katla* (*Catla catla*) *kalbasu* (*Labeo calbasu*), and *siland* (*Silundia gangetica*).

Game Laws—The game laws in the district are governed by the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, which imposes a total ban on the shooting of fast extinguishing species such as the tigers, leopards, etc. Rules and regu-

lations pertaining to hunting and shooting are periodically published and are compiled in the forest manuals of the State.

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is characterised by a hot summer, pleasant winter and general dryness except in the monsoon season. The cold season from about the middle of November to early March is followed by the hot season which lasts till about the middle of June. The south-west monsoon season is from the middle of June to about the third week of September. The period from the last week of September to the middle of November may be termed the post-monsoon season.

Rainfall—Records of rainfall during the last 97 years (1862—1958) are available with respect to seven stations of the district, namely, Aligarh, Khair, Atrauli, Iglas, Hathras, Sikandra Rao and Banpur. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given at the end of the chapter. The average annual or the normal rainfall in the district is 647.3 mm. The rainfall in the district increases from the south-west towards the north-east and varies from 604.5 mm. at Hathras to 724.9 mm. at Iglas. About 87 per cent of the annual rainfall is received during the south-west monsoon months from June to September, July and August being the two heaviest rainfall months.

The variations in the rainfall from year to year in the district are quite large. In the fifty-year period from 1901 to 1950 the highest annual rainfall, amounting to 188 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1933 while the lowest annual rainfall which was only 35 per cent of the normal occurred in 1918. In the same period the rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 13 years, two of them being consecutive. Considering the rainfall at individual stations two or three consecutive years of rainfall less than 80 per cent of the normal occurred once or more at most of the stations. Even four consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once at Khair. The following statement shows that the annual rainfall in the district was between 500 mm. and 800 mm. in 29 years out of 50 years from 1901 to 1950.

Frequency of Rainfall in the District

Range in mm.	No. of years
200—300	2
301—400	1
401—500	9
501—600	8
601—700	8
701—800	13
801—900	5
901—1000	3
1001—1100	0
1101—1200	0
1201—1300	1

On an average there are 34 rainy days (days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 30 at Banpur to 36 at Atrauli and Iglas.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 304.8 mm. at Banpur on July 15, 1896.

Temperature—There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Aligarh and the records of this observatory may be taken as fairly representative of the conditions prevalent in the district in general. Both day and night temperatures decrease rapidly from about the middle of November. January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 21.7°C . and the mean daily minimum at 7.6°C . In association with cold waves in the wake of passing western disturbances the minimum temperature occasionally drops down to about the freezing point of water and thus frost also occurs. After February temperature increases rapidly till May which is the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 41.3°C . and the mean daily minimum 26.5°C . Nights are warmer in June than in May. In the summer season dust-laden scorching westerly winds blow often and the heat is intense. Day temperature sometimes reaches over 45°C . Afternoon thunder showers which occur on some days bring welcome relief though only temporarily. With the onset of the monsoon, in the district by about the third week of June day temperature decreases appreciably. However nights continue to be as warm as during summer. Even during the south-west monsoon season day temperature becomes high during breaks in the rains and with the increased moisture in the air, the weather is often uncomfortable. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the third week of September there is a slight increase in the day temperature and nights become progressively cooler. Normals of temperature and relative humidity are given in table II at the end of the chapter. The highest maximum temperature recorded at Aligarh was 46.3°C . on June 17, 1958 and the lowest minimum temperature was 0.6°C . on January 16, 1933.

Humidity—Except during the south-west monsoon season when the humidity is high, the air is generally dry over the district. The driest part of the year is the summer season with relative humidities less than 25 per cent in the afternoon.

Cloudiness—In the monsoon season skies are generally heavily clouded and overcast on some days. During the rest of the year skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded. However for short spells of a day or two during the cold season, in association with passing western disturbances, skies become cloudy.

Winds—Winds are generally light with a slight increase in force during the summer and early part of the monsoon season. During the period from October to April the winds blow mostly from directions between north and west, South-easterlies appear in May. During the monsoon season winds

CH. I—GENERAL

are predominantly from the south-east and east. The mean wind speed in km. per hour is given in the following statement :

Month	Speed in km. per hour
January	5.0
February	6.0
March	7.2
April	8.0
May	8.4
June	9.0
July	7.9
August	6.8
September	6.3
October	4.7
November	4.5
December	4.8
Annual	6.5

Special Weather Phenomena—During the monsoon season the depressions originating in the Bay of Bengal which move in a westerly or north-westerly direction across the central parts of the country affect the weather over the district causing widespread heavy rains. During the cold season passing western disturbances affect weather and a few thunderstorms occur. In the summer months the district experiences dust-storms and thunderstorms. Thunderstorms also occur during the monsoon season. Fog occurs occasionally during the cold season. A statement regarding the frequency of special weather phenomena monthwise for the district is given below :

Month	Mean		Number of days with		Fog
	Thunder	Hail	Dust-storm	Squall	
January	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.6
February	2.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.9
March	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
April	2.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
May	4.0	0.1	2.0	0.0	0.0
June	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
July	6.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
August	5.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
September	3.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
October	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
November	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
December	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Annual	29.9	1.1	4.1	0.0	3.6

TABLE—I
Rainfall

Reference page no. 13

Station	No. of years of data	Normal rainfall (in mm)												Extreme rainfall (in mm)		
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as percentage normal and year	Lowest annual rainfall as percentage normal and year
		Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)	Date	Amount (mm.)
Aligarh	50 a	14.5	16.8	9.4	4.6	9.4	62.7	185.9	182.1	117.1	17.3	1.8	6.1	627.7	208 (1933)	33 178.8 July 3, 1942
	b	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.9	3.2	9.1	8.7	5.3	0.8	0.2	0.7	33.4		
Khair	50 a	15.5	14.7	10.9	6.6	7.6	57.1	173.5	185.4	117.3	19.1	2.3	6.3	616.3	186 (1933)	27 178.1 August 4, 1923
	b	1.5	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.9	3.1	9.6	9.2	5.1	0.8	0.2	0.7	34.4		
Atrauli	50 a	18.0	18.0	11.9	7.1	12.9	73.4	213.4	193.3	130.8	17.8	1.8	6.3	704.7	188 (1916)	46 223.8 October 13, 1935
	b	1.5	1.5	1.1	0.8	1.1	3.5	9.8	9.2	5.8	0.7	0.2	0.7	35.9		
Iglas	50 a	16.0	18.5	10.7	7.4	9.7	71.1	205.5	209.8	149.3	18.5	1.8	6.6	724.9	195 (1942)	39 251.5 June 31, 1953
	b	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.8	1.0	3.3	9.6	9.8	6.0	0.8	0.2	0.6	35.7		
Hathras	50 a	14.5	14.0	7.4	4.8	6.3	56.9	169.4	170.7	130.3	23.1	1.3	5.8	604.5	187 (1933)	36 188.2 July 16, 1914
	b	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.8	2.8	8.9	9.0	5.8	0.7	0.2	0.6	32.6		
Sikandra Rao	50 a	12.5	12.5	9.9	5.3	8.1	65.5	172.0	208.5	126.5	17.5	1.3	6.3	645.9	161 (1943)	28 269.2 July 16, 1885
	b	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.6	1.0	3.2	9.5	9.8	5.8	0.8	0.2	0.6	34.9		
Balrampur	50 a	15.5	16.3	13.5	7.4	5.1	45.5	169.4	187.5	121.9	18.3	1.8	6.1	608.3	240 (1950)	20 304.8 July 15, 1896
	b	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.6	2.8	8.2	8.4	4.7	0.7	0.1	0.5	30.4		
Aligarh (District)	a	15.2	15.8	10.5	6.2	8.4	61.7	184.2	191.0	127.6	18.8	1.7	6.2	647.3	188 (1933)	
	b	1.4	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.9	3.1	9.2	9.2	5.5	0.8	0.2	0.6	33.9		

(a) Normal rainfall (in mm.) (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm or more)

*Based on all available data up to 1958

TABLE—II
Temperature and Relative Humidity (based on all available date up to 1960)

Reference page no. 14

Month	Temperature (in degree Centigrade)						Relative Humidity (percentage at 8.30 and 17.30 hours (Indian Standard time)	
	Mean daily maximum		Mean daily minimum	Highest ever recorded with date		Lowest ever recorded with date		
	°C	°C	°C	°C	Date	°C	Date	
January	21.7	7.6	30.6	January 14, 1946	0.6	January 16, 1935	74	46
February	24.7	10.1	32.9	February 28, 1960	1.7	February 11, 1950	67	37
March	30.7	14.8	41.7	March 31, 1945	3.9	March 6, 1945	51	24
April	36.9	20.9	44.4	April 29, 1948	10.9	April 9, 1957	39	17
May	41.3	26.5	46.1	May 4, 1954	17.8	May 15, 1957	33	19
June	39.8	28.3	46.3	June 7, 1958	18.6	June 2, 1957	51	39
July	34.9	26.8	43.9	July 3, 1948	20.6	July 24, 1957	79	66
August	33.1	25.7	40.6	August 3, 1941	20.1	August 13, 1957	82	71
September	33.5	24.4	40.0	September 16, 1938	18.9	September 30, 1935	76	59
October	33.9	18.9	41.7	October 4, 1952	11.7	October 26, 1949	60	36
November	29.2	12.0	36.1	November 3, 1944	5.0	November 30, 1937	55	33
December	23.6	8.1	32.8	December 2, 1948	2.2	December 25, 1945	67	42
Annual	31.9	18.7	—	—	—	—	61	41

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The early history of the region covered by the present district of Aligarh lies in a dim past and is to some extent fragmentary and uncertain. The region never corresponded to any one kingdom and it was only on few occasions that the whole of it formed part of a single realm, it very often being divided among several bordering states. At least in the earlier part of its history its fate was usually linked with that of the kingdom of Surasena with its capital at Mathura; though, it seems most probable at the same time that the eastern part of the district (which lies south of the river Ganga) formed part of Panchala kingdom.¹ The antiquity of the district itself is doubted as it does not find mention in any literary or epigraphical record anterior to the twelfth century. But the evidence of old legends and traditions, ancient coins, old mounds and other antiquities discovered here show that an ancient big town existed here long before the advent of the Muslims in India, and it was then known by the name of Koil or Kol after the name of an Asura king who was killed by Balarama, the brother of Mahabharata fame, Krishna.²

No systematic archaeological excavations have been carried out in the district but there are several old mounds (*kheras*) which are supposed to contain the ruins of ancient buildings and habitations. Koil is undoubtedly a town of great antiquity, as statues of Buddha and other Buddhist as well as Hindu remains have been found in excavations in the ruined fort called the Balai Qila, situated in the city.³ Other Buddhist remains have been unearthed from the great mound called Gohankhera to the east of Sasni and from the mound to the west and south of Lakhnau. Gohankhera is one of the most ancient places of the district, and it appears from the remains found there that it was inhabited in Buddhist times. The mound appears to be the site of an ancient Buddhist *stupa* as it contains remnants of several wedge-shaped bricks with outer face of the broad end convexly curved. The site of an ancient ruined temple and a stone *lingam*, which had belonged to the temple in its later days, have also been found there. But the most interesting of the very few remnants which were found on the site of the old temple, were two

fragments of ancient sculpture in red sandstone. One of these consisted of the base or rather the lower portion of a statue of an erect human figure and the other of a head of a Buddhist statue with the characteristic Buddhist head-dress like figures in bas-reliefs, of male individual in the Buddhist sculptures found at Mathura.¹ Buddhist sculptures were also unearthed from a mound situated about half km. to the west of Lakhnau. In addition, a large statue of Ganesa and some sculptured stones were obtained. Tuksan, which is situated about 8 km. to the north-west from Hathras, also has an ancient, large, circular and dome-shaped mound and a mud fort built by the Jats.²

Sankra, situated on the right bank of the Ganga, is the site of an ancient city and has the remains of an ancient fortress facing the river, and also of an extensive *khera* (mound) covered with fragments of bricks and old potteries. To the south-west of the fort, there is a small circular mound, on the top of which a lot of broken potteries and a few fragments of sculpture and other remains are collected together in a heap. Amongst these, the most important are a small image of Ganesa; two curious half-figures of animals in red burnt terracotta; a small, nude, terracotta figure, apparently of Buddha, in a standing posture, but which had lost the head and shoulders; two fragments of sculpture in stone, which appear to be some small fragments of two separate architraves of a Buddhist gateway and a head of a small statue, apparently Buddhist, in red sandstone. To the west of the old fort there is a long range of mounds and ridges which appear to be the remains of Buddhist *stupas*. Apart from these sites, close to the village of Sahegarh, there is a very ancient and extensive deserted site which is called Sahegarh Khera. At the village, there are remains of a small mud fort and traces of small mounds between the mud fort and the village. On the ancient mound and near about the old mud fort, old copper, silver and gold coins were found in great numbers. These coins are Indo-Scythic coins of the "Kanerki" and "Oerki" (or Kanishka and Huvishka) type. Several common Muslim coins of Pathan and Mughal dynasties were also found showing the antiquity of the place.³ Several other old mounds signifying the different periods of history are also in existence in the district, such as Jalali, which was called Nilauti in ancient days, the brick-strewn mounds of Khera and Bajhera to the west of Akraabad, the mound called Kitkhari Khera to the north of Jalali and the *khera* (mound) at Tuksan near Hathras and the old fort of Tappal.⁴

The evidence of primitive sepulchral cairns and microlithic tools scattered all over the Ganga-Yamuna doab indicates that the district witnessed

¹ Cunningham, A. and Carlisle, A. C. L. : *Archaeological Survey of India Reports* Vol. XII, (Calcutta) (1879), p. 15.

² Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, (Varanasi, 1969), p. 1, Nevill, H. R. : *Aligarh : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1909), p. 161

³ *Ibid.*

¹ Cunningham and Carlisle, op. cit., Vol. XII, pp. 3—7.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 1-2.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 9—11 ; Fuhrer, op. cit., pp. 1—3.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 7—15 ; Nevill, op. cit., p. 161 ; Fuhrer, op. cit., 1—3.

the emergence of early civilization in the same way as other parts of India. The earliest Aryan tribe, which came to be associated with the district, seems to have been that of the Yadus who are mentioned in the *Rigveda* as one of the ten tribes taking part in the Dasharajna or battle of ten kings against king Sudasa of the Bharatas, who, it is said, vanquished them (along with the Purus and the Matsyas, etc.) after which they, with the closely allied tribes of Turvasa, migrated to these parts.²

Hindu legends make the district part of the kingdom of Pandayas, who are said to have moved their capital to Ahar in Bulandshahr after the destruction of Hastinapur.³ According to local traditions, the region was included in the kingdom of Panchalas of which Ahichhatra was the capital. The tradition assigns the foundation of Sankara (situated in the district) to a king named Ahada who may possibly, therefore, have been the same king Ahi or Adi who is said to have founded Ahichhatra situated about 65 km. north of Sankara.⁴ The tradition also tried to identify Koil with Kaushambi, to which king Nishakshu removed his capital after Hastinapur had been swept away by the Ganga. But the identification of the town with Kaushambi rests on no foundation whatever, as it has been identified with Kosam on the Yamuna in Allahabad district.⁵ During the Mahabharata times, it appears most probable that the district was ruled by an Asura king named Koil or Kol who is said to have been killed by Balarama, the brother of the reputed Yadava king Krishna. Thus, the credit for the foundation of Koil goes to him (Balarama).⁶ The same story relates that Balarama proceeded to Ramghat on the Ganga, and that on the way Hardeva built Harduaganj and colonised it with the men of his army.⁷ The district formed part of the Surasena kingdom under Yadavas till the fourth century B. C., but no details are forthcoming. It appears that certain places in the district were inhabited in Buddhist times as Buddhist remains have been found at many sites in the district, such as, Balai Qila at Koil and Gohan Khera.

About the middle of the fourth century B. C. this region was annexed to the Nanda empire of Magadha, probably in the reign of Mahapadma Nanda and after the overthrow of the Nandas, a quarter of a century later, the district became part of the powerful Maurya empire and continued as such for the next century and a half. After the death of Ashoka in 236 B. C., the Mauryan empire crumbled to pieces and seems to have been parcelled out amongst his sons.

With the downfall of the Mauryas, some local rulers of this period probably ruling over this region started as feudatories of the Mauryas and

¹ Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *The History and Culture of the Indian Peoples*, Vol. 1, p. 139, Mookerji, R. K. : *Hindu Civilization*, Part I, p. 121

² Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 245-247

³ Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 161

⁴ Cunningham and Carleyle, *op. cit.*, p. 15

⁵ Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 161 ; Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-2

⁶ Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-2 Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 161

⁷ *Ibid*

gradually gained power as the fortunes of the latter declined—perhaps themselves helping in expediting that decline—but were subsequently weakened by feuds within themselves and might have, therefore, been brought under subjugation by the newly risen imperial power of the Sungas.¹ Pushyamitra Sunga overthrew Mauryan power and established Sunga dynasty which lasted for about one hundred years from 187 B. C. to 75 B. C.² The subordination of this region, however, seems to have lasted only for a short time because the Sunga power itself soon became prey to the centrifugal forces which possibly received a fillip from the incursions of the Greeks (Demetrius and his lieutenant Menander).³ It has been suggested on the basis of *Yuga Purana*, a section of *Gargi Samhita*, that the viciously valiant Greeks over-ran the whole of Saket, Panchala and Mathura country (thus including this district) and reached Kusumadhvaja (Pataliputra) and there was a complete breakdown of administration.⁴ Fortunately the people fought the invading army so ferociously that the Greeks thought it wise to retrace their steps, and thus they were unable to reap the fruits of their military success.⁵ Probably the same Greek invasion has been alluded to in the *Mahabhashya* of Patanjali, the high priest of Pushyamitra Sunga (185—149 B. C.).⁶

The history of this region from the end of the Sunga rule to the rise of the Guptas is very obscure. Reference may be made in this connection to a large number of coins found at Shahgarh near Kauriaganj in the district.⁷ During the second century B. C., a powerful and independent dynasty seems to have come in power at Mathura and almost held sway over this district. The Indo-Greek and Indo-Parthian coins discovered from the ruins of Shahgarh near Kauriaganj and the adjoining regions of the district⁸ bear testimony to its having been a flourishing city at that time. The existence of the coins of Indo-Greek kings tends to prove that they held sway over this region till the second quarter of the first century B. C. when the Sakas established their rule here with the headquarters of their Kshatrapya at Mathura.⁹ In the first half of the first century A. D. these Saka Kshatrapas (Satrapas) were superseded by the Indo-Parthians under their famous king Gondophernes.¹⁰ Some Parthian coins have been found at various places in the district.¹¹ The Parthians were overthrown by the Kushanas in the last quarter of the first century A. D., the latter making Mathura their second capital.¹² Apart from other reasons the discovery of their coinage in Aligarh district supports the presumption that it was under Kushana rule which lasted

¹ Sastri, K. A. N. (Ed.) : *A Comprehensive History of India*, Vol. II, (Madras, 1957), p. 104

² Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 95—99

³ Sastri, *op. cit.*, p. 104

⁴ Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 102

⁵ Puri, B. N. : *India In The Time of Patanjali*, (Bombay), pp. 28-29,

⁶ *Ibid*, p. 11

⁷ Cunningham and Carleyle, *op. cit.*, Vol. pp. 1-2 ; Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 1-3

⁸ Cunningham and Carleyle, *op. cit.*, Vol. XII, p. 10

⁹ Nevil, *op. cit.*, p. 161

¹⁰ Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 128—130 ; Raychaudhari, *op. cit.*, pp. 451-452

¹¹ Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 161

¹² Raychaudhari, *op. cit.*, pp. 458—479 ; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 161

The tradition further goes on to say that Vikrama Sen had two sons, Indar and Mukindar, of whom the former succeeded to Baran, and the latter to Jalali. Mukindar was succeeded by Gobind Sen, and he by Nahar Singh, the founder of Sambhal. After him came his grandson Dasrath Singh, the founder of Jalesar, who dying childless, was succeeded by his brother Bijai Ram, and he was followed by Budh Sen. This Budh Sen is the hero of a story which assigns the foundation of Koil to him. The city when completed became his capital and Budh Sen's authority extended over Jalesar, Kampil, Patiali, Baran, Sambhal and Budaun. After a reign of 55 years he was succeeded by his son, Mangal Sen, who made an alliance with Raja Bena of Atranji and Etawah, giving his daughter in marriage to Bena's eldest son. The latter was murdered by his younger brother and the widowed Padmavati returned to Koil, where her father built for her a lofty pillar, from which she could daily behold the sacred Ganga. Another account, however, avers that the unhappy lady was immured in the column. For many reasons the story narrated by tradition appears to be incorrect. Budh Sen was sixth in descent from Vikrama Sen, so that the traditional foundation of Koil would on this supposition take place in the second half of the twelfth century, although it is perfectly clear that the city was of very much earlier origin. Mangal Sen could not have enjoyed so long a reign, for in 1193 Koil fell in other hands. Thus the legend of the pillar and of the extent of the Dor kingdom is clearly not correct. On the other hand, it is perhaps significant that no mention is made of Koil in the account of the invasion by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1018 A.D.; thus, showing that no important city then existed between Baran (Bulandshahr) and Mathura.¹

In 1018 A.D. Mahmud of Ghazni attacked Dor Rajputs and captured Baran (Bulandshahr). The capture of Baran is narrated by Muslim chroniclers at length, but no mention is made of Koil. The region, was at that time held by Har Datt, the father of Vikramaditya.² Though, the victory of Mahmud caused no permanent effect but it is certain that Mahmud's victories caused for a time, at any rate, the decay of the Dor power. Meos or Mewatis, about this time overran the whole of the doab and the Dors are said to have called to their assistance the Bargujars, who then for the first time established a hold on this district. These Bargujars are said to have fought for Prithvi Raj against the Chandellas of Mahoba, and to have been liberally rewarded by the victorious monarch. Perhaps, they had assisted his grandfather, Vishala Deva of Ajmer, in driving out the Tomaras from Delhi and establishing the Chauhan dynasty. The Dors still continued to hold the district when Muslims under the command of Qutb-ud-din Aibak invaded it.³

MEDIAEVAL PERIOD

Till the emergence of the Muslims in the doab a greater portion of it, including the present Bulandshahr and Aligarh districts, was still under the undisputed sway of the Dors. In 1193, however, the expanding Muslim power, made its first inroad in these parts and brought under subjugation

¹ Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 163 ; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 484-485

² Haig, W. : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. III, (Delhi, 1958), p. 18-19

³ Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 485. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 164

Baran (Bulandshahr). Koil being not much far off, was captured in the following year.¹ Hasan Nizami has described Kol or Koil as one of the most celebrated fortress in India. The capture of the fort was accompanied with large number of killings. "The nobles and chiefs of the state entered the fort, and carried off much treasure and countless plunder, including one thousand horses."² On his way back to Ghazni after defeating Jaichandra of Kannauj Muhammad Ghori made a brief halt at Kol, and it was here that he confirmed Qutb-ud-din in the vice-regency of his Indian possessions.³ It appears, however, that after Mohammad Ghori's departure, the Dors broke out and threatened the Muslim garrison at Kol, which was relieved by the personal appearance of Aibak.⁴ It would appear that the place was taken not without loss, since the tombs of Shah Jamal, Pir Bahadur and others testify to the death of several persons of eminence who fell in the assault.⁵ The fortress must have been of importance, for Koil at once became the seat of a Muslim governor, the first to hold the post being Hisamud-din, who was afterwards transferred to the newly acquired province of Avadh.

An important effect of the Muslim intrusion in this region was that the powerful local families of Dors and Bargujars were either exterminated or forced to accept the sovereignty of Delhi by promising to pay the tribute regularly.

Koil finds mention in early medieval annals but not sufficient enough to give a connected account of its history. It appears, however, that this region remained in undisturbed possession of Iltutmish, but his successor Ruknuddin was so licentious and indifferent towards the affairs of the state that discontent and dissatisfaction, within and outside the imperial court, became the order of the day.⁶ The first to rebel was the governor of Budaun, for whose suppression the Sultan immediately marched thither with his vizir Nizam-ul-mulk, but before he could enter into an encounter with the rebels, the latter deserted the Sultan and joined the rebel governor of Budaun at Koil.⁷ The conspiracy of the disaffected nobles proved successful and Ruknuddin was deposed and princess Razia assumed the reign of sovereignty at Delhi.⁸ However, the insurgent refused to accept the *fait accompli*, and it was only when Razia had won over to her side Nizam-ul-mulk that the peace was restored.⁹ With the accession of Alauddin Masaud, son of Ruknuddin, on the throne in 1242, Muhazzab-ud-din Nizam-ul-mulk became the vizir, and received Koil as his appanage. But his avarice and open disregard of the Turkish nobility led to his murder at Delhi in the same year.¹⁰ He was

¹ Habib-ullah, A. B. M. : *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, (Allahabad, 1961), p. 64

² Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *The History of India as told by its own Historians* Vol. II, p. 222

³ Sirhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad bin Abdullah : *The Tarikh-i-Mubarakshahi* (English Trans. by K. K. Basu), p. 12

⁴ Habibullah, A. B. M. : *op. cit.*, p. 65

⁵ Nevill, H. R. : *Aligarh : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1909)

⁶ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J., *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 330-331

⁷ *Ibid.* Vol. II, p. 331

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 24

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 31

succeeded by Sadrul-mulk Najmuddin Abu Bakr on the post of vizir, but it is not clear whether he also got Koil in his jagir.¹ In 1259 Koil was united with Biana and Gwalior to form a single province under the charge of Malik Mohammad Sher Khan, the nephew of Ulugh Khan, better known as Balban, who was then in command of the army.² It is worth mentioning that Balban had already visited this region in 1244 and 1249 to chastise and suppress the rebellious Meos at Jalali, which he did with exemplary severity. He drove out the rebels, cleared the roads and garrisoned Jalali with seasoned troops.³ After these two expeditions this region appears to have remained in undisputed sway of the Delhi throne. In 1253, it is said, Balban created the great *minar* at Koil to commemorate his name and the victories of his master, Nasir-ud-din Mahmud. This interesting monument stood on the high ground of the *Balai Qila* but was most unfortunately demolished in 1862 to make room for improvements round the mosque.

Balban succeeded Nasir-ud-din Mahmud in 1266, and in the following year disturbances broke out in the country round the capital, including this district. A strong army was sent and the region was secured with strong hand. The fortress of Jalali was repaired and strongly garrisoned. From the inscription on the mosque of Jalali, presumably built on this occasion, this resettlement of the place seems to have taken place in 1266-67.⁴ The good work done by Balban was continued by his son Muhammad, known as Khan Shahid, who held Koil for several years, and was succeeded by Muhammad Sherandaz, who took part in Bengal campaign against the rebel Tughril Khan.⁵

Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khalji ascended the throne in 1290 and at that time Malik Kiki was holding the charge of Koil. Shortly after Jalal-ud-din's accession Malik Chhajju of Kara raised the standard of revolt and marched towards Delhi, assisted by some of the prominent Jalali Amirs.⁶ The revolt ended in a fiasco, followed by a foolish clemency on the part of the Sultan. During Alauddin's reign, around 1300, the Mongols invaded this region and virtually captured Koil and halted there for a short while before making an attack on Delhi.⁷

In 1342 Ibn Batuta passed through Koil on his way to China, and described it as a fine town, surrounded by mango groves,⁸ on which account probably it received its name of Sabzabad or the green city. While Ibn Batuta was still at Koil, news arrived of a disturbance at Jalali which was besieged by the local insurgents. The imperial army marched towards Jalali

¹ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 343

² Nevill, H. R. : *Aligarh : A Gazetteer*, p. 165

³ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *op. cit.*, pp. 362-363 ; Habib-ullah : *op. cit.*, p. 155

⁴ Habibullah, A. B. M. : *op. cit.*, p. 168

⁵ Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 166

⁶ Sirhindi, : *op. cit.*, pp. 58-69

⁷ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *op. cit.*, Vol. III, pp. 189-190

⁸ Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Tughlaq Kalin Bharat*, Part I, (Aligarh, 1956), p. 259

to relieve it and to suppress the rebellion, and the fight which ensued resulted in considerable massacre. Ibn Batuta has given a graphic account of this revolt and suppression, as he had himself taken part in it as a soldier. However only shortly afterwards another rising broke out in Jalali, and being cast away from the main army, Ibn Batuta was captured by the rebels, and by sheer fortune procured his release.¹ Nothing more of importance, occurred during the reign of Mohammad bin Tughlaq except that the district repeatedly suffered from famines and heavy exactions of that monarch.² His successor Firuz Tughluq conferred Koil and Avadh, together with the district of Sandila, on one Hisam-ul-Mulk Hisamud-din Nawa in 1376-77.³ Only a year later Hisamud-din died and was succeeded by his son Malik Saifuddin, who, in all probability continued to hold Koil.⁴ After Firuz Tughluq's death, the country fell into utter confusion and internecine warfare within the royal family which did not end till the final extinction of the Tughluq dynasty in 1413. In 1389 Mohammad Shah, the youngest son of Sultan Firuz was driven from Delhi by the then ruling prince Abu Bakr (a grandson of Firuz) into the doab and he established himself at Jalesar, this district being nominally under his sway until he recovered the throne of Delhi a year later.⁵ In 1394, Mahmud, Mohammad's successor conferred the title of Sultan-ul-Sharq on Khwaja-i-Jahan and made over to him the entire country from Kannaui to Bihar.⁶ He began his work by subjugating Koil, though subsequently he devoted his attention in the east and founded the Sharqi kingdom of Jaunpur.⁷ After his departure Iqbal Khan, a strong contender of the Delhi throne, became the real ruler of doab till his death in 1405, his sway being interrupted only by Timur's invasion in 1398. After the accession of Mahmud, the family of Iqbal was safely conducted to Koil, which district was perhaps given to them as an appanage.⁸ The district remained in confusion for many years till the accession of Khizr Khan in 1414. The confusion, however, did not end immediately as there were renewed disturbances of Katehriyas around this district; and only about four years after his accession, Khizr Khan had to personally march towards Koil in 1418-19 to punish the rebels and bring them to submission.⁹ Even this punitive expedition of the Sultan did not set the local resistance at rest, and only shortly afterwards, in 1420, there appears to have been another rising around Koil which was crushed by Taj-ul-mulk, the vizir of the realm.¹⁰ Khizr Khan's son and successor Mubarak was also beset with the disturbing problems of his father. While he was engaged against Muhammad Khan of Mewat the news arrived of a threatened attack of Ibrahim Sharqi of Jaunpur on Kalpi. Sultan Mubarak

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Ibid.*, p. 47

³ Sirhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad bin Abdullah : *op. cit.*, p. 140

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 141 ; Ahmad, Khwaja Nizamuddin : *The Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, Vol. I. (Eng. Trans. by B. De), p. 251

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 263-264

⁶ Sirhindi : *op. cit.*, p. 164

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 180

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 195 ; Ahmad, Khwaja Nizamuddin : *op. cit.*, p. 296

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 298

abandoned the pursuit of Muhammad Khan, and crossing the Yamuna laid waste Jartoli and reached Atrauli, sending an advance contingent to meet Ibrahim's army.¹ On the death of Mubarak, the country once again lapsed into chaos and remained so till the accession of Bahlul Lodi in 1451. When he obtained possession of Delhi, Koil and Jalali were held by Isa Khan Turkbacha,² an officer who was acting as warden of marches, at Jalesar and all the doab up to Jalali was in the hands of the ruler of Jaunpur.³ The latter (Sultan Mahmud) in 1452 made an attempt on Delhi itself during Bahlul's absence in the Punjab, and the city narrowly escaped capture.⁴ The expedition came to nought and Isa Khan remained unmolested in Koil, where he afterwards received a visit from the Sultan in person.⁵ Bahlul then proceeded to recover the lost territory in the doab, and an agreement was reached with Mahmud that the former should hold all territory administered by Mubarak Shah. This pact was, however, frequently broken by Mahmud resulting in short skirmishes between him and Bahlul's forces. In the meanwhile Isa Khan appears to have been succeeded by one Rustam Khan as governor of Koil, who, during an encounter of Bahlul's forces with the Jaunpur army fled towards the latter, but the war ended in a truce shortly afterwards.⁶ In 1479, however, Sultan Husain once again meditated an attack on Delhi while Bahlul was away in Sirhind. Bahlul immediately prepared himself for an impending fight, but the greater strength and number of Sultan Husain's army obliged him to effect a peace. But no sooner had Sultan Husain returned than Bahlul fell upon his retreating army, and captured a large booty including Koil and Jalali which had been recovered by Husain.⁷

In 1488 Sultan Bahlul died near Saket, and his remains were carried to Delhi, his son and successor, Sikandar Lodi, coming as far as Jalali to meet his father's corpse.⁸ Sending the late Sultan's corpse to Delhi, Sikandar ascended the throne in Kushk-i-Sultan Firuz (palace of Sultan Firuz) on the bank of Kali Nadi near the town of Jalali.⁹ Nothing of importance occurred during the reign of Sikandar, who gave Koil to one Umar Khan son of Sikandar Sur. However, during the early years of Ibrahim Lodi's reign the zamindars of Jartauli rose in revolt and killed Umar Khan.¹⁰ Thereupon Qasim Sambhali, governor of Sambhal rushed to Jartauli, inflicted severe punishment on the local zamindars,¹¹ and brought them to submission.

¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 308-309

² *Ibid.*, p. 335

³ Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 167

⁴ Ahmad, Khwaja Nizamuddin : *op. cit.*, p. 340

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 341

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 346

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 348-349

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 355

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 398

¹¹ *Ibid.*

Koil was then given to Umar's son, Mohammad Khan, who in 1525 built the fort of Monammadgarh, afterwards known as Aligarh, as is recorded in an extant inscription.

In 1526 Babur overthrew Ibrahim Lodi at Panipat and rapidly acquired the entire doab. He placed Koil in the charge of one Kichik Ali, who, shortly afterwards was attacked and taken prisoner by Ilyas Khan, the latter acquiring the doab including Koil.¹ Having been relieved of a perilous confederacy of Rajputs and Pathans after the battle of Khanwa, Babur sent Mohammad Ali Jangjang, Sheikh Guran and Abdul Malik Kurchi to punish the rebel and recover Koil. On the approach of the imperial army the rebel fled, but was pursued and captured and sent to the emperor's presence where he was flayed alive.² In September 1527 Babur himself paid a visit to Koil for excursion; stayed there for few days, enjoying festivities, and then left for Atrauli.³ At the latter place too, it appears, he made a short stay before finally leaving the district. The district remained in the hands of Humayun, the successor of Babur, till his expulsion by Sher Shah, but no event of note is recorded during the reigns of the Suris, and after the death of Islam Shah there was no acknowledged ruler till Humayun recovered Hindustan and the empire was consolidated by his youthful son Akbar.

During his reign Koil became the capital of a Sirkar, which formed part of the province of Agra. The place had become relatively insignificant as is apparent from the fact that no imperial officer is recorded to have held it in his charge. It is merely a surmise that one Mir Mohammad Gesu held some command and built an Idgah there in 1563.⁴ The Sirkar was divided into four *dasturs* of Koil, Akbarabad, Marahra and Thana Farida, and was much larger than the present district, since it embraced almost all Bulandshahr and large portions of Etah, as well as a part of Mathura.⁵ Out of 21 *mahals* or parganas only eight belonged to the district; but a considerable area in the Hathras, Iglas and Sikandra Rao tahsils was then included in the Sirkar of Agra, principally in the parganas of Jalesar, then held by Gahlot and other Rajputs. The *mahal* of Koil was then of large extent, embracing the parganas of Morthal, Barsauli, Khair and most of the modern Koil, as well as portions of Hathras, Gorai and Hasangarh. The zamindars were mainly Rajputs who paid a revenue of 10,412,305 *dams* on a cultivated area of 548,655 *bighas* the great size of the *mahal* (pargana) is illustrated by the fact that the military contingent amounted to no fewer than 450 horse and 29,050 foot. Jalali had 145,801 *bighas* under tillage, with an

¹ Rizvi, S.A.A. : *Mughal Kaleen Bharat : Babur* (Aligarh, 1960), pp. 250-251

² *Ibid.*, pp. 250-251, 404

³ *Ibid.*, p. 261

⁴ Nevill, H. R. *op. cit.*, p. 168

⁵ *Ibid.*

assessment of 29,57,910 *dams*; it was held by Pundirs and others, who supplied 500 horse and 6,000 infantry. Atrauli was a large and highly cultivated *mahal*, embracing most of the present tahsil of that name, with a cultivated area of 320,569 *bighas* and a revenue of 5,454,459 *dams*; the landholders were Afghans and Chauhans and other Rajputs, while local levies numbered 500 horse and 9,500 foot. Gangiri was then much smaller, with 53,545 *bighas* of cultivation, a revenue of 372,050 *dams*, and a contingent of 25 horse and 200 foot, supplied by the Afghan and Rajput zamindars. The pargana of Chandaus was held by Chauhans, who paid 17,49,238 *dams* on 42,469 *bighas*, and furnished 100 cavalry and 2,000 infantry. Tappal was also a Chauhan *mahal*; it had 163,046 *bighas* under tillage paying 18,02,571 *dams*, and supplied 100 horse and 3,000 foot. Akbarabad, the modern Akrahad was a Pundir pargana and furnished 500 horse and 5000 foot, the cultivated area being 1,18,389 *bighas* and the revenue 3,003,409 *dams*. Sikandra Rao, at the headquarters of which was a brick fort, was held by Afghans and Pundirs, who contributed 400 horse and 4,000 foot, while the revenue was 44,12,331 *dams* assessed on 83,480 *bighas*.

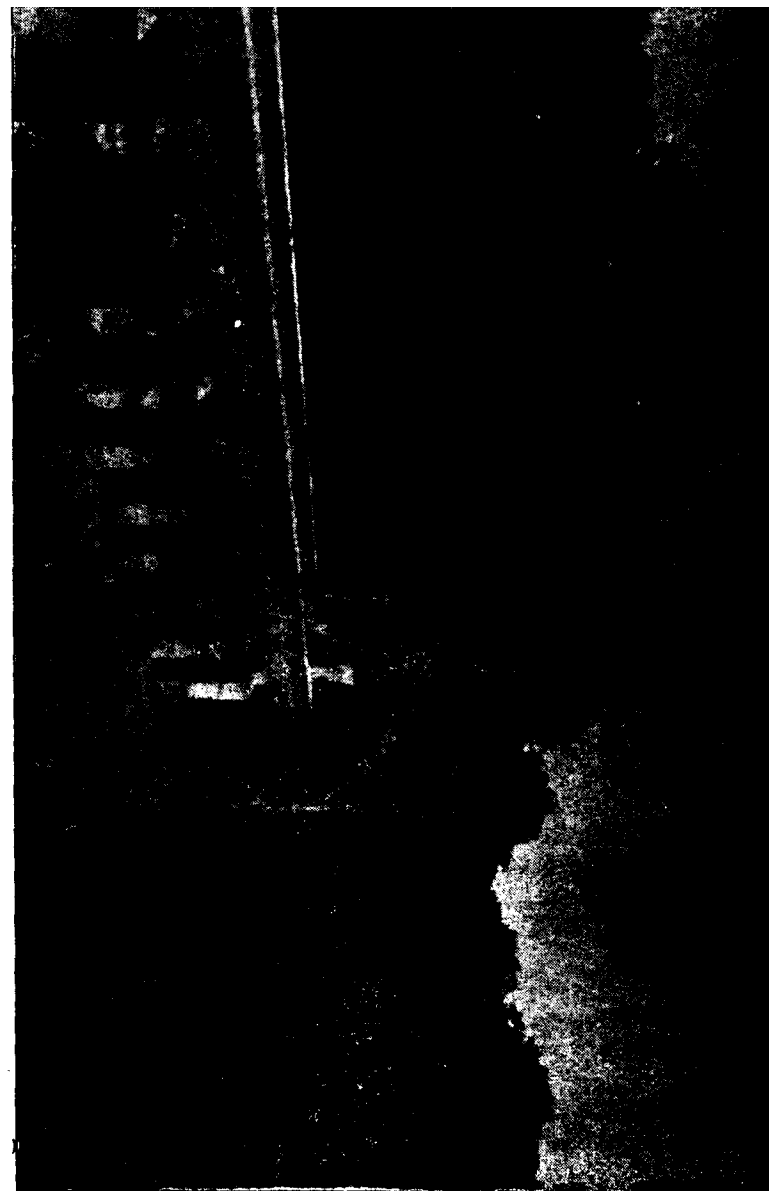
Under the strong and stable rule of Akbar's immediate successors the history of the district remained uneventful. Koil was too near Agra, the capital of the empire, to possess any political or strategical importance and the rich parganas of the doab were usually given in jagir to favoured nobles attached to the court. In the reign of Aurangzeb the Jats of Tappal and Jawar first rose to power and prominence. They increased their possessions in the troublous days which followed the death of Aurangzeb.

MODERN PERIOD

For a time the Mughal authority was securely upheld at Koil by Sabit Khan, a Turkoman governor, during the reigns of Farrukhsiyar and Muhammad Shah. In 1717, he built the *dargah* of the saint Ilah Bakhsh and in 1723 he completed the great mosque in the centre of the town. He repaired the old Lodi fort and called it, after his own name Sabitgarh. Soon after his death the district fell into a state of confusion like the rest of the Mughal empire. The Marathas commenced their incursions and the Jats soon followed. The latter were originally invited by Safdar Jang, the nawab vazir of Avadh, to assist him in his campaign against the Bangash Pathans of Farrukhabad and the Jats, having once obtained a footing in the Doab, showed no inclination to resign the advantages they had gained. By degrees they got possession of the entire tract and about 1754 Surajmal took the fort of Sabitgarh from the Mughals and made it his capital for a time, changing the name of the fort to Ramgarh. This extension of his territories exalted his dignity considerably and contributed to augment the strength of his forces to nearly one hundred thousand horse and foot. His subjects were in enjoyment of all the blessings of a good government.¹

¹ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J. : *The History of India as told by its own Historian*, Vol. VIII, (Allahabad, 1964), p. 362

Fort of Ramgarh, Aligarh



In the year 1756-57, when Ahmad Shah Abdali marched on Hindustan, most of the inhabitants of Delhi both high and low, took shelter in the territories of Surajmal, who not only extended his protection to them but treated them with respect due to their respective ranks. In 1759-60 Surajmal took possession of the fort of Akbarabad from the emperor of Delhi. The declining state of the Mughal empire afforded him the means of making further encroachments on the royal territories.¹

After departure of the Afghans, Surajmal established his authority over the territory of Koil once again. Thus emboldened he also felt an ardent desire for the possession of Delhi and with this object he marched early in the year 1764 with a considerable force against that place. He was opposed by Najib-ud-daula between Tappal and Jawar on the banks of the Yamuna. Though the forces commanded by Surajmal were far superior to those of Najib-ud-daula, yet the sudden death of the former at the hands of a party of plunderers near Delhi changed the result of the conflict, which was never entered into completely. This event brought about in the twinkling of an eye, the discomfiture and dispersion of the immense force of Surajmal without a fight.²

But in 1765 Jawahir Singh, the son and successor of Surajmal, again entered the Doab, though only for a short time, and in 1769 he died. His successors lost much of the conquered territory, mainly at the hands of the Marathas under Holkar, who in 1769 overran the country from Agra to Jalesar and Koil. The invaders were eventually bought off, but dissensions arose among the Jats, since Nawal Singh, the regent and a son of Surajmal, had usurped the place of Ranjit Singh, an infant and the rightful heir.³

In 1773, Najaf Khan, the imperial Mir Bakshi, collected a large army and drove out the Jats from Koil, Jalesar, Agra, Mathura and other places.⁴ He assumed control of the government of the Doab. He repaired the fort of Ramgarh and changed its name to Aligarh. He died in 1782 without any issue, and there was at once a contest for his office. His successor as Amir-ul-Umra was Afrasyab Khan, who obtained as his share Aligarh and the Doab, but he met powerful rivals in Shafi Khan, who commanded in the Punjab, and in Muhammad Beg Hamadani, the governor of Agra. The latter set himself to plunder all the country between Agra and Koil, but a compromise was subsequently effected and the two noblemen for a time held jointly the Doab and the tracts to the south-west of the Yamuna.⁵

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Ibid.*, p. 363 ; Srivastava, A. L. : *Avadh Ke Pratham Do Nawab* (Agra, 1957), pp. 134, 162, 165, 166, 170, 183, 217, 238, 240

³ Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J., *op. cit.*, Vol. VIII, pp. 364, 366

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 227-228

⁵ Nevill, H.R. ; *Aligarh, A Gazetteer* (Allahabad, 1909), p. 171

In 1784, Afrasyab Khan was assassinated with the connivance of Mahadaji Sindhia, who became Amir-ul-Umra. All the accumulations of Afrasyab were at this time in Aligarh, which was held by his brother Jahangir Khan. He had a strong garrison and the siege by Mahadaji was expected to be long and bloody. Early in the month of July of the same year, Mahadaji Sindhia appeared before the place. Contrary, however, to all expectations, it held out but for a short time. It has been imagined that the fears of the women for the preservation of their honour and effects had inclined the commandant of the fort to pacific measures.¹ A treaty securing very favourable terms for the besieged was drawn up and ratified; but once the gates were opened Mahadaji Sindhia paid it scant respect, for while Khadim Husain, the eldest son of the deceased nawab, was received with great attention and directed to remain in the royal camp, Jahangir Khan and the Begams were sent under a strong guard to Gwalior and there detained in confinement; the fort was seized and with it all the treasures of Afrasyab Khan to the value, it is said, of a crore of rupees.

Thus the Marathas gained possession of Aligarh and almost the whole of the upper Doab, the territory remaining under their control, save for a brief period, up to the British conquest.² In 1788, when Mahadaji Sindhia was engaged in war with the Rajputs of Jaipur, a dash southwards was made by the Rohillas under Ghulam Qadir Khan, who stormed the fort of Aligarh, obtaining therefrom a large amount of booty and then retired northwards. He left behind him a small garrison, which was, however, ejected in the same year by Mahadaji Sindhia, who made over the place to his French commandant, De Boigne. The latter formed a great cantonment at Aligarh, which became the headquarters of a large division of troops trained and armed in the European fashion, the cost of their maintenance being met from the revenues of a territory which embraced almost the whole of the Meerut Division.³

In February, 1794 Mahadaji Sindhia died issueless and was succeeded by a thirteen year old nephew, Daulat Rao. Two years later, De Boigne was succeeded by another Frenchman named Perron. As commander-in-chief of Daulat Rao Sindhia's troops in northern India, he resided for seven years (1796—1803) in Aligarh.⁴ Perron at once arranged a systematic plan to aggrandize his authority and increase his riches. From Lahore to Kota and from Aligarh to Jodhpur the country obeyed his authority and dreaded his frown.

After the death of the shrewd old statesman, Nana Farnavis, the forces of disruption, which he had so long controlled, broke out in the Maratha

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 172

² Dodwell, H. H. : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, *British India* (New Delhi), p. 364

³ Roberts, P. E. : *India Under Wellesley* (Gorakhpur, 1961), p. 222

⁴ *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. XX, December, 1943, (Simla, 1944), pp. 34-35

confederacy.¹ At this time (1802) the Peshwa, Baji Rao demanded assistance from Daulat Rao Sindhia against Jeswant Rao Holkar. Daulat Rao Sindhia ordered Perron to send him some of his brigades but Perron hesitated, and so long, that when he did despatch them it was too late and the Peshwa, Baji Rao had meanwhile joined the British. The Peshwa, from Bassein, applied for help to Lord Wellesley (governor-general) and the treaty of Bassein was signed on December 31, 1802.²

The result of this step was the triple alliance between Holkar, Sindhia and the raja of Berar against the British, the Nizam and the Peshwa. Perron drew up the plan of the campaign and advised Daulat Rao Sindhia to attack the Nizam's country whilst he held the northern Doab and Jeswant Rao Holkar attacked Surat.³

Perron's reason for retaining his trained battalions in the north was that there he would inevitably have to face the British, whose frontiers had advanced to within 24 km. of Koil. This was a direct result of the treaty of the 10th November 1801, whereby the nawab vizir of Avadh made over to the East India Company a large tract of country, including the middle Doab. The ceded territory in this district comprised the parganas of Sikandra Rao, Akbarabad, Jalali and Gangri, but the transfer was more nominal than real, for the landlords had been practically independent and were most unwilling to admit the authority of the new British rulers. The immediate cause of rebellion was the introduction of the British system of customs and transit dues, which deprived the local chieftains of an important source of revenue. Much trouble was involved in the reduction of the recalcitrant chieftains and their strongholds, especially in the case of Sansi and Bijaigarh, both of which were then included in pargana Jalali. Lord Lake had to proceed in person against them in 1803 and the capture of the forts was achieved only after considerable loss.⁴

Perron's plan of campaign was formally adopted by the Maratha chieftains, though each appears to have determined on modifications to suit his own convenience. War was declared against the British in 1803. On the 29th August the British force under Lord Lake advanced towards the frontier and were met by Perron with 8,000 horse. The cavalry dispersed at the first round of grapes fired from the British horse artillery. Perron himself fled to Hathras, and thence to Mathura. He wrote to Lake from Mathura and proposed to surrender himself on assurance of protection of his person and property. The offer was readily accepted and Perron joined the British force at Sasni. It was perhaps to save his ill-gotten gains that Perron had

¹ Roberts, P. E., *op. cit.*, p. 189

² *Ibid.*

³ Nevill, H. R. *op. cit.*, p. 174

⁴ *Ibid.*

made a shameful retreat without striking a blow in the teeth of protests from his own men.¹

Lord Lake had in the meantime entered Koil and proceeded to the attack of Aligarh, then held by Colonel Pedron with some 2,000 trained men and many irregulars.² The fort was considered at the time an impregnable stronghold, for it had been reconstructed by the French engineers into a fort of the most modern type. Standing on an elevated plain, it was protected by a ditch of great breadth, some 32 feet deep, with at least 10 feet of water. From the accounts of the siege it appears that there was then but a single entrance, approached by a traverse across the ditch, with heavily armed bastions on either side. The roadway within was narrow and guarded by four gates, while throughout the passage was capable of being swept by artillery and musketry fire from behind covered defences.³

Lake's force consisted of about 200 European artillery, three regiments of European and five of the Indian cavalry, one battalion of European and eleven of Indian infantry. About 3' O'clock on the morning of 4th of September the British attacking party left the camp, marching in a circular direction towards the gateway, which was the only entrance into the fort across the ditch. On their arrival within four hundred yards of it they halted till daybreak. While thus waiting in breathless expectation, an officer who had been reconnoitring reported his having seen about sixty or seventy of the enemy seated round a fire and smoking under a tree in front of the gateway. On receiving this intelligence, a small party from British Regiment was sent with a view of taking these men by surprise and securing the gate of the fort in confusion which might naturally be expected to ensue. As it turned out, however, every man of the enemy was bayoneted and the assailants withdrew quietly,⁴ because the affair alarmed the garrison and fire was opened towards the troops, but it soon died down. On the firing of the morning gun, which was the appointed signal for the assault, the storming party, covered by a heavy fire from the two batteries, moved on till they came within one hundred yards of the gate. Colonel Monson with two British companies dashed forward and attempted to enter the fort. This attempt failed, as the enemy had been too quick for the assailants and Monson found himself confronted by a closed gate, his column being exposed to a most severe raking fire from the bastions on either side. Two scaling ladders were instantly applied to the walls and Major McLeod with his troops attempted to mount, but was compelled to withdraw by the throng of pikemen on the parapets. A 6 pounder was then planted in front of the gate, but proved ineffective and then a 12 pounder was brought up, though some time elapsed before it could be properly placed, owing to the peculiar situation of the gate, close to the flank of the bastion. Several rounds were

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 175; Roberts, P. E., *op. cit.*, p. 224

² Dodwell, H. H., *op. cit.*, p. 374

³ Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 176

⁴ *Ibid.*

fired before any impression was produced and for full twenty minutes the storming party was exposed to a very heavy fire from guns and muskets, while numbers of the enemy descended the scaling ladders and attacked the troops on foot.¹ It was at this crisis that most of the British casualties took place. Colonel Monson was wounded with a pike, and a number of officers were killed. At length the gate gave way, and the whole party rushed along the narrow entrance, under a heavy fire from the bastion and a small round tower which commanded the passage. All the time a heavy cross-fire was maintained and fresh losses the invading force suffered. It was only after a most intrepid attack and an equally vigorous resistance that the fort, considered impregnable, was carried by the British assault.² M. Pedron, the commandant of the fort, was taken prisoner. Within the fort were found 281 guns of various descriptions, large quantities of muskets, ammunition, stores and clothings.³

The capture of Aligarh was followed by that of Delhi and the whole of the Maratha possessions in the Doab thus passed into the hands of the British. The organization of the conquered territory into the British districts was undertaken at once. The district, however, was not easily pacified. The British authorities had a difficult task before them in evolving order out of chaos and making the local *taluqdars* (landlords) realize the strength of the new administration. The latter, stoutly opposed the inquiry into their rights and abolition of the transit dues.⁴ Holkar declared war against the British in 1804. His numerous emissaries in the Doab stirred up the discontented revenue farmers who had made fortunes under the Maratha rule to rise in rebellion. Among the first to join the Marathas were Nahar Ali Khan and his nephew, Dunde Khan, the Lalkhanis of Pitampur in Bulandshahr district, who held the whole of the northern and north-eastern parganas. Holkar's *amils* took possession of the country to the west and north-west, while Abhai Singh occupied Chandaus, and in Koil itself an insurrection broke out in September, which lasted for nine days. In December the British expelled the Marathas from Nohjhil and Khair, and by middle of 1805 recovered Atrauli, Dibri and Chandaus. In July of the same year Nahar Ali Khan's fort of Turkipura was taken, but Dunde Khan was pardoned on condition of his disarming certain forts, his property being settled with his son, Ranmast Khan. He, however, soon began to show signs of contumacy and refused to honour the terms of agreement according to which the estate of his father had been settled with him. He was therefore expelled in 1806, but he soon returned with his father and the two took possession of their ancestral forts and prepared for defence. The fort at Kamauna was invested by the British and though the troops suffered severe losses in an attempt to storm it, yet on 13th of December, 1807 Dunde Khan fled to Rajputana, where he remained for the rest of his days, in spite of the large reward offered for

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Ibid.*, p. 177

³ *Ibid.*, p. 178

⁴ *Ibid.*

his apprehension. His ancestral estate of half Pitampur was given to Mardan Ali Khan, who had consistently supported the new government in the operations conducted against his kinsman.

In the meantime the whole of the district had been much disturbed by the inroad of the celebrated Pindari leader, Amir Khan, who had been despatched northwards by Holkar. In February, 1805, he crossed the Yamuna at Mahaban and marched northwards to Dund Khan's fort of Kamauna. The latter place was then being besieged by British army. It, however, appears to have retired on the approach of Amir Khan, who had stayed but one day and then passed on towards Meerut. The Pindaris again passed through the district a fortnight later, and on the bank of the Yamuna defeated the troops of Daya Ram of Hathras, which had been sent to stop their progress.¹

After departure of Dund Khan the peace of the district was not disturbed for several years until the rebellion of Daya Ram of Hathras rendered military operations on a somewhat extensive scale necessary. The fort of Daya Ram of Hathras could be reduced only after a particularly severe cannonade on March 2, 1817 in which a large magazine was blown-up and part of the fort destroyed. In the darkness of the night Daya Ram escaped and such of his garrison who could not follow him surrendered. The Raja of Mursan dismantled his fortifications and no resistance was encountered. From 1817 until the great revolt of 1857 there is little worth recording beyond what has been given in the fiscal history of the district.²

The history of Aligarh during the great revolt of 1857 is full of incidents, but is somewhat disconnected owing to the fact that the main highway of the Doab runs through the district, which in consequence witnessed the continual passage and repassage of freedom fighters, in most instances with a pursuing British army at their heels. On the eve of the outbreak Aligarh was in the charge of Watson (the collector) and the military garrison comprised 300 men of the 9th Indian Infantry under Major Eld. News of the mutiny at Meerut arrived at Aligarh on the 12th of May 1857³ and caused much uncertainty and alarm, but nothing definite occurred beyond the burning of an empty bungalow.

On 20th of May a Brahmana named Narayana, belonging to a neighbouring village of Aligarh, was found tampering with the loyalty of the sepoys and was sentenced to death the same evening.⁴ The sentence was carried out before the whole regiment of the 9th Indian Infantry stationed

¹ *Ibid.*, Dodwell, H. H., *op. cit.*, pp. 376, 380, 381, 383, 573

² Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 181

³ Sen, S. N. : *Eighteen Fifty-seven*, (Calcutta, 1957), p. 322

⁴ Chaudhuri, S. B. : *Civil Rebellion in the Indian Mutinies 1857—1859*, (Calcutta, 1957), p. 79

at Aligarh.¹ The troops remained impassive till one of them stepped forward and exclaimed: "Behold a martyr to our religion." The effect was instantaneous. The 9th Indian Infantry broke out into open revolt, dismissed their officers and compelled them and the civil residents to quit Aligarh. They then plundered the treasury, opened the jail and marched off in a body to Delhi. The Europeans escaped with their lives under escort of a small detachment, which had just arrived at Aligarh, as far as Hathras.

On the following day news of the Aligarh mutiny had reached Agra² and Captain Alexander was at once despatched with the 1st Gwalior cavalry to secure the main road to the north. Alexander sent ahead Lieutenant Cockburn to rescue the fugitives at Hathras and this task was successfully effected. But on the 24th of May hundreds of his men rose in revolt and rode off to stir up the villagers in the neighbourhood.

Meanwhile a party under Lieutenant Greathed reached Hathras on the 29th of May, effecting the rescue of few other Europeans who had been shut up in the Maloi indigo factory. The same day they occupied Aligarh and took possession of the district headquarters, Watson assuming charge of the district. On the 1st of June the collector rode by night to Khair, where Rao Bhopal Singh and his Chauhans had deposed the tahsildar and proclaimed a Rajput government.³ He rode boldly through the town with a few followers, entered the tahsil and surprised Rao Bhopal Singh. The leader was promptly hanged on the spot and the party returned to Aligarh. About the middle of June the Chauhans, joined by the Jats of Tappal, re-occupied Khair and plundered and destroyed nearly all the government buildings.⁴

On the 21st of June most of the British troops were recalled to Agra and Watson was left with few men. This little force was wholly insufficient to defend the turbulent city of Aligarh. At this very time the freedom fighters from Avadh and elsewhere were constantly passing through Grand Trunk Road and were too strong to be met in open fight. Watson therefore retired to the deserted factory at Madrak, where he was in touch of Captain Burlton at Sasni and Captain Alexander at Hathras. From Madrak he continued to make expeditions against the rebellious villages, but towards the end of June he received information of the intended mutiny of the Gwalior troops. A more immediate cause for the alarm was the news on the 30th June that Muslims of Koil had raised the green flag and had sworn to bring back the heads of the Europeans and affix them to gates of the city

¹ Misra, A. S. : *Nana Saheb Peshwa and The Fight for Freedom*, (Lucknow, 1961), p. 399

² Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Freedom Struggle in Uttar Pradesh*, Vol. V, (Allahabad, 1960), p. 37

³ *Ibid.*, p. 658

⁴ Chaudhuri, S. B. *op. cit.*, p. 79

On the 1st of July the Gwalior cavalry, had mutinied at Hathras.¹ The men of the Gwalior cavalry showed no ill feeling towards their officers, but simply told them to go and Alexander with a few others had no choice but to ride off to Agra.² The next day the same thing happened with Captain Burlton's detachment at Sasni. The revolt of the last remaining troops convinced Watson that further delay was idle. He and his party proceeded to Iglas. From Iglas he marched to Agra but on the way he lost two men of his small force. Watson himself died of cholera soon after reaching Agra.

A new government was established with a panchayat headed by Muhammad Ghaus Khan of Sikandara Rao, who proclaimed himself subedar of the emperor of Delhi, collected revenue and exercised the prerogatives of royalty. Others who occupied important positions in the new set-up were Nasimullah Khan who was placed in charge of the city, Mahbub Khan, the tahsildar and Hasan Khan, the kotwal.³ There was indeed much rivalry between the leaders and some tension between the communities, which weakened the revolutionary command. Meanwhile the old Jat and Rajput feuds broke out; and, indeed, the people indulged in far more excesses towards one another than towards the Europeans.⁴

On the other hand there were also some landlords who throughout the disturbances displayed their loyalty to the British. Gobind Singh, the son of the famous Daya Ram of Hathras, and his followers were employed constantly on police escort and intelligence duties. He joined Major Montgomery, who arrived at Hathras on the 24th of August. Montgomery reached Aligarh on the 24th of August in morning of that day, found Muhammad Ghaus Khan and his troops near the town in an enclosure known as Man Singh garden. The opposing force comprised a large body of *ghazis* and a detachment of the 3rd cavalry. The *ghazis* of Aligarh played a great part in the rebellion by exciting the people to fury and urging them to fight to death in that war against the "infidels". It was a most desperate hand-to-hand fight. Nearly sixty *ghazis*, mad with rage, rushed sword in hand but all were killed. Among them was Abdul Jalil, the maulavi of Aligarh. The fighters for freedom were driven out of Aligarh,⁵ but the city was not fully occupied till the 28th of August. Cocks, who accompanied the British force, assumed the charge of the district, but on the retirement of the troops to Hathras, on the 4th of September, the city was made over to Gobind Singh. This arrangement answered very well for a time, but

¹ Majumdar, R. C. : *The Sepoy Mutiny and Revolt of 1857*, (Calcutta, 1957), p. 55

² Rizvi, S. A. A., *op. cit.*, p. 660

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 667, 668, 669

⁴ Chaudhuri, S. B., *op. cit.*, p. 79

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 80

trouble again ensued after the capture of Delhi, which let loose a flood of Indian troops in the Doab. On the 25th of September Gobind Singh was surprised and driven out of Koil by Nasimullah, while on the same day the tahsildar of Atrauli was murdered.

Koil, however was speedily reoccupied by the British on the 5th of October. Colonel Greathed entered Koil without much opposition and the freedom fighters fled down the Grand Trunk Road. Various other bodies of fighters for freedom afterwards passed through on several occasions, but the district remained substantially in British possession.¹ In the beginning of December news came of the advance of the Fatehgarh fighting sepoys, who had reached Kasganj. Their progress was so slow that Colonel Seaton, who was taking a large convoy from Delhi down the Grand Trunk Road, was enabled to reach Aligarh by the 11th of December. Leaving his convoy under the fort walls and taking with him a hundred men, he marched his troops to Gangiri, where Colonel Farquhar, who had come from Bulandshahr by way of Atrauli and Chharra, was watching the rebels with a small force. The Indian troops in fact received a greater surprise since they imagined they had only to deal with Farquhar's troops. They fled and the British occupied the town of Kasganj. The exploits of Seaton cleared the pressure of the freedom fighters on Aligarh and the month of March 1858 saw gradual restoration of order and the British rule.²

Then commenced an era of most violent repressions and reprisals. The landholders who had taken part in the disturbances were guilty in most cases of isolated acts of plunder rather than of overt rebellion against the government; but the punishment were heavy in as much as 8,867 hectares of land were confiscated. Of this 2,351 hectares were in the Khair tahsil, 2,252 in Sikandra Rao, 2,011 in Aligarh and 1,477 in Iglas, while only 506 hectares were in Atrauli and 451 in Hathras.³ The rewards given by the government fell under two heads, the first being those for aid afforded to Englishmen and second for good work done in connection with administration and the maintenance of order.

Thereafter for another 50 years the district remained peaceful and made economic progress. The chief events, apart from the settlements of the land revenue, had been the development of communications and the expansion of trade and commerce. New roads and railway lines were constructed. The introduction of English education brought to the people of the district new social and political ideas of the west along with the knowledge of western science. In course of time a sizeable newly educated middle class had appeared on the scene which could not only speak the English language but had a common stock of western liberal ideas too. Various

¹ Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 188

² *Ibid.*, p. 189

³ *Ibid.*, p. 190

other developments took place in this period like reorganisation of the administration and establishment of post-offices, hospitals, English schools and canal system.

Towards the close of the 19th century the activities of Arya Samaj were limited to the district headquarters and some other towns. Its doctrine of monotheism, uplift of untouchables, education of women and widow remarriage were responsible for a great social upsurge all over the district, as elsewhere in the country.

The 20th century saw the expansion of nationalism in the country. In the district, the youth became restless, discontent became rife and events moved rapidly. During the partition of Bengal (1905), the district did not lag behind in holding public meetings, organizing strikes and protests and creating awareness among the people of the ruthlessness and oppressions of foreign rule. Simultaneously the movement for boycotting foreign goods also gained momentum. Even in the interior of the district the Swadeshi movement struck deep roots when mass oaths to boycott foreign articles and patronise Swadeshi goods were taken by the people.

However, in between the Swadeshi era and the advent of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian political scene there was no remarkable political happening in the district. The Rowlatt Act followed by the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in Punjab stirred up a fresh wave of nationalism in the country. Swaraj was now the guiding slogan of the people.

The beginning of 1920 saw the establishment of the Congress committee in the district and during the same year the Non-co-operation Movement started by Mahatma Gandhi also spread here. This was an attempt to widen Swadeshi movement from a mere boycott of British goods to a boycott of everything or institution that was British.¹ Local leaders addressed meetings at Koil, Khair, Harduaganj, Atrauli, Iglas, Rafatganj, Akrabad, Dadon, Koriaganj, Pilkhana and other big places. They explained the concepts of Swadeshi and Swaraj. A serious mob-outbreak at Aligarh caused considerable loss of property. On July 5, 1921 when a political worker, Malkhan Singh, was being tried by the magistrate, a crowd endeavoured to rush into the court room. They were driven out by the police with the help of batons and the armed guard also fired on them. A number of persons were wounded.² Mahatma Gandhi who visited Aligarh on August 5, 1921 was taken to the city in a procession. A campaign was launched in the district for using indigenous goods, especially *khadi* or home spun cloth. For the first time students, peasants and workers were drawn in large numbers into the fold of the movement and they boycotted the shops selling foreign cloth. People were exhorted to leave government services, boycott the courts and children were asked not to go to government schools. The district administration imposed ban on the sale of

¹ Majumdar, R. C. : *The History and Culture of the Indian People, Struggle for Freedom*, Vol. XI, (Bombay, 1969), p. 339

² Majumdar, R. C. : *History of Freedom Movement in India*, Vol. III, (Calcutta, 1961), p. 179

khaddar, but foreign cloth worth thousand or rupees was almost daily reduced to ashes at public places. Towards the close of 1921 the movement gathered momentum particularly on the eve of the visit of the Prince of Wales to India. There was little activity in the district in connection with the Khilafat Movement except that the Turkish victories continued to occasion rejoicing among the people. The Chauri Chaura incident in Gorakhpur district on February 4, 1922 caused Mahatma Gandhi to call off the Non-co-operation movement in the whole country.

For next few years the district remained quiet. On January 29, 1926 Lala Lajpat Rai visited Aligarh and was given a reception at the railway station. He presided over the Achut Udhar conference in the local Arya Samaj temple. On the following day Lala Lajpat Rai was presented with an address by the members of the municipal board in reply whereof he appealed for continued Hindu-Muslim unity. The United Provinces political conference at Aligarh was opened on November 26, 1927 under the presidentship of Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant. The ceremony of unfurling the tri-colour, Congress flag was performed by Kailash Nath Katju. Katju explained the importance of the flag under which all parts of India should unite. He then opened the *khadi* exhibition and spoke of Mahatma Gandhi's love of khaddar and of the economic significance of *khadi* to the country. Among those present were Sheo Prasad Gupta, Sampurnanand, Sitla Sahai, Kishan Chandra Sharma, T. A. K. Sherwani, Krishna Dutt Paliwal, Mukundi Lal, A. T. Gidwani, Deo Narayan, Udaivia and many others. The conference was attended by about 2,000 persons.

In 1928, the slump in the political activity and decadence in public life were suddenly roused by the announcement of the appointment of Simon Commission. A complete hartal was observed and demonstrators in large numbers marched in processions waving black flags and carrying 'Go back, Simon' banners.

Mahatma Gandhi made a hurricane tour of the whole of northern India in order to gather support for the newly launched Civil Disobedience Movement. Between November 3 and November 9, 1929 he visited Chandausi, Gabhana, Khair, Harduaganj, Aligarh, Hathras, Sikandra Rao and addressed several public meetings and exhorted the people to boycott the foreign goods, abstain from intoxicants, remove untouchability, patronize the khaddar industry and join the Congress organization in large numbers.

In 1930, Civil Disobedience Movement was started in Aligarh, as in other parts of the country. The first phase of the movement was the violation of the Salt Act. The salt making was started at Koil, Khair and several other places in the district before large gatherings. On the news of Gandhiji's arrest hartal was observed in Aligarh and other towns in the district. Congress flag was taken out in processions to the accompaniment of patriotic songs. Boycott of foreign cloth and picketing of liquor shops continued daily at Aligarh, Harduaganj, Hathras, Atrauli and Khair. Even temples were being picketed to prevent worshippers wearing foreign clothes from obtaining entrance. Several spinning competitions were held in the interiors of the district. Though there was a slight let up in the activities

due to Gandhi-Irwin Pact, yet the no-rent campaign took fresh impetus when pamphlets urging cultivators not to purchase attached property were circulated in several parts of the district. The local peasants refused to pay land revenue and several arrests were made. The Civil Disobedience Movement continued unabated till May 1934, when Mahatma Gandhi withdrew it. During this movement more than 600 persons from the district were sent to jail or fined.

On July 18, 1934 Mahatma Gandhi passed through the district by train. The crowd at the Aligarh station numbered about 12,000. A purse of Rs 1,000 was presented to him. The crowd at Hathras railway station was estimated at 2,000 persons.

The people of the district participated in the elections for the provincial legislative assembly in 1937. In the course of the election campaign Sarojini Naidu addressed a meeting on January 21, 1937 at Aligarh. She spoke on the subject of freedom and asked Congressmen to establish mass contact. In the same year Jawaharlal Nehru and Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant paid visits to the district on their return from Delhi. The Congress candidates were returned with overwhelming support and the Congress won an absolute majority in the provincial assembly.

During the Second World War (1939—45) the local landlords were called upon to help the government in recruiting programme and other war efforts. Jawaharlal Nehru toured the western districts during the first and second week of January, 1940. He was greeted by large audience of 15,000 persons at Aligarh. Jawaharlal Nehru explained the Congress attitude towards war and paid particular attention to the need for the enrolment of the Congress volunteers. On 24th of the same month Subhas Chandra Bose also addressed a meeting at Aligarh. He ascribed India's poverty to the British rule and made an impassioned appeal advocating immediate mass struggle for country's independence.

The Aligarh political conference was held on April 30 and May 1, 1940 under the presidentship of Acharya Narendra Deo. Prominent speakers in addition to the president were Kailash Nath Katju, Krishna Datt Paliwal and Malkhan Singh. They explained that despite the opposition of the Congress the British were using Indian men and money to prosecute the war, and the exploitation could never end until British imperialism had been destroyed. Resolution was passed, condemning the war as imperialistic. In 1941, movement for Individual Satyagraha was launched, particularly against the war fund, and a number of people courted arrest.

On August 8, 1942, the Congress passed a resolution calling upon the British to relinquish power and quit India. With the launching of the Quit India Movement nearly all the local leaders had been arrested but their place was continuously filled up by the other people. The movement took a violent turn and resulted in large-scale uprooting of railway lines and pulling down of telephone wires. Schools and colleges were closed for

indefinite period and anti-government literature was put into circulation. The people from the rural areas also joined the movement.

The Congress leaders were released in 1946 and in the general elections for the provincial legislature the Congress again gained majority. With the end of World War, and particularly after the victory of Labour Party in the elections in Britain, the independence of India became an immediate issue. The fight for freedom was henceforth waged not in the battlefield, but round the council tables.

On August 15, 1947 the country was liberated from alien rule. This August day has since been declared one of the three national days of the country. The district celebrates Independence Day every year in a befitting manner and there is rejoicing in every home. The national flag is hoisted on all government and private buildings, shops, etc.

On hearing the news of the assassination of Gandhiji (on January 30, 1948) the whole district went into mourning. Markets, schools, offices and all government and other institutions, etc., were closed and several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the "father of the nation". October 2—the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti.

With the enactment and adoption of the constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a sovereign democratic republic. The day was celebrated in the district by taking out processions, holding meetings and illuminating houses, shops and government and other buildings. The day is celebrated as Republic Day every year with enthusiasm.

On the occasion of the celebration of the silver jubilee year of Independence (1973), 439 persons of the district, who had taken part in the freedom struggle, or their dependents, were favoured with the award of inscribed *tamra patras* (copper plates) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears in the cause of the liberation of the country from foreign rule.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

POPULATION

Total Population

According to the census of 1971, the total population of the district was 21,11,829 of which 9,60,366 were females. The table below furnishes the tahsilwise figures of population :

Tahsil	Persons	Population Males	Females
Khair	3,25,074	1,76,293	1,48,781
Koil	5,69,297	3,10,083	2,59,214
Iglas	1,91,978	1,05,335	86,643
Hathras	3,70,423	2,03,990	1,66,433
Atrauli	3,53,298	1,91,681	1,61,617
Sikandra Rao	3,01,759	1,64,081	1,37,678
Total	21,11,829	11,51,463	9,60,366

According to the Central Statistical Organisation, the area of the district on July 1, 1971 was 5,024 square kilometres. It occupied 27th position in point of area and 12th position in respect of population among the districts of the State. Distribution of rural and urban population is given in Table I at the end of the chapter.

In 1971, the density of population in the district was 420 persons per sq. km. which was higher than the State average of 300 persons per sq. km. Among tahsils the most densely populated was Koil with 620 persons per sq. km. followed by Hathras with 490, Atrauli with 396. Iglas with 348, Sikandra Rao with 346 and Khair with 312 persons per square kilometres. In the rural and urban areas of the district the density of population per sq. km. was 349 and 8,154 persons respectively.

The number of females per 1,000 males was 891 in 1901, 852 in 1911, 845 in 1921, 842 in 1931, 843 in 1941, 857 in 1951, 861 in 1961 and 834 in 1971. It would thus appear that the sex ratio was lowest (834) during the

decade 1961—1971 and the highest (891) during 1891—1901. The sex ratio of the district in 1971 was lower (834) than the State average of 879, the rural sex ratio being 834 and the urban 833.

Growth of Population

The first enumeration of the population of the district done in 1847 was based merely on the estimates provided by the police and revenue officers. It gave a total of 7,39,356 persons in the district. At that time the district had an average density of 379 persons per square mile. There were 1,895 inhabited villages, of which 1,782 had less than a thousand persons. The towns with population exceeding five thousand were Koil, Hathras, Atrauli, Ahmadnagar, Sikandra Rao, Sasni and Harduaganj.

The next census, taken in 1852 and reported in the following year, was of a more reliable nature. According to it the district had 10,26,690 inhabitants of whom 4,80,786 were females. The average density was 527 persons per square mile. The number of towns had increased by the inclusion of Jalali. Mursan, Tappal, Khair and Shahgarh which had more than five thousand inhabitants. Ahmadnagar had dropped out.

The next enumeration made in 1865 disclosed a decrease in the population of the district to 9,26,754 of whom 4,26,008 were females. The average density for the district too fell down to 476 persons per square mile. Out of 1,799 inhabited towns and villages 1,625 had less than a thousand persons while no more than eight had a population of over five thousand persons, these being Koil, Hathras, Atrauli, Sikandra Rao, Harduaganj, Jalali, Tappal and Mursan.

In the next census of 1872, the population of the district stood at 10,73,256 persons of whom 4,95,928 were females, the average density being 551 persons per square mile. There were altogether 1,750 inhabited towns and villages, 1,526 of which had a population of less than a thousand persons. The number of towns with more than 5,000 persons was the same as at the previous census save for the addition of Bijaigarh or Gambhira.

Famine and sickness appear to have contributed chiefly towards the decline in the population at the next census taken in 1881, when the population of the district was found to have dropped to 10,21,187 of whom 4,69,908 were females. The average density figures too fell to 524.7 persons per square mile. The number of inhabited towns and villages was 1,743 and of these 1,543 contained less than one thousand persons, and only six towns had over five thousand inhabitants, these being Koil, Hathras, Atrauli, Sikandra Rao, Jalali and Tappal.

At the census of 1891, the population had risen to 10,43,172 persons of whom 4,84,429 were females. The average density was 536 persons per square mile. The number of towns and villages had risen to 1,931, of which 1,718 contained under one thousand inhabitants while six and more than five thousand, the only change being the substitution of Harduaganj for Tappal.

The decennial growth of population in the district during the period 1901—1971, as per census records, is given below:

Year	No. of persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation	Male	Female
1901	12,00,822	—	—	6,34,872	5,65,950
1911	11,65,680	- 35,142	- 2.93	6,29,524	5,36,156
1921	10,61,745	-1,03,935	- 8.92	5,75,379	4,86,366
1931	11,71,745	+1,10,000	+10.36	6,36,037	5,35,708
1941	13,72,641	+2,00,896	+17.15	7,44,867	6,27,774
1951	15,43,506	+1,70,863	+12.45	8,31,133	7,12,373
1961	17,65,275	+2,21,769	+14.37	9,48,568	8,16,707
1971	21,11,829	+3,46,554	+19.63	11,51,463	9,60,366

Thus during the first two decades of the present century the population declined, probably largely due to epidemics, particularly, the outbreak of influenza, and partially due to migration of people. Since 1931 there has been a continuous increase in population, while the lowest increase of 10.36 per cent was registered in the decade 1921—31, the highest 19.63 per cent was found in the decade 1961—71, when the State average stood at 19.78 per cent.

Immigration and emigration

According to the census of 1961, about 87.7 per cent of the people had been born in the district, 11.2 per cent in other districts of the State, 0.6 per cent in other parts of the country, while 0.2 per cent had come from other countries. Among those from other countries 2,827 had come from Pakistan, 138 from Nepal, 81 from Afghanistan, 22 from United Kingdom (including Ireland), and 8 from Burma. About 86.2 per cent immigrants were from rural and 13.8 per cent from urban areas. Among them 11.9 per cent were males and 88.2 per cent females. The large percentage of females is explained by marriage migration.

Of the immigrants from adjacent States 4,256 persons (males 1,413 females 2,843) were from the Punjab, 3,241 persons (males 734, females 2,507) from Rajasthan, 1,262 persons (males 363, females 899) from Delhi, 1,218 persons (males 203, females 1,015) from Madhya Pradesh, 211 persons (males 75, females 136) from Bihar, and 20 persons (males 9, females 11) from Himachal Pradesh. The number of immigrants from other districts of the State was 1,97,853 (males 21,739, females 1,76,114).

It would not be incorrect to presume that a number of persons migrated from the districts to other parts of the State or country or abroad

for purposes of education, employment, trade and business or on account of marriage but the figures of such emigrants are not available.

Rural/Urban Distribution of Population

At the census of 1971, the district comprised the six tahsils of Khair, Koil, Iglas, Hathras, Atrauli and Sikandra Rao and six towns: four of which namely Aligarh, Hathras, Atrauli and Sikandra Rao were being administered as municipalities and Sasni and Mursan as town areas. There were 1,717 inhabited, and 52 uninhabited villages in the district. An idea may be had regarding the tahsilwise distribution of villages and towns together with their population from the table given below :

Tahsil Rural/Urban	No. of villages		No. of towns	Population		
	Uninhabited	Inhabited		Persons	Males	Females
Khair Tahsil	5	278	—	3,25,074	1,76,293	1,48,781
Koil Tahsil	17	340	—	5,69,297	3,10,083	2,59,214
Koil Rural	17	340	—	3,16,983	1,72,334	1,44,649
Aligarh Municipal Board	—	—	1	2,52,314	1,37,749	1,14,565
Iglas Tahsil	—	189	—	1,91,978	1,05,335	86,643
Hathras Tahsil	13	365	—	3,70,423	2,03,990	1,66,433
Hathras Rural	13	365	—	2,83,939	1,56,586	1,27,353
Hathras Municipal Board	—	—	1	74,349	40,853	33,496
Sasni Town Area	—	—	1	6,873	3,667	3,206
Mursan Town Area	—	—	1	5,262	2,884	2,378
Atrauli Tahsil	11	298	—	3,53,298	1,91,681	1,61,617
Atrauli Rural	11	298	—	3,32,318	1,80,450	1,51,868
Atrauli Municipal Board	—	—	1	20,980	11,231	9,749
Sikandra Rao Tahsil	6	247	—	3,01,759	1,64,081	1,37,678
Sikandra Rao Rural	6	247	—	2,84,506	1,54,807	1,29,699
Sikandra Rao Municipal Board	—	—	1	17,253	9,278	7,975

Distribution of Rural Population

The pattern of rural population is revealed by the frequency distribution of villages on the basis of population. As per census of 1971, the distribution was as under:

Range of population	No. of villages	Percentage	Persons	Males	Females
Less than 200	97	5.6	10,622	5,826	4,796
200—499	433	25.2	1,56,514	85,418	71,096
500—999	607	35.4	4,40,022	2,40,081	1,99,941
1,000—1,999	398	23.2	5,50,091	3,00,200	2,49,891
2,000—4,999	165	9.6	4,67,310	2,53,706	2,13,604
5,000—9,999	15	0.9	87,848	48,471	39,377
10,000 and above	2	0.1	22,391	12,103	10,288
Total	1,717	100	17,34,798	9,45,805	7,88,993

Of the 1,717 inhabited villages, 530 or 30.8 per cent fall in the group with population below 500; 1,005 or 58.6 per cent in the 500 and 1,999 group; 182 or 10.6 per cent in the 2,000 and above group. There is more concentration of population in medium-sized villages, which predominate in the district.

The towns of the district exhibit semi-urban characteristics. In fact they present a spectacle of the old order in the midst of fast catching urbanisation. For want of sufficient number of industries and white-collar occupations, a large portion of the urban population is engaged in trade, business, crafts and allied occupations and to some extent in agriculture. The well-educated and able-bodied persons hasten to find better jobs and avenues of better life in the cities. The people in general, particularly in the urban areas, seem to be fast coming under the influence of modern materialistic life.

The total number of villages both inhabited and uninhabited increased from 1,762 in 1961 to 1,769 in 1971. The number of inhabited villages was 1,717 in 1971 and 52 villages were uninhabited. The number of small villages having a population of less than 500 persons is gradually decreasing. The number of such villages in 1951 and 1961 was 839 and 672 respectively and 530 in 1971.

Displaced Persons

As a result of the partition of the subcontinent in 1947, some Muslim families from the district migrated to Pakistan, while some Hindu families came over from Sindh and the Punjab. The total number of such migrants to the district according to 1961 census was 2,827. They have all settled down in different trades and avocations. The government gave various facilities to rehabilitate them by providing financial and other help which included technical and vocational training, special priority in recruitment to public services as well as loans to establish their own businesses and trades.

LANGUAGE

In 1971, about two dozen languages were spoken in the district. Hindi speaking people were the largest group with an average of 92.70 per cent representation. Urdu was spoken by about 7.03 per cent people while Punjabi, Bengali, Sindhi and other languages shared the rest. The detailed list of languages spoken in the district is given in Table II at the end of the chapter.

The district is situated to the north-east of Mathura district. The common tongue of the people is the Braj Bhasha, a dialect of western Hindi, but it has some prominent local peculiarities. This dialect which has emerged from the Shuraseni Prakrit through the Shauraseni Apabhramsha, has made a rich contribution to Hindi literature for centuries.

A few noticeable features of the language as spoken in the district are that there is a tendency of the letter 'r' to disappear when it precedes a consonant, which is double in compensation. Thus, 'naukannu su' for 'naukarannu su', meaning 'from the servants'. The letter 'w' when preceded by a long vowel often becomes 'm'. Thus 'manaman', for 'manawan' meaning 'to celebrate'; 'baman' meaning 'fifty-two'; 'romati', meaning, 'she (was) weeping'; 'ky' is sometimes softened to 'ch' as in 'cho' for 'kyo', meaning 'why'. 'J' before 'd' sometimes becomes 'd', as in 'bhed-dayau' for 'bhejdayau', meaning, 'he sent'. The dialect which is commonly spoken by the people, particularly of the rural areas of the district, and also by a majority of the people in the towns, is a form of western Hindi and is also spoken in the districts of Bareilly, Budaun, Bulandshahr, Etah, Mainpur, Mathura and Agra. The remaining languages such as Bengali, Punjabi, Marwari and Gujrati etc., are mostly the native tongues of immigrants. English is spoken throughout the district as a second language by the educated class.

Script

The Devanagiri script is used for Hindi and allied languages, Persia for Urdu, and Gurmukhi for Punjabi. In the Indian system of books keeping followed by Marwari businessmen, Muriya is still in vogue.

RELIGION AND CASTE

The following table shows the number of males and females professing different religions according to the census of 1971 :

Religions	Followers	Males	Females
Hinduism	18,40,224	10,03,405	8,36,819
Islam	2,61,542	1,42,774	1,18,768
Sikhism	3,830	2,114	1,716
Jainism	3,041	1,463	1,578
Christianity	2,286	1,111	1,175
Buddhism	906	596	310
Total	21,11,829	11,51,463	9,60,366

Principal Communities

Hindus—Hindus constitute 87.14 per cent of the population of the district. The pattern of classification among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere, is based on the traditional four-fold caste system, the four principal castes being the Brahmana, the Kshatriya, the Vaishya, and the Shudra, each being subdivided into a number of subcastes. There are some other groups which have acquired the status of independent castes, such as the Kayasths, the Khatris, etc., and they are again subdivided into subcastes.

The ancient basis of the four-fold classification of the Hindus, being mainly occupation-oriented, has in course of time yielded place to the birth-basis, i.e., a person acquires the caste into which he is born, though a close relationship of occupation and caste is still noticeable among certain groups or castes in the district.

The Vaishyas are, for example, largely engaged in trade, commerce, agriculture and money-lending. The Yadavas and the Kurmis, who are distributed all over the district, constitute the principal cultivating castes. The Koris, Chamars and Doms, now classed as Harijanas, are largely labourers, both agricultural and non-agricultural. Some of them also hold land mostly as tenants. Usually they are engaged in traditional crafts like leather tanning, shoe-making, etc. The Gadarias follow their traditional avocation of herding sheep and goats, though some have taken to cultivation with moderate success. The other occupational castes are goldsmiths or

Sunar, blacksmiths or Lohar, coppersmiths or Thathera, brass-smiths or Kaseria, carpenters or Barhai, fishermen or Dhiwar or Machhuwa, watermen or Kahar, barbers or Nai, potters or Kumhar, earth diggers and stone cutters or Khanah. Under the spread of education and impact of modern and fast economic life, the occupation basis of castes is fast losing ground.

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, also known as Harijans, and Other Backward Classes, comprised the lowest stratum of society. They are still socially, economically and educationally backward.

The tahsilwise distribution of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the district in 1971 is given below :

Tahsil	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Khair	74,081	39,596	34,485	76	43	33
Koil	1,16,019	62,674	53,345	187	125	62
Iglas	42,009	22,533	19,476	—	—	—
Hathras	88,165	48,509	39,656	128	67	61
Atrauli	63,897	33,983	29,914	29	10	19
Sikandra Rao	66,338	35,696	30,642	—	—	—
Total	4,50,509	2,42,991	2,07,518	420	245	175

Muslims—At the 1971 census about 1239 per cent of the people of the district were found professing the Islamic faith. They are numerically next to the Hindus and are evenly distributed. Their participation is manifest in almost all walks of life. The majority of the Muslims belong to the Sunni sect, though there are some Shias also. By and large the Muslims of the district are the descendants of the early Muslim immigrants—the Sheikhs, Saiyads, Pathans and Mughals (often called Ashraf) and of those converted to Islam. The Sheikhs outnumber others. Nearly half of them are concentrated in Aligarh town and the bulk of the remainder in Hathras and Atrauli tahsils. They belong mainly to the Siddiqui, Qureshi, Faruqi, Ansari, Usmani and Khurasani subdivisions.

The Pathans belong to many subdivisions, the chief being Ghoris, mostly confined to Atrauli tahsil and Aligarh town, followed by Yusufzais, principally in Aligarh town. Others are very few in number such as Lodis of Aligarh and Sikandra Rao, the Muhammadzais of Khair and Aligarh and the Afridis of Aligarh. The Pathans are principally landholders and cultivators.

Some of the important occupational castes among the Muslims are the Telis, found in all the tahsils, but especially in Sikandra Rao; Bhishtis, very evenly distributed all over the district; Qassabs or butchers; Mewatis;

and Lohars who are quite numerous in Sikandara Rao ; Gujars, Julahas, Bhanais, Ghosis or Musalman Ahirs, Faqirs of various denominations, Manihars, Dhobis, etc.

Sikhs—In 1971, there were 3,830 Sikhs (2,114 males and 1,716 females). They are mostly immigrants from Pakistan. Most of them are found in urban areas and are generally engaged in various types of trades and businesses though some of them are also found in government services.

Jains—In 1971, there were 3,041 Jains in the district, out of whom 1,578 were females. They are mostly well-to-do merchants, chiefly dealing in grain.

Christians—The Christians numbered 2,286 including 1,175 females. Generally they belong to the Roman Catholic and Protestant sects. They are found in all parts of the district, but the largest number reside in Koli and Sikandra Rao tahsils. Most of them are in government services.

Buddhists—In 1971, the number of Buddhists in the district was 906 including 310 females.

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Religious Beliefs and Practices

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Hindus—Hinduism comprises diverse beliefs and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism, and the identification of the *atma* (individual soul) with the *paramatma* (divine soul). All these variations of religious thought and belief are found here, though, on the whole, the Hindus of the district are generally orthodox in their religious practices, being either Vaishnavas or Saivas. They worship the Hindu deities and avatars. Sacred books of Hindus are : *Vedas*, *Upanishads*, *Puranas*, *Mahabharat* and *Ramayana*.

Here, as elsewhere, the Hindus visit temples either daily or on special occasions for worship. Generally they install idols of their chosen deity in their homes where they perform their daily worship. The *tulsi* plant (*Ocimum Sanctum*) which is considered to be sacred, is to be found in nearly every Hindu home. In the villages images, icons and idols of gods and goddesses (often placed in niches) are propitiated on fixed occasions by the village folk. They are particularly propitiated when disease, misfortunes and other calamities afflict the people. Belief in ghosts and spirits (who are feared and propitiated) and in various superstitions is common and is largely indulged in by the illiterate and backward sections of the community.

There are many temples and shrines in the district which are dedicated to Siva, Vishnu, Rama, Krishna, Hanuman and Durga.

Among the old and well-known temples of the district are the Achaleswar temple in the Aligarh city, the Khateshwar temple nearby, the temple at Porah and the temple of Raghunathji at Sikandra Rao.

Khereshwar Temple, Aligarh



Muslims—The Muslims believe that there is one God and that Muhammad was his prophet. Islam enjoins five duties upon its followers—the recitation of the *kalma* (as expression of faith in God and the prophet Muhammad), offering of *namaz* (prayers) five times a day individually or collectively, preferably in a mosque; *roza* (fasting in the month of Ramadan); *hajj* (visit to Mecca and other religious places) and *zakat* (contribution in cash or kind for charitable purposes). The *Quran* is the holy book of the Mohammedans. Some Muslims, particularly in the rural areas, share with the Hindus a belief in the existence of spirits and ghosts.

Many Muslims in the district have faith in a number of *pirs* (saints) and hold *urs* at their tombs and observe practices which usually do not have the sanction of Islamic orthodoxy. In this district there are a number of places where *urs* are celebrated in honour of saints who flourished there.

The two important sects of the Muslims are the Sunnis and Shias, the former professedly believing in Sunnat (or tradition) of the prophet and the latter from this that they have received this appellation.

There are about a hundred mosques and imambaras in the town of Aligarh proper, the more important being the Moti Masjid, Sabit Khan's mosque, and the Jami Masjid. There are the Jami Masjid at Jalali, the mosque at Morthal, and the mosque dating from the time of Akbar at Sikandra Rao. The tomb of Shah Jamal Shams-ul-Arfin in Aligarh town is held in great veneration. The tomb of another Shah Jamal near the Aligarh railway station attracts a large gathering in the month of June to commemorate his death. The tombs of Pir Bahadur, Gesu Khan and Ilah Baksh (in Aligarh town) are held in high esteem.

Sikhs—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, disavowing idolatry and making no distinction of caste among its followers. It prescribes the wearing, by its adherents, of a comb, an iron *kara* bangle, a dagger and a pair of short drawers and prohibits the cutting of the hair of the body. The Sikhs attend congregational prayers in their *gurdwaras* (houses of the guru) and celebrate the birth anniversaries of their *gurus*, when their holy book, the *Granth Sahab*, is worshipped and taken out in procession.

Jains—The Jains (follower of the Jina or the conqueror) believe in the *triratnas* (three jewels)—right faith, right knowledge and right conduct—which constitute the path of *moksha* (liberation). They believe that God is *jiva* (soul) in its perfect and purest form and so they lay stress on attaining the purity of the soul through abstinence and other penances. According to them the universe has had no beginning and will have no end and no creator is necessary to explain the existence of the cosmos. They believe in *ahimsa* and worship their tirthankaras or Jinas. *Shwetambar* and *digambar* are the two major sects of the Jains. *Shwetambar* monks put on white clothes and *digambar* monks generally wear no clothes.

Christians—The Christians believe in one God, his only son, Jesus Christ (the saviour of mankind), the Holy Spirit, 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. The sermon on the Mount, which is one of the most beautiful passages in all religious literatures, represents the *summum bonum* of the Christian ethics.

Buddhists—The main tenet of Buddhism is that while there is woe in the world, the eight-fold middle path of righteousness based on right belief, right thought, right speech, right action, right means of livelihood, right endeavour, right recollection and right meditation, leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and nirvana.

Manners and Customs

Though the general pattern of life of all the communities is becoming increasingly uniform under the socio-economic stresses of modern living, nevertheless each community has its own particular way of life, distinguished by varying manners and customs. Among the Hindus some of the important ceremonies are the *namkaran* (naming of the child), *mundan* (the first tonsure of the hair), *upanayana* (sacred thread ceremony), *vivah* (marriage ceremony) and *antyeshti* (death ceremony). Some of the important ceremonies of Muslims are *akika*, a sacrifice which has two parts—the shaving of the child's head and the killing of one or two goats, *bismillah* which consists of taking the name of god, *khatna* (circumcision), *nikah* (marriage) and the death ceremony. The main ceremonies among Christians are baptism, confirmation, marriage and death.

Intercaste Relations—As in other parts of the country, intercaste relations were very rigid nearly a generation ago. The members of different castes and subcastes lived in watertight compartments in such matters as intercaste dining and marriages. In the last few decades, changes have started breaking down the old orthodox manners and customs. Intercaste dining is no longer looked upon with disapproval by the Hindus more so in the towns, though the restriction still persists in the rural areas. Intercaste marriages, though not very common, are more frequent than before and many of the traditional restrictions regarding marriage based on caste are gradually disappearing as a result of the spread of education, the influence of western culture, the equality of the sexes and the gradual removal of disabilities from which women suffered in the past.

New Religious Leaders and Movements

The Arya Samaj is a protestant and reforming movement within the Hindu religion. It was founded in 1869, by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. In 1901, the number of the Arya Samajists was 9,558 in the district. Since then the sect has made considerable progress and at the census of 1951 the number was 15,536. The Arya Samaj philosophy is monotheistic and professes to be

a reversion to the original tenets as given in the *vedas*. The objective of the Arya Samaj is to reform and free Hinduism from rigid rituals and customs and the perversions and distortions existing in it. It condemns idolatry, *shradha* and early marriage, is opposed to the rigid caste system and gives women a higher status in social life.

Radhasoami—There are also in the district some followers of the Radhasoami sect which is an offshoot of the *bhakti* cult of Hinduism but is appreciably different from that religion. It is open to people belonging to any caste, religion or walk of life. The *satsangis* (followers of the sanga or order) believe that the true name of the Supreme Being is Radhasoami, that the universe has three divisions—the spiritual, the spiritual-material and the material-spiritual, and that the four essentials of religion are *sat-guru* (the true teacher), *sat-shabad* (the true word), *sat-sang* (the true order or association) and *sat-anurag* (true love).

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

The laws governing succession and inheritance of property are the same in the district as in other parts of the State. The devolution, succession and transfer of agricultural property is regulated by the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act No. 1 of 1951), which was enforced in the district on July 1, 1952. The inheritance of property other than agricultural land, among the Hindus is determined according to the provisions of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, which brought about important changes in the law of succession for the Hindus, Jains and Sikhs, enabling a female heir to succeed to coparcenary property. The Muslims are, as before, governed by their personal law of succession and inheritance and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act of 1925.

Joint Family—The institution of joint family, which has been a characteristic feature of the Hindu society since ancient times, is fast 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 industries and the consequent urbanisation, the increasing demand for labour and the prospects of better wages in the towns have also accelerated the disintegration of joint family. Division of property even during the life time of patriarch is also becoming a very common feature.

Marriage and Morals

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

Age Group	Total population	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced or separated		Unspecified	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-9	6,43,005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	2,64,098	1,49,034	1,05,325	1,615	7,629	395	10	80	—	10	—
15-19	1,75,193	77,983	26,259	21,667	48,219	605	195	50	80	45	90
20-24	1,55,895	28,777	4,524	50,603	70,326	630	720	255	20	20	20
25-29	1,46,596	9,756	332	61,435	69,089	2,928	2,047	959	20	10	20
30-34	1,29,853	4,903	566	57,950	61,777	2,649	1,813	135	10	5	45
35-39	11,831	6,524	4,669	51,409	49,351	3,664	2,704	80	20	10	—
40-44	1,05,752	3,050	70	51,515	41,363	4,889	4,755	30	40	—	40
45-49	89,125	2,430	300	38,173	37,057	5,779	5,266	110	—	—	10
50-54	81,561	3,091	25	39,796	19,774	7,235	11,555	55	—	—	30
55-59	56,219	610	20	20,722	22,101	6,913	5,338	10	5	—	—
60-64	60,722	1,709	20	25,479	11,535	8,200	13,719	40	5	15	—
65-69	31,802	570	10	12,502	6,304	6,622	5,774	20	—	—	—
70 and above	53,563	990	5	17,844	6,789	11,752	16,178	—	5	—	—
Age not stated	14	4	3	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
District Total	21,11,829	6,36,550	4,38,014	4,50,713	4,51,317	62,261	70,575	1,824	205	115	225

Hindus—Among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere in the State, marriage is a sacrament and its rites are rigidly prescribed in the scriptures and to some extent, by custom and tradition. Variations from caste to caste, or even from family to family within a caste, may occur in the performance of different ceremonies, but the important ceremonies of *bhanwar* or *saptapadi* (literally seven steps) and *kanyadan* (giving away of the girl or bride) are essentials of every marriage ceremony.

With the passing of the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, polygamy (which was generally resorted to when no child or male child was born to the earlier marriage) has been declared to be illegal. The term Hindus includes Sikhs and Jains for the purposes of this Act. Certain customary restrictions, such as those regarding marriages between persons of the same *gotra*, are still observed although the Act has legalised such marriages. *Sapinda* marriages are, however, prohibited by law as well as custom. Restrictions regarding endogamic marriage are not as rigid now as they were in the past. Intercaste and inter-subcaste marriages and marriages within the same *gotra* have also begun to take place in the district. Marriages by registration, though permissible by law, are not very common here.

The main ceremonies that take place before the actual marriage differ from caste to caste. Generally marriages are arranged by the parents, the bride's side approaching the bridegroom's, sometimes through an intermediary. The *sagai* (betrothal) or the engagement, is performed by the bride's side. Some time before the marriage the *tika*, *tilak* or *lagan* consisting of some cash, clothes, sweets etc. is sent in a metal plate by the bride's side to the bridegroom's house. At this time date and time of marriage as calculated by the priest (Brahmana) are also announced by both sides. On the appointed day the *barat* (marriage party) reaches the bride's house where usually in the evening, the ceremony of *dwarpuja* (reception and worship of the bridegroom at the door) is performed. Later the *kanyadan* (giving away of the girl) by the father, or in his absence by the nearest male relative, *bhanwar* or *saptapadi* (going round the sacred fire seven times) and uttering of the marriage vows by the couple, completes the marriage ceremony. There is much feasting and rejoicing on the occasion, and next morning the ceremony of *vida* (departure) takes place, and the *barat* returns with the bride to the bridegroom's house.

Among the members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes, sometimes the marriage ceremony (known as *paipuja*) takes place at the bridegroom's and not at the bride's place. Among certain of these castes the marriage of widows is also permitted.

Muslims—Islam permits polygamy to the extent of four wives at a time. The Muslim marriage is a civil contract for the legalisation and procreation of children. 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 a person's consent. The amount of *mehr* (dower) may be

fixed before, at the time of or after the marriage. The essentials of the marriage are a proposal by or on behalf of one of the parties (usually the bridegroom) and its acceptance by or on its behalf the other party, in the presence and hearing of two men or one man and two women witnesses who must be sane and adult Muslims. The proposal and acceptance are to be expressed at one meeting. The guardian of a minor can enter into a marriage contract on behalf of the ward. According to the Shia law the presence of witnesses is not necessary in any matter regarding marriage. After the settlement of the marriage, the *sagai* or *mangni* (asking for the hand of the bride) takes place. On the date fixed for the marriage, the bridegroom and his party (*barat*) go to the house of the bride and her *vakil* (who is usually an elderly relative) in the presence of two witnesses, obtains the bride's and the bridegroom's consent to contracting the marriage and informs their respective parents accordingly. The marriage ceremony (*nikah*) is then performed in the presence of witnesses by the *qazi* who reads the *khutbah*, after which the marriage ceremony ends. Among the Shias, the *mujtahid* instead of the *qazi* performs the marriage. Generally the *rukhsati* or *vida* (departure) takes place immediately after the marriage, the bride accompanying the bridegroom to his place.

Christians—According to the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended by Act 48 of 1952, the minimum marital age of the bridegroom must be 18 years, and that of the bride 15 years, but if the latter is below 18, the consent of the guardian is required. The marriage customs of the adherents of different denominations of the Christians usually follow the same general pattern in the district as elsewhere. The marriage may be arranged by the parties concerned or by their relatives. The period of engagement which precedes the marriage, may be long or short. The banns are published three times (once every week) by the priest, in the church where the marriage is to be solemnised, to give opportunities for raising objections. On the date fixed the bride and the bridegroom are married in the church, the ceremony being performed by the priest. The essential features of the ceremony are giving away of the bride by the father (or other relative or friend), repeating aloud after the priest of the marriage vows by the couple, placing of the ring by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand (sometimes the bride and the bridegroom exchange rings at this time), and pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the priest. The marriage register is then signed by the couple and their witnesses. The wedding festivities then usually follow at the bride's home.

Dowry—With the passing of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, the giving and accepting of dowry has become illegal, though in practice the custom is still prevalent in one form or the other.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for marriages to be performed and registered by the district marriage officer appointed by the government for the purpose. He is usually one of the senior magistrates. The Act enjoins upon the parties to give one month's notice before

the proposed date of marriage to the marriage officer indicating their intention to marry. The notice of marriage is published inviting objections, if any. After the expiry of the notice period, if no valid objection is raised, the marriage is registered. The parties sign the register and receive the marriage certificates. The number of such marriages was 42, 37, 107 and 99 in 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977, respectively.

Widow Marriage—The Hindu Widow's Remarriage Act, 1856, provides for remarriage of a widow. Even before that widow marriages were performed by the Arya Samaj according to the Vedic rites. Such marriages are, however, rare, particularly among the higher castes. Among the Scheduled Castes and some of the Other Backward Classes widow remarriage is a common feature. The orthodox people, to whichever community they may belong, still do not favour widow remarriage or appreciate it even if it may be permitted by their personal laws.

Divorce—Among the Hindus the dissolution of marriage was not permissible except among the Scheduled Castes, and that too with the sanction of their caste panchayats. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, has made the divorce legal under certain conditions and circumstances. The Muslim law permits the husband to divorce the wife on instant payment of the *mehr*. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, also gives, under certain conditions, 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 castes instances of divorce are very rare. The following table shows the number of cases or applications for divorce filed in the courts in the district from 1972 to 1976, and the number of divorces granted :

Particulars	Year					Total
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	
No. of cases referred to courts	41	44	44	39	56	224
No. of cases in which divorce was permitted	4	16	8	5	5	38

Economic Dependence of Women and Their Place in Society

Women occupied a high position in the Hindu society in the ancient times. The ancient law giver, Manu, had ordained that gods reside in those

household where women are respected. The husband who casts off his innocent wife was punished by the king. The wife, likewise, was supposed to worship her husband as god and to remain faithful to him. The status of women, however, declined after the Muslim invasions of the country, when seclusion or the *pardah* came into vogue as a measure of safety and protection. The practice continued thereafter, particularly among the Rajput chiefs and zamindars, as a mark of social status and prestige. The *pardah* was more strict in the villages than in the towns and more rigid among the Muslims than among the Hindus. With the spread of education, particularly among the women, in the last few decades, and the stresses and strains of the modern life, *pardah* is fast vanishing, specially in the towns.

Despite a change in the economic status of woman in recent years, the number of economically independent women is very small, and in most cases they still continue to be dependent on men, as most of the women regard marriage and motherhood as the most important and natural culmination of their existence. However, the number of such women who, for reason of economic necessity or individual conviction, seek employment has of late been rising. The professions into which the largest number of women enter are teaching and nursing, though they are found in appreciable numbers in other occupations too. With the liberalized law of inheritance, the economic status of women in the district has no doubt improved. The introduction of universal adult suffrage and the special interest the government is taking for the advancement of women, are some of the contributory factors for their emancipation and playing a useful role as members of the society.

Among the poorer classes women work in large numbers as daily labourers (agricultural and industrial) and cases of economic dependence of men on such women are also sufficiently large.

Prostitution and Traffic in Women—The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act was promulgated and enforced in the district in 1956, since then this evil trade has been controlled to a large extent.

Drinking—The use of liquor as a habit is common among the people of lower castes. On the occasion of marriage it is customary for the bride's father to serve liquor to the bridegroom and his party. The fermented liquors known as *tari* and *sendhi*, obtained from the two common species of palm trees, are also consumed in the district. The foreign liquor shops in the district are usually patronized by the educated and well-to-do people who mostly consume costly wines.

Gambling—The Public Gambling Act, 1867, as amended in 1952 and 1962, makes gambling in public an offence. The vice does not appear to have serious proportions in the district. It is usually indulged in as a pastime, particularly by the Hindus on the occasion of Divali. The table given

below shows the number of prosecutions, convictions and acquittals made under the Act in the district during the last three years :

Year	Number of cases prosecuted	Number of persons convicted	Number of persons acquitted
1975	279	310	109
1976	261	164	64
1977	34	208	31

Home Life

Types of Dwellings—There are vast difference in the shape, size and durability of residential buildings in the rural and urban areas of the district.

The city of Aligarh has developed in a haphazard manner. It is more a less conglomeration of a number of localities. In the city dwellings are generally pakka usually having more than one storey. Stone or brick walls and cemented floors are common. Similarly roofs made of corrugated iron or asbestos sheets, bricks and concrete, which are rarely seen in the rural areas, are found in good number in the towns. There is usually a *chabutra* (platform) in front of houses which leads to a sitting-room, adjacent to the side wall of which runs a passage giving independent entrance to an open courtyard on to which the sitting room abuts, the other rooms of the house being built round the courtyard.

In the villages the dwellings, generally of one storey, are of mud or unbaked bricks and have thatched or tiled roofs. Most of them have a room or two only, a kitchen, a store room and a courtyard. In quite a few cases the roofs are of mud, laid over a framework of wooden planks or beams, but the tiled roofs are more common. The houses are compact and shapeless, the building material used being available locally. The mud walls are usually given a coating of mud plaster, cowdung and water. As a rule the rooms do not have windows or ventilators and are dark and unhealthy.

But after the Independence pakka houses are being constructed in rural areas also. Such constructions can now be seen dotting almost every village of big or medium size.

The following table shows the classification of households by their size and tenure status in the district in 1971 :

Total District Rural/Urban	Tenure status	Total No. of census house- holds	Households having number of persons					Number of per- sons un- specified
			One person	Two persons	Three persons	Four persons	Five persons	Six and more persons
District Total	Owned and Rented	3,56,965	17,535	27,325	35,305	48,490	54,165	1,73,985
								160
	Owned Rented	3,27,855	14,300	24,105	31,720	44,370	49,945	1,63,265
		29,110	3,235	3,220	3,585	4,120	4,220	10,720
	Owned and Rented	2,94,130	13,405	22,205	28,965	40,555	45,105	1,43,750
Rural Total								145
	Owned Rented	2,89,200	12,450	21,515	28,310	39,885	44,480	1,42,415
		4,930	955	690	655	670	625	1,335
	Owned and Rented	62,835	4,130	5,120	6,340	7,935	9,060	30,235
Urban Total								15
	Owned Rented	38,655	1,850	2,590	3,410	4,485	5,465	20,850
		24,180	2,280	2,530	2,930	3,450	3,595	9,385
								5
								10

Furniture and Decoration—The use of furniture is linked with the economic condition and standard of living of the people. The well-to-do have drawing-room suits, dining-table, chairs, almirahs, dressing tables, beds, etc., while the less affluent ones usually manage with *takhats* (wooden divans), *morhas* (chairs made of reeds), cane-chairs, a small table or two, etc.

In the rural areas people generally have string cots, and a couple of wooden chairs. Those who are economically better off have a few more articles of furniture such as *takhats*, chairs, stools and tables. There are hardly any furnishing or decorations worth the name, but the walls are often decorated with crudely painted figures of deities, animals, human being, etc. Clay toys and clay idols of gods and goddesses made locally are also often seen in the Hindu homes in the villages. Coloured prints (usually ochre) of an open palm are generally made on walls, doorways, wells, trunks of trees and cattle. They are considered signs of good omen and means to ward off evil.

When taking their meals, usually in the kitchen, people generally sit on the floor on small wooden boards or carpets and eat out of metal utensils. The educated and less orthodox eat at tables. The use of crockery is becoming popular, particularly among town folk. Their number is still insignificant.

Dress—The normal dress of the men, both Hindus and Muslims is shirt or *kurta* and dhoti or pyjamas. While going out, however, they put on trousers with coat, shirt or bush-shirt, the last having become very popular and become the dress of the working people in recent years. On formal occasions men wear coats, *sherwanis* or *achkans* and trousers, *churidars* or loose pyjamas. In villages some men still wear turbans or put on caps. The usual dress of women consists of the sari and blouse or *choli* i.e. short blouse. The Punjabi women, however, put on *salwar* and *kurta*, often with a *dupatta*. Some Muslim women still wear *churidar* pyjamas or *garara* with *kurta* and *dupatta*. In the towns young girls are seen wearing shirt and slacks, *salwar*, *garara* or *sharara* with *kurta* and *dupatta*. The bell-bottoms and trousers, pyjama with *kamiz* (shirt) are the recent craze of the girls. The use of *lahanga* (full long skirt) still lingers on among the women of the villages or on ceremonial occasions like marriage, etc., in the Hindu families.

Ornaments—Men usually do not wear ornaments except rings on fingers or sometimes gold or silver chains round the neck. Some low caste people are still seen wearing ear-rings.

The jewellery worn by women is usually made of gold, silver or nickel and that seen in the district generally comprises the *bunda* or *jhumki* (ear-rings); *kara* or *payal* (anklets); *keel* and *nath* (nose-stud and nose-ring); *hansatt* (heavy necklace); *kardhani* (gold or silver waist-band); *bichia* (toe-ring); *anguthi* (ring) and *pachhaila* (wristlet).

Food—The staple grains and cereals consumed by the people of the district are wheat, rice, *bajra*, jowar and *maize*. The pulses generally consumed are *arhar*, *urd*, *masur*, gram and *moong*. In the urban areas majority

of people except Brahmanas and Jains are non-vegetarian. In the countryside the Hindus, by and large, are vegetarians by habit and preference. The Muslims, Christians and Sikhs are usually non-vegetarians. Tea and coffee are the universal morning beverage more so in the towns.

Communal Life

Communal Dances, Amusements and Festivities—There is hardly any communal dance worth mentioning except the folk dances in the interior of the rural areas of the district. The village folk generally amuse themselves with recreations and amusements during the rainy season, and in winter nights, when they are comparatively free from their field work. They sing folk songs called kajri, Holi or Phaag, etc., and devotional hymns, to the accompaniment of musical instruments like *dholak*, *majira*, *khartal*, and occasionally harmonium. Sittings are also organized usually by Muslims, and sometimes by Hindus too, when *qawwalis* (urdu or persian verses rendered to a traditionally set tune) are sung. *Charbais* (devotional songs in Hindi set to the tuning of Pashto song) are also sung by the Pathans of the district. In the rural areas fairs, festivals, religious and social gatherings are also occasions for recreation and amusement. Games like *kabaddi*, *kho-kho*, or sports like wrestling and volley-ball are popular among the youth. Tournaments of wrestling, *kabaddi* and volley-ball, are occasionally organised under the auspices of the Pradeshik Vikas Dal at the block, district and regional levels.

Cinema and radio are the cheapest and the most popular means of entertainment in the district. In 1977, there were 17 cinema houses. 11 in Aligarh town, 3 in Hathras, 1 in Sikandra Rao, 1 in Atrauli and 1 in Chharra (in tahsil Atrauli) which had a total seating capacity of 10,710 persons. Radio and transistor sets have become the most popular mass media for the dissemination of news, education as well as entertainment. Television sets are also becoming popular, mostly, in the urban areas. There were 12,734 radio and transistor sets, and 296 television sets in the district in 1977. Playing of film music with the aid of an amplifier has become a very common entertainment among the people of the district in recent years, especially on ceremonial or festive occasions like marriages, fairs, etc.

Screening of documentary and feature films are also arranged by the mobile field publicity units of the State and Central Governments. Once in a while dramatic parties and circuses also visit the district. *Dangals* (wrestling matches), *nautankis* (indigenous open-air dramatic performances), *bhajan* and *qawwali* programmes, *kavi-sammelans* and *mushairas* are arranged at different places from time to time, particularly on the occasions of big religious fairs of Hindus and Muslims, where swings, merry-go-rounds *hindolas*, magic shows, etc., are also a common feature. Ramlila and Krishnalila are also occasions of religious devotion and entertainment among the Hindus. Hathras is famous for its 'Rasias' singing bouts in which generally two groups of singers participate in a competition.

Festivities—The celebration of various festivals by different religious communities is closely associated with different systems of time-reckoning or calendars in vogue in different parts of the country. The Hindus of the district generally follow the Vikram Samvat (era) which precedes the Christian era by fifty six years. The year begins with the month of Chaitra and is divided into three seasons, namely the winter or the months of Kartika, Margashirsh, Paus and Magha, the summer extending over the months of Phalguna, Chaitra, Vaishakha and Jyestha and the monsoon over Ashadh, Shravana, Bhadrapada and Asvina. Each month is divided into two fortnights, the *shukla paksha*, the bright fortnight, when the moon is waxing and the *Krishna paksha*, the dark fortnight when the moon is waning. Dates are reckoned by the days of the fortnight of each month.

Muslims of the district generally follow the Hijri era. Which is Arabic in origin. It came into being from the 15th day of July 622 A. D., in the 42nd year of the life of prophet Muhammad to commemorate his migration (*hijrat*) from Mecca to Madina. A year according to this era is divided into 12 months. The Muharram, Safar, Rabi-ul-Awwal, Rabi-us-Sani, Jamadi-ul-Awwal, Jamadi-us-Sani, Rajab, Shaaban, Ramadan, Shawwal, Zilqaad and Zilhijja.

Jains generally follow vir (*nirvana*) Samvatsara which commenced in 527 B. C., from the day, on which Mahavira, the last of the twenty four *tirthankaras* attained nirvana. Christians in the district follow the Gregorian Calendar.

Festivals, symbolise people's cultural, social and religious aspirations which, besides helping them to lead a fuller and better life, also mitigate its monotony by providing psychological, emotional and mental diversion and recreation. Though associated with religion, there are a number of occasions wherein the social aspect assumes prominence. In fact, festivals are special occasions, periods of time and season, which are so arranged as to ensure both individual and communal rejoining by practising religion coupled with social joy and domestic happiness. They are closely related with religious occasions and agricultural operations, the principal occupation of the people.

Hindu Festival—The Hindus have a number of festivals all the year round, one following close on the heels of the other. A short account of the principal ones is given below :

Sheetla Ashtami falls on the 8th day of the dark fortnight of Chaitra, when the goddess Sheetla is worshipped. It is followed by Ram Navami on the 9th day of the bright half of Chaitra, which is observed as the birthday of Rama, an incarnation of God. The Hindus observe fast on this day and the temples are specially decorated and illuminated at night while the *Ramayana* is recited in the temples as well as the homes of the devout. On 4 Genl. (R)—5

the 10th day of the latter half of Jyestha, falls Ganga or Jyestha Dasahra when a dip in the holy Ganga is considered very auspicious.

The fifth day of the bright half of Sravana is celebrated as Nag Panchami to appease the *nagas* or serpent gods. It is a big rainy-season festival, singing of *kajaris* (folk songs) by women and girls and the recreation by swinging (indulged in particularly by women and children) marking the occasion. Close on heels comes the Raksha Bandhan on the 15th of the second half of the same month, when a *rakhi* (coloured thread symbolising protection) is tied by the sister round the right wrist of the brother. It is a bond of pledge by the brother to provide protection to the sister. Brahmana priests also tie *rakhis* round the wrist of their *yajmanas* (patrons) as tokens to receive their protection.

Hartalika Teej, which falls on the third day of the first fortnight of Bhadrapada, is celebrated widely in the district when women undertake fast for the health and long life of their husbands.

Janamastmi, the festival marking the birth of Krishna, another incarnation of God, is celebrated every year on the eighth day of the dark half of Bhadrapada. The devotees fast the whole day, breaking it only at midnight, the hour when Krishna is said to have been born, by taking a little *prasad*. Devout Hindus throng the temples and houses decorated with *jhankis* and cradles depicting the various facts of the life and activities of Krishna. A special feature of the festival is the singing of devotional songs in praise of Krishna in the temples and homes. The *Chhati* (sixth-day ceremony after birth) of the deity is also celebrated by some persons.

Anant Chaturdasi falls on the 14th day of the latter half of Bhadrapada and is celebrated in memory of the sage Ananta.

Pitra Visarjan Amavasya, which falls on the 15th day of the dark half of Asvina, is dedicated to the memory of the deceased forebears and kinsmen. Goddess Durga is worshipped for the following nine days during the bright half of Asvina and the period is known as Nava Ratri, the 9th day being Durga Navami.

Dasahra is celebrated by the Hindus of the district on the tenth day of the bright half of Asvina to commemorate the victory of Rama over Ravana. Ramlila celebrations are a special feature of the occasion. Notable Ramlila fairs are held at Aligarh, Hathras, Khair, Sikandra Rao and Beswan.

Sharad Purnima, the brightest full moon night of the year, falls on the 15th day of the bright half of Asvina.

On the fourth day of the first half of Kartika, Karwa Chauth is celebrated by married women who fast throughout the day till the moon is sighted in the evening for the long life and well-being of their husbands.

Dipavali (or Diwali), the festival of lights, is celebrated on the last day of the dark half of Kartika, when the Hindus clean, whitewash and illu-

minate their houses, shops, etc. and worship the goddess Lakshmi. Festivities start two days earlier with Dhanteras (when gold, silver and other metal wares and utensils are purchased as token of prosperity), followed by Narak Chaturdashi when a few earthen lamps (*diyas*) are lit as a preliminary to the main day of the festival. For traders and businessmen Dipavali marks the end of their fiscal year and they worship the goddess for future prosperity and happiness. Mahavira, the twenty-fourth *tirthankara* of the Jains, is said to have attained nirvana on this day, the occasion thus having a special significance for his followers. There is no fasting on this occasion as Dipavali is regarded as a festival of feasting. Govardhan or Godhan Puja is performed on the day after Dipavali, when women worship idols made of cowdung. On the following day Chitragupta who was said to have been endowed with celestial powers in accountancy is worshipped and propitiated. Bhaiyyadui is also celebrated on this day when sisters put a *tika* (small red mark) on the forehead of their brothers and wish them long life and prosperity. There is much rejoicing and feasting usually followed by exchange of presents.

Gopastmi is celebrated on the 8th day of the bright half of Kartika when cows and cattle wealth are worshipped. The 11th day of the fortnight of the same month is known as Dev Uthan Ekadashi which is considered to be auspicious for fixing marriage dates, etc. Kartiki Purnamashi, the full moon day of Kartika is a famous bathing festival. On this occasion a bath in the Ganga or any other river is considered auspicious. A big fair is held at Sankra in tahsil Atrauli.

Sakat Chauth falls on the 4th day of the dark half of Margashirsh when boys cut into two pieces the representation of goats made of *till* and women fast for the day. Another bathing festival, Makar Sankranti, falls on the first day of the solar month of Magh. Basant Panchami, the spring festival, falls on the fifth day of the bright half of the same month and is devoted to the worship of Saraswati, the goddess of arts and learning. It heralds the advent of spring. On this occasion clothes dyed lemon yellow are worn, the colour being the special shade of the blossoming flowers of the mustard plant.

Sivaratri falls on the thirteenth day of the dark half of Phalguna and is celebrated in honour of Siva. Hindus fast throughout the day, the worship of the deity continuing till the early hours of the next morning. The temples dedicated to Siva are specially decorated and illuminated and large number of devotees offer water, flowers and *helpatra*, leaves of the *bel* tree, (*Aegle marmelos*) to icons and images of Siva and sing devotional songs in his praise. For the Arya Samajis, Sivaratri is a memorable day because Swami Dayanand, son of a devotee of Siva and the founder of the Arya Samaj, obtained enlightenment this very night. They celebrate the whole week preceding this day as Rishi-bodhasaptah and arrange discourses by learned scholars.

Holi, the festival of spring, falls on the last day of Phalguna and is a festival of mercy making. People (particularly those in the rural areas) start singing *phags* (song of Phalguna) long before the actual day of the festival. In the night of the full moon day big bonfires are lit to celebrate the

victory of the good and annihilation of the forces of evil, in which newly harvested ears of barley and wheat are roasted as offering to the gods. The following day is marked by much rejoicing and feasting and people throwing coloured water and *abir* and *gulal* (coloured powder) over each other before joining in embrace as a mark of good-will and affection. In the evening people go visiting relatives and friends.

Muslims Festivals—A short account of the more important festivals observed by the Muslims of the district, the occurrence of which corresponds with particular dates in the Islamic lunar calendar, is given below :

Barawafat, the birth day of the prophet Muhammad, is celebrated on the 12th day of Rabi-ul-Awwal when Muslims congregate to listen to discourses (Maulud Sharif) on prophet's life.

Shab-e-Barat is celebrated on the night of the fourteenth day of Shaaban when prayers (fateha) are offered for the peace of the souls of one's deceased kins.

Id-ul-Fitr falls on the first of the month of Shawwal when thanks giving prayers are offered by Muslim men in Idgah or mosques for the successful completion of the fasts of the previous month of Ramadan.

Id-uz-Zuha (or Bakr-Id) is celebrated on the tenth day of the month of Zilhijja to commemorate the occasion when prophet Ibrahim submitted himself to the will of God. Men attend morning prayers in mosques where-after sheep and goats are sacrificed.

Giarahvin 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 Saint of Baghdad, who was acclaimed as being a descendant of the prophet Muhammad. Prayers, sweets and flowers are offered in his memory on this occasion.

The first ten days of the month of Muharram 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* are illuminated on the ninth of the month, and *majlises* (religious assemblies) are held from the first to the ninth, and *tazias* are taken out in procession separately by the Shias and Sunnis on the tenth day (Ashra).

Fairs and congregations are organised at the tombs of *pirs* (saints and prominent religious persons) and are styled as *urs* (anniversary).

Christian Festivals—The main festivals of the Christians of the district are the Christmas, which falls on December 25th and is meant to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ; the Good Friday, commemorating Christ's crucifixion; and the Easter commemorating and celebrating Christ's resurrection.

Sikh Festivals—The important festivals that are celebrated by the Sikhs of the district are the birthdays of their Gurus Nanak and Govind Singh.

On these occasions processions are taken out, congregational prayers are held in the *gurudwaras* and recitation from the *Granth Sahab* are made. Other festivals celebrated by them are Baisakhi and Lohri.

Jain Festivals—The Jains of the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of Mahavira their twenty-fourth *tirthankara*. The other important festivals of the Jains are Paryushan (the last ten days of Bhadra) and Aasthanhika (the last eight days of Kartika).

Buddhist Festivals—The principal festival of the Buddhists is the Buddha Purnima, the day on which Buddha took birth, got enlightenment, and attained nirvana. On this occasion the Buddhists worship in their temples and recite verses from the *Tripitaka*. A detailed list of fairs held in the district is given in Table III at the end of the chapter.

Public Games, Recreation Clubs and Associations

Games are pastimes and help building some of the good traits of character such as spirit of co-operation and discipline, and also help in building physique. They aim at creating fellow feelings, community consciousness and enthusiasm in the people, *kabaddi*, *gulli-danda*, *kho-kho*, *patang* (kite-flying) and cards etc., are the traditional games and sports of the people. Modern games like cricket, basket-ball, foot-ball, volley-ball, table tennis and badminton, etc., are also becoming popular in towns where schools and colleges, and sport clubs provide facilities for such games. On the occasion of the district sports meet, large number of youths participate in these games. The indoor games of carrom and chess have also gained popularity among the youngsters, while playing card is a favourite pastime with the adults.

The elderly people among the higher and middle classes in the towns generally prefer to go to clubs in the evening, while the younger people studying in schools and colleges repair to their own sports clubs, and athletic associations. The usually outdoor games played by the members are tennis and badminton. The common indoor games are carrom, table tennis, chess and cards.

New Trends—During the last three or four decades the pattern in dress, ornaments, social customs, food and other habits of the people, their mode of living, their religious beliefs and practices have undergone considerable change. The impact of the cinema is far-reaching, though not always healthy. With the diversification of occupations and spread of education, the caste and social barriers are gradually breaking down, and the old rigidity and the rigours of the caste system are fast disappearing. Consequently inter-caste and even inter-religion marriages are on the increase. The notions of untouchability are also fast vanishing from the cities and towns more because of the spread of education rather than the statutory sanctions against it. The evil still persists in the villages though in the countryside too a change is slowly coming over. The extension of general and technical education has opened up new vistas of employment on account of the schemes under the Five-year Plans. Women have by and large shed their

shyness, and are slowly but steadily coming forward to take their due place in the society.

The right of universal adult suffrage and the general elections to the State legislatures and the Lok Sabha, the local bodies like the panchayats, have provided a sort of political education to the people. With the increase in agricultural production and more remunerative prices, the purchasing power of the cultivators has increased considerably. With the result that they now unlike the past spend liberally on social customs, festivals and ceremonies.

Impact of Zamindari Abolition on Social Life

The U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, (Act No. 1 of 1951), was enforced in the district on July 1, 1952. It brought about significant changes in the social and economic life of the people. The rural elite, which consisted mainly of the zamindars who had been exploiting actual tillers of the land for the last several centuries, has since been replaced by a community of progressive farmers owning land and cultivating it with full vigour by adopting modern practices of cultivation. Not only the per hectare farm produce has increased but the prosperity of the cultivators in general has also improved, manifesting itself in better food, clothing and furnishing in the dwelling in the rural areas.

New educational institutions are coming up rapidly through voluntary effort to combat illiteracy which had hitherto impeded the social and economic advancement of the people. The rural society is undergoing a fast transformation to meet fresh challenges of life successfully.

TABLE I
Area and Population
Reference Page no. 49

District and tahsil	Area in sq. km.		Population					
	1971	1961	1971			1961		
			Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Aligarh District								
Total	5024.0	5054.4	21,11,829	11,51,463	9,60,366	17,65,275	9,48,568	8,16,707
Rural	4977.6	5011.9	17,34,798	9,45,805	7,88,993	14,78,577	7,92,875	6,85,702
Urban	46.4	42.5	3,77,031	2,05,658	1,71,373	2,86,698	1,55,693	1,31,005
Aligarh Tahsil								
Total	1040.4	1046.9	3,25,074	1,76,293	1,48,781	2,74,937	1,47,598	1,27,339
Rural	1040.4	1046.9	3,25,074	1,76,293	1,48,781	2,74,937	1,47,598	1,27,339
Aligarh Tahsil								
Total	917.9	923.3	5,69,297	3,10,083	2,59,214	4,50,872	2,43,019	2,07,853
Rural	883.4	891.4	3,16,983	1,72,334	1,44,649	2,65,852	1,41,643	1,24,209
Urban	34.5	31.9	2,52,314	1,37,749	1,14,565	1,85,020	1,01,376	83,644
Aligarh Tahsil								
Total	552.2	552.2	1,91,978	1,05,335	86,643	1,61,712	87,510	74,202
Rural	552.2	552.2	1,91,978	1,05,335	86,643	1,61,712	87,510	74,202
Aligarh Tahsil								
Total	755.2	754.5	3,70,423	2,03,990	1,66,433	3,13,808	1,69,442	1,44,366
Rural	745.4	745.9	2,83,939	1,56,586	1,27,353	2,43,965	1,31,980	1,11,985
Urban	9.8	8.6	86,484	47,404	39,080	69,843	37,462	32,381
Aligarh Tahsil								
Total	891.5	900.8	3,53,298	1,91,681	1,61,617	3,04,524	1,62,003	1,42,521
Rural	890.1	899.4	3,32,318	1,80,450	1,51,868	2,86,588	1,52,537	1,34,051
Urban	1.4	1.4	20,980	11,231	9,749	17,936	9,466	8,470
Kandara Rao Tahsil								
Total	872.8	876.7	3,01,759	1,64,081	1,37,678	2,59,422	1,38,996	1,20,426
Rural	872.1	876.1	2,84,506	1,54,807	1,29,699	2,45,523	1,31,607	1,13,916
Urban	0.7	0.6	17,253	9,274	7,979	13,899	7,389	6,510

TABLE II

List of Languages

Reference Page No. 49

Language	Person	Male	Female
Hindi	19,57,661	10,67,406	8,90,255
Urdu	1,48,383	80,762	67,621
Punjabi	3,941	2,059	1,882
Sindhi	623	499	174
Bengali	307	195	112
Rajasthani	227	124	103
Malayalam	97	72	25
Gurmukhi	88	64	24
Telugu	54	33	21
Gujarati	50	32	18
Gorakhali/Nepali	46	38	8
Jaipuri	46	27	19
English	39	22	17
Indonesian	37	23	14
Kashmiri	34	34	..
Marathi	32	20	12
Tamil	32	18	14
Tharu	24	24	..
Garhwali	22	13	9
Maithili	17	8	9
Jaunsari	10	..	10
Arabic/Arbi	9	..	9
Kumauni	7	7	..
African	6	6	..
Multani	6	5	1
Russian	6	3	3
Kannader	5	5	..
Marwari	5	3	2
Bhojpuri	4	1	3
Madras	4	3	1
Dogri	3	3	..
Assamese	2	2	..
Pahari	2	2	..

TABLE III

List of Fairs

Place	Name of fair or its association with	Date	Average daily attendance
1	2	3	4
Tahsil Khair			
Chandaus	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	6,000
Gabhana	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	5,000
Jatari	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	2,000
Khair	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	10,000
Khair	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6—7	2,000
Mahgora	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	25,000
Maur	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	4,000
Ogipur	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	2,000
Pisawa	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	4,000
Tappal	Ramlila	Asvina Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	4,000
Tahsil Koll			
Aligarh M. B.	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	20,000
Harduaganj	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	1,000
Jalali	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	600
Jawan	Exhibition and Horse shows	Magha	50,000
Jawan	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	2,000
Pali Razapur	Phool Dol	Chaitra, Krishna 2	1,200
Tahsil Iglas			
Beswan	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	5,000
Beswan	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6—7	700
Gonda	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	6,000
Iglas	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	20,000
Iglas	Basant Panchami	Magha, Sukla 5	2,000
Iglas	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6—7	1,000
Tahsil Hathras			
Hathras M. B.	Ramlila	Bhadra, Sukla 4 to Asvina, Krishna 10	20,000

1	2	3	4
Hathras M. B.	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6.7	20,000
Hathras M. B.	Rath Mela	Chaitra, Krishna 9	300
Mendoo	Rath Yatra	Chaitra, Sukla 9	20,000
Mendoo	Rath Mela	Chaitra, Krishna 9	1,000
Tahsil Atrauli			
Atrauli M. B.	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	20,000
Charra	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	2,000
Gangiri	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	1,000
Kazimabad	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	4,000
Kazimabad	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6.7	1,000
Sankra	Kartika Purnima	Kartika, Sukla 15	15,000
Sankra	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	9,000
Sikandra Rao			
Bijai Garh	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6.7	8,000
Barhad	Baldeo Chhat	Bhadra, Sukla 6.7	2,000
Sikandra Rao M. B.	Exhibition	Pausa	10,000
Sikandra Rao M. B.	Ramlila	Asvina, Krishna 13 to Sukla 13	5,000
Sikandra Rao M. B.	Phool Dol	Chaitra, Krishna 2	3,000

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

LAND UTILISATION AND RECLAMATION

Cultivated Area

No survey of the district took place till 1833, but an estimate of 1815 gave a cultivated area of 9,34,078 acres (3,78,007 ha.) for the district as then constituted, when it was about three times its present size. In 1833, the cultivated area was 8,39,127 acres (3,40,044 ha.) and by the end of Settlement in 1834 rose to 8,91,172 (3,63,699 ha.). In the ten years ending with 1893-94 the average cultivated area was 8,86,587 (3,58,788 ha.) and in the years from 1894-95 to 1898-99 the average rose to 9,01,770 acres (3,64,933 ha.) in spite of the drop caused by drought in 1896-97. While in the last year of the period the area was not less than 3,69,119 ha.

The following table shows the figures of net cultivated area in the district from 1901 to 1976-77 :

Year	Net cultivated area (hectares)
1901	3,68,511
1911	3,72,380
1921	3,45,515
1931	3,53,764
1941	3,68,249
1951	3,94,196
1961	3,93,911
1971	3,88,378
1976-77	3,89,051

Culturable Land

Besides land under the plough, forests, groves, fallows, waste lands like pastures and overgrowth of *kans*, *dhak* and other pernicious vegetations constitute the culturable land.

An idea of the extent of this type of land in the district may be had from the figures given for a few years as under :

Year	Culturable Land (in ha.)
1951-52	36,304
1961-62	43,490
1976-77	46,721

In 1976-77, such lands included 1,798 hectares of forests, 3,377 hectares of groves, 15,926 hectares of culturable waste, 2,863 hectares of pastures, besides 22,757 hectares of fallow land.

The total area of land that was either under water or put to non-agricultural uses, (roads, habitation, graveyards, etc.) accounted for 34,881 hectares in the district in 1976-77.

Precarious Tracts

There are few parts of the district which can be described as tracts of precarious cultivation. The largest area of such type of land is the Yamuna Khadar in pargana Tappal.

Another such area is a considerable block in the south-east of the Iglas tahsil where means of irrigation became deficient owing to the fall in the water level, though much improvement has been affected by the introduction of the canals. In other parts villages classed as precarious on account of an insufficient supply of water, are few in number, and are for the most part confined to the high banks of rivers as in Lohgarh taluqa in Atrauli.

In certain parts of the district cultivation is precarious by reason of floods and the resultant saturation of the soil. This is the case in Sikandra Rao tahsil, which is a clay tract. There are many large depressions without natural outlets. But with the introduction of artificial drainage and canals, the spread of *reh* has undoubtedly been checked, and the area liable to water-logging has been substantially reduced.

IRRIGATION

The district enjoys exceptionally good irrigation facilities. Even before the introduction of canals, the natural advantages of the tract were far greater than in many parts of the *doab*. The introduction and the subsequent extension of the canal supply has benefited the tracts immensely.

The frequency of waterings given to the fields depends on varying circumstances, such as the nature of the season, the ability and energy of the cultivators and the character of the soil. As a rule the district enjoys a copious and well distributed rainfall during the monsoon and some precipitation may be expected even during the winter.

Wells have been the most important source of irrigation in the district since early times. With regard to wells, the question of water level is of the highest importance. Generally speaking the irrigation potential of the wells in the district is satisfactory. As in the case throughout the *doab*, the water level is highest in the central tract, on or near the watershed, where subsoil is firm and stable, and lowest on or in the vicinity of the high bank of the great rivers, where too the subsoil is usually loose and sandy, rendering the construction of wells difficult and expensive.

In spite of the great extension of the canal system, wells (including tube-wells) still form the chief source of irrigation. It is through these wells

that the crops get regular water supply. Thus while the construction of the new canals has not been without effect, the area watered from wells has actually increased.

Wells (including tube-wells) constitute an important and reliable source of irrigation in the district. Previously the kutchha wells were quite numerous, but since their life was short a number of pucca wells have been constructed in recent years. By the end of 1977, there were 61,732 masonry wells and 23,868 private tube-wells (both oil and electricity driven) in the district which irrigated an area of 2,38,556 hectares.

The ratio of the area irrigated by the wells to the total area varies greatly in different tracts. In Sikandra Rao tahsil, almost the whole of area is commanded by canal whereas Aligarh, Khair and Atrauli tahsils possess only a fair amount of canal irrigation. In Hathras and Iglas tahsils almost the whole of the area is commanded by the wells. The demarcation between canal-irrigated and well-irrigated tracts is somewhat misleading, for the two overlap to a considerable extent, and even in parts which enjoy an abundant supply of water from canals, wells are always to be seen.

Canals

The Ganga canal originating from the Ganga at Hardwar was for the first time opened in 1854 and its two bifurcations, the Upper Ganga and the Lower Ganga canals serve the district through the Mat, Hathras and Anupshahr branches.

The Mat branch waters the centre of the Khair tahsil between the Karwan and the Patwaya, the dry tracts of Iglas tahsil and pargana Mursan. Its main distributaries are the Barauda, Shadipur, Gorai, Mursan and Jewar.

Hathras branch runs in a south-easterly direction to Mendu, there turning south into the Mathura district. It has two distributaries Tochigarh and Pholia. The south-east corner of pargana Hathras is served by the Sikandarpur minor.

Atrauli tahsil is served by the Anupshahr branch. It gives off a number of distributaries, the main being the Hardoi, Ahaiwa, Dadon, Ninamai, Bazidpur and Bhuria.

The total length of the Ganga canal and its various branches and distributaries in the district was 1,308 km. in the year 1976.

The lower Ganga canal was opened in 1879. Its course lies entirely through the Khadir of the Ganga and it does not enter the upland till it reaches Sikandarpur.

It serves more as a supply channel, than as an irrigation channel. It had a total length of 21 km. in the district in the year 1976-77. A total area of 94,331 hectares was irrigated by these canals in the year 1976-77.

Other sources of irrigation have not been very important. About one-third of the area coming under this head (other sources) is irrigated from tanks

and the rest from *jhils* and minor streams. *Paira* (leather bag or bucket), *dhenkli* (pot and lever apparatus), *rahat* (Persian-wheels) and *dal* (basket made of bamboo or wide leather bag) are also methods of irrigation in the district.

An area of 1,191 hectares was irrigated by them in the year 1976-77.

In the last three decades, the Government has undertaken a number of irrigation programmes. The construction of State tube-wells in the district is one of such programmes.

Small private irrigation works generally classified under minor irrigation works, have been initiated in the district since 1951, and by the end of 1977, the details of works completed in the district were 43,243 masonry wells, 23,898 private tube-wells (both oil and electricity driven), 29,449 *rahats* (Persian wheels) and 6,391 pumping sets.

The table given below shows the extent of area irrigated (in hectares) from wells (including tube-wells), canals, and other sources in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1976-77 :

Year	Area irrigated from all kinds of wells including tube-wells	Area irrigated from canals	Area irrigated from other sources
1951-52	1,22,762	1,05,485	3,462
1961-62	1,21,037	89,005	1,162
1976-77	2,38,556	94,331	1,191

Cultivation

The fifth decade of the present century was the turning point in the field of agriculture. State tube-wells and private pumping-sets together with various other minor irrigation works were by and large capable of providing ample irrigation to the crops. There has been an appreciable extension of the double-cropped (*dofasli*) area, and the more valuable and high-yielding staples are very fastly replacing the old and indigenous varieties.

Harvests

As usual in the *doab* the agricultural year is divided into three kinds of harvests known by the traditional names: *kharif*, *rabi* and *jaid*. The last is of little significance in point of area. It mainly consists of cucurbits, summer vegetables, watermelons, *kakri*, *khira*, spices, tobacco, legumes and host of low grade cereals, chiefly grown in the khadirs and along the sandy banks of the rivers.

The *kharif* crops are sown in Asadha-Sravana (June-July) and reaped in Kuar-Kartika (September-October) after the cessation of the rains, usually well before the preparation of the fields for *rabi* sowings which begins in Kartika-

Agrahayana (October-November) and are harvested in Chaitra-Vaisakha-Jyestha (March-April-May).

The relative figures of the area covered by *kharif*, *rabi* and *dofasli* (double-cropped) in the district in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1976-77 are given below :

Year	Area under (<i>kharif</i>) (ha.)	Area under (<i>rabi</i>) (ha.)	Area under (<i>dofasli</i>) (ha.)
1951-52	2,39,088	2,69,955	1,14,962
1961-62	2,15,611	2,74,161	1,41,568
1976-77	2,62,852	3,31,061	2,10,662

Kharif—Jowar, *bajra* and maize are the main crops of this season. In 1901 jowar occupied an area of 46,091 ha.; *bajra* covered an area of 33,060 ha., maize occupied an area of 38,323 ha. and paddy covered only an area of 1,227 ha.

In the year 1951-52, jowar occupied an area of 15,118 ha., *bajra*, 1,04,405 ha. and maize covered an area of 36,139 ha. Paddy covered an area of 4,418 ha. only.

In 1961-62, the area under jowar shrank considerably and it occupied only an area of 7,639 ha. while *bajra* was sown in an area of 1,04,397 ha., and maize covered an area of 45,090 ha. The area under paddy was only 7,934 ha. in the district.

Jowar, *bajra*, and maize were the main crops of this harvest till the close of the last century. Area under jowar has since then shrunk, yielding place to paddy and maize. The main *kharif* cereals in order of the area they cover, are *bajra*, maize and paddy. Among the pulses in this season *urd*, *moong* and *moth* are the chief ones.

The following table gives some more relevant details of the main *kharif* cereals in the district in 1976-77 :

Kharif crops	Area sown (ha.)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per ha. (quintals)
Bajra	1,11,049	91,060	8.20
Maize	72,825	44,787	6.15
Rice	73,231	16,373	12.37
Jowar	3,154	426	1.35
Urd	494	78	1.58
Moong	225	55	2.47
Moth	18	6	3.51

Rabi—The main *rabi* crops of this season are wheat, barley and gram.

In 1901 wheat was sown in an area of 93,334 ha., barley, in an area of 64,538 ha.

In 1951-52, area under wheat was 81,485 ha., under barley 68,126 ha., and (under gram 53,458 ha.).

In the year 1961-62; wheat occupied an area of 91,010 ha., barley, 54,448 ha. and gram covered an area of 45,238 ha.

Of all the food grains grown in the *rabi* crop the lead is taken by wheat. Wheat is sown singly as well as mixed with barley, gram, pea or mustard. The area under wheat alone has increased much in recent years but the old practice of sowing it in combination has not altogether disappeared.

Barley has not been an important crop of the district in the past covering only about one-tenth of the total *rabi* in the beginning of the present century. Of late, however, the area under it has further decreased considerably. It is sown generally mixed with wheat, gram and pea. Other important *rabi* cereals are pea and gram. *Arhar* is the chief pulse of the district. An interesting feature of *arhar* is that it is sown in the *kharif* but harvested later than most of the *rabi* crops, that is why it is hardly ever sown as a single crop, being usually combined with *bajra* or jowar which are harvested in November, leaving it standing alone in the fields.

The following table gives some relevant particulars of the principle cereals produced in the district in 1967-77 :

<i>Rabi</i> crops	Area sown (ha.)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per ha. (quintals)
Wheat	2,01,970	3,75,058	18.57
Barley	62,065	85,457	13.93
Pea	34,675	39,703	11.45
Gram	15,764	19,500	12.37
<i>Arhar</i>	3,363	14,885	44.26
Masur	1,643	628	3.82

Non-food crops

Sugar-cane, oil-seeds like ground-nut and mustard, potato, vegetables and fruits are the main non-food crops in the district.

The district leads in the cultivation of sugar cane being second in the whole of the Agra Division. An area of 17,434 hectares was sown with sugar-cane in 1976-77 with a total production of 6,78,296 m. tonnes.

The district is the third best grower of potato in the Agra Division. A total area of more than 2,912 hectares was sown with potato with a total production of 37,993 tonnes in 1976-77.

To boost up the production of oil-seeds especial programme has been launched by the government in the district, and for that purpose specially trained technical staff has been posted.

Vegetables, turnips, carrots and other garden produce occupy a significant area in the district, specially around the towns and villages. Barwana, Hasayan and a number of other villages in the southern part of the district are famous for the cultivation of roses which are used for the manufacture of perfumes, scents and *itr*.

Tobacco is grown principally in places where the water in the wells is brackish. Tobacco produced at Kachhpura and some of the neighbouring villages of pargana Hathras is particularly prized.

The table given below provides some relevant details about the main cash (non-food) crops raised in the district in 1976-77 :

Crops	Area sown (ha.)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per ha. (quintals)
Sugar-cane	17,434	6,78,296	389.07
Ground-nut	917	474	5.17
Mustard	3,230	1,377	4.26
Oil-seeds (total)	4,242	1,860	N. A.
Cotton	6,230	525	0.84
Potato	2,912	37,993	130.47

Improvement of Agriculture

The ever-increasing demand for food grains necessitated far-reaching improvements and changes in the pattern and technique of agriculture. In the post-Independence period, especially since the launching of the green revolution in the sixties of this century, development of agriculture has been given a very important place in the economic planning of the country.

Seed Supply

Seeds are supplied by the government through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture and the co-operative departments. The total number of co-operative seed stores was 40 in the district in 1976-77 and they distributed nearly 33,224 quintals of seeds of *rabi* and *kharif* cereals in the district in that year. Seeds are also obtainable from the National Seeds Corporation, and the Terai Development Corporation, Pantnagar, but the bulk of the need of the farmers is met by the private-local sources.

Under the seed saturation programme, all the principal crops of the *kharif* and *rabi* are to be covered with high yielding varieties.

The most common high-yielding varieties of seeds of cereals which have been introduced in the district are the Exotic paddy, Hybrid-maize, and Hybrid-bajra.

Till 1973-74, the achievements under the seed saturation programme in the district were as follows :

Seeds	Target Area (in ha.)	Achievement (Area in ha.)
Exotic paddy	7,000	3,672
Hybrid-maize	5,000	452
Hybrid bajra	6,800	3,201

Soil Nutrients

The traditional manures are cattle-dung, farm refuse and stable litter. The usefulness of green manure crops such as *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 nearly 2,885 quintals of seeds of green manure crops and a total area of 49,170 hectares was sown with them in 1977.

The application of chemical fertilizers, has become quite popular among the farmers. The nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic fertilizers are the most widely used ones. The seed stores of the agriculture and co-operative departments meet a very small part of the demand for fertilizers of the cultivators the bulk being obtained by the cultivators from private dealers. Total quantity of fertilizers distributed to the farmers in the district by the government, co-operative and various private agencies in 1976-77 was as follows :

Name of fertilizer	Quantity distributed (in tonnes)
Nitrogenous	12,948
Phosphatic	3,945
Potassic	1,898

The co-operative societies distributed loans amounting to rupees 1,94,00,000 for the purchase of chemical fertilizers and other agricultural inputs in 1976-77.

Agricultural Implements and Machines

The farmers make their own arrangements for the purchase of improved implements. The Government through the agriculture department and State Agro Industrial Corporation also sell agricultural implements. In the year 1972 there were 1,31,477 ploughs, 1,342 harrow and cultivators, 997 sewing machines, 3,488 threshing machines, and 1,157 chopper machines in the district of Aligarh. Apart from private local money lenders the main source of credit for various agricultural purposes to the agriculturists in the district are the co-operative credit societies which numbered 786 in 1973-74. The U. P. State Sahkari Bhumi Vikas Bank, branches of which have been established at each tahsil headquarters also provide long-term loans, for measures like land development, reclamation, soil conservation, etc.

A total amount of Rs 14,057 thousand was given as a loan to the farmers in the district by these institutions in the year 1973-74.

ROTATION OF CROPS AND MIXED CROPPING

In the past, practice of leaving the fields fallow for at least one season was considered necessary to allow the land time to recuperate its fertility. But of late this practice is being abandoned as the rotation of crops and mixed cropping are proving more beneficial due to development of new agricultural techniques and use of pesticides giving increased yields. 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 maize-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 not only gives additional harvest in the same field thereby increasing the overall yield, but also ensures optimum utilization of the land, the nutrients and other agricultural inputs. The leguminous crops like *moong* and *guar* with other cereal crops help in providing nitrogen to the soil and through it to the standing crops. Apparently for this reason *arhar* is almost always mixed with *jowar*, *urd*, *til* or ground-nut, *bajra*, with *urd*, *arhar* or ground-nut, wheat with *gram*, peas or mustard; barley with *gram* or pea; maize with *urd* and cotton with *urd*.

Agricultural Co-operatives

The practice of joint cultivation of land (*sajha*) is very old. Other forms of co-operation in agricultural operations have also been common among

the cultivator. At present co-operative societies have been organised in the villages for farming, distribution of seeds, loans, fertilizers, implements and marketing of agricultural produce. In 1976-77, there were 27 co-operative farming societies and 40 co-operative seed stores in the district. The district co-operative bank and the co-operative credit societies scattered all over the rural areas of the district. These institutions provide loans, fertilizers, seeds and marketing facilities to the cultivators.

Horticulture

Groves form a prominent feature in the landscape in almost every part of the district. The total area of groves and fruit orchards was 3,377 ha. in 1976-77. Mostly tamarind, mango, guava, papaya, ber, jamun jack fruit trees are grown in groves. Melons, of good quality and cucurbits like khira, kakri, etc., are grown along the sandy banks of the Ganga, Ramganga, Sot and other rivers in the district. Vegetables like potato, cauliflower, cabbage, lady's finger, leafy vegetables (spinach, fenugreek) are grown in all parts of the district particularly around the towns and suburban villages.

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

Variable climatic conditions and infections cause a variety of viruses, pests and diseases in the cereal and fruit crops posing a constant threat to cereal crops, and fruit plants. Besides rodents, snails, slugs, crabs, birds, monkeys, rabbits, flying foxes, wild boars, porcupine, blue bulls and wild cattle also take a heavy toll of agricultural crops.

The insects and diseases which often damage the paddy crop are the stem borer (*Tryboryza incurtatus*) the rice hispa (*Hispa armigera*), blast (*Piricularia oryzae*) and the bacterial leaf blight (*Xanthomonas oryzae*). Wheat, oat and barley suffer severely from rusts, smuts and blights. Jowar, bajra and lesser millets suffer from stem borers (*Sesamia inferens*) jowar stem fly (*Atherigona indica*) and loose smuts. Pulses are usually damaged by caterpillars, pod-borers, aphids, jassids, powdery mildew, leaf spots and blights.

Polyphagous insects like grasshoppers, caterpillars, cut-worms and army worms, root-grubs and termites cause considerable loss to food-grain crops. Rodents are responsible for much destruction in the fields as well as in the stores and warehouses. A large number of wild weeds and grass like kans (*Sacharum spontaneum*) and the like also infest the crops and depress yields considerably. The average crop and storage losses due to these diseases and pests are estimated to be nearly 10 to 30 per cent of the total annual production. There are a number of pesticides and insecticides to destroy and control insects, pests and diseases and weeds. The plant protection department in the district is charged with the task of not only taking preventive and controlling measures but also advising and guiding the cultivators to fight the menace on their own.

The following statement shows the work done by this department in the district in 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Crop protection measures undertaken	Year		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Seed treatment (ha.)	1,63,234	1,83,576	2,39,156
Eradication of rats (ha.)	1,41,495	1,39,302	1,42,885
Spraying of insecticides and pesticides (ha.)	35,038	41,527	42,548
Eradication of weeds (ha.)	14,146	25,300	27,954
Training given to farmers in crop production measures (No.)	8,648	8,492	9,330

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

The domestic animals are generally of superior quality, owing to the fact that large numbers of animals are imported from the famous breeding areas of the Punjab and Haryana. The locally raised stock is better than the average, because the country-bred cattle are the offspring of good imported breeds. The number of cattle in the district is seldom more than sufficient for its needs, and has constantly to be supplemented by importations from the west. The number of buffaloes is larger here than in other important neighbouring districts. This fact accounts for the dairy farming in the district. There is a very extensive and valuable trade in ghee in the district which is exported in large quantities to all parts of the country.

In the last nearly half a century much of the old pasture land has been broken and brought under the plough.

The live-stock population of the district in 1972 was as follows :

Live-stock	Number
Cattle (cows and bulls)	3,14,999
Buffaloes (male and female)	4,86,990
Goats	80,048
Sheep	18,269
Pigs	20,501

Goats are kept by Gadariyas (shepherds) for the sake of their milk and flesh, and the sheep for their wool and for penning on the land. The value of the manure thus obtained is appreciated by cultivators who pay a small fee to

the herdsmen in return for keeping the flock for a night or two on their fields. Camels are being mostly employed for transport purposes.

Horses and ponies are of a very inferior stamp. Most of the ponies are employed by tonga and ekka-drivers. Horse-breeding has enjoyed some measure of popularity in the district.

Development of Live-Stock

Several attempts were made in the past at improving the indigenous breed of live-stock by introducing stud bulls of a superior stamp; but the experiment did not prove sufficiently successful to warrant its continuance.

Considerable progress has, however, been made in the last two or three decades in improving the breed of the cattle by the animal husbandry department through selective breeding, culling undesirable animals and up-grading indigenous cattle with improved bulls of well-known and tried Indian breeds, and distribution of seeds of improved varieties of fodder and cattle feed at moderate rates. Artificial insemination service programme for breeding cows and buffaloes is getting increasingly popular among the villagers. There were 117 such centres in different parts of the district in 1976-77. More than 39,833 cows and buffaloes were artificially inseminated at these centres in the year 1976-77.

Loans are also advanced by the government to the farmers for purchasing cows and buffaloes of improved stock.

For improving the breed of sheep, goats and pigs, pedigree stud rams, bucks and bears are stationed at the veterinary hospitals of the government and are made available to the breeders at nominal cost.

Poultry farming is also rapidly gaining ground with the increasing demand for poultry products in and around the district. Most of the demand for quality birds, eggs and chickens is met by the government poultry farm at Aligarh. A total number of 24,849 birds of improved breeds were distributed to the poultry farmers in the district in 1976-77.

Cattle Diseases and Treatment

The most common cattle disease is the foot-and-mouth disease (*khurha*) during and after the rains. Other prevalent cattle diseases in the district are rinderpest (*pokna*), malignant sore-throat (*galaghontu*), black-quarter (*padsuja*), anthrax (*tilsujia*), dysentery (*pechis*) and haemorrhage septicaemia.

The live-stock officer at the district level looks after the cattle breeding programme and treatment and prevention of diseases and epidemics of cattle in the district. There were 33 veterinary hospitals and 117 stockman centres in the district in 1976-77. Total number of animals treated at these hospitals during the year 1976-77, was 2,28,609, those that were vaccinated against various diseases numbered 2,50,509. The number of useless male cattle that were castrated was 4,078.

Housing and Feeding

Domestic animals are generally housed in thatched kutchha sheds. Modern, masonry and well-ventilated byres, with roofs of iron or asbestos sheets are to be seen only in the government farms and farms owned by the well-to-do cultivators in the district.

Grazing facilities for the cattle are available in the forests, waste lands, groves and harvested or fallow fields. On the banks of the canals and alongside the railway track, cattle are allowed to graze under stipulated conditions. The khadir of the Ganga has considerable extent of *jhau* or tamarisk jungle and provides pasturage for cattle. In other parts of the district the area available for grazing is very limited. In 1976-77, the total area covered by culturable waste pastures, forests and fallow lands in the district was 43,344 hectares. Barren and unculturable lands which also serve as grazing grounds measured 22,078 hectares in the same year.

The crops which provide fodder are maize, jowar, *bajra*, *barseem*, *lobia* and *guar*. The husk, dried and crushed stalks of wheat, *barley*, *urd*, *moong*, peas, gram and paddy are also used by the farmers to feed the cattle. Seeds of improved fodder crops are supplied by the government as well as private dealers. An area of 1,889 hectares was sown with improved fodder crops in the district in 1976-77.

Fisheries

There are only a few permanent big lakes in the district, and the big rivers merely touch the fringe of the district. The varieties common to the plains, principally of the carp tribe, are to be found in the district.

Under the small water scheme taken up in the district in the Third Five-year Plan, fingerlings were supplied to the pisciculturists at the rate of Rs 40 per thousand. In the year 1976-77, nearly 29 lakhs of fingerlings were distributed in the district by the fisheries department.

Forestry

In the past large areas in the district were covered with heavy *dhak* forests but in the last hundred years or so greater part had been cleared and brought under cultivation and the scanty remains are also fast disappearing. At present the forest area is limited to few patches of jungles. In the khadir of the Ganga there is a considerable extent of *jhau* or tamarisk jungle on the most recent alluvium near the river. The district had a forest area of only 1,796 hectares in 1976-77.

Valuable plantations have been undertaken by the canal and forest departments in the district. Trees like *sissoo*, mango *tun* and *kangi* have been planted along the roads and along the main canal channels. The common trees are the babul which is usually of spontaneous growth, *pipal*, *ber*, *faras*, *gular*, *tamrind* and *jamun*.

The main forest products are honey, gum called *ratila*, hides and horns of animals, flowers and fruits, medicinal herbs, bamboo, firewood, thatching

grass etc. The forests provide useful grazing ground to the cattle. The requirements of building materials, agricultural implements and fuel are also to some extent met from the forests.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

The first recorded mention of such a misfortune in 1289 A. D. is made by Zia-ud-din, who being a native of Bulandshahr, had a personal knowledge of the event. He records a great dearth of food grains in the doab owing to the failure of rains in that year, during the reign of Jalal-ud-din Firoz. In 1325 there was a widespread famine which brought havoc in the doab, where the cultivators had been already beggared by the tyranny of Mahmud bin Tughlaq. The incidence of famine was again felt in 1471. The next great drought was that of 1631, during the reign of Shahjahan. The famine of 1783-84, coming on the heels of two years' of scanty rainfall caused most disastrous results.

In 1803, the first year of British rule, drought followed hail-storms. Scarcity was again felt in 1805-06. In the following year there was no rain fall till the middle of August, with the result that large remissions of land revenue had to be made. The famine of 1837-38 extended over the greater part of the doab and in this district the distress was severe. The death-rate was very high on account of sickness especially cholera. In 1857 and the following two years the seasons were generally unfavourable so that the district was ill-prepared to meet the failure of the rains in 1860. The stocks of grain were depleted and prices were very high. Except in the tract served by the Ganga canal the *kharif* crop was entirely lost. The district passed almost unscathed through the famine of 1868-69, though the late arrival of the monsoon and the scanty rainfall caused a serious contraction of the area sown, and the outturn on unirrigated lands was very poor. A good rainfall in September enabled a large *rabi* area to be sown, and though for a time anxiety was felt, the timely advent of showers at the end of January enabled cultivators to gather a satisfactory harvest. It was on this occasion that Hathras first attracted attention as a centre of the grain trade, enormous quantities being collected there for dispatch to such distant places as Jalandhar and Jabalpur. During the famine of 1877-78 Aligarh did not escape so lightly. Rainfall in the beginning of July, 1877 enabled the *kharif* to be sown, but the crop was almost a complete failure. A good rainfall, however, in October enabled the cultivators to obtain credit and to sow *rabi* crop in an exceptionally large area. While this relieved the agricultural community, the labourers, the artisans suffered from distress. In the beginning of October it was found necessary to start relief works in various places, but the attendance was never great. The small attendance was partly due to fall in the prices which accompanied the rain in October and partly due to the increasing demand for labour on the lower Ganga canal, then in the process of construction. In 1899 there was a considerable influx of famine stricken people from Rajsthan particularly from Bikaner, but ample provision for their needs was made by private charity, the traders of Hathras in particular maintaining an efficient organisation for outdoor relief throughout the period of scarcity. The district escaped wholly

from the partial famine of 1905-06 and was similarly unaffected in 1907-08. Locusts invaded the district in 1928.

In recent year the period between 1955-56 and 1963-64 was marked by floods in nearly all rivers in the district; 1964-65 and 1968-69 were years of drought.

In the year 1970-71, floods, excessive rains and waterlogging affected 8,194 persons in 26 villages covering a total area of 8,838 ha. 856 houses were damaged, and crops in an area of 1,905 ha. were badly affected.

Gratuitous relief amounting to Rs 9,000 and *taqavi* amounting to Rs 3,488 were distributed by the government as relief.

Flood, excessive rain and waterlogging again affected 140 persons in 7 villages, covering a total area of 165 ha., damaging 25 houses and crops in an area of 165 ha. in the year 1972-73. A sum of Rs 1,000 was distributed as gratuitous relief by the government.

In the year 1974-75, flood, heavy rain and waterlogging affected 1,39,034 persons in 319 villages covering an area of 37,649 ha. About 1,154 houses and crops in an area of 14,878 ha. were damaged.

Gratuitous relief amounting to Rs 19,500 and *taqavi* amounting to Rs 20,000 were distributed by the government as relief in the same year.

Flood and heavy rain again ravaged the district in the year 1975-76 affecting 2,93,761 persons in 436 villages, covering a total area of 74,874 ha., damaging 15,606 houses and crops in an area of 33,981 ha. A total of 31 persons and 17 cattles died in the floods of 1975-76. An amount of Rs 23,000 as gratuitous relief and Rs 1,25,000 as *taqavi* were distributed as relief by the government in that year.

In 1976-77, flood, excessive rains and waterlogging again affected 13,92,592 persons in 1,194 villages, covering a total area of 2,48,151 ha. Nearly 13,756 houses were damaged and crops in an area of 1,28,305 ha. were badly affected. A total of 21 persons and 5 cattles lost their lives.

Gratuitous relief amounting Rs 1,87,845 and *taqavi* amounting to Rs 4,53,450 were distributed by the government as relief.

Since the construction of tube-wells and opening of the canals, the district is now virtually immune from hard-hitting famines. There do occur scarcities but they are overcome by timely relief measures adopted by the government.

To organise relief a subdivisional officer acts as officer incharge (scarcities) working under the supervision of the Collector. Relief to the people takes several forms, such as suspension and remission of land revenue, distribution of loans and gratuitous relief and *taqavi* and providing employment to the needy in the tests works such as construction of roads, buildings, etc., specially started for the purpose.

CHAPTER V INDUSTRIES

OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

In ancient times the village was generally a self-sufficient economic unit producing the goods required by its inhabitants and its own artisans ministering to its simple requirements. The potters, weavers, carpenters, smiths, stone-carvers, dressers of hides, tanners and leather workers, etc., turned out goods of their trade such as pots, cloth, agricultural implements, metalware, carved and inlaid stone, shoes, articles of leather and other types of handmade goods. They were generally remunerated in kind, the usual commodity being grain which was given at the time of the two harvests *rabi* and *kharif*.

The old-time manufactures of the district were few but significant. The principal manufactures of district were cotton cloth, cotton rugs and carpets. Spinning and weaving of the locally grown cotton had always been practised. Later on the development of the export trade gave enormous impetus to cotton ginning and pressing, leading to the establishment of numerous factories worked by steam power.

At the time of the arrival of the British in the country the indigenous cloth-weaving industry was in a flourishing condition in spite of the competition from factory-made cloth. Some of the cloth made in the district was of a very superior description, especially in the case of fabrics woven in patterns of various colours with several pairs of heddles, such as *gabrun*, *kanawez* and *chauthai*, which were being produced in large quantities at Sikandra Rao. At Aligarh a good deal of calico printing on hand-made cloth was done, the patterns resembling those made at Jahangirabad and Farrukhabad. Aligarh was also celebrated for its cotton carpets and rugs. The style was much the same as that of Agra, but the weaving was coarser and more compact as a rule. A speciality of the place was the prayer rugs or *jainamaz*, which was often decorated in a most effective manner by weaving Arabic sentences or monograms in various colours. The only woollen fabrics made in the district were the ordinary coarse blankets. Camel hair was said to be employed sometimes in carpet weaving but ordinarily it was used only for making ropes.

Work in metal was of considerable importance. The Aligarh postal workshop (established in 1842) was meant to supply the postal department all over the country numerous articles like scales, locks, letter-boxes, badges, belts, scissors, seals, knives, lamps, lanterns mail carts and bags etc., It also served as a training centre for mechanics for learning the use of modern tools and appliances. There were numerous lockworks in the district, notably at Aligarh, Iglas and Hathras. The locks were of good quality and exported in very large numbers to all parts of the country.

Crude glass was made in various parts of the district, and there was a considerable manufacture of glass bangles at Purdilnagar and Akraabad in Sikandra Rao tahsil. At some places phials of blown glass and bottles were also manufactured. Crude glass was also exported in large quantities to other places in the State.

The ordinary pottery of the district was made chiefly from the dark grey clay known as *chikka mitti*. It was toughened by an admixture of cotton-wool. Specimens of old stone-carvings are still to be seen in Aligarh, Hathras and other places in the district, but the work was mostly done by craftsmen of Agra and Mathura.

In 1902, there were 79 indigo factories, the largest number in any district in those days, employing about 4,500 hands. The district also had a flourishing dairy industry and dried and processed meat from the district was sent to Burma. The most striking feature of the industries in Aligarh was that, by and large, they had been developed and maintained by local capital and management.

Power

Electricity was firstly introduced in Aligarh district in 1926. The major sources of electricity in the State are hydro power station, Rihand, thermal power stations, Obra, Harduaganj and Panki and other sources which are inter linked and are feeding the entire State. Aligarh district is also, getting the electric supply from the grid of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board.

The district Aligarh is getting electricity supply from 66 KV hydro electric power house, Sumera and 132 KV, 66 KV and 37.5 KV thermal power stations, Harduaganj, Kasimpur. There are a number of sub-stations in the district which also help in electric distribution in the district.

LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRIES

In 1976-77 the district had ten large-scale industries having a total capital investment of about Rs 16 crore (160 million) and employing 8,603 workers. These units are engaged in manufacture of cotton yarn, vegetable oil, locks, edible oil, ghee, butter, milk powder, sanitary fittings, building hardware, straw board, padlocks, printing and stamping seals. They are located either at Aligarh or at Hathras. A brief description of these industries is given below :

Cotton Yarn

Established in 1940, the Bijli Cotton Mills, Hathras, manufactures cotton yarn. It had an investment of Rs 10,24,939 and employed 873 workers in 1976-77. Against raw material (cotton) worth Rs 80,00,000 it produced cotton yarn valued at Rs 1,24,00,000 in that year. The yarn is exported to various centres both in and outside the State.

Powdered Milk

The Glaxo Laboratories, Manzoorgarhi, Aligarh manufacture baby food which are marketed under different trade names such as Farex, Complan etc. and powdered milk. The factory was established in 1956. In 1976-77 it had a total investment of Rs 1,95,31,000 and employed 344 workers. The raw material (milk) is available within the district. In 1976-77, it used milk worth Rs 75,00,000 and produced milk powder worth Rs 1,07,35,650. It also produces glucose 'D' an easily assimilable form of sugar, which is very useful for the convalescents, and weak and anaemic persons. The products are exported to places all over the country.

Butter and Ghee

The U. P. Central Dairy Farm, G. T. Road, Aligarh, was established in 1955 and produces butter, ghee and meat. It had a capital investment of Rs 90,00,000 and employed 200 workers in 1976-77. It used raw materials worth Rs 65,00,000 and the total production was worth Rs 1,13,00,000 in that year.

The Prag Vanaspati Products, Aligarh, manufactures hydrogenated vegetable oil, commonly called Vanaspati, and other edible oils. It was established in 1960. The total capital investment of the unit was about Rs 8,83,000 in 1976-77. It used oil-seeds worth Rs 8,50,00,000 and produced vegetable product and edible-oil valued at Rs. 9,43,00,000 and employed 250 workers in that year.

Oil and Oil-cakes

The Parag Ice and Oil Mills, Aligarh, was established in 1940. Its total investment amounted to Rs 17,25,149 in 1976-77 and it employed 495 worker. It used raw material worth Rs 4,00,000 and produced oil and oil-cakes valued at Rs 6,90,000 in that year.

Sanitary Fittings

The Tiger Products, Aligarh, was established in 1964. It manufactures sanitary fittings. In 1976-77 the total capital invested in the unit amounted to Rs 16,85,187 and it employed 343 workers. Against materials worth Rs 65,00,000 goods valued at Rs 1,10,42,202 were produced in that year.

Locks

Aligarh is famous for its lock industry which has given it an important place on the industrial map of the State. Earlier only padlocks and few other type of locks were manufactured but of late numerous varieties of locks like mortice locks, scooter locks, automobile locks, telephone locks, etc. are being manufactured in the district. A number of small-scale units are also engaged in this trade. The Tiger Locks at Aligarh, is the only large-scale unit which was established in 1952. It had an investment of Rs 19,15,806 and gave employment to 348 workers in 1976-77. It used raw materials worth Rs 78,00,000 and manufactured locks worth Rs 1,26,65,000 in that year. The Tiger locks enjoy a good reputation both in and outside the country particularly in Middle East and other Asian countries.

Hardware

Another concern of the Tiger's is the Tiger Hardware Tools. It is located at Aligarh, and was established in 1956. It had an investment of Rs 24,50,900 and employed 620 workers in 1976-77. Using raw materials worth Rs 1,10,00,000 it produced hardwares worth Rs 1,58,43,600 in that year.

Straw Board

The R. G. Paper and Straw Board Mills, Hathras, is engaged in the production of paper and straw board by using bagasse and waste paper. It was established in 1965. It had a capital investment of Rs 4,50,000 and employed 130 persons in 1976-77. Raw materials valued at about Rs 3,20,000 was used by the unit and it manufactured straw board and paper worth Rs 3,27,963 in that year.

Printing and Seals

The largest concern in the district in this field is the Government Press which is engaged in making government seals and allied printing works. The primary work of the Press is to make seals. It had a total investment of Rs 12 crores and employed 5,000 workers in 1976-77.

SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

A smallscale unit normally has an outlay of Rs 10,00,000 or less and employs up to 50 persons. In the urban areas of the district a large number of small-scale industries have come up in recent years and the increasing demand for various kinds of consumer goods of daily use has enabled them to flourish. However, in the early years of the seventies of this century these industries, in the wake of rising prices of raw materials and their scarce supply, faced difficulties. In 1977 there were about 915 small-scale industries in the district which had a total capital investment of about Rs 26 crores. They provided employment to about 19,221 workers and produced goods worth Rs. 66 crores in that year. These industries may broadly be classified into those having agriculture, live-stock and forest products as their base, those related to metal and chemical engineering; and, lastly those related to cotton and textiles and potteries. A brief account of some of the more important of these industries is given below.

Agro-based Industries

Oil from oil-seeds, flour from wheat, dal (pulses) from legumes, chandsari from sugar-cane and straw board from bagasse and waste paper are produced in 129 units in the district, mainly at Aligarh and Hathras. The number includes cold storages too for storing perishable agricultural products like potatoes, onions, etc. In 1976-77 these units had a total investment of about Rs 15,00,00,000. They used raw materials worth about Rs 6,00,00,000, produced goods valued at about Rs 8,00,00,000 and employed about 250 workers in that year. Most of the agro-industries had been established in the fifties and sixties of the present century.

Forest-based Industries

There were in 1976-77 a total of 28 units in the district, mostly located at Aligarh, which were engaged in business as saw mills or manufacture of furniture. The total capital investment in these units was about Rs 10,50,620 and 150 workers were employed in them in 1976-77. They used timber as raw material worth Rs 9,50,000 and produced finished goods valued at Rs 13,44,833.

Engineering-based Industries

There were in all 218 units, with a total capital investment of about Rs 4,00,00,000 in 1976-77. They were engaged in the production of agricultural implements, foundry, building fittings, electrical goods and locks. Some of them engaged in the lock industry are very old. In 1976-77 these units used raw materials worth about Rs 20,00,00,000, produced finished products valued at about Rs 35,00,00,000 and employed 2,717 workers.

Chemicals-based Industries

Silicate, Ayurvedic medicines, paints, varnish and candles were produced by 130 units, mostly located at Aligarh and Hathras, and were established in the period between 1950-65. They had a total investment of Rs 80,57,820 and employed about 1,250 workers in 1976-77. These units produced finished goods worth Rs 60,93,710 and used raw materials valued at about Rs 5,00,000 in that year.

Cotton and Textiles

Niwar (tape), hand and power-loom cloth, and readymade garments were produced in 36 units mainly located at Hathras in 1976-77. These had an investment of about Rs 15,00,000 and employed 200 workers. They used cotton and cloth worth about Rs 75,00,000 and produced goods valued at about Rs 1,00,00,000.

Mineral-based Industries

Aligarh is poor in mineral resources. Only *kankar* (lime-stone conglomerate) is found in almost all parts of district which is used in manufacturing building material (lime) or used as road metal, ballast and concrete foundation. Lime of good quality is obtained by burning *kankar* in kilns. In parts of the district, especially Sikandra Rao tahsil, saline earth is found from which saltpetre is obtained. Carbonate of soda or *sajji* is found in abundance in the *usar* tracts and goes by the generic term of *reh*. It is mostly used in the manufacture of *kanch* (crude glass). The only other mineral is heavy clay used for making bricks and pottery.

There were 30 units, with a total capital investment of about Rs 1,00,000, engaged in the production of bricks, potteries, lime, *kanch* and cement grilles in 1976-77. They used raw materials worth about Rs 35,00,000 and produced goods valued at Rs 50,60,930 and employed 130 workers in that year.

Live-stock based Industries

In 1976-77 there were 4 small-scale dairies in the district besides the large-scale central dairy at Aligarh run by the government. The small-scale dairies had a capital investment of about Rs 4 lakhs and employed 25 workers in that year. The average annual production of these units was of the value of about Rs 1.5 lakhs in that year.

Miscellaneous Industries

Perfumery, rose-water, essences, brass-statues and some other allied goods were produced in nearly 344 units in the district in 1976-77. They had a capital investment of about Rs 5,27,40,000 in 1976-77. Raw materials valued at about Rs 15,00,00,000 were used by these units and goods worth about Rs 20,00,00,000 were produced, and 12,274 persons were employed in these units.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

Aligarh is one of the important industrial cities of the State. For further industrial development government established three industrial estates in the district. The first estate was established at Aligarh in 1962 followed by those at Hathras and Atrauli in 1963. Various facilities and concessions for the establishment of small-scale industries are provided by government, nationalised banks and other financial institutions. Besides making available power and raw materials at concessional rates, assistance for marketing of finished goods is also provided.

The following statement gives some particulars about the three industrial estates :

Location and area (hectares)	Year of establishment	Total number of sheds	Total number of plots	Total No. of constructed plots	1978-77				Number of person employed	Total electricity available in H.P. (approx)
					Name of industries	No. of units	Name of goods produced	Value of production (Rs)		
Aligarh Village--Rasulpur (14.3)	1962	31	124	73	Engineering	48	Agricultural implement, foundry, building fittings, electrical goods rolling, wire-drawing and locks	65,00,000	550	350
Hathras-Agra road (13.3)	1963	86	63	Textile	Chemicals	10	Graphite, Ayurvedic and allopathic medicines and refined wax	25,00,000	120	110
Atranli (3.6)	1963	10	28	Engineering	Miscellaneous	20	Electroplating and allied industries	15,00,000	150	160
					Chemicals	6	Cotton cloth and niwar	5,00,000	65	50
					Engineering	8	Rubber, ayurvedic, and allopathic medicines	12,00,000	100	70
					Miscellaneous	4	Agricultural implements and building fittings	12,00,000	40	35
					Engineering	10	Rice, mill, Cold storage, glass phillas etc	45,00,000	150	100
					Engineering	1	Foundry	—	6	—

COTTAGE AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

Village and cottage industries in the district as elsewhere, are concerned with the processing of raw materials by the adoption of simple techniques. Such industries include mostly the handicrafts handed down from generation to generation. These industries are generally located in the homes of villagers, thus providing a decentralised base for the development of economy of the district. With increasing mechanization in the industries there is growing need for finding avenues of employment for those who are displaced by the use of machinery. This may be provided by the cottage industries which may also provide a supplementary source of livelihood to the people in the villages of the district. These industries have flourished for long and some of them have in recent years also switched over to modern techniques of production. Such industries besides being run by individual householders with the help of their family members are also organised and run on co-operative lines.

A brief account of various registered co-operative cottage and village industrial units in the district is given below.

Leather Tanning

With the raw material (hides and skins) available in abundance, Aligarh has been famous for its leather goods industry since long. With the coming of the big manufacturing concerns in the field, the indigenous trade gradually declined particularly in the urban areas. In the villages it is, however, still persisting but on a very moderate scale. In 1977 there were 16 registered co-operative industrial units engaged in the trade with an initial capital outlay of Rs 2,81,957 and employing 65 persons. The units used raw materials worth Rs 5,16,280 and produced tanned leather worth Rs 6,68,580 in the same year.

Shoe Making

There were 20 registered co-operative industrial units in the district engaged in shoe making in 1977. The capital investment was Rs 2,08,500 and 69 persons were employed in the industry in that year. The units used raw materials worth Rs 2,53,401 and produced shoes worth Rs 3,37,340 in the same year.

Oil Production

Oil is extracted from oil-seeds in four registered co-operative industrial units in the district. A total amount of Rs 59,500 was invested in them in 1977. The units provided employment to 23 persons and oil worth Rs 1,35,250 was produced in that year.

Pottery

Besides the indigenous village potters there were in the district in 1977, seven registered co-operative pottery units with a capital of Rs 11,600 engaged in making of earthenwares. These units used raw materials worth

Rs 10,200 and produced goods mainly *nads* (troughs) which are used for feeding cattle, *kulhars* (earthen cups), *surahis* (earthen pots with a long, slim and round opening), etc., valued at Rs 21,200 and employed seven persons in that year.

Food Products

In 1977, there were three registered co-operative industrial units which produced *atta* (wheat flour), *maida* (fine wheat flour), pulses and rice. The capital invested in these units was Rs 67,000 and the number of persons employed was 26 in that year. In the same year these units used raw material worth Rs 76,500 and produced goods worth Rs 1,91,000.

Ban Making

Ban making is also one of the oldest and important cottage industries in the district. *Moonj*, the grass from which *ban* is made, has a wild growth in the district. One registered co-operative unit was engaged in the production of *ban*. The capital outlay was Rs 5,200 and five persons were employed in this unit in 1977. Raw material worth Rs 1,450 was used and *ban* produced were worth Rs 2,450 in the same year.

Gur and Khandsari Making

It is one of the old and important industries of the district. There were four registered co-operative industrial units with a capital investment worth Rs 16,800 and employing 22 persons in 1977. These units used raw material worth Rs 60,675 and produced *gur* and *khandsari* worth Rs 63,210 in that year.

Building Fittings and Agricultural Implements

There were five registered co-operative cottage industrial units which produced building fitting goods and agricultural implements with a capital investment of about Rs. 1,62,000 and employing 78 persons in 1977. These units used raw material worth Rs 4,05,929 and produced goods worth about Rs 5,32,920 in the same year.

Soap Making

Soap is made by three registered co-operative industrial units with a capital investment of Rs 46,000 and employing 25 persons in 1977. These units used raw material worth Rs 1,22,309 and produced soap worth Rs 1,54,689 in that year.

Aid to Industries

Industrial units need finances for creation of fixed assets as well as for meeting their working expenses. In a large number of cases financial assistance for creation of fixed assets is provided by the financial institutions, in addition to the funds arranged by entrepreneurs themselves. Advances for working capital are generally obtained from the commercial banks. There are a number of schemes which provide the entrepreneurs fixed as

well as working capital. These include loans by the Central government through the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI). The loans advanced to small and medium-size units by these institutions not only carry a concessional rate of interest but terms are also easy, such as longer repayment period, lower service charges and security margin, etc. The interest charged in the backward district is one per cent lower than the normal rate of interest. The initial grace period of commencement of repayment of loan instalments is extended normally from two years to five years as also the period of repayment from 5 to 7 years. There is a reduction of 50 per cent on the normal service charges also. IDBI may also subscribe heavily to the risk capital of the project, bear the cost of consultancy services initially which may be reimbursed later on when the project reaches the profitability stage.

The financial assistance by the State government is routed through the Uttar Pradesh Financial Corporation, Kanpur. The Corporation is authorised to grant financial assistance to industrial concerns operating in the State irrespective of whether they are constituted as public limited companies, private limited companies, co-operative establishments, partnerships or sole proprietary concerns. The Corporation has been also authorised to carry on and transact various types of business but, till now it has confined its activities to advancement of loans to industrial concerns and issue of deferred payment guarantees to industrial units for the purchase of indigenous machinery from the manufacturers and suppliers and to acting as an agent of the State government.

The amount of loans and period of repayment varies from time to time depending on the nature of industry. The interest rate of the Corporation also varies from time to time on the basis of bank rate. Units in backward districts are entitled to special concessions. These include lower rate of interest, longer grace and repayment period.

The Corporation has two types of schemes for financing industries, namely the 'Corporation Loan' and the 'Agency Loan' scheme. Under the former it provides assistance out of its own funds to both small and other types of industries while under the latter it grants loans to small-scale industries as agent to the State government. Under the latter scheme three types of loans, namely, the liberalised loans, ordinary loans and power-loom loans are advanced. Liberalised loans are granted for creation of fixed assets and also for working capital for export oriented, defence oriented and agro-based industries. Ordinary loans are primarily sanctioned for purchase of fixed assets and in special cases for use as working capital. Power-loom loans are given only to registered co-operative societies for creation of fixed assets.

Applications for loans under the Corporation Loan scheme are made directly to the U. P. Financial Corporation while for loans under the Agency Loan scheme applications have to be routed through the directorate of industries, Kanpur, for its recommendation to the Corporation for sanction.

The following statement gives an idea of the loan assistance provided by the U. P. Financial Corporation under different schemes:

Scheme	No. of units	Loan disbursement as on 31st March 1974 (in lakhs of rupees)
Corporation loan scheme	20	20.84
Liberalised loan scheme	63	30.98
Ordinary loan scheme	5	0.36

Interest-free loans are advanced by the PICUP (Pradeshia Industrial and Investment Corporation of Uttar Pradesh) to new units. The loan is to be repaid in three equal instalments, the first being due after 12 years from the date of disbursement of the final instalment of the loan.

The entrepreneurs have to approach the nationalised and other banks as and when the need arises and the banks after their own scrutiny and on the recommendations from the district officials sanction loans both for the fixed and working capital.

The other institutions which provide technical and financial assistance for starting new or developing the already existing industries in the district are the U. P. Small Scale Industries Corporation, Kanpur, and the National Small Industries Corporation. Financial assistance and loans and grants under various intensive industrial development programmes of the State government, industrial co-operative societies and 'credit guarantee scheme of the State Bank of India are also available.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

A survey undertaken by the National Council of Applied Economic Research in 1976, revealed large and bright industrial potential for new enterprises in the large, small scale and cottage industries sector in the district. The report took into account the availability of resources, infrastructure facilities and the market.

Before indicating the scope for new industrial undertakings in the district, it may be mentioned that most of the existing units are in need of modernisation and rationalisation.

The district is famous for its lock industry which has developed here because of the availability of local skill. Assembling of locks is done by hand and the artisans do not seem eager to modernise their units. This is especially true of small units which are mostly run on family lines. There is sufficient scope for the expansion of the lock industry provided it produces new designs of locks with better finish.

The district is also known for the manufacture of building fittings. A large number of units manufacture cast brass building equipments such as haups and staples, hinges, latches, door handles, tower bolts, etc. There

is still much scope for introducing new designs and patterns. Modernisation would enable the units to expand and diversify their products and cater to a wider market.

There is also much scope for establishing new industries based on resources related to agricultural and live-stock products as the district is predominantly an agricultural area.

As a result of the Intensive Agricultural Development Programme (IADP) taken up in the district in 1961-62, the cultivation in the district has undergone substantial change. Production of sugar-cane is on the increase, but there is no sugar mill in the district so far. A large sugar mill as a co-operative venture is being planned near Harduaganj. Starting of more *khandsari* units may also be of advantage.

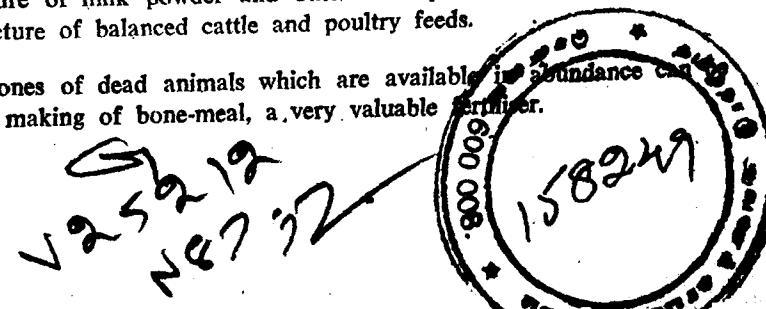
Horticulture is relatively more developed in the district as compared to other districts of the State. Mangoes, guava, berry, papaya, lemon etc., are principal fruits grown in the district. Industries to undertake canning and preservation of fruits can be profitably set up. Mangoes and guavas can be used for making jams, jellies and pickles. The district also grows cauliflowers and potatoes in abundance. Dehydration plants and cold storages for these vegetables can therefore be set up with advantage. Akraabad, Purdilnagar and Hasayan are known for the superior quality of its roses which are abundantly grown at these places. Units can be set up to produce 'gulkand' (an Ayurvedic tonic), rose water and perfumes (*itr*).

The main oil-seeds grown in the district are ground-nut and rapeseed. There are ten oil mills in the district. Except the Prag Oil Mills, which is a large-scale unit, all others are run on very small-scale and may be easily expanded.

Industries engaged in food processing, pharmaceuticals, bakery, confectionery, baby foods use malt. Barley is used in making malt through the process of dust washing, grading, soaking, steeping, germinating and finally drying at controlled temperature. In view of sizeable production of barley in the district a number of units can be established to take up manufacture of malt in the district.

Rich cattle wealth of the district has made it famous for abundant production of milk. Farmers take to cattle rearing alongwith cultivation. Dado and Chharra are two notable places which abound with cows and buffaloes of the Haryana and Murra breeds which yield more milk. In addition to the large units, namely, the Glaxo factory and the Government Central Dairy Farm, there are some other dairies of which Westend Dairy, Aligarh, is an important one. There is scope for some more units to take up manufacture of milk powder and other milk products in the district, as also manufacture of balanced cattle and poultry feeds.

The bones of dead animals which are available in abundance can be used for the making of bone-meal, a very valuable fertilizer.



Major factors influencing the demand for consumer goods, are increase in population, rise in income, degree of urbanisation, educational standards and habits and tastes of the consumers.

The use of plastic goods has increased considerably in recent years. Plastic goods can be divided into three major categories : consumer goods, industrial and electrical parts and pipes for agricultural and other purposes. Most of the plastic goods belong to the first category. The demand for household items made of plastic, such as buckets, pipes, buttons, sandals, soap cases, toys, bags and containers is increasing fast. There is scope for few additional units to manufacture plastic goods for various purposes.

The proximity of Aligarh to Agra has given rise to shoe and leather goods industry in the district. There is scope for setting up units in the district to manufacture shoes and other leather goods like suitcases, bags, brief-cases, purses, wallets, belts, leather jackets, etc. Scope for a few units to manufacture card board, packing cases and boxes is also indicated.

Although Aligarh can not be compared with Firozabad for its glass industry, there is scope for some units for manufacturing glass beads and bangles. A number of village in Sikandra Rao tahsil, particularly Hasayan, Purdilnagar and Akraabad have artisans known for their skill in making glass articles. In view of availability of skill in the district, industrial ventures for producing quality glass products can be started profitably.

The demand for insecticides and pesticides for the protection of crops, vegetables and fruits is steadily increasing. There is thus scope for a few units to manufacture insecticides and pesticides. Spraying apparatuses for these insecticides and pesticides can also be manufactured locally.

Ready-made garments, particularly of the cheaper variety for the rural population and of modern designs for exports, hosiery items such as vests, underwears, knitted shirts can also be made locally by a number of units.

Handloom industry already exists in the district and is mostly run on co-operative lines. There is need for improvement in the quality and design of cloth with a view to cater to the modern taste. Ready-made garments of handloom cloth are now increasingly exported to other countries.

Enamelled wares include household items such as mugs, jugs, saucers and bowls. Hospitals also use enamelled wares like surgical and dressing bowls, urinal and lavatory pans. There is sufficient demand for these items. Both household and hospital enamelled ware offer reasonably good scope in the district.

A number of carpet weaving units have recently come up in Aligarh. As standard of living is rising demand for cheap carpets, particularly in the middle income group households has of late picked up.

A number of printing presses are operating in the district. The demand for printing ink is growing fast with the increasing demand for text

books and other publications. There is good scope for printing ink and other ancillary industries connected with the printing presses.

The demand for bakery products such as bread, biscuits and confectionery is growing fast in Aligarh and other towns of the district. There are at present small bakery units which are neither able to meet the demand nor market quality product. A medium sized bakery and confectionery unit can be set up in Aligarh.

There is scope for some units to manufacture different types of machines. A unit can be set up to manufacture textile machine parts. Similarly, machine tools, spare parts etc. also offer some scope.

Since steel fabricated and sheet metal products involve heavy expenditure on freight and transportation, local units for making them can be set up profitably. These goods include steel almirahs, office and house furniture, boxes, buckets, rolling shutters and grille work. Though there are a number of units manufacturing these items in Aligarh, there is still scope for more of such units particularly at Aligarh, Hathras and Sikandra Rao.

To meet the demand for improved agricultural implements like ploughs, threshers, dusters or sprayers, there are a number of units in the district for manufacturing them. A few additional units in this sphere can be set up with advantage.

There are various other industries like tyre retreading, making of stationery articles like exercise books, registers, ink, chalk, crayons, hospital supplies such as saline, distilled and glucose water, surgical cotton and bandages. A large number of small-scale units for the manufacture of these articles can profitably be started in the district.

WELFARE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

Most of the workers employed in industrial concerns of the district daily come from their villages and return to their home in the evening. Some who stay in the cities also go back to their villages during sowing and harvesting seasons. Various labour legislations have been introduced in the district. The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 (a Central government Act) and the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1947, the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, the U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, the Personal Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act, 1963, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 and the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, are enforce in the district. There is a labour inspector in the district to ensure the enforcement of these labour laws, for advancement of labour welfare schemes and for maintaining liaison between employees and employers in the industrial concerns in the district.

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 the usual practices that prevailed in the trade centres of northern India also obtained here. The giving and taking of loans was in vogue even in ancient times and the word *rina* (debt) is mentioned repeatedly from Rigvedic times onwards.¹

It is known that as far back as the fifth and the sixth centuries B.C. wealth was hoarded in the house or under the ground in brazen jars. In those days money-lending was considered ignoble work. Then, as now, public opinion frowned upon usury. The Vaishyas who combined money-lending with trading charged more than the prescribed rates of interest.² In the last two centuries, the business of money-lenders, who were known as *jagat seths* (world bankers), was in a very flourishing state in this region and could be compared with contemporary private banking houses in other countries (which undertook many of the functions of the institution now called bank).

The business of dealing in money was highly developed in the medieval period and money dealers were found in all the centres of trade.³ Merchants and middlemen exploited the artisans and this exploitation increased in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and is still in evidence. In the Mughal period there were nine treasuries for cash payments of which one each was located at Agra and Farrukhabad, and the district, in all probability, received its supply of coins from these treasuries.

The gradual strengthening and progress of British trade in the nineteenth century saw the decline of indigenous banking carried on by private bankers. After the formation of the district in 1804, with the growing need for institutions for transacting business on state account, the government established its own treasuries and sub-treasuries in the district. These, for more than a century, were the main centres for the collection and expenditure of governmental money. The collector was in charge of the treasuries. He was assisted by a treasury officer and some other staff.

The expanding trade with England attracted foreign bankers and new banks were established which mostly financed foreign trade and did not serve the requirements of the local inhabitants or help their economy. Several persons from the trading community also operated as *mahajans* or indigenous bankers. One of the reasons why the indigenous banking in the

district declined was that the local bankers did not accept deposits and their utility as banking agents was limited to money-lending only. In the absence of any discount market they could not adjust themselves to the expansion and contraction of credit needs.

An agency of the Bank of Bengal was opened in 1906 at Aligarh for ordinary banking and *hundi business*. The Imperial Bank, Limited, also started a branch at Aligarh in the same year. There were agencies of the Bank of Bengal and Allahabad Bank, Limited, at Hathras. Apart from these there was no other bank in the district. At Hathras the banking business was mainly in the hands of Marwaris whose ancestors settled there about a century ago and gained immense wealth by dealing in indigo, grain and cloth. Their banking business is now on the decline after the opening of the commercial banks.

In 1916, the Aligarh District Co-operative Bank, Ltd., was established at Aligarh. Since then a number of banks have opened their offices in the district. Thus in 1934, the Central Bank of India, Ltd., in 1943, the Punjab National Bank, Ltd., and in 1955, the State Bank of India opened their branches both at Aligarh and Hathras. In 1935, a branch of the Allahabad Bank, Ltd. was also established at Aligarh, besides the one already functioning at Hathras. Banking was more or less confined to the urban centres. In the year 1960 there were a total of 13,126 depositors using the aforesaid 9 banks in the district which had a total deposit of Rs 33,00,72,534 in that year.

After the nationalisation of major scheduled banks in 1969, the commercial banks have opened large number of branches. In 1978, State Bank of India had 11 branches including the two agricultural development branches, Central Bank of India had nine, Allahabad Bank and Punjab National Bank had five each, Canara Bank had seven, Indian Bank, United Commercial Bank, Dena Bank had two each and Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank, Syndicate Bank and Union Bank of India had one each branches in the district. Of the non-nationalised banks there were three branches of The Lakshmi Commercial Bank, Ltd., and one branch each of the Hindustan Commercial Bank, Ltd., The New Bank of India, Ltd., The Oriental Bank of Commerce, Ltd., The Sind and Punjab Bank, Ltd., the Vijaya Bank, Ltd., and The Banaras State Bank, Ltd. There were ten pay-offices of State Bank of India and three extension counters one each of Punjab National Bank, Syndicate Bank and Union Bank of India also in the district. The Aligarh District Co-operative Bank had 12 and the Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Land Development Bank had six branches in the district. In the seventies of the present century the per capita bank credit in the district was Rs 13.9 while the figures for the district of Agra, Budaun and Farrukhabad were Rs 19.2, Rs 5.0 and Rs 4.1 respectively. The per capita bank deposit on the other hand was Rs 34.2 for Aligarh, Rs 62.0 for Agra, Rs 16.0 for Budaun and Rs 24.5 for Farrukhabad districts against the national average bank deposit and credit of Rs 85 and Rs 60 respectively.

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

² *Ibid.*, p. 8

³ Moreland, W. H. : *India at the Death of Akbar*, (Delhi, 1962), p. 55

Rural Indebtedness

Although the economic condition of the agriculturists of the district in the second half of the nineteenth century had improved somewhat as compared with the past, indebtedness was rife on the whole and was more or less regarded as a normal state of affairs. Loans were taken mainly for marriages, purchase of cattle or for buying the necessities of life. There were at that time no laws to ameliorate the condition of the farmers and the indebtedness of the agriculturists kept on increasing. *Banias* (traders) and *Marwaris* made enormous gains at the expense of the old proprietary classes and the cultivators. At the close of the last century, the tendency of passing the land into the hands of the people of trading class was more or less general all over the district. They had no connection with the land either by tradition or by training. Being only money-lenders, they advanced loans and charged exorbitant rate of interest, and if their dues were not realised within the stipulated time, they managed to get the land and dispossess the owners.

The usually prevalent mode of repayment of loans in the district, was the *kisti* (instalment) system, according to which a loan of Rs 10 was repaid in 12 monthly instalments of a rupee each, the interest being nearly 20 per cent per annum. With approved customers and fair security the rate of interest was frequently reduced appreciably and it was only rarely that formal bonds were entered into for repayment. The rates of interest were much the same as those obtaining in other districts. In petty cash loans the rate varied from 12 to 37 and half per cent per annum according to the status of the borrower and the risk involved. When articles were pledged as security, the rate was lower, seldom exceeding 15 per cent. In the case of large transactions, without a mortgage, the rate of interest varied from 12 to 25 per cent per annum. When movable property was pawned, the rate of interest varied from 9 to 12 per cent and when immovable property was mortgaged, the rate of interest varied from 6 to 9 per cent per annum. On grain loans the *sawai* system (repayment at one and one-fourth times more) was in vogue. If a cultivator borrowed Rs 20 from the money-lender on the first of Agrayana and repaid grain worth Rs 25 on the first of Vaishakha, he paid interest at the rate of 50 per cent per annum. If a hard-pressed cultivator mortgaged his crop, at times he had to pay the interest at *deorha* rates ($1\frac{1}{2}$ times) or 50 per cent of interest for six months against one crop. The money-lender also manipulated the advances and payments in such a way that he could derive the maximum profit from the existing prices of grain. When the prices were low he took the payment in kind and when prices were rising he took payment in cash, thus reaping the advantage under either condition.

There were no large banking establishments in the district till the first decade of the present century, although there were several well-to-do *sahukars* (bankers) in the district. The ordinary loans to agriculturists, were commonly made in kind, that is, grain either for seed or else just to feed the cultivators till the next harvest. In villages where the *zamindar* himself was the money-lender and the cultivator, steeped in debt, was

unable to repay the debt, the former often disposed of the whole of the latter's grain or property to his best advantage, crediting the debtor with the proceeds at a price lower than the market rate and advancing him a sum merely for subsistence and for working on the land—a process which went on till the cultivator either ran away or died.

By the beginning of the present century agriculturists were generally benefited by the rise in prices. The economic depression of the thirties weakened the economic condition of the agriculturists. They were unable to repay the principal amount of money borrowed and most of them failed even to pay the interest on the loans taken. The high prices of agricultural products which prevailed during the period of the Second World War gave the agriculturists good returns in terms of money, but because of general inflationary conditions high prices had to be paid by them for the necessities like cloth, oil, agricultural implements, live-stock, etc. Large number of villagers joined the army during the war and a considerable amount of money was remitted by them to their dependents and relatives in the villages which enable them to repay their old debts to some extent. The general rise of prices of agricultural commodities in later years has helped the cultivators only to a very limited extent because the cultivator was left with little savings due to considerable rise in the cost of consumer goods and agricultural inputs. The per capita income of an average farmer has no doubt gone up with the increase in agricultural products and their prices, but it has been largely offset by the enormous rise in the prices of inputs and other necessities of life.

The Reserve Bank of India has estimated that the family of an average cultivator was indebted to the extent of Rs 501.89 in 1971, of which only Rs 9.31 were borrowed in kind and the rest valued at Rs 492.58 was borrowed in cash. The total assets of the family of an average agriculturist amounted to Rs 20,812. The assets of an average agricultural labourer's household whose number in the district is considerable have been estimated at Rs 1,867.24, and he is indebted to the extent of Rs 246.6.

Urban Indebtedness

No authoritative information is available in regard to urban indebtedness in the district except that it is confined mainly to people of the middle and lower income groups, the former being the chief victims as the adjustment of their increasing expenditure becomes increasingly difficult with their more or less fixed incomes. Rising prices and the general inflationary trend compel them to borrow money even for purposes like children's education, medical treatment, marriage and other social obligations. Gambling and drinking are not uncommon among wage earners and labourers who inhabit the urban areas. These vices which aggravate the financial condition of these people compelling them to borrow money. The main sources for borrowing money are the professional money-lenders, friends and relatives. The rate of interest varies, as usual, with the amount of loan, the period of its repayment and the standing of the borrower.

The Reserve Bank of India conducted a survey in 1971, which estimated that the average value of the total assets of the household of

an average urban artisan was Rs 2,797.98, and his family was indebted to the extent of Rs 300.71.

Debt-relief Legislations

The government made attempts to regulate the terms and condition of money-lending through legislation in 1918, when the Usurious Loans Act, 1918, authorised the courts, if it was found that the interest was excessive and transaction between the parties substantially unfair, to reopen the transaction and to relieve the debtor of all liability in respect of any excessive interest. By an amendment of 1926, the Act was made applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage. But the Act did not provide a satisfactory definition of the terms 'excessive' and 'unfair', which made it difficult for courts to determine whether a transaction was unfair or the interest excessive. An amendment made in 1934 made the Act applicable generally 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 repayment of debts. They also protected the person and property of the debtors from being proceeded against in execution of decrees.

To regulate rural indebtedness State government introduced further reforms, and in this connection the Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Money lending Act, 1976, was enforced in the State. The Act requires the money-lenders to get themselves registered as money-lenders. Among other things, the Act provides for fixation of rate of interest on loans. It also prohibits money-lenders from molesting debtors on pay day near their place of work. Passing of this Act has gone some way in checking the exploitation of debtors at the hands of money-lenders of the district.

To provide for a moratorium on recovery of debts payable by landless agricultural labourers, small and marginal farmers and rural artisans, the Uttar Pradesh Rural Weaker Sections (Moratorium on Recovery of Debts) Act, 1975 was passed. It was a temporary legislation. Subsequently it was decided the debts payable by landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers and rural artisans should be totally liquidated and the debts payable by small farmers should be scaled down in accordance with their paying capacity. It was also considered necessary to provide relief to rickshawpullers, scavengers and other urban workers. With this end in view the Uttar Pradesh Debt Relief Ordinance, 1977 was promulgated. Since this ordinance was due to lapse in May, 1977, the Governor promulgated the Uttar Pradesh Debt Relief (Second) Ordinance, 1977 which continued the enforcement of the provisions of previous ordinance. Subsequently, the Uttar Pradesh Debt Relief Act, 1977 was passed, repealing both previous ordinances and the Uttar Pradesh Landless Agricultural Labourers Debt Relief Act, 1975 and the Uttar Pradesh Rural Weaker Sections (Moratorium on Recovery of Debts) Act, 1975. This Act has gone a long way in ameliorating the conditions of the economically weaker sections of society.

ROLE OF PRIVATE MONEY-LENDERS AND FINANCIERS

In the towns the banks, local money-lenders and other private agencies provide credit. In the rural areas friends, relatives, professional money-lenders, the well-to-do cultivators, *banias* (traders), commission agents, and co-operative societies are the lending agencies. At Hathras the banking business is mainly in the hands of Marwaris. *Khandsaris* (dealers in sugar) and *banjaras* (nomadic traders) are also money-lenders, the former having the reputation of being rapacious, the method employed being the advancing of a sum sufficient to finance the cultivator's sugar-cane crop on condition that he (the money-lender) will collect the entire juice at a forward rate decided by him. The rate of interest is not exorbitant but he generally buys the juice at a throw away price. The establishment of the sugar factories in the region has greatly lessened the dependence of sugar-cane growers on the *khadsaris*. The *banjaras* on the other hand are still in field as they function in various capacities like traders and commission agents.

The government and the co-operative institutions have made endeavours to eliminate the private village money-lender but he continues to be an indispensable element in the rural life. The rate of interest charged by private money-lenders and financiers generally varies from 36 to 72 per cent per annum.

Commercial Banks

In 1978 there were 57 branches of 20 commercial banks in the district. The location of the office of each commercial bank in the district is given below :

Name of commercial banks	Location of branches
Nationalised Banks	
State Bank of India	Atrauli, Hathras, Mursan, Khair, Kasimpur, Sikandra Rao, three branches in Aligarh, agricultural development branch of Khair and Harduaganj
Central Bank of India	Chharra, Hathras, Sasni, Iglas, Khair, Jattari, Harduaganj and two branches at Aligarh
Allahabad Bank	Hathras, Tappal and three branches at Aligarh
Punjab National Bank	Hathras, Kauriaganj, Sikandra Rao and two branches at Aligarh
Canara Bank	Hathras, Gonda, Akraabad, Vijaigarh, Sikandra Rao, Kachaura, Aligarh
Indian Bank	Hathras, Aligarh
United Commercial Bank	Jawan, Aligarh
Dena Bank	Two at Aligarh
Bank of Baroda	Aligarh
Bank of India	Aligarh
Indian Overseas Bank	Aligarh
Syndicate Bank	Aligarh
Union Bank of India	Aligarh
Non-nationalised Banks	
The Lakshmi Commercial Bank, Ltd.	Hathras, Jalali, Aligarh
The Hindustan Commercial Bank, Ltd.	Aligarh
The New Bank of India, Ltd.	Aligarh
The Oriental Bank of Commerce, Ltd.	Aligarh
The Sind and Punjab Bank, Ltd.	Aligarh
The Vijaya Bank, Ltd.	Aligarh
The Banaras State Bank, Ltd.	Aligarh

The pay offices of State Bank of India were at Madargate, Aligarh Muslim University, Medical College and industrial estate in Aligarh town, Beswan in Gonda block, Chandaus, Gobhana and Pisawan in Chandaus block, Chharra in Jawan block and at Hasayan. The three extension counters, one each of Punjab National Bank in the S. V. College, Syndicate Bank in the Aligarh Muslim University and Union Bank of India in Gandhi Eye Hospital were also functioning in that year.

In the past most of the advances made by the bank went to the merchants and traders. After the nationalisation of the banks in 1969, the trend has changed, and by 1976-77 as much as 57.4 per cent of the total advances were diverted to agriculture, small-scale industries, transport, retail trade, small business and education. The total advances and deposits in the district as in the 1976-77 were Rs. 15,69,12,000 and Rs. 33,50,91,000 respectively. The credit deposit ratio was 46.8 per cent.

The following statement gives the amount of advances given to different sectors of economy in the district in 1976-77 :

Sectors	Amount (in Rs.)	No. of accounts
Agriculture		
(a) Direct	2,18,27,000	10,868
(b) Indirect	99,02,000	8,100
Small-scale Industries	3,75,95,000	1,471
Export	80,43,000	85
Road and water transport	11,87,000	61
Retail trade and small business	64,98,000	2,423
Education	46,000	26

Co-operative Movement

The co-operative movement in the district was initiated with the establishment of the village banks in the early years of the present century. The first village bank started at Arani in tahsil Atrauli dates from 1902 and had done fairly well. Two banks, one for Jats and one for Harijans, were started in 1905 at Kurana in the Khair tahsil, though the results were not satisfactory. Two banks, one each for the Muslims and the Harijans, were opened in 1906 at Bain in the Atrauli tahsil. In the same year a bank was started at Deoseni in Aligarh tahsil, but it failed to give the desired results. However, the experiment was an encouraging step. To expedite the co-operative movement in the country suited to the local conditions, the Co-operative Credit Societies Act was passed in 1904 which was further amended by the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912. This statute forms the basis of the present day co-operative credit societies in the district.

The co-operative movement gained momentum after independence. The number of co-operative societies shows a regular increase since 1960, but after this the number of co-operative societies has decreased as the smaller societies were amalgamated to form larger viable societies. There were 786 primary agricultural societies with the membership of 1,43,000 and 59 primary non-agricultural societies with the membership of 20,500 in 1973-74 in the district.

Other Co-operative Institution

The district Co-operative Development Federation was established at Aligarh in 1948 with a capital investment of about Rs 7,82,029 in 1976-77, as an apex institution for consumer co-operative in the district. The federation purchases and sells various agricultural and consumer goods.

The following table gives total value of purchases and sales made by the federation in 1975, 1976 and 1977 :

Year	Purchase (In Rs.)	Sales (in Rs.)
1975	5,633	10,904
1976	90,558	90,720
1977	5,04,575	5,11,326

There were seven co-operative marketing societies in 1976-77 in Aligarh. Food-grains, chemical fertilizers and other consumer goods were sold by these marketing societies. Cultivators also market their produce through them.

Co-operative Banks

The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd., was established at Aligarh in 1916. By 1978 it had 12 branches in the district, which were located at Aligarh, Hathras, Khair, Sikandra Rao, Iglas, Atrauli, Chharra, Sauni, Akraabad, Kasimpur, Jatari and Gonda. The bank had membership of 408 and an investment of Rs 27.76 lakhs in 1978. The bank finances the co-operative institutions of the district and also provides banking facilities to its members.

The following table gives total advances, deposits and working capital (in lakhs of rupees) of the bank in 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Year	Advances	Deposits	Working capital
1974-75	153.52	107.00	280.76
1975-76	183.36	126.06	301.20
1976-77	227.97	126.54	335.07

The Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Land Development Bank was established at Aligarh in 1957. The bank had six branches in 1978, located at Aligarh, Jelas, Hathras, Sikandra Rao, Atrauli and Khair. The bank provides medium and long-term loans (for 7 to 15 years) at an interest of 9½ per cent per annum, mainly for the development of agriculture. In recent years the bank has also started advancing credit for the implementation of private minor irrigation schemes like construction of masonry wells, installation of *rahats* (persian wheels) pumping sets, etc.

The following table gives the total amount of loans distributed by the bank in 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 :

Year	Total loan distributed (in lakhs of rupees)
1975-76	132.00
1976-77	110.00
1977-78	33.97

National Savings Organisation

The post-office savings bank scheme has been in operation in the district from the closing years of the last century. A number of small savings schemes have been in operation in the district during the last nearly three decades, primarily with the object of inculcating a habit of thrift in the people of small income group and encourage them to invest their savings in the post-offices so that the money may be kept in circulation and utilised in the national development schemes. The Chinese aggression of 1962 led to the introduction of the defence deposit and national defence certificates schemes. The Government of India introduced a 15 year public provident fund scheme in 1974-75, for the benefit of those people who had no regular savings schemes for old age, like pension or provident fund.

The following table gives the total value of deposits, withdrawals and the number of saving bank accounts in the district in 1976-77 and 1977-78 :

	1976-77	1977-78
Total deposits (in Rs.)	8,77,03,600	8,97,65,200
Total withdrawals (in Rs.)	8,13,91,200	7,35,28,900
Total number of saving bank accounts	14,228	15,091
Total number of other accounts	21,000	14,749

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 Aligarh in 1956. The following table gives an idea of the business done by the Life Insurance Corporation in the district in 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Year	Total number of persons insured	Total premia deposited (in Rs.)	Total business (in Rs.)
1974-75	2,729	63,59,071.50	3,17,11,100
1975-76	3,349	69,24,032.00	3,95,26,300
1976-77	3,791	72,83,164.80	4,16,01,200

Government Loans

It has always been a tradition of the rulers from ancient time to provide relief to the agriculturists, particularly in times of distress. After the attainment of independence in 1947, the loans are advanced not only for distress but also for the development of the agricultural economy. A sum of Rs. 1,75,977.31 was distributed by the government to the cultivators as loans (*taqavi*) in 1977-78.

Currency and Coinage

Punch-marked coins, with one or two figures engraved on them as symbol of the issuing authority were in circulation as far back as the sixth century B. C. Imperial Guptas issued a series of fine coins, which are considered to be of high artistic standard.¹ The weight of the earliest coins was fixed on the system laid down in the *Manu Smriti*. Generally coins of single metal, copper, silver or gold were in circulation. The silver coin was known as *purana* or *dhurana* and weighed 32 *ratas*.

In the medieval period there were mainly three types of coins, viz. the *dam*, the rupee and the *mohar*. A rupee comprised 40 *dams* and 10 rupees were computed as equal to a gold *mohar*. In the nineteenth century and for about the first two decades of the present century, silver and copper coins were current in the district. The most common were the Bareilly rupee weighing 171.9 grains, the Chandausi rupee weighing 171.1 grains, three denominations of the Najibabad rupee of 173, 171 and 169.3 grains each, the Lucknow rupee of 172.3 grains, the Farrukhabadi rupee of 169.2 grains and the Lucknow (*machlidar*) rupee of 173 grains.

The British rulers 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

¹ Majumdar, R. C. : *Ancient India*, p. 15

paise, two paise, three paise, five paise, 10 paise, 20 paise, 25 paise and 50 paise.

The currency consists of one rupee notes and coins issued by the Government of India and the bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India has issued notes of the denominations of two, five, ten, twenty, fifty, one hundred, one thousand, five thousand and ten thousand rupees. The notes of the denominations of one thousand, five thousands and ten thousands have been demonetised since January 16, 1978. Notes and coins are made available to the district through the branches of the State Bank of India, which receives its supply of currency notes and coins from the currency office of the Reserve Bank of India, Kanpur.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Course of Trade

In the earlier days chief articles of export from the district were cotton, grain, indigo and indigo seed, which were despatched by road to Kanpur, Agra and Rajputana. Trade flourished in spite of many drawbacks in the shape of tolls and dues levied by the local chieftains. These dues were abolished in due course by the British government and in their place a regular customs post was established at Aligarh, which was withdrawn in 1810 when inland customs were abolished. Trade grew rapidly with the construction of canals, metalled roads and railways. The last two contributed much to the growth of Aligarh, Hathras and other towns in the district. Even in the old days the district was better off in this respect than many other areas, for there were several important routes passing through it, notably the imperial road from Delhi to Koil (Aligarh) and Kannauj, which till the construction of grand trunk road ran from Koil (Aligarh) to Kasganj and Shamsabad.

At present the railways monopolies most of the traffic, though a considerable volume of trade is also carried along the roads. Both Northern and North-Eastern Railways pass through the district. One main line of Northern Railway connects Aligarh with Delhi on the west and Howrah via Kanpur, Allahabad etc., on the east. The other line leads to Bareilly and the third runs from Hathras junction to Hathras Quila. The North-Eastern Railway runs from Aghauli to Mathura via Sikandra Rao, Hathras junction, Mendu, Hathras city and Mursan. Roads also play an important role in the economy of the district. The Grand Trunk Road runs through Aligarh connecting it with Delhi on the one hand and Kanpur on the other. In all, there are about 39 metalled roads which connect different parts of the district with each other and link the district with important trade centres in and outside the State.

At the close of the last century the exports from the district mainly consisted of food-grains, cotton, indigo and indigo seed, oil seeds, ghee, wrought metal and hides. Now indigo and cotton have totally disappeared from the scene, but the relative position of other articles has

remained practically unchanged. The imports into the district mainly consisted of sugar, rice, fuel, metals, spices, salt, stone and lime, drugs and yarn.

Though the modality of trade has undergone vast changes since then due to industrial development, yet the agricultural commodities still form a sizeable bulk of the export trade, while the imports comprise mainly coal and manufactured articles like cloth, machinery, metal goods, chemical fertilisers, kerosene, sugar, and agricultural implements. Presently Aligarh is very well known for its lock industry, milk products, milk powder and Glaxo products like glucose or dextrose, cotton yarn, edible oils, ghee, handloom cloth. These are exported not only to different parts of the State but also to almost all the parts of country.

Exports and Imports*

The exports of the district comprise mostly agricultural products like wheat, gram, barley, bajra, maize, mustard, arhar, moong, urd, masoor, gur, etc., the imports comprise a large number of items, the chief being cotton and cotton cloth, cement, coal, iron and steel, fertilizers, kerosene, petrol, agricultural implements and agricultural produce. The exports of the district also include industrial and finished products like locks, milk products, etc.

The following table gives the description of export and import of agricultural produce of the district in 1976-77 :

Name of agricultural produce	Export (in quintal)	Import (in quintal)
Wheat	32,417	3,55,621
Gram	10,465	8,949
Barley	11,560	48,539
Bajra	28,386	1,89,331
Maize	9,348	34,747
Rice	39,205	25,282
Mustard	82,105	69,882
Arhar	1,13,265	22,086
Moong	5,380	17,211
Urd	1,375	317
Masoor	—	2
Gur	25,700	24,110

* The words export and import used at several places in this chapter indicates the goods coming in from or being sent out to other districts of this country, they have not been here used, as is generally done, to indicate goods coming in or being sent out to other countries.

Trade Centres

There are a number of trade centres which coincide with towns in the district. They serve as distributing points for goods, whether imported or locally produced. In the interior or the rural area too there are numerous trade centres for the disposal of goods. Weekly or bi-weekly bazaars are also held at many places.

At Aligarh, Hathras, Khair, Sikandra Rao, Atrauli, Chharra, Jatari and Sasni there are wholesale *mandis* of which the first six are the regulated ones. These serve as centres for exchange of goods and purchase of commodities in the surrounding rural areas. Drugs, medicines, cloth, agricultural implements, fertilizers, machinery, furniture, fruits, vegetables and general merchandise are the main articles of sale in the towns of the district.

The wholesale markets at Aligarh and Hathras were the main markets of the district in the past and after the introduction of the railways in 1863, they further gained importance. At present all the places which are connected by railway stations numbering 19 have become collecting centres for agricultural produce and are rising in importance.

The following table gives the total turnover of the *mandis* of Aligarh district in 1976-77 :

Commodity	Quantity (in quintal)	Value (in Rs.)
Agricultural produce	14,48,283	20,73,33,850
Gur	56,862	68,32,750
Oil-seeds	3,14,598	10,59,10,655

Retail Trade

The common requirements of the villagers and those residing in the urban centres of the district are generally supplied by traders and pedlars operating in local bazaars. All the wholesale markets in the rural areas are also retail trade centres. Bazaars locally known as *hats* are also held periodically (weekly or bi-weekly) in the villages. Of the village *hats* 55 are smaller ones (number of persons assembling being 100 to 1,000), three are medium-sized (the number of persons assembling being 1,000-1,500) and five are big ones (the number of persons assembling being over 1,500).

The following statement gives the number of *hats* held in each tahsil of the district :

Tahsil	Total number of hats held
Atrauli	24
Koili (Aligarh)	7
Iglas	10
Khair	3
Hathras	6
Sikandra Rao	11

With a view to support and strengthen agricultural economy and keep the public distribution system properly working the government has also entered the food-grains trade by purchasing agricultural produce (wheat, rice, etc.) in recent years.

State Trading

State trading is carried on by purchasing food-grains from the cultivators on a support price. The marketing wing of the food and civil supplies department of the State government, the Food Corporation of India, and the Provincial Co-operative Federation are the main agencies through which the produce is purchased from the cultivators. Through the fair-price shops the government arranges availability of the essential food-grains on reasonable rates.

Price Control and Rationing

In the wake of the Second World War (1939-45), 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 was rationed. Dealers in the controlled commodities were to take licence from the government. Various schemes for the rationing of food-grains chiefly wheat and its products, rice, sugar and kerosene have, as and when needed, been in operation in different areas.

Fair-price Shops

There are a number of fair-price shops in the district. They form the backbone of the public distribution system of essential commodities like sugar, rice, wheat, wheat products etc. The fair-price shops cater not only the towns and road side areas but also the villages falling in the interior areas of the district.

Fairs

A list of fairs held in the district has already been given earlier (appended to chapter III). Most of the fairs are of religious nature. They attract large number of traders and businessmen even from outside the district. Utensils, agricultural implements and general merchandise are marketed in them on a fairly large scale.

Weights and Measures

Till 1960 the weights and measures used in the district were not standardized. For weighing milk and sweets the "Company Waza" or government seer of 80 *tolas* was the standard, but spices, brass and metalware were sold by the *nawahi* seer of 100 *tolas*. There was yet a third standard, the *dharra* or *rajwari* seer of 113 *tolas* which was used for dealings in grain. For weighing gold and silver ornaments an entirely different standard existed. For these the unit was the *chawal* and as its name implies, it was one grain of husked rice. Six *chawals* made one *ratti*, which is the seed of *mulhati* or Indian liquorice. This is a small red pea with a

tiny black spot on it and is perhaps on that account sometimes called *Chashm-i-Khuras* or cock's eye. Eight *rattis* made one *masha*, and 12 *mashas* were equal to one *tola*, and 5 *tolas* made one *chhatak*.

Measures of distance or area were all based on the *qadam* or pace. This was not the pace of an ordinary man, but the distance which a woman, carrying a full waterpot on her head, would cover in two steps. One *kos*, theoretically measures 1,909 *qadams*, but in practice its length varies, even within the district. The local standard of area was the *bigha*, a square of 20 *qadams*, this was known as *kachha bigha* to distinguish it from the government or *pakka bigha* of 2,756 square yards.

The measurement of time was generally confined to units known as *pahar*, *ghanta*, *ghari* and *pal*. About 60 *pals* made one *ghari*, 2½ *ghari* made a *ghanta* (hour) and 3 *ghantas* made one *pahar*.

The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the district on October 1, 1960. For the proper enforcement of the new system, the State government appointed a controller of weights and measures, at Lucknow, as head of the department. At the district level the office of senior inspector, weights and measures, has been established. He is assisted by an inspector and some other staff.

Each trader in the district has to submit his weights and measures for periodical inspection, which are stamped after being found accurate.

The following table gives the number of seizures and verifications carried out by the department in 1972-73, 1973-74, 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Year	Number of seized weights and measures	Number of verification and stampings
1972-73	961	22,783
1973-74	887	10,289
1974-75	350	43,379
1975-76	811	46,347
1976-77	640	46,884

Camps are also held in the wholesale markets and the traders are induced to buy the accurate weights and measures. Publicity weeks are also organised in big market places in the district where new weights and measures are publicised through films, posters, placards, hoardings and pamphlets. Those who refuse to adopt the new weights and measures and persist in using the old ones, are brought to book and punished.

The following table gives the number of persons convicted in the district for using illegal weights and measures in 1972-73, 1973-74, 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Year	Number of persons punished by court	Number of persons whose cases were compounded
1972-73	66	933
1973-74	57	616
1974-75	18	439
1975-76	77	424
1976-77	147	254

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

In ancient days there were several important and frequented routes, notably the imperial road from Delhi to Koil which till the construction of the Grand Trunk road ran from Koil to Kasganj (in district Etah) and Shamsabad in district Farrukhabad. Subsequently a road came into existence between Koil and the new capital of Agra. But while occasional monarchs like Sher Shah and Akbar devoted their attention to the improvement of roads and took measures for rendering traffic easy and secure, the maintenance of the highways was altogether neglected by the later Mughals and Marathas, so that when the district passed into the hands of the British the roads were in a deplorable condition. In the beginning of the British rule especial attention was given to the repairing of old roads and construction of new ones. By 1850 there were about 226 km. of metalled roads in the district, a figure which at that time was probably unequalled in any other part of the State. As early as 1875 the length of metalled roads was 306 km., and of all roads 832 km. while in 1911 the respective figures were 389 km. and 953 km. In 1947 the district had 453 km. of metalled roads of which 206 km. were under the management of the public works department and the remaining under the erstwhile district board (now Zila Parishad). During the period from 1947 to 1963 some 70 km. of new metalled roads were constructed and 168 km. of already metalled roads were either reconstructed or repaired, besides the construction of 80 km. of new metalled roads by the erstwhile district board. In 1977-78 the total length of the roads in the district was about 914 km. The roads of the district are classified as the State highways, major district roads and other district roads. A list of the main roads with their length in the district is given in Table 1 at the end of the chapter.

MODES OF CONVEYANCE

The means of conveyance in the early days were palanquins of one kind or the other—horses, camels, elephants, bullock-carts and carriages drawn by horses, bullocks or camels. *Dolis* (litters) and *palkis* (palanquins) were used by those who could afford such conveyances. Mechanised transport made its appearance during the first decade of the present century. Motor-cars, buses, motor-cycles, bicycles and cycle-rickshaws in the towns and their outskirts are now a common sight. As an economical and easy means of transport the bicycle is by far the most popular particularly among students, small traders, washermen, milkmen, etc., and is also much in demand. To a great extent cycle-rickshaws have driven *ekkas* and *tongas* off the roads. *Dolis* and *palkis*, once used by the rich, may now be seen only on the occasion of such marriages as are still performed in the orthodox style.

In the rural areas the bullock-cart is still a multipurpose vehicle. It is employed for various agricultural purposes like carrying manure,

grain, fodder and building materials as also for the conveyance of people at the time of illness, pilgrimages, fairs, festivals and marriages. Though cycle-rickshaws have made their appearance in the rural areas too, it is yet the bicycle which is the common man's vehicle in the villages. Tractors, though chiefly meant for agricultural purposes, are also used as a means of transport in the rural areas (in spite of the law that they should not be used on public roads).

In the urban areas vehicles have to be registered with the local bodies like the municipal boards and town areas which also lay down standard rates of fares, though in practice the fare is generally settled mutually between the parties concerned and in most cases it is higher than the standard rate.

Mechanised Vehicular Traffic

Till 1947 motor vehicles, mainly buses and trucks, were few in number in the district. With the construction and repair of more roads in the last three decades their number has considerably increased making the transport easy and quick. Consumer goods, agricultural produce, building materials and various other commodities are generally transported by goods carriers (motor trucks) both heavy and light. The freight is usually settled by the parties concerned and varies from one to two rupees per km. An average size truck carries nearly 74 quintals of weight. These vehicles are required to be registered with the regional transport office of the State government on payment of a fixed annual fee and permits are issued for the vehicles to ply on the roads in the State. The national permit scheme has been launched by the Central government to supplement rail transport and facilitate movement of goods from one part of the country to another. Both government and private buses are plied for the transport of passengers.

U. P. State Road Transport Corporation

The U. P. government roadways organisation, which was converted into the U. P. State road transport corporation with effect from June 1, 1972, started plying buses for passenger traffic in the district in 1947. Their number has gradually increased since then. Bus journey is more convenient to people who live in the interior parts of the district as buses run past villages and small towns which are off the railway routes. In the year 1977-78 the corporation buses plied on 80 routes in the Aligarh region, the total number of buses on road being 311.

Railways

The main line of East Indian Railway from Tundla to Aligarh was opened for traffic on March 1, 1863. A branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway leading to Chandausi and Bareilly was opened on February 1872. On the 19th of October, 1875, a metre-gauge line was opened between Hathras and Mathura and that from Hathras to Kasganj was completed on July 1, 1884. A branch of the East Indian Railway from Hathras junction to Hathras city was opened for traffic on November 1, 1898. Since May 14, 1952, after the nationalisation and regrouping of the railways the railway lines running through the district have been placed under Northern and North-Eastern Railway. The former has a length of

nearly 100 km. of broad-gauge and the latter about 61 km. of metre-gauge railway lines in the district. The main line of the Northern Railway connects Aligarh with Delhi on the west and Howrah via Kanpur, Allahabad and Mughalsarai on the east. It runs through tahsils Khair, Aligarh and Hathras, traversing the district from north to south. There are nine stations on this line in the district. Another Northern Railway line known as the Bareilly-Aligarh Branch runs to Bareilly through tahsil Aligarh. There are five railway stations on this line in the district. The third runs from Hathras to Hathras Quila. The North Eastern Railway runs through tahsils Hathras and Sikandra Rao from west to east in the southern part of the district. It has six railway stations in the district. The following statement gives some details about the Railway stations in the district :

Name of Railway	Stations	Distance from previous station (km.)	Distance from district head-quarters (km.)
Northern Railway	Main line		
	Somna	11	22
	Kulwa	18	12
	Mehrawal	6	6
	Aligarh	6	—
	Daud Khan	7	7
	Madrak	7	14
	Sasni	8	22
	Hathras Jn.	9	31
	Pora	11	42
	Line from Hathras Jn. and Hathras Qila.		
	Hathras	10	41
North-Eastern Railway	Line from Hathras Jn. to Mursan		
	Mendu	2	33
	Hathras City	7	40
	Mursan	12	52
	Line from Hathras Jn. to Agsauli		
	Rati Ka	13	44
	Sikandra Rao	13	57
Northern Railway	Agsauli	10	67
	Bareilly Aligarh Line		
	Dharampur	6	36
	Atrauli Road	7	29
	Godha	6	23
	Harduaganj	9	14
	Manzurgarhi	5	9

Before the introduction of locomotives and mechanised transport, journeys in the district, as elsewhere, were beset with danger and difficulties. People generally travelled in groups. Halting places were few and far between. Serais and inns which were generally located on the roadsides near big villages and towns provided food and shelter for travellers as well as a resting place for their animals.

Dharamsalas—The district has few places of religious importance and, therefore, the number of dharamsalas is also small. They are generally used by marriage parties. The large number of lodging places in the town and quick means of transport have also lessened the importance of dharamsalas. The chief dharamsalas in the town of Aligarh are Agrawal Dharamsalas, Ayodhya Prasad-ki-Dharamsala, Ganesh Dharamsala, Janki Bai Dharamsala, Jain Dharamsala, Barahsaini Dharamsala, Mohanlal Misra Dharamsala, Lodhi Rajput Dharamsala, Vasneriya Dharamsala, Shanker Dharamsala and Seth Sri Ram Bhagat Ji-ki-Dharamsala.

Dak Bungalow and Inspection Houses :

There are a number of inspection houses, dak bungalows and rest houses in the district which are maintained by the public works, irrigation and canal departments for the use of the officials and non-officials including tourists. A list of inspection houses, dak bungalows and rest houses in the district is given at the end of the chapter in Table II.

POST OFFICES

In early days of the British rule the postal services were limited to the mail lines running from Aligarh to Delhi, Meerut, Moradabad and Bareilly on the north and north-east and to Agra and Allahabad on the south. There was no internal post of any kind and the transmission of official correspondence between the district headquarters and the outlying police-stations was effected solely through the agency of the police. In 1846, a district post for the use of the public was organised and a regular staff of runners was maintained, a uniform fee being charged for each packet. In 1866 the operations of the imperial post-office were extended and the absorption of the local mail lines and offices was commenced. By 1872, there were fifteen imperial and fourteen district post-offices. The last of the district post-offices ceased to function in 1906 when, in addition to the head office at Aligarh, there were thirteen sub-offices and 39 branch offices. In 1977 there were in addition to the head office 75 sub-post-offices and 364 branch offices in the postal division of Aligarh.

TABLE I.
List of Roads

Reference Page No. 120

Name of roads	Length in km.
1	2
Under Public Works Department :	
State Highways—	
Delhi—Kanpur	78
Pilibhit—Bharatpur	61
Chandausi—Tantpur Kot	68
Major District Roads—	
Aligarh—Tappal—Jewar	57
Nanau—Dalla Marg	30
Atrauli—Kasganj	30
Aligarh—Ramghar	43
Other District Roads—	
Aligarh—Raya—Mathura	38
Gomat—Baijna	8
Panethi—Gangori	18
Sasni—Iglas	9
Hathras—Iglas	16
Iglas—Gonda	15
Dada—Bhakra	10
Khair—Somna	6
Kasimpur link road	6
Agra—Jalesar—Sikandra Rao	12
Baisawa—Gorai	10
Hathras—Jalesar	10
Sasni—Akraabad	14
Gonda—Khair	5
Ratka Nagla—Hasayan Gagaita	10
Aligarh—Gonda	18
Agsohi—Wazipur	13
Katra—Baroli	12
Dorau—Pisawan	5
Under Zila Parishad	
Atrauli—Raipur	9
Chanduas—Pisawa	12
Panethi—Kasganj	6
Harduaganj—Kasimpur	6
Sahu Ashram—Kasimpur	6
Kasimpur—Barauli	7
Atrauli—Nauri	15
Bajidpur to Gangiri	8
Aligarh—Barauli	21

(Contd.)

1	2
Kachara—Bhankari	18
Jao—Inayatpur	6
Vijaygarh—Nanau	6
Sikandra Rao—Katai	6
Sikandra Rao—Hasayan	13
Jawan—Kasimpur	14
Pali—Railway Station	6
Harduaganj—Rohina	14
Iglas—Mursan	14
Vijaygarh—Nanu	14
Sasni—Nanu	18
Somna—Pahas	6
Dodon—Gangiri	11
Tappal—Chandaus	26
Jatare—Sadipur	26
Somna—Chandaus	6

TABLE II
Inspection Houses, Dak Bungalow, etc.

Reference Page No. 123

Location	Name	Managemest
1	2	3
TAHSIL KHAIR		
Kinoha	Inspection House	Canal Department
Birpura	" "	" "
Manpur	" "	" "
Chandaus	" "	" "
Khair	" "	Public Works Department
Tappal Balanpur	" "	Canal Department
Tappal Kuran	" "	" "
Khair	" "	Irrigation Department
Chandaus	" "	" "
TAHSIL ATRAULI		
Baigla	Inspection House	Irrigation Department
Atrauli	" "	" "
Datauli	" "	" "
Barla	" "	" "
Sehani	" "	Canal Department
Sikandrapur	" "	" "
Nawabpur	" "	" "
Salgawan	" "	" "
Atrauli	" "	Public Works Department
TAHSIL SIKANDRA RAO		
Akrabad	Inspection House	Canal Department
Sikandra Rao	" "	" "
Jirauli	" "	" "
Karampur	" "	" "
Nanau	" "	" "
Jau	" "	" "
Iterhi	" "	" "
Sikandra Rao	" "	Public Works Department
TAHSIL IGLAS		
Hasangarh	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Corai	" "	" "
Hasangarh Kandli	" "	" "
TAHSIL HATHRAS		
Bijhari	Inspection House	Irrigation Department
Komri	" "	Canal Department
Sauri	" "	Irrigation Department
Hathras	" "	" "
Hathras	" "	Public Works Department

[Contd]

1	2	3
TAHSIL ALIGARH		
Lodha	Inspection House	Irrigation Department
Barauli	" "	Canal Department
Songra	" "	" "
Sumera	" "	" "
Kalyanpur	" "	" "
Kasimpur	" "	" "
Aligarh	" "	" "
Machwa	" "	" "
Aligarh	" "	Public Works Department
Aligarh	Rest House	Sailor Soldiers Board
Aligarh	Rest House	Zila Parishad

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The decennial census of 1971 divided the economic activity of the people into main and subsidiary categories. Main category included cultivators, agricultural labourers and other workers in general, engaged in different miscellaneous occupations. The subsidiary category included the persons who were primarily treated as non-worker e.g. students and house wives. These persons were primarily engaged in household duties but were side by side making marginal contribution to the economic activity also. Part-time workers were not included in the category of workers in 1971, unlike the census of 1961. They were basically treated as non-worker but were included in the subsidiary category. The total population of the district stood at 21,11,829 in 1971. Of these 5,76,952 were workers (5,63,977 males and 12,975 females) and 15,34,877 non-workers (5,87,486 males and 9,47,391 females), the former constituting 27.32 and the latter 72.68 per cent of the total population. The census of 1971 registered an increase of 21,815 workers over the figures of 1961, when they numbered 5,55,137.

All persons who are economically active but are neither cultivators nor agricultural labourers are deemed to be engaged in miscellaneous occupations. Their number was 2,12,372 and 1,84,748 in 1961 and 1971 respectively.

The main occupations which fall in the category of "miscellaneous occupations" are communications, transport, storage, trade and commerce, constructions, industries, mining, quarrying, live stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, development of orchards and allied activity. The following table shows the break up of non-agriculture workers in different occupations at the time of 1961 and 1971 censuses :

Occupations	1961	1971
Mining and quarrying	43	247
Live-stock forestry, fishing, hunting, development of orchards and allied activities	11,605	3,562
Household industries and other manufacturing industries	65,490	59,209
Construction	5,995	5,298
Trade and Commerce	34,995	32,689
Transport, storage and communications	10,533	14,631
Services	83,711	69,112
Total	2,12,372	1,84,748

That fewer persons were engaged in other occupations in 1971 was the result of the new concept of categorisation. Unlike the 1961 census, only such persons were enumerated as workers in 1971 who worked

regularly and for full working period, casual work treated as an occupation in the 1961 census being ignored. Most of the workers of this category worked in the rural areas. According to the 1971 census 93,842 persons or 50.74 per cent of the miscellaneous workers worked in the rural while 90,906 persons or 49.26 per cent worked in the urban areas of the district.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The public services category comprises persons serving in government services, local bodies or subordinate offices. In addition to their salaries they can avail of various types of benefits including allowances and loans on liberalised terms, which are made available to them by the government. Other benefits include granting of advances for the purchase of a conveyance and construction, purchase or repair of house. They are also given house accommodation if available at rate of rent fixed by the government.

Employees are allowed to form associations or unions under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, for protection and promotion of their service interests. Employees of the State Government in the district are generally the members of their respective service associations affiliated to their State-level organisations. Likewise employees of the local bodies are generally the members of the local authorities employees association and the employees of the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation are members of the Employees Road Transport Corporation Joint Council. The number of persons employed in various public services in 1976, is given in the following table :

Category of public employment	Number of reporting establishments	Number of employees		
		Total	Males	Females
Administrative departments and offices of the Central Government	12	3,408	3,387	21
Administrative departments and offices of the State Government	103	9,934	9,553	381
Administrative departments and offices of quasi-government organisations, local bodies, etc.	93	25,143	23,111	2,032
Total	208	38,485	36,051	2,434

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Education

Teachers, principals and other administrative officers are employed in this category. With the opening of a large number of educational institutions in the district after Independence the number of employees has considerably increased under this category. The following statement gives

the number of persons employed under various categories in this profession in 1961 :

Teachers	Males	Females
Universities/degree colleges	388	29
Secondary schools	1,200	38
Middle and primary schools	2,406	317
Nursery and kindergarten schools	6	7
Others	617	190
Total	4,617	581

In 1971, 9,145 teachers (8,069 males and 1,076 females) were employed in the district.

In 1975-76 the number of teachers employed in various degree colleges and secondary schools was 3,817 of which 378 teachers were teaching in degree colleges and 3,439 in secondary schools. In addition to this, there were 909 teachers in Aligarh Muslim University including the medical college and other institutions. In 1964, the triple-benefit scheme was extended to State-aided institutions managed by local bodies or private persons, to enable the members of teaching staff to avail of the advantages of schemes of contributory provident fund, compulsory life insurance and retirement pension (which includes family pension). Teachers of government aided-institutions are paid their monthly salary through cheques, jointly drawn by the manager and a nominee of the district inspector of schools. Besides this, the teachers' wards are also entitled for free education up to the intermediate standard. Needy and disabled teachers receive financial assistance from the national foundation for teachers' welfare fund, and those suffering from tuberculosis can avail of facilities of free treatment at the Ghetia Sanatorium at Bhowali.

There are two associations of the teachers in the district, namely the Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh and the Prathmic Shikshak Sangh which are affiliated to their respective State-level apex bodies. The main functions of these associations are to look after the welfare of the members, foster a sense of unity among them and put up their difficulties, if any, before the authorities.

Medicine

Medical and health services in the district are managed by the State. The number of private medical practitioners is very small. In 1961, majority of doctors were practising on the Ayurvedic side, followed by those practising the Allopathic, Homoeopathic and Unani systems.

In 1961, there were in all 1,142 persons practising different systems of medicine as would be evident from the statement given below :

Classification of medical practitioners	Total no. of medical practitioners	No. of female medical practitioners
Physicians and surgeons (allopathic)	221	2
Physicians (Ayurvedic)	464	—
Physicians (homoeopathic)	52	—
Physicians & others	159	—
Dentists	68	28
Physicians, surgeons and dentists not included in the above	178	46
Total	1,142	76

In addition 815 persons were employed either as nurses, pharmacists or other medical and health technicians. Their classification is as follows :

Classification	Total number	Number of females
Nurses	111	57
Midwives and health visitors	70	70
Nursing attendants and related workers	50	13
Pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians	377	14
Vaccinators	24	—
Sanitation technicians	132	4
Opticians and optometrists	24	—
Medical and health technicians (not included in the above)	27	1
Total	815	159

In 1971, there were in all 1,663 persons practising under different systems of medicine in the district. The number included 1,608 male and 55 female doctors. In addition, 451 persons were employed as nurses and other medical and health technicians in 1971.

The total number of doctors in the district in various government-run hospitals and dispensaries, Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries and dispensaries maintained by the local bodies and the Zila Parishad was 114 in 1977. A branch of Indian Medical Association is also functioning in the district for the promotion and advancement of medical and public health services.

Law

The district had 389 legal practitioners and advisers in 1961, the figure rising to 410 in 1971 and 393 in 1977 excluding advocates practising on taxation side (income-tax and sales tax) and also before the regional transport officer. The government appoints district government counsellors

from among the practising lawyers for conducting civil, criminal and revenue cases on behalf of the State. A few panel lawyers have also been appointed who plead for State or *gaon sabha* in courts not situated at the district headquarter.

With the number of new entrants increasing every year the legal profession has become more crowded and competitive in recent years.

Majority of lawyers prefer to practise at the district headquarters where important courts are located instead of tahsil headquarters. The lawyers of the district have two bar associations known as the collectorate bar association and the civil courts bar association. Both are registered and each has its own building in the collectorate and civil courts compounds, respectively. These associations aim at including a feeling of brotherhood among the members, maintaining harmonious relations between the bar and the bench, defending civil liberties and helping people in proper use and enjoyment of their liberties, and rendering free legal assistance to deserving persons under "legal aid to the poor" scheme.

In 1978, the two associations had a total membership of 344 out of which 250 were members of the collectorate bar association and 94 of the civil bar association.

Engineering

In 1961, the total number of engineers, architects and surveyors in the district was 207, the break up being 96 civil engineers, 72 mechanical engineers, 22 electrical engineers, one chemical engineer, one mining engineer, two surveyors and 13 architects, engineers and surveyors. In 1971 the total number of architects, engineers, technologists and surveyors was 310.

Arts

The total number of artists, writers and related workers was 832 in 1961. An idea may be had from the following statement regarding their field of activities :

Occupations	Number
Authors	2
Editors, journalists and related workers	14
Translators, interpreters and language specialists	1
Painters, decorators and commercial artists	45
Sculptors and modellers	10
Actors and related workers	7
Musicians and related workers	679
Dancers and related workers	65
Artists, writers and related workers	9
Total	832

The total number of sculptors, painters, photographers, poets, authors and journalists in the district was 845 in 1971.

Household Industry

The number of persons engaged in this work, in the district was 65,490 in 1961, the number coming down to 59,209 in 1971.

Construction

In 1961 the number of persons employed in this work in the district was 5,995. According to the 1971 census 5,298 persons were engaged in construction work.

Trade and Commerce

There were 34,995 persons engaged in trade and commerce in 1961 and 32,689 in 1971.

Transport, Storage and Communications

The number of persons engaged in this occupation was 10,535 in 1961 and 14,631 in 1971.

Domestic and Personal Services

Domestic servants, cooks, etc., man these services. They generally live with their masters and render various types of services. In the rural areas most of them cook their own meals but in the towns they usually board with their employers. There being no security of service it is not uncommon to find them often changing places particularly in the towns in search of better prospects. In recent years with the spurt in developmental activities and new job opportunities being created, these domestic servants are often able to seek and procure job, both in government and quasi-government institutions. In 1961, there were 2,369 house keepers, cooks, maids and related workers. This number included 17 house keepers, matrons, stewards (domestic and institutional) 1,195 cooks, cook bearers (domestic and institutional) 1,123 butlers, bearers, waiters, maids and other domestic hands, 6 *ayats* and nurse maids.

In the census of 1971 in the category of maids and other house-keeping service workers the number was 1,699 (including 359 women).

Barbers and Hairdressers

In 1961, the total number of barbers, hairdressers, beauticians and related workers was 4,457 of which 53 were women. In the countryside the barbers were as in the past, also obliged to perform certain customary duties among their clients, particularly the Hindus on occasions such as birth, *mundan* (first tonsure of child), marriage and death, etc., besides their regular professional work. The barbers are not generally employed in such extra-professional activities now as they were in the past. In 1971, there were 2,971 barbers hairdressers, beauticians and related workers.

Washerman

In the towns many people still get their clothes laundered by *dhobis* (washermen), but the high charges and the uncertainty of punctual delivery

of clothes themselves. People generally get their clothes ironed. In 1961, there were 7,206 persons who worked as launderers, dry cleaners and garment pressers. Of these, 4,574 were men and 2,632 women. The growing use of synthetic fabrics which are easily washable at home, has adversely affected this trade. Therefore a large number of them have set up dry cleaning plants and pressers in their own shops in the towns. In 1971, there were 3,720 persons working as launderers, dry cleaners and pressers.

Tailors

In 1961, the number of tailors, cutters, furriers and related workers was 5,669. Of these 5,502 were male and 167 female. The sewing machine is invariably used by tailors even in the rural areas, where stitching charges are usually paid in kind. Tailoring in the towns is considered to be an art and requires specialised training. A town-based tailor has, in order to ply his trade successfully to be an expert in his line and has to work with ability, expertise and skill to fabricate new designs and styles in men's and women's dresses. In 1971, the number of tailors, dress-makers, sewers and other related workers was 6,484 of these 6,277 were males and 107 females.

Among the persons those pursuing other occupations in the district in 1971, there were 24,489 merchants, shopkeepers, wholesale and retail traders, 7,142 building caretakers, sweepers cleaners and related workers, 7,996 blacksmith, 3,297 salesman, shop assistants and related workers, 1,929 shoe makers and leather goods makers, 931 cooks, waiters and related workers, 696 hotel and restaurant keepers, 150 tobacco pressers, 170 transport and communication supervisors and 431 varnish painters.

Labour Organisations

Of late the workers—both skilled and unskilled have become particularly conscious of their rights and privileges, which has led them to organise trade unions and associations relating to their particular trades, profession and business. The confectioners, private transport workers and owners, grain merchants, etc., of the district have also formed their own unions or associations. These associations have generally been established in order to protect their interests, avoid competition and to check exploitation of their members by others.

CHAPTER IX ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Workers and Non-workers

The percentage of workers and non-workers out of the total population 17,65,275 in the district was 31.4 and 68.6 respectively in 1961, when the corresponding State figures were 39.1 and 60.9 per cent respectively. Cultivators and agricultural labourers formed the bulk of the working population of the district and the two categories put together accounted for 59.4 per cent of the total number of workers in 1961. Other services claimed 17.4 per cent, household industries and other manufacturing undertakings 13.7 per cent while trade and commerce absorbed 6.3 per cent. The number of persons employed in transport, storage, communications, construction, mining quarrying, live-stock development, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantation and orchard development accounted for 3.2 per cent of the workers in the district.

In 1961, the extent of female participation was 3.5 per cent of the total population as against 18.1 per cent in the State. The non-working female dependents were mostly engaged in house-hold work and did not seek work for a livelihood.

In 1961, of the total number of women workers in the district, 30.5 per cent were engaged in agricultural and 69.5 per cent in non-agricultural activities. In 1971, women formed 2.3 per cent of the total working force of the district, of which 42.8 per cent was engaged in agricultural activities and 57.2 per cent in non-agricultural activities.

The following statement gives the percentage distribution of workers in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors of the economy in the district in 1961 and 1971 :

Year	Total population	Total No. of workers	Percentage of workers		of total population	
			Agricultural	Non-agricultural	Total Workers District	State
1961	17,65,275	5,55,137	18.7	81.3	31.44	39.1
1971	21,11,829	5,76,952	18.5	81.5	27.32	30.9

The percentage of the working population of the district showed a decrease in the decade 1961—71, in spite of the rise in population because of the change in the definition of 'Worker' in the census of 1971. According to categorisation at the census of 1961 a person working even for an hour in a

day was categorised as a worker. Accordingly a woman who attended to her house-hold duties was categorised as a worker if she went to the field or attended to the cattle even for a short time in the day.

According to the census of 1971, person who was engaged permanently in house-hold duties such as cooking food for the house-hold was categorised as a non-worker disregarding his or her part-time contributions to any economic activity.

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

Category	Total	Male	Female	Percentage of total workers	Percentage of total population
Cultivators	2,82,735	2,79,100	3,635	48.00	13.39
Agricultural Labourers	1,09,469	1,07,545	1,929	18.97	5.20
Live-stock development of forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation and orchard development and allied activities	3,562	3,344	218	0.66	0.20
Mining and quarrying	247	233	14		
Manufacturing, processing servicing and repairs:					
(a) House-hold industry	24,390	23,411	979	4.22	1.10
(b) Non-house-hold industry	34,819	34,356	463	6.03	1.64
Construction	5,298	5,242	56	0.91	0.25
Trade and commerce	32,689	32,211	478	5.70	1.54
Transport, storage and communications	14,631	14,386	245	2.53	0.70
Other services	69,112	64,149	4,963	11.98	3.30
Total workers	5,76,952	5,63,977	12,975	—	27.32
Non-workers	15,34,877	5,87,486	9,47,391	—	72.68
Total population	21,11,829	11,51,463	9,60,366	—	100.00

The non-workers were classified at the 1971 census in the following eight categories :

- Full-time students
- Those attending house-hold duties
- Dependents and infants
- Retired persons and rentiers
- Persons of independent means
- Beggars and vagrants
- Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institution
- Others.

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

Prices

In ancient and medieval periods currency and coinage were in short circulation and most of the values were not expressed in terms of money but in terms of certain commodities. The barter system was in vogue. It appears from the available records that prices were low except in times of war and other calamities. The prices of wheat and other eatables were extremely low in the reign of Akbar as indicated below¹ :

Commodity	Quantity available per rupee
Wheat	12 maunds
Barley	16 maunds
Rice	16 maunds
Manna	18 maunds
Meat	17 maunds
Milk	44 seers
Sheep	Rs. 1.8 annas

During the British period, prices were expressed and paid in terms of money, as currency and coins were available in adequate quantities for monetary transactions.

The earliest available records of prices show that from 1812 to 1815 the average prices were 39 seers of wheat and 46 seers of gram for a rupee, excluding the year 1813 when scarcity rates prevailed, the figures on that occasion fell to 23.5 and 23.75 seers respectively. For the ten years ending with 1837 the averages were somewhat above the normal, owing to the famine at the end of the period, but apart from this there would appear to have been a slight rise, the rates being 33.5 seers of wheat, 44.2 seers of barley, 48.4 of jowar and 40 seers of *bajra* per rupee. In the next decade (1837-47) the effects of famine were more visible in the case of the autumn crops, the average prices per rupee being 34 seer for wheat 47.25 seers for barley, 41.3 seers

¹ Srivastava, A. L. : *The Mughal Empire*, (Delhi 1959), p. 560.

for jowar, and 33.8 seers for *bajra*. The ten years ending with 1857-58 appear to have been a period of unusual cheapness, for during that period wheat averaged 38.3 seers, barely 55.5 seers, jowar 49.8 seers and *bajra* 48.4 seers per rupee. An immense change occurred with the out-break of the freedom struggle which was accelerated by successive years of in bad harvests which followed it. From 1858 to 1867 the average prices were 25.6 seers of wheat, 34.12 seers of barley, 29.21 seers of jowar, and 28.25 seers of *bajra* per rupee involving a rise of nearly 49 per cent over the rates of the preceding decade (1847-57). There was no noticeable downward trend noticeable in prices in subsequent years, as only on few occasions was there any marked return to downward prices. For the ten years ending with 1877, a period in which the harvests were generally up to the average, the prices showed an upward trend due to poor harvests in the neighbouring districts. The prices were 19.71 seers of wheat, 27.06 seers of barley 24.23 seers of jowar, and 22.07 seers of *bajra* per rupee during this period.

The upward trend in prices continued, during the next decade (1877-87) also. The prices in this decade would have been somewhat lower but for the initial years of famine, the prevailing rates being 17.92 seers for wheat, 25.51 seers for barley, 22.68 seers for jowar, and 20.27 seers for *bajra* per rupee. There was a general rise in prices after 1886, mainly caused as a result of development of means of communications, increase in the export trade, and decline in the value of silver.

The rise in prices continued in successive years and prices did not register a downward trend. In the corresponding decade of 1887-97, the average rates being wheat 14.91 seers, barley 20.25 seers, jowar 19.12 seers and *bajra* 17.17 seers per rupee. In the decade 1897-1907, the prices generally remained under control and registered only marginal increase. The average prices of wheat barley, jowar and *bajra* in the decade of 1897-1907 were respectively 14.56 seers, 20.25 seers, 19.57 seers and 18.18 seers per rupee. The prices registered a rise of nearly 38.4 per cent during the fifty years ending with 1907. The prices kept on fluctuating till the out-break of First World War.

During the First World War (1914-18) the increase in the prices was a world wide phenomenon mainly caused by diversion of resources for the requirements of the war. The rise in prices continued for the major part of the twenties. The economic depression roughly commencing from 1930 continued till 1939 and caused general crashing of prices. The following table gives the price index in the district in 1916, 1928, 1934, 1939 and 1944:

Year	Price index (Base 100 in 1911)
1916	132
1928	170
1934	96
1939	125
1944	405

With the out-break of the Second World War in 1939, the prices started rising and conditions worsened due to speculation and profiteering by traders. Hoarding of essential commodities further aggravated the situation. In 1940 the district authorities were given necessary powers to cope with the situation and prompt steps were taken which brought down the price level to an appreciable extent. But it was a short lived phenomenon and the prices soon started rising again. Though the price control measures which included fixation of prices (as modified from time to time), launching of prosecutions to check profiteering and licensing of food-grain traders were vigorously enforced, yet the upward trend in prices continued.

It was found that effective control of prices was not possible without a corresponding check on supplies. Hence in 1944, partial rationing was introduced in the district, in respect of wheat, barley, rice and gram, etc. It was converted into total rationing in 1945, which continued till 1948. The district was de-rationed on experimental basis in January 1948. The failure to achieve desired objectives however led the district authorities to restore full rationing in September 1948 which remained in force till September 1953. The retail prices during this period (1948-53) remained stable. The prices of food-grains were fixed by the government and they were made available at fixed rates through fair price shops. The statutory and full rationing was abolished from September 1953. Restrictions on movement of food-grain were withdrawn and their procurement was also suspended. Open and free market was also restored. The fair price shops were however maintained side by side the free market, mainly to offset the fluctuations in the prices of food-grains and other essential commodities.

The average wholesale prices of some of the food-grains at the Aligarh centre of the district from 1952 to 1955 were as follows:

Food-grains	Prices in Rs per 37.3 kg.			
	1952	1953	1954	1955
Wheat	17.22	17.54	13.44	11.48
Gram	14.62	15.19	9.44	7.41
Rice	27.50	24.26	17.56	16.03

There was a tendency of a fall in the prices. The fall was about 34.44 per cent for wheat, 66.06 per cent for rice and 48.78 per cent for gram in 1955 as compared to that prevailing in 1953. The government took measures to support prices of agricultural commodities and the results proved conducive to production.

The average wholesale prices of some of the food-grains, in the urban areas of the district from 1956 to 1960 are given in the following statement :

Food-grains	Prices in Rs per 37.2 kg.				
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Wheat	14.21	15.50	18.56	19.03	17.28
Gram	11.39	12.37	14.29	15.21	14.50
Rice	21.50	22.09	13.46	24.00	23.50

In 1958, the decimal system of currency and coinage and in 1960, the metric system of weights and measures, were introduced in the district. On account of the system being new and the people not used to it traders made marginal gains in the exchange process particularly in the rural areas. A comparative study of wholesale prices of certain commodities like wheat, gram, rice and other coarse grains in the urban areas of the district shows that prices had by 1960 reached a higher level than that prevailing in 1955. The following table gives the wholesale prices of certain commodities in the urban areas of the district in August 1955 and 1960 :

Commodities	Prices in Rs per 37.2 kg.	
	1955	1960
(1) Cereals :		
Wheat	11.63	17.11
Gram	7.55	13.28
Rice	14.60	24.11
Barley	6.29	12.34
Jowar	4.48	12.20
Bajra	7.42	13.21
(2) Pulses :		
Arhar	7.39	15.40

In 1961 and 1962 the prices registered a downward trend except those of gram but in subsequent years they again registered an upward trend. The following table gives the average wholesale prices of wheat, gram and rice in the urban areas of the district in 1961, 1962 and 1963 :

Food-grains	Prices in Rs per 37.2 kg.		
	1961	1962	1963
Wheat	15.48	15.29	16.18
Gram	14.51	15.02	15.08
Rice	22.48	22.13	23.34

The prices of wheat, gram and rice registered a steep upward trend especially during the years 1963 to 1965 : The increase in the prices by 1965 was about 86.32 per cent for wheat, 72.67 per cent for gram and 60.96 per cent for rice over those prevailing in 1963. This price rise was to a large extent due to the after effect of the Chinese Aggression, 1962, the Indo-Pak conflict, 1965. There was also an inflationary pressure caused by the diversion of resources to the defence needs of the country. Prices continued to rise till 1967. Measures to stabilise the price level proved abortive. However, the prices declined some wheat in 1968 due to import of food-grains and its ensured supply to public through fair-price shops. The average wholesale prices of wheat, gram and rice in the urban areas of the district from 1965 to 1968 are given below :

Food-grains	Prices in Rs. per 37.2 kg.			
	1965	1966	1967	1968
Wheat	30.13	34.59	45.48	30.87
Gram	26.04	33.48	49.10	31.24
Rice	37.57	46.12	54.31	45.48

The price fall in 1968 was a temporary phenomenon and prices again started rising. The following table gives the wholesale prices of wheat, gram and rice in the urban areas of the district from 1969 to 1972 :

Food-grains	Prices in Rs per 37.2 kg.			
	1969	1970	1971	1972
Wheat	34.59	32.36	32.34	33.85
Gram	41.66	30.52	34.22	35.34
Rice	46.47	47.31	47.61	46.12

The rise in prices after 1971 however, became alarming particularly during 1973-74, when they broke all previous records. The stress of the Indo-Pak conflict of 1971, the resultant inflation and sudden increase in the international prices of crude oil were some of the important factors responsible for spiralling of prices. Natural calamities such as droughts, floods, etc., in the district as well as in other parts of the country also contributed to rise in prices. The purchasing power of the rupee had already gone down and it lost further ground by the middle of 1975. The prices of certain commodities however, showed a downward trend in 1975-1976.

The following statement gives the average retail prices of certain commodities from 1973 to 1976 :

Commodities	Price in Rs per kg.			
	1973	1974	1975	1976
Wheat	1.11	1.97	1.18	1.17
Gram	1.90	2.25	1.80	1.33
Rice	1.95	2.50	2.30	1.92
Barley	1.19	1.50	0.82	0.82
Gur (Jaggery)	1.67	1.45	1.62	1.86
Sugar	3.85	4.73	4.49	4.60
Vegetable oil	8.11	11.96	10.89	10.00
Mustard oil	7.93	9.47	6.05	6.38
Kerosene oil (Rs. per litre)	0.80	1.19	1.31	1.38
Tobacco	1.00	1.31	1.75	2.00

Wages

In the medieval period and even for a long time under the British rule, wages particularly in the rural areas in the district were paid in kind. Coarse grains such as jowar, *bajra* and gram or their flour often with some jaggery were distributed to the labourers in the rural areas as payment for work. Another mode of payment was giving of some land to the labourer in lieu of work and allowing him to keep a part of the agricultural produce as wages.

Those rendering customary professional services such as the washerman, blacksmith, carpenter, utensil cleaner and even the village *vaid* (physicians) were also paid in kind, usually twice a year at the harvesting time of kharif and rabi.

The first wages census was held in the State in 1906. The results of that survey and those conducted subsequently in respect of the district are given below :

Year	Wages (per day)	
	Skilled workers (like carpenters/blacksmiths) (in Rs)	Unskilled workers (in Rs)
1906	0.31	0.16
1911	0.37	0.16
1916	0.47	0.19
1928	1.00	0.31
1934	0.50	0.19
1939	0.62	0.23
1944	1.56	0.76

Wages registered a steep rise for the first time in the wake of the First World War (1914—18) and the trend continued till the end of twenties when, an account of the world-wide depression, wages as well as prices declined. However, with the out-break of the Second World War in 1939 the wages did not rise commensurately with the prices. Similarly when prices fell in 1943-44, the wages did not record a proportionate fall.

At the beginning of Second World War (1939) the daily wages were 0.62 paise for the skilled and 0.23 paise for the unskilled worker. In 1944, the daily wages of the skilled worker was Rs. 1.56 and that of unskilled worker 0.76 paise. The increase in wages has since then continued. In the later half of the sixties, the increase in the wages was, however, marginal.

The following table shows the wages of unskilled and skilled workers in the district from 1965 to 1970 :

Year	Wages (per day)	
	Skilled workers (like carpenters/masons) (in Rs)	Unskilled workers (in Rs)
1965	5.19	2.53
1966	5.83	2.95
1967	6.75	3.43
1968	7.08	3.45
1969	7.18	3.62
1970	7.66	4.18

The increase has been more marked in the wages of both the skilled and unskilled category of workers after 1970, as result of appreciable rise in cost of living. The following table gives the daily wages in the urban areas of the district from 1971 to 1976 :

Year	Wages (per day)	
	Skilled workers (like carpenters/masons) (in Rs)	Unskilled workers (in Rs)
1971	9.00	4.33
1972	10.59	4.50
1973	11.00	5.04
1974	11.66	5.95
1975	12.27	5.83
1976	12.41	6.54

With more emphasis on industrialisation and the increasing use of modern agricultural implements, tools and accessories such as diesel or power operated pumping sets and tractor's. etc., in farming, the job opportunities have increased considerably even in the rural areas of the district. Nevertheless, the age-old professions of carpenters, blacksmiths, welders, etc., are still continuing in the villages. These workers work for about eight hours a day and their wages are paid both in cash and kind (grains). Barbers and washermen now prefer cash payments of wages for their services. The following table indicates the daily wages of certain categories of rural workers in the district in 1977 :

Type of worker	Amount paid per day (in Rs)	Working hours	Rest hours	Type of payment
Welder	5.25	8	1	Cash/Kind
Tiller (for ploughing)	5.50	8	1	Cash/Kind
Carpenter	10.95	8	1	Cash/Kind
Barber (per shave or hair cut)	0.73	8	1	Cash/Kind

In the urban areas of the district the job opportunities as compared to earlier times have increased manifold.

The category of skilled workers is large. The following table indicates the wages of skilled and unskilled workers.

Type of worker	Mode of payment	Amount (In Rs)
Gardener	Per month (whole-time)	125.00
	Per month (part-time)	35.00
Chowkidar	Per month	150.00
	Per 37.2 kg. of wood cut	0.75
Wood-cutter	Per cow per month	8.00
	Per buffalo per month	8.00
Herds men	Per 37.2 kg. of load	0.80
	carried for 1.6 km.	
Porter	Per day	6.50
Casual labourer	Per month without food	125.00
Domestic servant	Per month with food	60.00
Carpenter	Per day	12.50
Blacksmith	Per day	8.50
Gardens	Per mans' shirt (full sleeves)	5.00
	Per womans' shirt (short sleeves)	3.00
Mid wife	Per boy delivered	16.00
	Per girl delivered	10.00
Barber	Per shave	0.60
	Per haircut	1.00
Scavenger	Per month per latrine	4.00
Motor driver	Per month	150.00
Truck driver	Per month	300.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment Trends

By and large the establishments in the public sector as compared to private sector are the biggest employers in the district. Of the 508 establishments in the district in 1976 nearly 59 per cent were in private and 41 per cent in public sector, the former providing employment to 24 per cent and the latter to 76 per cent of the total number of persons employed in the district.

An idea may be had regarding the number of establishments under the public and private sectors in the district and the number of persons employed therein during the period from 1972 to 1976 from the following table :

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1972	316	158	474	16,416	25,968	42,404
1973	308	184	492	16,151	26,441	42,592
1974	304	178	482	16,674	28,444	45,118
1975	316	192	508	17,292	29,000	46,301
1976	298	200	498	11,562	36,247	47,789

The number of persons employed in various trades and services in the district in 1975 and 1976 may further be classified as under :

Nature of activity	Number of reporting establishment		Number of employees					
	1975	1976	1975			1976		
			Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
Agriculture, live-stock development, hunting, fishing	10	11	955	..	955	952	—	952
Manufacturing	175	166	2,923	7,080	9,993	2,796	6,614	9,410
Construction	12	11	1,766	105	1,871	1,646	305	1,941
Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	20	18	4,618	113	4,731	4,552	—	4,552
Trade and Commerce	11	11	20	93	113	21	87	108
Transport, storage and communications	18	17	2,946	66	3,012	3,334	60	3,394
Services (public, legal and medical, etc.,)	262	264	22,796	4,544	27,340	22,760	4,946	27,706
Total	508	498	36,034	11,981	48,015	36,057	12,012	48,069

Employment of Women

The extent of employment of women both in the private and public sectors in 1976 is indicated by the following statement :

Number of reporting establishments	498
Number of women employed in private sector	869
Number of women employed in public sector	2,434
Total number of women employees	3,303
Percentage of women employees of total number of employees in private sector	0.15
Percentage of women employees of total number of employees in public sector	0.14

The largest number of women (26.00 per cent) were employed in the medical and health services followed by other services. The proportion of women workers in different spheres of activity in the quarter ending with December 1976 was as follows :

Nature of activity	Percentage of women employees
Medical and Public Health	26.00
Other Services	12.00
Manufacturing	1.40
Transport	0.90
Education	0.80
Construction	0.01

Unemployment Trends

The educational qualifications of candidates that were registered with the employment exchange of the district in the year ending on December 1976 were as under :

Educational qualifications	Number of persons registered with employment exchange	
	Men	women
Below junior high school (including illiterate)	297	221
Junior High school	4,851	45
Matriculates	7,772	179
Intermediates	7,583	162
Graduates	2,586	201
Post-graduates	1,011	58
Total	24,100	866

The number of vacancies notified for the quarter ending December 1976 for employment is given in the following table :

Employer	Number of Vacancies notified
Central government	11
State government	46
Quasi-government (Central)	6
Quasi-government (State)	42
Private	612
Total	717

According to the register of the local employment exchange the supply of workers like electricians, fitters, welders, draftsmen, motor mechanics civil and mechanical engineers and teachers was greater than the demand.

Employment Exchange

An employment exchange was established at Aligarh in 1949 with a view to provide job assistance to the unemployed persons and to meet the requirements of employers by making suitable candidates available to them. A town employment exchange is also functioning at Hathras. A university employment bureau has also been started in the Aligarh Muslim University.

The employment market information scheme is in force in the district, under which an intensive study of the public and private sectors' establishment in the district is made. It covers information regarding the number of persons employed, number of vacancies created and the types of jobs for which the supply of qualified candidates are inadequate. The data thus collected enables the employment exchange to prepare estimate in advance regarding the manpower needs of the district.

The following table gives the number of persons registered with the employment exchange and the number of persons who were provided jobs from 1972 to 1976 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	Number of persons registered for employment	Number of persons on file/register	Number of persons provided with employment
1972	1,999	19,152	11,691	1,516
1973	2,120	18,858	19,691	1,064
1974	1,000	16,520	19,230	671
1975	467	15,958	20,086	333
1976	1,418	21,900	27,648	476

A vocational guidance unit has also been set up in the employment exchange which provides guidance to employment seekers and offers specialised assistance in psychological and aptitude testing after assessing the qualities and interests of the candidates. Books, pamphlets, etc. to guide on matters regarding job opportunities and other useful literature are also made available here.

The following table shows the work done by the unit during the year 1976 :

Type of work	
No. of persons who received information/guidance	1,523
No. of group discussions conducted	267
No. of participants in the group discussions	2,537
No. of applicants who used career information room of the unit	2,517

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

National Planning

After the assumption of office by the Congress government in the State in 1937, one of the major steps taken by the new government was formulation of a concrete programme of rural planning and development. A rural development association was formed at the district level, which functions as an advisory body. It had a non-official chairman and a sub-divisional magistrate served as its secretary. The programme included rural hygiene, construction of roads and establishment of libraries and night schools for adults. Soon after the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 the Congress government went out of office and the programme could not continue. It was only after 1947 that fresh and vigorous steps were initiated by the government in this direction. The rural development department was merged with the co-operative department, and the rural development association was replaced by the district development association, with the district co-operative officer as the secretary and a non-official as chairman. In 1951, the district planning committee with 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 the First Five-year Plan schemes and projects. The district was divided into smaller units called development blocks, through which the plan programmes of different departments of the government were to be implemented in an integrated way.

The First Five Year Plan was launched in April 1951, with the primary objective of raising the standard of living of the people. It was largely a collection of departmental programmes with particular emphasis on the development of agriculture, irrigation transport, through the national extension service scheme and peoples participation. Voluntary labour (*shramdan*) was organised for construction of roads, culverts, village orchards, etc. Improved methods of agriculture and use of new scientific implements and manures were introduced and the means of irrigation were further augmented.

The Tappal development block (in tahsil Khair) was the first to be established in the district on January 26, 1954. In the first Five-year Plan period one more development block at Jawan (tahsil Koil) was opened. The second and third Five-year Plan periods saw the opening of ten more blocks,

one at Koil, two in Atrauli, one in Iglas, two in Sikandra Rao, one in Khair and two in Hathras tahsils.

The staff of each development block consists of a block development officer, a number of assistant development officers and village level workers under the overall control of the district planning officer or the district development officer at the district level is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

The scope of the second Five-year Plan (1956—61) was enlarged to include industrialisation and greater emphasis was laid on the development of heavy industries. The aim was all round development with the help of basic heavy industries, enhancement of national income and reduction of unemployment.

In the field of agriculture, programmes relating to the Japanese method of paddy cultivation, U. P. method of wheat cultivation and expansion of training in the use of new improved agricultural implements, chemical fertilisers and green manures were taken up.

In 1958, an Antarim Zila Parishad was formed by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. It was renamed as Zila Parishad in 1962. For the co-ordinated execution of different plan schemes the agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, panchayat raj and some other departments like medical and health, plant protection, etc. were pooled and placed under the control of the district planning officer now called the district development officer.

In the third Five-year Plan (1961—66) a three tier structure of rural self-governing bodies was set up in the district with effect from 1963 to ensure people participation in the successful implementation of the planning and development programmes. Accordingly village panchayats at the village level the *kshettra samitis* at the development block level and the Zila Parishad at the district level were set up. Some of relevant particulars of the 17 development blocks in the district are as under :

Name of Block	Name of the headquarters of development Block	Tahsil	Date of Inauguration	Population in 1971	Area in hectares
Dhanipur	Dhanipur	Koil	1-10-61	1,75,155	29,401
Jawan	Jawan	Do.	2-10-55	1,41,829	31,381
Lodha	Aligarh	Do.	2-10-72	75,382*	29,116
Atrauli	Atrauli	Atrauli	1-7-57	1,45,875	28,165
Bijauli	Bijauli	Do.	2-10-72	81,696*	25,068
Gangiri	Chharras	Do.	2-10-56	1,88,643	35,835
Iglas	Iglas	Iglas	1-7-57	90,960	25,662
Gonda	Gonda	Do.	2-10-56	1,01,018	29,527
Sikandra Rao	Sikandra Rao	Sikandra Rao	2-10-59	1,63,168	26,680
Hasayan	Hasayan	Do.	2-10-72	85,022*	30,371
Akrabad	Akrabad	Do.	1-4-60	1,21,338	30,665
Khair	Khair	Khair	1-7-57	1,85,351	31,933
Tappal	Tappal	Do.	26-1-54	1,39,543	37,300
Chandaus	Chandaus	Do.	2-10-72	85,556*	32,483
Hathras	Hathras	Hathras	1-7-57	1,62,995	22,840
Sasni	Sasni	Do.	1-4-61	1,20,344	26,882
Mursan	Mursan	Do.	2-10-72	80,004*	23,076

*The figures related to 1961 Census.

There are a number of *gaon sabhas* and *nyaya* panchayats in each development block, their total number in the district being 1,517 and 171 respectively. The blockwise break up of *gaon sabhas* and *nyaya* panchayats is as follows :

Development Block	Number of <i>gaon sabhas</i>	Number of <i>nyaya</i> panchayats
Dhanipur	91	11
Jawan	97	10
Lotha	113	12
Atrauli	99	10
Bijauli	79	9
Gangiri	92	10
Iglas	92	10
Gonda	74	9
Sikandra Rao	58	8
Hasayan	84	10
Akrabad	78	9
Khair	89	11
Tappal	76	10
Chandaus	86	11
Hathras	89	10
Sasni	97	10
Mursan	102	11
Total	1,517	171

The third Five-year Plan (1961—66) envisaged taking up of, intensive development programmes of agriculture in order to make the district economy self reliant and self-generating. Special programmes relating to sowing of new and improved varieties of seeds, intensive methods cultivation like using chemical fertilizers and scientific implements, etc., were therefore launched. The Chinese aggression in 1962, resulted in a setback to such programmes.

During the period 1966 to 1968 annual plans were taken up to fulfil the main objectives namely to achieve the 8 to 10 per cent annual growth rate in the industrial sectors and annual growth rate of 6.9 per cent in the agricultural production, to achieve self-sufficiency in food-grains, to create more employment avenues, to redress the imbalances arising out of the high rate of population growth and to reduce the fertility rate to 25 per thousand.

The fourth Five-year Plan (1969—74) sought to distribute land to landless labourers and to cut down the size of large agricultural holdings.

In spite of the strain on the country's resources caused by the Indo-Pak conflict of 1971, there were notable achievements in various sectors of economy.

As a result of rising of high yielding varieties of seeds and fertilisers, adoption of scientific methods of cultivation and an intensive programme of minor irrigation works, provision of funds by the Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Land Development Bank Ltd. and the Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., and availability of electricity for energising the tube-wells, the production of food-grains increased considerably.

Standard of Living

The standard of living of the people generally depends on these main factors (i) the income of the family, (ii) the size of the family, and (iii) its expenditure pattern. The per capita income of the farmer has no doubt increased with prosperity, in agriculture, particularly in the last two decades. The expenditure pattern shows large investments on agricultural implements and other inputs. Only the big farmers can afford to spend a part of their income on recreation, better clothes, household equipment, transport, high education, etc. People in trade and business and highly paid government servants enjoy a comparatively higher standard of living. With various incentives by the government, the living conditions of the weaker sections of society like the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and other Backward classes are improving in recent years. Till the fifties of the present century, the roads in the district were in bad shape and means of transport were slow, old and traditional. It was difficult to reach places in the interior, during rainy seasons. However, with better and quicker means of transport travelling has become easier and more convenient.

With the availability of more power and better means of communications, the pace of industrialisation is picking up in the district. An industrial estate has been established with a view to encourage entrepreneurs to set up new industries in the district.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

In 1803, when the fort of Aligarh was taken by the British, the whole of the upper doab came under the administration of the East India Company. In October of the same year, the collectors of Etawah, Moradabad and Farukhabad were directed to demarcate the newly acquired territory, and in pursuance thereof the area comprising the present district was divided into three parts, one part being attached to each of the three districts.

A separate district of Aligarh was first formed in 1804, but several additions and alterations were made both before and after 1824, when the district approximately took its present shape. In 1840, a general reconstitution was effected, when the whole district was divided into eight tahsils. The subsequent alterations in the area of the district necessitated further changes and by 1865, the present arrangement had come into force. At present there are six tahsils namely Khair, Koel (Aligarh), Iglas, Hathras, Atrauli and Sikandra Rao.

The district, at present, forms part of the Agra Division under a commissioner with headquarters at Agra.

Commissioner

The Commissioner functions as a connecting link between the government and the districts placed under him, over which he exercise full administrative control. He controls, guides and advises the district and regional level officers, solves inter-departmental problems and assesses the work of the officers of the different departments. He also acts as an appellate authority, hearing appeals and revisions under the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, and other enactments like the Arms Act, 1959, etc. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority and has extensive powers of supervision over the Zila Parishad, Municipal Boards and other local bodies.

District Officer

The district is in the charge of the district officer who is designated as collector and district magistrate. He holds a key post and is the pivot of the administrative machinery of the district. Maintenance of law and order, enforcement of various laws, rules, regulations and miscellaneous government orders, appraisal of public opinion and tackling of disturbing situations are some of the important duties assigned to him as district magistrate, and it is in the performance of these that he comes in close touch with the police which follows his instructions. Under the Arms Act, 1959, he is also licensing authority for the possession of arms and ammunitions of certain categories.

In the capacity of collector, he is responsible for the collection of land revenue and other government dues recoverable, as arrears of land revenue and preparation and maintenance of land records of the district. Survey,

settlement, resumption and acquisition of land, rehabilitation of displaced persons, distribution of relief during natural calamities such as drought and floods are some other subjects dealt with by him as the principal revenue officer of the district. As ex-officio district deputy director consolidation, he also supervises the work of consolidation and hears revision under the U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953 as amended. He is also responsible for the due accounting of all money received in and paid by the treasury and for submission of returns to government.

Besides his many-sided administrative activities, the district officer also looks into the equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities by the traders as also through the public distribution system in which task he is assisted by the district supply officer. He is also ex-officio district election officer and president of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board.

In the planning and developmental set-up of the district he acts as the prime supervisor and in this task he is assisted by the district development officer, who integrates the planning and developmental activities of different departments in the district with the help and co-operation of the respective heads of the departments.

With the ushering in of the new concept of welfare state the district officer's role has assumed new dimensions, on account of his being called upon to make the welfare of the people his prime concern.

The collector runs the revenue and general administration of the district with the help of six subdivisional officers, each of whom holds charge of a sub division. For the convenience of revenue administration each of the six tahsils—Khair, Koil (Aligarh), Iglas, Hathras, Atrauli and Sikandra Rao, is in the immediate charge of a resident tahsildar, who is assisted in the task by a number of *naib* tahsildars. He also acts as magistrate in addition to being an assistant collector. He presides at the tahsil office and court. His main duties include collection of land revenue and other government dues, maintenance of land records, hearing and disposal of revenue cases and looking after the welfare of the people in his tahsil. He is also called upon to organise and supervise relief works occasioned by natural calamities. The tahsildar is also the subtreasury officer incharge of the tahsil subtreasury.

The district superintendent of police heads the police organisation of the district and is responsible for the maintenance of peace, law and order, and detection and investigation of crimes. He is in overall charge of the police force and is responsible for its efficiency, discipline and proper performance of duties. In the district he is assisted by seven deputy superintendents of police and a large number of subordinate officers.

Another important pillar of the administrative machinery is the judiciary of which the district and sessions judge is the head with headquarters at Aligarh. The district falls in the jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature, Allahabad. The district and sessions judge is the highest judicial authority in the district for all civil and criminal matters, his court being the principal civil court of

original and appellate jurisdiction. As sessions judge he hears sessions cases committed by the magistrates and possesses the powers to award capital punishment. Till the early part of 1976 he was also ex-officio District Registrar for the whole district. The work has since been transferred to a general administration officer designated as the district finance officer.

Other District-level Officers of the State Government

The following are the main State government functionaries enjoying the status of district level officers having headquarters at Aligarh. Each of them is responsible to the head of his respective department.

1. The district development officer (formerly designated as the district planning officer), who pools the following officers under his control :

- (a) District agriculture officer
 - (b) Assistant registrar, co-operative societies
 - (c) District panchayat raj officer
 - (d) District organizer, prantiya vikas dal
 - (e) District statistics officer
 - (f) District horticulture officer
 - (g) Plant protection officer
 - (h) Soil conservation officer
 - (i) District barijan and social welfare officer
 - (j) District live-stock officer
 - (k) District savings officer
 - (l) Assistant engineer, minor irrigation
2. Chief medical officer
 3. District employment officer
 4. District information officer
 5. District industries officer
 6. Sales tax officer
 7. District inspector of schools
 8. Basic shiksha adhikari
 9. Superintendent of jail
 10. Treasury officer
 11. Consolidation officer
 12. Excise officer
 13. District supply officer
 14. Deputy regional marketing officer
 15. Range officer, forest
 16. Executive engineer, public works department

17. Executive engineer, tube-wells, division (I)
18. Executive engineer, tube-wells, division (II)
19. Executive engineer, ganga canal

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

Ministry of Finance

Income Tax—For the purpose of assessment, levy and collection of income tax, wealth tax and gift tax, the district is divided into three wards, each under the charge of an income tax officer. In assessment work, the income tax officers are helped by a number of inspectors. Administratively, the district falls under the control of inspecting assistant commissioner of income tax, Agra range.

Central Excise—The collection of central excise in the district is looked after by an assistant collector, central excise, Aligarh—Etah range, having his headquarters at Aligarh with the help of 28 inspectors. His jurisdiction extends to whole of the Aligarh district. The chief excisable items are tobacco, *khandsari*, paper and paper boards, safety matches, cotton yarn, refrigerators and air conditioning appliances, power-driven pumps, cosmetics and goldwares.

National Savings Organisation—The main object of this organisation is to inculcate among the people, particularly those belonging to small income group, a habit of thrift and induce them to invest their savings, howsoever small, in one or other scheme launched by the government and there by not only check inflation, but also augment the resources of the State for developmental work. The regional office of the organisation covering the whole of State is headed by a regional director, who is assisted by an advisory board to co-ordinate official and non-official activities in this sphere. In the district the scheme is administered by a district saving officer and an assistant district saving officer under the administrative control of the assistant regional director, national savings, having headquarters at Aligarh. Advisory committees, consisting of officials and non-officials, have been formed at the district, tahsil and development block levels to advise on matters connected with successful implementation of various scheme to boost of savings.

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Indian Post and Telegraphs Department—The postal division of Aligarh with headquarters at Aligarh is under the charge of a senior superintendent of post-offices, who is assisted by an assistant superintendent, a complaint inspector and five subdivisional inspectors in administration and maintenance of the postal services in the division. Of the five subdivisional inspectors, four are stationed at Aligarh while the fifth is posted at Hathras. The district is served by a net-work of 440 sub post-offices and branch post-offices and a head post-office at Aligarh. Some of the post-offices have telegraph and telephone facilities also. The telegraph and telephone net-work is under the administrative control of the divisional engineer telegraphs with headquarters at Aligarh. The district has a total of 75 telegraph and 75 public call office—besides a telephone exchange at Aligarh.

was promulgated for their administration and with only minor modifications. the existing system was continued without affecting the customary rights of the cultivators.

The most important reform for which Akbar deserves special credit is the introduction of the *dah-salah* or the "ten year" schedule of rates. Ironically enough, this settlement is sometimes confused with the modern settlements, whereas the facts do not warrant any such assumption. Akbar's *dah-salah* system provides revenue assessment based on the average of the previous ten years collections. He also insisted on payment of one-third of produce in kind as land revenue, but payment in cash was encouraged. The revenue was fixed in *dams* (a *dam* being one-fortieth of a rupee). *Elahi gaz* (33 inches or 83.8 cm.) and *tanab* (a measuring rod) were used as standards of measurement. The unit of area measurement was bigha. Like Sher Shah, Akbar also classified land according to the continuity of cultivation. In addition to *polaj* and *parauti*, he further classified land in two major types, namely *chachar* and *banjar*, the former representing the land which were left fallow for three or four years and the latter remaining uncultivated for five years or more. Excluding *banjar* all the lands were further sub divided into three classes, good, bad and middling.

During Akbar's reign the area covered by the present district formed part of the subah of Agra, Koil being the headquarters of sirkar of the same name. It had 21 parganas of which only eight belong to the present district. A considerable area of the present tahsils of Hathras, Iglas and Sikandra Rao was then included in the sirkar of Agra.

The following table gives the details of cultivation and revenue assessed in each *mahal* during the days of Akbar :

Akbari mahal	Revenue demand (in dams)	Cultivated area (in bighas)
1. Akbarabad	30,03,409	1,18,389
2. Atrauli	54,54,459	3,20,569
3. Chandaus	17,49,238	42,469
4. Gangiri	3,72,050	53,545
5. Jalali	29,57,910	1,45,801
6. Koil	1,04,12,305	5,48,655
7. Sikandra Rao	44,12,331	83,480
8. Tappal	18,02,571	1,63,046

These figures are of considerable interest, as they show that the district was then in a high state of tillage. It is surprising that the total cultivated area of this district should have been as much as 922,471 acres, for this is almost identical with the total area under tillage in the district in the beginning of the present century. However, these figures may not be considered

as absolutely accurate as the constitution and area of the *mahals* were very much different from the present parganas and tahsils, and the two cannot possibly be compared with any degree of accuracy. During nearly two centuries intervening between the death of Akbar and the introduction of British rule, the administration nearly completely collapsed. Instead of an orderly bureaucracy, collecting revenue fixed on carefully ascertained facts and data there appeared an extraordinary diversity of conditions. Rajas and zamindars were taking as revenue what they chose; they all took more than they accounted for to the superior authority. There were usually three sharers (and sometimes more), the State, the zamindars and the cultivators. The hereditary descendants of the princess, the feudal lords, the *muqaddams* of the villages all claimed and asserted themselves as zamindars and each of them tried to squeeze the cultivators to the maximum extent.

On the assumption of the administration by the East India Company in 1802, the British administrators were confronted with this chaotic state of affairs. Internecine warfare and forcible possession were the order of the day. The district of Aligarh was partly ceded in 1802 and was partly conquered in 1803. There were numerous powerful chieftains, apparently sole possessors of all proprietary rights in the land. The noteworthy families were of Taluqdars of Datauli, Bhikanpur, Nah, Chakathal, Pisawa, Gambhira or Vijaigarh and Mursan. The English first looked to these chiefs alone for payment of revenue leaving them free to make whatever arrangement they deemed fit for collection from the cultivators. Raja Bhagwant Singh was granted a lease for life of the whole pargana of Mursan for Rs 80,000, leaving the cultivator entirely at his mercy. Similarly for many years Raja of Hassayan was allowed to engage for that *taluka* as the sole zamindar of the estate.

In the beginning settlements were made from year to year and were thereafter extended to three and then, to five years. It was not until 1833 that elaborate assessments were carried out by Thornton under Regulation IX of that year when proprietary rights of zamindars were recognised and thereby their position became quite different. This settlement was based on a professional survey, accurate maps and statistics, as well as compilation of a detailed record of rights. From 1833 to the end of 1838, Thornton completed the Settlement of ten parganas and also made a summary settlement for six years of pargana Tappal. He was succeeded by H. Rose, who assessed Sikandra Rao, Akbarabad, Jalali and Barauli parganas finishing his task in July 1839, while W. B. Wright, who had been Thornton's assistant since 1837, resettled Tappal in 1840.

The survey of the district which took place between 1833 and 1837 is of particular importance, since for the first time it became possible to estimate the true sources of revenue of the district, more particularly in the *talukdari* estates. Soils were classified on conventional basis, according to their proximity or otherwise to the village, and for each class average pargana rent-rates were framed by enquiry into the rents actually paid and by a comparison with those prevailing in the neighbouring parganas. These rates were applied to the areas of each class of land, and in this way the gross assets were obtained, the government demands being generally two-thirds, though no hard and fast

rule was laid down beyond the stipulation that the zamindar's share should not be less than 30 per cent. The demand thus determined was checked by comparison with the tahsildar's estimate and the recorded assets for the ten preceding years. The revenue demand was thus fixed at Rs 18,41,242 for the district, including the revenue finally assessed on pargana Tappal, and it was sanctioned for a period of thirty years, to expire in 1868.

Thornton's Settlement worked well except for the large balances that accrued in the wake of the famine of 1837-38. However, as the district recovered from that disaster and cultivation rapidly increased, the work of collection became comparatively easy. On the other hand, the period of settlement was characterised by a very extensive transfer of property. From 1839 to 1852 as many as 110 estates with an aggregate demand of Rs 1,03,996 were sold for arrears of revenue, principally in the parganas of Tappal, Hathras, Mursan and Atrauli, while 210 estates were farmed or transferred for a similar reason. Apart from these, 352 estates were voluntarily alienated and 657 were sold by the decrees of the civil court, while during the whole currency of the settlement nearly 10,05,269 acres or 83.6 per cent of the total area changed hands. The figure includes many estates which were alienated by successive owners, so that some exaggeration is inevitable. However, it was felt as early as 1852 that the subdivision of land had been carried to extreme lengths, resulting in the creation of a large body of small proprietors.

Revision operations for the second regular Settlement commenced in 1866, and continued till 1874. It was being conducted by W. H. Smith. He was assisted by A. B. Patterson, J. J. Digges La Touche and R. Smeaton. The initial work was field measurement carried out by the *patwaris*, and it was finished by September 1869. The soil classification was somewhat elaborate, since it took into account no fewer than seven different descriptions of soil; the conventional terms being employed for irrigated areas, while unirrigated land was demarcated according to natural soils. Circles were then framed, and the actual rent rates elicited, the assumption rates being based on the attested figures for selected villages in each circle. From these materials average rent rates were obtained, which were applied to the assessable area in each circle, and the assets thus deduced corresponded very closely with those calculated both from enquiry in individual villages and from an estimate of the probable assets in view of the rise in rents and prices. The amount thus determined was notified to some extent by the peculiar characteristics of each estate after personal inspection, and the revenue was assessed at 50 per cent of the net assets, as compared with 68.9 per cent taken on the previous occasion. Owing to the increase in cultivation, irrigation and population, with the consequent rise in the value of land, agricultural produce and rents, the enhancement amounted to Rs 3,06,100 or 16.6 per cent on the old revenue, and to Rs 2,90,573 or 16.2 per cent on the expiring demand, the total being Rs 21,47,343. The cost of the operations was Rs 4,66,376 or Rs 238 per square mile, a rate which was much lower than that in many other districts. The new demand was collected in the Aligarh and Atrauli tahsils from 1871-72; in Iglas and Khair from 1872-73; and in the rest of the district from the following year.

During the thirty years of its currency, the settlement worked smoothly and by the end of the settlement period, the demand became extremely light, except that a large reduction was found necessary in the *Khair* tract of the Khair tahsil owing to deterioration where on one occasion the revenue was reduced by Rs 7,110 and on another by a further Rs 3,720. In parts of Sikandra Rao also there was a temporary reduction of Rs 3,003. Subsequently, however, the old demand was restored in several villages, the net reduction at the close of the settlement being only Rs 759. Similar action on a smaller scale was taken in the depressed areas of the Aligarh tahsil, but this affected only two villages, in which the ultimate reduction was Rs 295. In realising the demand, it seldom proved necessary to resort to the severe coercive processes. There were five cases of transfer, 15 of annulment of settlement and two of sale, figures which may be taken to prove that the demand was not unduly light. Transfers by private agency or under decrees of the civil court were very numerous, though the returns show a great improvement on those of the preceding settlement. The total area transferred between 1872 and 1898 was considerably less, but 3,46,118 acres of land assessed at Rs 2,29,311 was sold and 1,33,768 acres were mortgaged during the period.

When the time for the third regular settlement arrived, it appeared that there had been no marked extension of cultivation. The canal irrigation had largely increased, prices and rents had risen and general progress had been achieved in agricultural prosperity. The settlement was entrusted to W. J. D. Burkitt, who took over charge in 1899 and completed the assessment of the entire district, excepting the Hathras and Khair tahsils.

It was originally intended to survey the whole district afresh, but eventually only such villages were surveyed in which the existing maps showed any considerable error, the number thus treated being 249 with an area of 3,15,309 acres. Much inconvenience was caused by the simultaneous commencement of survey and settlement operations, since large areas had to be excluded for lack of records from the rent rate reports. After the attestation of records, circles were formed and standard rents extracted, the latter being based as far as possible on recorded rents. It was, however, found that the occupancy rentals were far too low throughout the district, and those of tenants-at-will far too high to be safely applied. Accordingly Burkitt set himself to determine proportionate soil values by observing the actual rents paid by tenants-at-will, while at the same time the entire rental was examined with the special object of distinguishing useful from the obsolete portions of the occupancy rental. For this purpose the most valuable rates were those paid by tenants who had newly acquired occupancy rights, and these circle rates were used to test the non-occupancy rental and for the valuation of the assumption area, the special circumstances of each case being taken into consideration. The valuation of the total area by standard rates was Rs 52,44,773, whereas the accepted gross assets were Rs 55,28,210, the excess being due to the non-occupancy rental, even though this had been reduced by 10 per cent in order to allow for deterioration in certain tracts and possible instability elsewhere. The accepted rental of occupancy land was 2 per cent lower than the valuation, and even this gave an enhancement of 9 per cent on the record.

ed rent. From the gross assets further deductions were made on account of the excess area included in the holdings and allowances for improvements, while *sir* land was very liberally treated. Some additional income was also derived from grass and the *singhara* (water-nut) and the land wilfully thrown out of cultivation, bringing the net assets to Rs 53,04,478. Of this amount Rs 24,49,555 or 46.2 per cent, were taken as revenue, the new demand being sanctioned for a period of thirty years. The enhancement amounted to Rs 3,04,786 or 14.21 per cent on the expiring revenue, but it was very much greater in some tahsils than in others being no less than 30.59 per cent in Atrauli and 24.97 per cent in Aligarh, as compared with 12 per cent in Sikandra Rao, 7.51 per cent in Hathras, 4.63 per cent in Iglas and 4.55 per cent in Khair tahsils.

The revenue did not include the demand for the alluvial *mahals* along the Ganga and Yamuna. These were first demarcated by Smith, who settled 12 such *mahals* in Atrauli and eight in Khair tahsil for the ordinary term of five years at Rs 4,327, subject to the usual quinquennial revision. They were reassessed at the last settlement at a revenue of Rs 3,447, the number of the *mahals* in Atrauli tahsil being reduced to eleven.

This settlement continued in the district till the zamindari was abolished by the Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, which was enforced in the district on July 1, 1952. Before the abolition of zamindari, the zamindars were responsible for payment of land revenue and were supposed to deposit it in the government treasury in two instalments, one for *rabi* and another for *kharif*. After the abolition of zamindari, the tiller of the soil became liable for the payment of land revenue to the government, and the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, fixed May 1, and December 1 for such payments. Collection of land revenue is made by collection *amins*, who work under the direct supervision of the *tahsildar*.

Relation between Landlord and Tenant

Being highly conducive to the well being of the cultivators, the ancient fiscal system posed little problem between the cultivator and the landlord. However, the establishment of the Muslim rule in India gave rise to numerous problems regarding landholding, assessment, settlement of revenue and rights of cultivating communities. Fiscal disorder recurred at regular intervals in mediæval India except during the reigns of Alauddin Khalji, Sher Shah and Akbar, who concentrated mainly on laying down sound and equitable revenue policy.

During the Mughal rule, the zamindars acted like agents of the imperial government for the purpose of collection of land revenue. Their office was neither hereditary nor proprietary. With the beginning of the British rule they usurped both these rights. To begin with the British rulers instead of introducing innovations in the revenue system preferred to maintain the existing system. However, to ensure speedy and effective realisation of land revenue, they enhanced the powers and position of zamindars. No tenant rights or tenancy laws existed till much after the upsurge of 1857. However, a feeble

attempt was made in 1859 by Act X of that year, which for the first time gave legal recognition to the conception of a right of occupancy on the land. It also provided that a cultivator would acquire occupancy rights over land held by him for 12 years and limitation were also imposed on the power of the land-holders to enhance the rent. Amendments in the Act were made in 1873 and in 1881.

For obvious reasons the occupancy system proved to be unpopular with the landholders and they adopted variety of ingenious devices to evade the operation of the above legal provisions. An occupancy tenant could be ejected, if he failed to pay arrears of rent after they had been decreed by the court. The landholders began to drag the cultivators to ruinous litigation by keeping wrong accounts of payments of rent. In some cases, the cultivators were compelled to change their land after a certain period to prevent them from acquiring occupancy rights.

The Agra Tenancy Act of 1901 was designed to remedy the above evils. But it also left the door open for arbitrary ejectments, rack-renting and wasteful litigation by the landholders resulting in large-scale agrarian discontent in 1922. However, to render necessary economic assistance to the cultivators in times of needs, a number of Takavi Acts were passed. These Acts afforded help in kind and cash to the cultivators to tide over the difficult period occasioned by natural calamities, as well as to increase the agricultural production.

As a next step towards securing the rights of the cultivators, the Agra Tenancy Act, 1926, was passed. It sought to safeguard the interest of both the tenants as well as the landholders. However, a major breakthrough was achieved after the formation of the popular ministry in 1937. The U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939, brought about radical changes, strengthening the position of the tenantry and fettering the powers of the landholders in different ways. Statutory tenants and their heirs were given hereditary rights, tenants other than non-occupancy tenants were given unrestricted powers to plant trees on their holdings and *begar* (forced labour) was prohibited. The powers of the landholders for ejecting the tenants and enhancing their rents were also restricted.

After the independence, the government was anxious to introduce far-reaching land reforms in the State which could not possibly be undertaken without eliminating the intermediaries and simplifying the system of land tenure. With this aim in view the Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, was passed. It was, however, enforced with effect from 1st July, 1952 except in some areas to which it was extended subsequently.

LAND REFORMS

Abolition of Zamindari

Despite many legislative attempts by the government to emancipate the tiller of the soil from the thralldom of the zamindar and his oppressive measures, the situation could hardly be changed much till about the fag end of the British rule. However, the abolition of the oppressive system of zamin-

dari had become an article of faith and prime concern with the popular ministry in the State. On the 8th August, 1948, the U. P. legislative assembly resolved to abolish zamindari once for all. In pursuance of this resolution the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Bill was introduced in the Assembly on July 7, 1949 and became law on 26th January, 1951, and all the estates were vested in the State with effect from July 1, 1952.

The Act, in effect, once again brought about a direct relationship between the actual cultivator and the State, the institution of the zamindar, intermediary, being abolished. The rights of the zamindars in lands of common utility such as *abadi* sites, pathways, waste lands, forests, fisheries, public well, tanks and water channels were acquired and vested in the State. The Act, besides securing the ownership rights of the cultivators, gave them much needed incentive to improve their holdings and augment agricultural production. The zamindars were given compensation in lieu of the loss which they incurred as a result of the enforcement of this Act. Besides guaranteeing compensation, the Act also provides for payment of rehabilitation grant to those whose land revenue did not exceed Rs 10,000. Upto March, 1978, a total amount of Rs 1,32,63,942 assessed as rehabilitation grant was paid in cash to the intermediaries. The total amount of compensation paid to the intermediaries of this district amounted to Rs 2,38,21,082 as against the total assessed sum of Rs 2,38,24,576.

Instead of various diverse and complicated varieties of tenures, the Act provided only four viz., *bhumidhar*, *sirdar*, *asami* and *adhivasi*, the last one being only a transitional form of land tenure which was to disappear after five years. However, their disappearance was hastened by the Amending Act XX of 1954, which made all the *adhivasis* *sirdars*. Thus after October, 1954, their remained only three classes of tenure holders, namely, *bhumidhar*, *sirdar* and *asami*. *Bhumidhari* rights could be acquired by a *sirdar* on payment of a sum ten times of the annual rent. Those who did not pay could not get transferable rights over their holdings. They could only till and inherit. Subletting, except in cases of disability as defined in the Act, was prohibited. Yet another major change was affected by the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1977, which converted all *sirdars* into *bhumidhars*. The *bhumidhars* were thus divided into two classes, viz., *bhumidhars* with transferable rights and *bhumidhars* with non-transferable rights. All the existing *sirdars* having right to become *bhumidhars* were made *bhumidhars* with transferable rights. *Sirdars* having no such right (such as those admitted by the land management committees of the *gaon sabhas* were made *bhumidhars* with non-transferable rights. The *asamis* were left untouched.

With the abolition of zamindaris all public lands were vested in the State. The same were, however, subsequently transferred to the respective *gaon sabhas* for management through a committee known as the Bhumi Prabandhak Samiti i.e., the Land Management Committee. The committee lets out lands on leases for agricultural, horticultural and other purposes.

Collection of Revenue—After the abolition of zamindari, the land revenue is collected directly through the agency of collection *amins* whose works is

supervised by *naib-Tahsildars*, *tahsildars* and subdivisional officers. The ultimate responsibility for collection of land revenue rests with the collector. The district demand of main dues in 1975-76 recovered as arrears of land revenue were as follows :

Main dues	Total deposits (in Rs)
Land revenue	57,08,901
Irrigation dues	1,63,20,019
Vrihat Jot Kar	48,790
Taqavi Act XII	1,45,585
Taqavi Act XIX	30,392
Land development dues	66,74,555

Bhoodan—Vinoba Bhave, a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, in order to bring about a more equitable distribution of land among the people living in the countryside, started a movement wherein an appeal was made to cultivators with land to donate their spare land for distribution to the poor and landless. The movement commonly known as Bhoodan created an awakening among the people regarding the necessity of such a measure and by March, 1978 and area of about 2,529 ha. of land was received as gift for landless, of which about 2,138 ha. has been allotted.

Consolidation of Holdings

The consolidation operations under the U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953 began in the district in 1955 in tahsil Iglas, the main object of the operation being consolidation of holdings and prevention of its fragmentation, which more often resulted in uneconomic holdings and loss of agricultural production. The tahsilwise area of holdings consolidated upto March, 1978 was as follows :

Name of tahsil	Year of enforcement	Total no. of villages	Area consolidated (in hectares)
Iglas	1955	188	55,050
Hathras	1957	356	74,252
Atrauli	1961, 1973	292	95,645
Koil	1961, 1973	362	79,765
Sikandra Rao	1961, 1972	231	75,493
Khair	1962	247	85,887

Urban Land Reforms—The right of zamindars in agricultural lands in urban areas were acquired by the U. P. Urban Areas Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1956 (U. P. Act IX of 1957). Till March, 1978, a sum of

Rs 15,00,102 was paid as compensation under the said Act, the total sum assessed being Rs 16,25,629.

Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings

To effect a more equitable distribution of land, the U. P. Imposition of Ceilings on Land Holdings Act, 1960, (Act I of 1960) was enforced in the district in 1961. The Act was amended in June, 1973, and the maximum size of holding of a tenant in respect of irrigated land was fixed at 7.30 ha. and in case of unirrigated at 10.95 ha. Till the end of February, 1978, 2,162 ha. of land involving, 1,597 landholders had been declared surplus and was vested in the State. An amount of Rs 2,19,732 was paid as compensation to the landholders.

These reforms, have not only led to extinction of the absentee landlordism and reduction in size of big holdings but have also given to the common cultivator a sense of belonging to his land.

ADMINISTRATION OF TAXES OTHER THAN LAND REVENUE

In the district, as elsewhere in the State, the other main sources of revenue other than land revenue include several Central as well as State taxes.

Central Taxes

Of all the Central taxes, the Central excise and the income tax are the most important.

Central Excise—For the purpose of collection of central excise, the district is divided into 3 circles, under the overall charge of an assistant collector. The main taxable commodities are sugar, glassware, tobacco and copper and copper alloys etc.

The yearwise excise revenue collected from 1974-75 to 1976-77 is given in the following table :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1974-75	2,48,80,000
1975-76	1,87,53,000
1976-77	2,93,76,000

Income Tax—The district is divided into three wards (known as 'A', 'B' and 'C') each under an income tax officer. The following statement gives the details of collections under separate heads in the last three years ending 1975-76 :

Year	Income-tax		Wealth-tax		Gift-tax	
	No. of assesses	Amount (in Rs)	No. of assesses	Amount (in Rs)	No. of assesses	Amount (in Rs.)
1973-74	5,089	64,09,000	261	1,75,000	78	38,000
1974-75	4,480	52,30,000	1,673	79,000	100	35,000
1975-76	6,662	40,85,000	1,179	1,89,000	114	46,000

State Taxes

Excise—Excise has been one of the most important sources of State revenue since the beginning of the British rule. To begin with revenue from excise consisted merely of the licence fee derived from the auction of contracts to manufacture and sell spirituous liquor, as well as the vend of hemp drugs and opium. The administration of excise duty is under the charge of a district excise officer, who works under the overall supervision of the district magistrate.

Liquor—By 1978, the district had 54 country and foreign liquor shops. The following table gives the quantity of country spirit consumed yearwise from 1974-75 to 1976-77 :

Year	Consumption (in A. L.)
1974-75	1,33,950
1975-76	1,40,162
1976-77	1,28,646

Hemp Drugs—The hemp drugs like bhang and ganja and charas constituted important items of excise revenue in the past. The use of charas and ganja has since been prohibited in the district and licences for the sale of bhang are granted by the collector through annual auction. The consumption of bhang in the three years ending 1976-77 is given in the following table :

Year	Consumption (in Kg.)
1974-75	7,872
1975-76	6,316
1976-77	5,561

The following table gives the total excise revenue realised in the district from all excisable commodities from 1974-75 to 1976-77 :

Year	Revenue (in Rs)
1974-75	60,10,029
1975-76	69,52,177
1976-77	99,93,422

Sales Tax

The sales tax is levied in the district under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1957. For purposes of assessment and collection of sales tax, the district is divided into two circles, Aligarh and Hathras. The total amount of sales

tax realised on important commodities, like food-grains, oil-seeds, brass-ware, locks, etc., for the three years ending 1976-77 is given in the following table :

Year	Revenue (in Rs)
1974-75	2,20,03,263
1975-76	2,78,82,406
1976-77	2,85,31,431

Stamps and Registration

Stamps duty was introduced by the British rulers to discourage large number of law suits as well as to earn revenue from civil litigants. Affixation of stamp was, therefore, made compulsory in legal proceedings and in courts of law. The Indian Stamps Act, 1899, classifies stamps as judicial and non-judicial, the former being used to pay court-fees and latter for affixation on bills of exchange, documents of gift, sale and lease, etc. The income from stamps include fines and penalties imposed under the Indian Stamps Act. The receipts from judicial and non-judicial stamps during the three years ending 1976-77 are shown in the following table :

Year	Receipts (in Rs) from Stamps	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1974-75	13,40,172	58,88,406
1975-76	15,39,546	50,74,695
1976-77	17,15,714	69,09,209

Registration—Additional district magistrate (finance and revenue) Aligarh, works as an ex-officio registrar of the district. In the discharge of his duties he is assisted by six sub-registrars. The following table gives the number of documents registered and the income derived therefrom during the three years ending 1976-77 :

Year	No. of documents registered	Income (in Rs)
1974-75	13,986	9,07,683
1975-76	12,166	22,73,047
1976-77	13,872	11,53,962

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

All the motor vehicles are liable to taxation under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1935, and under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. For the enforcement of these Acts, the district falls under the jurisdiction of

CH. XI—REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

the regional transport officer,* Agra. There is an assistant regional transport officer at Aligarh, who supervises the collection of taxes under the above Acts. The collections under the passenger, goods and road taxes in the region for the three years ending 1977-78 are given below :

Year	Passenger tax (in Rs)	Goods tax (in Rs)	Road tax (in Rs)
1975-76	94,98,600	15,94,646	65,72,733
1976-77	1,18,91,917	16,54,730	52,28,306
1977-78	1,26,37,113	18,44,448	70,87,756

Entertainment and Betting Tax

It is imposed on all paid public entertainments and bettings, such as cinema shows, *nautankis*, circus, dance shows, etc. The following table shows the amount collected under this head in the district during the three years between 1974-75 and 1976-77 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1974-75	46,56,076
1975-76	54,13,161
1976-77	61,22,758

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

In ancient times, the area constituting the present district formed part of the various kingdoms and dynasties. It was included in the vast domains of Mauryas, Gupta and Harshavardhan and in later period, the district went under the control of Rajputs, who remained at the helm of affairs till the coming of Muslims in the 12th century. In this period, most of the parts of the district except Koil and Jalali were either uninhabited or sparsely populated with scattered villages in the countryside. Lack of authentic records has made it difficult to give proper account of law and order machinery in this area in those days.

The area comprising the present district remained part of the Delhi Sultanate for about 300 years. Koil acquired much prominents in this period and was the seat of a governor, who was responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the town and areas surrounding it. In the reign of Sher Shah *mukaddam* was made personally responsible for every act of commission and omission disturbing public peace and tranquillity in his area. It was his primary responsibility to arrest robbers and dacoits and in case of his failure to arrest them, he had to compensate the affected party himself by making good the loss.

However situation changed from 16th century onwards, when *faujdar* was entrusted with the task of maintaining peace and security of the area falling under his charge. In Akbar's reign Koil was capital of a *sirkar* included in the subah of Agra. As there was political stability in the country nearly till the death of Aurangzeb, law and order was well under control. After Aurangzeb's death peace of the area remained continuously disturbed. The district witnessed several conflicts between warring factions of the Marathas, Jats and Muslims. In 1784, Aligarh was captured by Mahadaji Sindhia of Gwalior, who kept it in his possession till 1803, when it was conquered by British troops.

After the formation of the new district of Aligarh in 1804, the police was entrusted with the task of maintaining law and order in the towns. In the rural areas the tahsildars were made responsible for prevention of crimes in their respective tahsils. This arrangement did not work satisfactorily and law and order remained a constant problem for the authorities. In 1809, the tahsildars were deprived of their police powers and magistrates were given the charge of the police force. In 1810, a superintendent of police was appointed in order to streamline the police administration in the district.

A general rearrangement was made in the police setup in 1851, in consequence of which eight police divisions were formed, to correspond as far as possible with tahsils of the district. Once again tahsildars were

vested with police powers with special emphasis on supervision of the police force, in their respective charge. In the new set-up there were ten police stations, seven first class *chaukis* or secondary *thanas* or principal police-stations, 21 subordinate *chaukis* or out-posts, located at various places in the entire district. Patrol posts were also established at fixed distances, all along the Grand Trunk Road, to make the journey safe for passengers.

The district police was reorganised after the out-break of the freedom struggle of 1857 and the *thanas* and *chaukis* were rearranged. The disturbances of 1857 brought many shortcomings of the police to the surface and it was decided to organise it on a more sound basis. It was felt for the first time, that the responsibility of organisation and maintenance of police force must devolve upon the provincial governments which should maintain a regular and paid police for the purpose. A committee was, therefore, constituted in 1860 to recommend suitable measures for the reorganisation of the police force. The Police Act (Act V of 1860) was enacted on the basis of the recommendations made by the committee. It is still in operation with some minor changes.

The Act introduced a uniform system of police administration in the country. In the district there was to be a superintendent as head of the district police. The district was divided into a number of police circles, which were further subdivided into *thanas* (police-stations), each under the charge of a sub-inspector or inspector called station house officer.

Incidence of Crime

In the nineteenth century Aligarh was a centre of violent activities and crimes. The district administration had to devote considerable time in curbing lawlessness and maintaining law and order. The officials had to simultaneously deal with recalcitrant zamindars and armed gangs of highway robbers—locally called as *Qazzaks*. They carried out their raids frequently and their task was made easy by the shelter afforded by the numerous forests existing in those days. Stern measures were adopted by the district authorities to curb their activities and units of police force and cavalry were often deployed for this purpose. Other crimes such as *thuggee*, murder, dacoity, house-breaking, cattle lifting, etc. were also not uncommon.

Some of the tribes like the Bhadiks, Mewatis, Haburas, Aherias, Mallahas mostly criminals by profession also operated in the district and indulged in various crimes like *thuggee*, burglary, and theft. The activities of the Bhadiks and the Mewatis were however, curbed after the liquidation of their hideouts.

Cattle lifting was one of the most frequently reported crimes in those days. The Jat, Musalmans and Gujars, Thangdars mostly resorted to this crime. The thieves or cattle lifters generally asked for ransom, locally called as *languri* or *firoti* from the owners for restoring their cattle to them.

Besides this, the armed and organised gangs of dacoits—mostly Rajputs, Ahirs and Brahmanas successfully carried out their raids and created a scare in the countryside.

At the close of the nineteenth century, special measures were initiated to put down these criminal activities. The crimes were checked and the law and order situation tended to improve. Several police out-posts were also set up to curb cattle lifting in the affected parts of the district.

During the first half of the present century the law and order situation showed signs of deterioration due to the preoccupation of the government with the two World Wars (1914—18 and 1939—45) and the national movements for attainment of freedom all over the country. Even after Independence in 1947, the dacoity menace continued to remain a source of constant trouble for administration. The police, however, liquidated several gangs of dacoits and destroyed their hideouts. Elaborate patrolling arrangements were also made to curb the crime in general and dacoity in particular.

The following table gives the incidence of crime under different heads during 1975—1977 :

Sl. no.	Crime	Year		
		1975	1976	1977
1.	Murder :			
	Reported	101	106	118
	Convicted	20	27	21
	Acquitted	32	24	24
2.	Dacoity :			
	Reported	171	186	218
	Convicted	25	24	44
	Acquitted	31	33	23
3.	Robbery :			
	Reported	158	126	194
	Convicted	17	26	23
	Acquitted	8	28	15
4.	Riots :			
	Reported	152	191	224
	Convicted	52	75	51
	Acquitted	32	40	35
5.	Theft :			
	Reported	1,779	1,578	1,933
	Convicted	255	259	266
	Acquitted	108	115	164
6.	House-breaking :			
	Reported	976	913	1,192
	Convicted	154	119	121
	Acquitted	84	103	68
7.	Kidnapping :			
	Reported	56	53	66
	Convicted	14	25	14
	Acquitted	12	21	16
8.	Sex Crime :			
	Reported	8	11	16
	Convicted	5	1	2
	Acquitted	2	3	3

Organisation of Police

The district is included in the Agra police range which is under the charge of a deputy inspector general of police with headquarters at Agra. The senior superintendent of police is the highest police officer in the district. He is responsible for maintaining discipline, integrity and efficiency of the police force. He collects intelligence regarding the law and order situation in the district both, from the police as well as from other sources. The police force in the district consists of the civil, the armed, the mounted police the traffic police, the provincial armed constabulary and the prosecution staff.

Civil Police—This wing has to perform duties relating to watch and ward, maintenance of law and order, prevention, detection and investigation of crime and execution of processes and other orders of law courts. There were four inspectors, 127 subinspectors including 2 lady subinspectors, 148 head constables and 1,179 constables which included one lady head constable and two lady constables also, in the district in 1977.

For maintenance of peace, law and order and supervision of the work of the police-stations, the district has been divided into eight police circles, each under the charge of a deputy superintendent of police. Each circle is divided into a number of police-stations demarcated broadly on the basis of area and population and located in important villages and towns of the district. The location of the police-stations circlewise is given below :

Police circle	Police-stations	Out-posts
City I	Kotwall	Sabjimandi, Aligarh Gate, Madar Gate, Delhi Gate, Turkman Gate, Babrimandi.
	Sasni Gate	Khirmi Gate
City II	Civil lines	Naurangabad, Atroli Gate, Dodhpur, Bhamola, Jamalpur.
	Banna Devi	Rasalganj, Raghurpur
Iglas	Jawan Iglas Gonda	Kasimpur Power House Beswan —
Sadar	Lodha Akrabad Harduaganj	— Panethi, Vijaigarh, Pitkhana Jalali
Atrauli	Atrauli Bafra Dadon	Atrauli Chharrah Bijauli
Khair	Khair Tappal Chandaus	Khair Jatari Gobhana, Pisawa
Sikandra Rao	Sikandra Rao Gangiri Hasayan	Purdilnagar, Kachaura, Sikandra Rao Bazidpur —
Hathras	Hathras Hathras Junction Sasni Mursan	Sasni Gate, Mendu Gate, Chamar Gate, Mursan Gate, Sadabad Gate. Pura Sasni —

Armed Police—The duties of armed police are to provide guards and escorts, to suppress and prevent disorder and restore peace in the disturbed areas, and to protect government property and vital installations and means of communications. It is stationed at the reserve police lines at the district headquarters.

Traffic Police—The traffic police is mainly concerned with directing traffic on busy cross-roads and controlling the parking of vehicles in crowded areas of the city. It consisted of one head constable and sixteen constables in 1977.

Provincial Armed Constabulary—The provincial armed constabulary is used in emergencies and in maintaining law and order, as a support to the local civil police wherever the situation requires their presence. The XXXVIII battalion of this force was raised in the district in the year 1975. The battalion comprises one head quarters wing and six companies. It is commanded by the commandant of the battalion who is of the rank of superintendent of police. There are four deputy superintendents of police, seven inspectors and twentyone subinspectors, 138 constables, 54 naiks, 109 L/naiks and 461 constables in the battalion.

Mounted Police—The mounted police is stationed at the reserve police lines. It is utilized for the general patrolling of the city and traffic control during fairs, festivals, etc. It consists of two head constables and 11 constables.

Prosecution Staff—The prosecution staff in the district consists of three public prosecutors and 23 assistant public prosecutors. They were to be under the administrative control of the district magistrate, under the provisions of the new Code of Criminal Procedure enforced from April 1, 1974. Soon after through an amendment made by the State Government, they now work under the superintendent of police as before. They conduct proceedings on behalf of the State before the magistrates. They also advise the investigating officers on legal issues, arising in the course of investigation of crimes.

Village Police

The village chowkidars numbering 1,031, who are part-time servants, are the only agency of the police in the villages. Their main duties are watch and ward and informing the police about the occurrence of every crime in their areas. They are appointed by the district magistrate, but they work under the supervision and control of the superintendent of police.

Pradeshik Vikas Dal

This organised and disciplined body of volunteers was established originally under the name of Prantiya Rakshak Dal, to mobilise the manpower, carry out youth-welfare activities and to prepare villagers for self-defence. Its members also perform civil defence duties like guarding, assisting the police in traffic control, preventing looting, maintaining of communications, fire fighting, etc. The paid staff of this organisation in the district consists of a district organiser and 17 block organisers. The

unpaid staff includes 17 block commanders, 75 *halka sardars* (circle leaders), 627 *dal patis* (group leaders); 837 *tohi nayaks* (section leaders) and 8,040 *rakshaks* (guards).

The district organiser besides supervising the work of the block organisers, also co-ordinates development programmes with the help of block development officer. He also organises *shramdan* (voluntary labour), training camps, games and sport activities in the rural areas.

Government Railway Police

The police-station of the G. R. P., Aligarh, is located at the railway station, Aligarh. It has a station officer, six head constables and 30 constables. There are two G. R. P. out-posts, one each at Hathras and Khurja railway stations. The total staff at these out-posts consists of a sub-inspector, two head constables and 16 constables.

The G. R. P. police-station of Aligarh is under the jurisdiction of the Agra section of G. R. P. and the deputy superintendent of police is designated as section officer. His headquarters is at Agra.

The duties of this force include maintenance of law and order at the railway station, checking and regulating the passenger traffic and assist the railway magistrates in checking and prevention of ticketless travelling in the railway trains. It also deals with the crimes committed within the railway station premises.

Fire Services

Till 1973 the fire service was performed under the control of the municipal board. Now the service works under the supervision of the superintendent of police. It serves the public in fire fighting and rescue work under difficult operational conditions. There are two fire stations in the district. The staff consists of two fire station officers, three fire station second officers, two assistant subinspectors (ministerial), six leading firemen and six driver firemen.

Home Guards

This organisation was created after the Chinese Aggression of 1962. The volunteers enrolled in this organisation are trained in fire fighting, first-aid and other rescue works. They render help to people in times of natural calamities. They are also deployed for various other duties such as traffic control, maintenance of law and order, protection of government property, etc. In 1977, a total of 3,190 persons were on the roll in the home guards organisation, comprising 29 companies, each company consisting of three platoons.

Village Defence Societies

These are purely non-official bodies, established with a view to protect villagers from robbery and dacoity. The main functions of the societies are arranging for night patrolling and strengthening of safety measures for the protection of life and property in the rural areas. There were 1,317 village defence societies in the district in 1977.

Jails and lock-ups

The district jail, situated at the district headquarters, is under the charge of a superintendent, who is assisted by one jailor, two deputy jailors and four assistant jailors. The inspector-general of prisons, U. P., Lucknow, being the head of the department, exercises control over the administration of the jails throughout the State. The jail hospital, is looked after by a whole-time doctor, designated as assistant medical officer. The chief medical officer of the district is the superintendent of the jail hospital.

The district jail has a capacity to accommodate 720 prisoners and under-trial prisoners. The average daily population of convicts and under-trials from 1975 to 1977 is given in the following table :

Year	Daily average population	
	Convicts	Under-trial prisoners
1975	295	580
1976	408	583
1977	293	640

Welfare of Prisoners—Before 1948, the prisoners and under-trials, were categorised in three classes namely, A, B and C. Since then there are only two categories, namely the 'Superior' and 'ordinary'. More facilities and amenities have been provided in the jail after Independence with the object of improving the living conditions of the prisoners. They are trained and then employed in handicrafts like weaving of dari, niwar, etc., for which they are remunerated by cash payments. Newspapers, books and periodicals are made available to them, from the jail library. The government also strives to educate them in reading, writing and simple arithmetic. Facilities to prosecute higher studies and appear in examinations are also provided to them. Sports and games (in-door and out-door) and social and cultural activities are organised for the recreation and welfare of the jail inmates.

Visitors—The ex officio visitors of the jail are the director of medical and health services, U. P., the commissioner of Agra Division, the district and sessions judge and the district magistrate. All the members of the State and Central legislatures, elected from the district; all the members of the standing committee of the State legislature on jails, the chairman of the central committee of the Uttar Pradesh Apradh Nirodhak Samiti; the secretary of its district committee and the presidents of the municipal boards and the Zila Parishad and such other members of the public as are appointed by the State government, are non-official visitors of the district jail.

Revising Board—The district magistrate of Agra as chairman, district and session judge of Agra and one non-official visitor, as the members constituting the revising board for district jail, Aligarh. The function of the revising board is to consider the revision of the sentences of all casual and habitual convicts, with sentences of three years and above after they have served a specified period of their sentence, for their pre-mature release.

Lock-up—There are two lock-ups. one at collectorate and the other inside the sessions court compound. Under-trials brought from the jail for

attendance in the courts are kept here till they are shifted back to the jail after their attendance in the court.

The public prosecutor now designated as prosecuting officer, acting under the control of the superintendent of police, looks after the working of the lock-ups. Each police-station also has separate lock-ups for males and females.

At the headquarters of each tahsil, there is a revenue lock-up where persons charged for non-payment of government dues are detained for the maximum period of 14 days.

Probation

The probation scheme was introduced in the district from October 1, 1947, under the U. P. First Offenders Probation Act (Act no. VI of 1938). Subsequently the Probation of Offenders Act, (Act No. 20 of 1958) was passed by the Government of India, with a view to removing the defects of then State legislation on the subject. There are two probation officers posted in the district, working under the administrative control of the district magistrate.

The duties of probation officers are to enquire, in accordance with any directions of a court, into the circumstances of any person accused of an offence with a view to assist the court in determining the most suitable method of dealing with him and submit report to the court; to supervise probationers and other persons placed under his supervision and, where necessary, endeavour to find for them suitable employment; to advise and assist offenders in the payment of compensation or costs ordered by the court; and to advise and assist, in such cases and in such manner as may be prescribed, persons who have been released under Section 4 of the Act.

Under the U. P. Prisoner's Release on Probation Act, 1938, probation officers also deal with cases for premature release of convicts who have served a part of their sentence to enable them to reform themselves by living in their own social environment. The cases of convicts, who apply for the leave under U. P. Prisoners' Release on Ticket of Leave Rules, 1950, were also dealt with by probation officers. Under this act a prisoner may be granted ticket of leave for a period of one month, after he has completed at least three years of his sentence. The probation officer looks after the enforcement of the U. P. Children Act, 1951 also. The following table shows the work done under the probation scheme in the district during last three years (1975, 1976, 1977) :

	Year	
	1975	1976
Total No. of non-juvenile offenders dealt with under the U. P. First Offenders Probation Act	298	354
No. of persons let off on furnishing bond with or without sureties	119	111
Total No. of juvenile delinquents to dealt with	217	185
Total No. of juvenile offenders let off after admonition	98	74
Number of domiciliary visits paid by probation officers	703	381

JUSTICE

In ancient times, the ruler was the fountain-head of justice which was administered either by him personally or, in his name, by his officers in accordance with the *Smitis*, the *Dharmashastras* and customs and traditions. There were mainly three institutions related with administration of justice : village panchayat or Parishad in the village ; judge (*nyayadhish*) in the city or town and the King-in-Council at the apex.

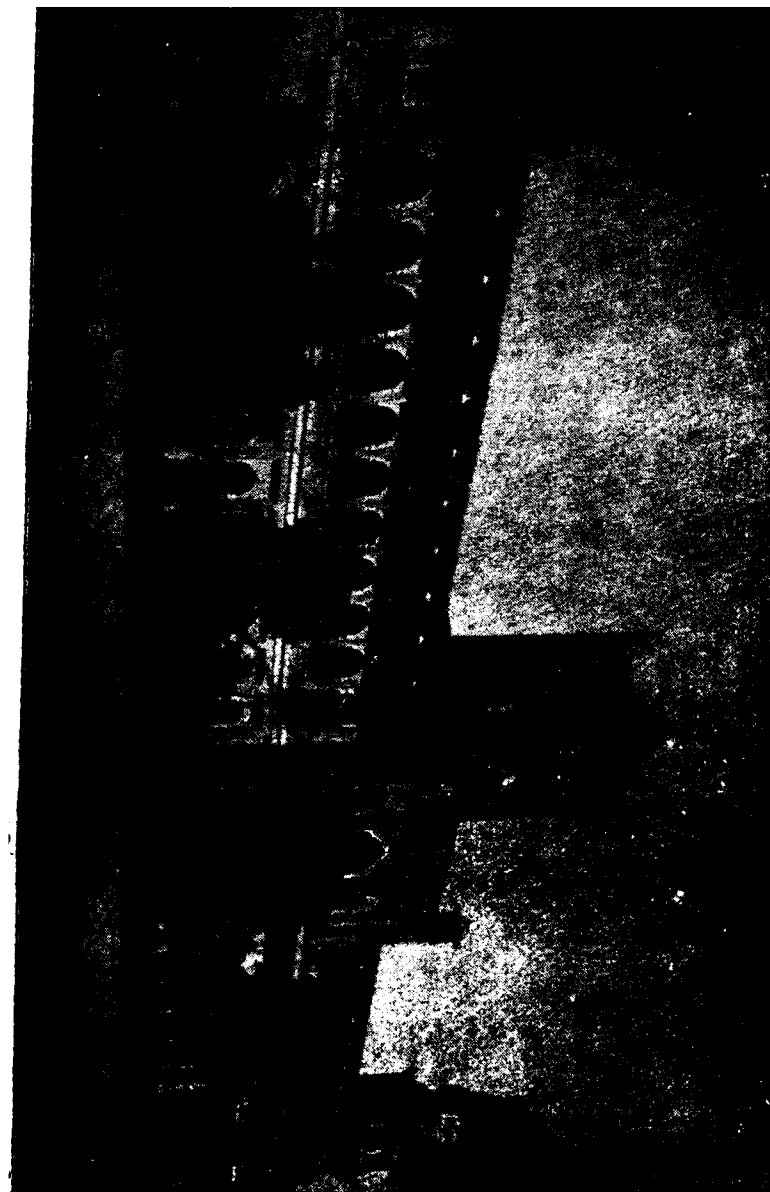
The Muslims brought with them their own system under which justice was administered according to Islamic law by the *qazis* (judges) and muftis in the towns. The rural areas were, however, not effected by changes in governments or the rulers, and panchayats continued to function as usual, a position that obtained in the country till the early years of British rule.

The criminal justice was administered in accordance with the Moham-medan Law, and in civil disputes the personal law was applied. The British introduced many legal reforms in the country and codified the law, the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and the Civil Procedure Code, 1908, being some of the more important statutes. The first known courts after the formation of the district in 1804, were that of a judge, a registrar and of two Sadar Amins. *Munsifs* were first appointed in 1815 and four of them were posted, one each at Atrauli, Khair, Kauriaganj and Sikandra Rao. In 1833, the last two stations were changed for Koil and Hathras. This arrangement continued for a long time, the only change was substitution of Akraabad for Atrauli after the freedom struggle of 1857. In 1880, Khair and Akraabad ceased to have *munsifs* courts and some more changes were made in the jurisdiction of the *munsifs*. Under the new allocation the *munsif* of Hathras had jurisdiction over Hathras tahsil and Tappa Hasayan in Sikandra Rao pargana ; the *munsif* of Jalesar was assigned rest of the portion of Sikandara Rao pargana ; the *munsif* of Koil had jurisdiction over Aligarh tahsil and the *munsif* of Haveli Aligarh exercised jurisdiction over Atrauli, Khair and Iglas tahsils and Akraabad pargana and also had concurrent jurisdiction over Koil pargana along with the *munsif* of Koil. The districts of Etah and Bulandshahr (leaving tahsil Sikandarabad of district Bulandshahr) also came under the jurisdiction of the district judge, Aligarh in 1895. His jurisdiction and that of an additional judge included the whole sessions division but the work was divided between them. This set-up continued till the year 1921. After 1921 Bulandshahr district was taken out of the jurisdiction of district judge, Aligarh. In 1930, a separate judge called judge small causes was appointed in Aligarh. In 1950, the district of Etah was also taken out of the jurisdiction of the district judge, Aligarh. Since then a number of temporary and additional courts have been established to share the increasing work load of litigation. The present judicial set-up of the judiciary in the district is briefly described below :

Criminal Justice

The court of sessions judge is the highest criminal court in the district having the power to award capital punishment subject to confirmation by the High Court. The sessions judge is assisted by five additional judges, four assistant sessions judges, a chief judicial magistrate, one additional chief judicial magistrate, two judicial magistrates and ten *munsifs*. The statements

Civil Court, Aligarh



(A and B) give the number of cases instituted and persons sentenced by the sessions courts during the last three years (1975 to 1977) :

STATEMENT A

Nature of offences	Year		
	1975	1976	1977
Affecting life	174	166	168
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	18	6	14
Hurt	21	8	3
Rape	17	4	3
Unnatural offences	—	—	—
Extortion	—	—	2
Robbery and Dacoity	166	280	245
Other cases	46	17	30

STATEMENT B

Persons tried/sentenced	Year		
	1975	1976	1977
Person tried	1,211	,974	1,057
Sentenced to death	1	—	2
Life imprisonment	45	52	50
Rigorous imprisonment	316	187	129
Simple imprisonment	—	—	—
Fined only	2	—	—
Other punishments	2	1	—

Executive Magistrates

The district magistrate is the head of the criminal administration of the district and in that capacity exercises control over the police also. The superintendent of police is required to keep the district magistrate posted with promititude with all information related to law and order and crime in the district. The superintendent of police also seeks his concurrence in all important matters regarding transfers, postings and promotions of the station officers and the inspectors.

Under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1898, the district magistrate being at the apex of criminal administration in the district, exer-

cised control and supervision over other magistrates in which task he is assisted by an additional district magistrate (judicial), who along with judicial magistrates of the first class and magistrates in charge of sub-divisions posted in the district, also disposes of criminal cases in their jurisdictions.

The district magistrate being the chief executive magistrate of the district continues to be responsible for maintenance of law and order and peace in the district in his charge, even after the separation of executive and judiciary, envisaged under the new Criminal Procedure Code, 1974.

The six sub-divisional magistrates and tahsildars are vested with powers of executive magistrates and they assist the district magistrate in discharge of his duties, as and where the need arises.

The new Criminal Procedure Code enforced from April 1, 1974, has deprived the executive magistrates of their judicial powers, but they continue to exercise jurisdiction in respect of cases of preventive and prohibitory nature under relevant sections of the new code. The following table gives the position regarding cognizable crimes under the Criminal Procedure Code, and other local and special Acts for the last three years (1974 to 1976):

Year	Cases under Cr. P. C.		Cases under local and special Acts	
	Cases instituted	Persons involved	Cases instituted	Persons involved
1974	2,617	10,012	4,331	5,665
1975	1,661	7,668	1,808	2,412
1976	2,073	8,688	2,352	2,538

The number of persons tried and sentenced, in the various courts under the district magistrate, Aligarh are indicated in the following table:

Year	Persons tried	Sentenced to rigorous imprisonment	Fined only
1974	13,830	67	2,088
1975	8,361	3	650
1976	9,030	16	1,453

Civil Justice

In addition to the district judge, there are five additional district judges who exercise concurrent jurisdiction with him. All of them are vested with powers of unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction in civil cases, of hearing revisions and certain other cases for which jurisdiction has been conferred upon them under various enactments and statutes. In addition, there is also a civil judge with jurisdiction to decide suits of unlimited value and appellate jurisdiction to decide suits of up to the valuation of Rs 5,000. A small causes judge is

also posted in the district. His jurisdiction covers the cases having valuation up to Rs 2,000. Civil suits of lesser value are disposed of by ten *munsifs*.

The following table gives the position of case work in civil courts, in the year 1976:

Cases	Number
Pending at the beginning of the year, 1976	5,016
Instituted during the year, 1976	3,669
Suits disposed of during the year, 1976	3,942
Pending at the close of the year, 1976	4,743

Of the suits instituted in the civil courts of the district in the year 1976, 1,173 involved immovable property, 1,068 involved movable property, 67 were connected with mortgage disputes, 60 were of matrimonial nature and 1,301 belong to other categories.

The number of suits, instituted in 1976, according to valuation was as follows:

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	191
Exceeding Rs 100 but not exceeding Rs 1,000	1,665
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not exceeding Rs 5,000	716
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not exceeding Rs 10,000	220
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not exceeding Rs 20,000	Nil
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	194

The total value of suits, instituted during the year 1976, amounted to Rs 1,02,54,551. The details of the disposal of civil cases in 1976, was as follows:

Manner of disposal	Number of suits
Dismissed for default	1,007
Decided after trial	944
Decreed ex-parte	799
On admission of claim	49
Settled by compromise	432
On reference to arbitration	1

The number of appeals instituted and disposed of, in the district, in the year 1976, is given in the table below :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil appeals	391	300
Miscellaneous civil appeal	687	633

Separation of Judiciary from Executive

Before October 2, 1967, the judicial magistrates who tried criminal cases under the appellate authority of sessions judge, worked under the administrative control of the district magistrate for purposes of law and order duties. The process of separation of judiciary from executive was initiated with effect from October 2, 1967, when the additional district magistrate (judicial) was placed under the administrative control of the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad. This process reached its culmination on April 1, 1974, when new Code of Criminal Procedure was enforced. It envisages complete separation of judiciary from executive and makes some far-reaching changes in the nomenclature, classification and powers of the courts. It has also given extensive powers to police officers to deal effectively with crime. The new procedure also gives a fair deal to persons convicted in matters of computation of jail sentence. The process for trial has been simplified and improved in the new procedure with a view to expedite the disposal of cases.

Nyaya Panchayats

To give the people training and a feeling of involvement with the administration of justice, the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, established a chain of panchayat *adalats*, throughout the State, which were renamed as *nyaya* panchayats in 1955. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over an area of 5 to 11 *gaon sabhas*, depending upon the population of the constituent villages. The total number of *nyaya* panchayats in the district in 1978 was 171.

The *panchas* of *nyaya* panchayats are nominated by the prescribed authority (district magistrate) in consultation with a district level committee constituted for the purpose. The *panchas* elect a *sarpanch* and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch* from among themselves, whose tenure of office is usually five years. The cases are heard by benches of five *panchas* constituted by the *sarpanch* and a minimum of three *panchas* (including the chairman of the bench) constitute the quorum. The *nyaya* panchayats have been vested with jurisdiction to try cases under different sections of the following Acts :

- (a) Cases under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947,
- (b) Cases under the Indian Penal Code relating to petty offences such as public nuisance, trespass, intimidation and threat, etc., and cases of theft or misappropriation involving property not exceeding an amount of Rs 50 in value,

- (c) Cases under the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, relating to damage to property or crops by cattle, etc., and their seizure or rescue by force,
- (d) Cases under the United Provinces Primary Education Act, 1919 against parents for disobedience of orders,
- (e) Cases under the Public Gambling Act, 1867, relating to gambling houses or gambling in public places, etc. In civil suits the jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat extends up to a valuation of Rs 500. It may also try revenue cases, if the parties agree, in writing, to such a course.

The *nyaya* panchayats, are, however, not empowered to pass sentences of imprisonment and can impose fines up to Rs 100 only.

Revisions against the decision of *nyaya* panchayats in civil cases lie to the *munsifs* and in criminal and revenue cases to the sub-divisional officers or sub-divisional magistrates, as the case may be. The following statement gives the details of cases tried and disposed of by the *nyaya* panchayats in the district during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 :

Year	Cases pending at the beginning of year	Cases instituted	Cases disposed of
1974-75	177	2,362	2,289
1975-76	250	1,190	1,344
1976-77	96	714	703

Bar Association

There are two bar associations in the district, namely the collectorate bar association and the civil bar association respectively. Both the associations are at Aligarh and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

The collectorate bar association has a total of 250 members on its roll, while civil courts bar association has a membership of 94 lawyers. Majority of the members of the collectorate bar association practise on the criminal side while the members of the civil bar association usually practice on the civil side. The collectorate bar association has its own separate building in the collectorate compound. The facilities of reading-room, library and rest room is available to the members. The office of the civil bar association is located in the premises of civil court compound.

The main objects of these associations among other things are to maintain a high standard of professional efficiency and decorum and to look after the interest of the members.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENT

The departments concerned with general and revenue administration and with law and order in the district have been described in chapters X, XI and XII. Those dealing with agriculture, horticulture, soil conservation, animal husbandry, co-operatives, education, forests, industries and public works are dealt with briefly in this chapter. The district level officers in charge of these departments act as advisers to the Zila Parishad which perform the functions of the erstwhile district board and district planning committee.

Agriculture Department

The main function of this department is to boost farm production by persuading the cultivators to use new and improved variety of seeds together with modern methods of farming and modern technology suited to the local conditions, and also to manage timely and adequate supply of agricultural inputs like fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides.

Custom service is also arranged by way of hiring out tractors, threshers, etc., to the cultivators on nominal charges. Cultural, manurial and implemental demonstrations are laid out on the government and private farms to popularise modern techniques of cultivation and farm management. Short-term training and refresher courses are also organised periodically at the village and development block levels to disseminate knowledge regarding crop protection farm pests and diseases. The plant protection branch of the department takes measures to control agricultural pests and diseases.

For administrative purposes the district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture with headquarters at Agra. At the district level the district agriculture officer is in charge of the department. He is assisted by one assistant project officer, one assistant soil chemist, one statistics officer, 11 additional district agriculture officers, 45 assistant development officers, 151 assistant agriculture inspectors, 151 *kamdars* and a number of other staff.

In 1977-78 there were 124 seed stores in the district maintained by the agriculture department each looked after by an assistant agriculture inspector and a number of *kamdars* to assist him.

An oil-seed inspector is also posted in the district for looking after oil-seeds cultivation and extension programme. The plant protection officer looks after the working of 17 plant protection centres in the district.

Horticulture Department

The district is under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of horticulture stationed at Agra. At the district level the staff consists of one horticulture officer, one senior inspector, one inspector and two assistant inspectors. The department renders guidance for the plantation of fruit and other trees, cultivation of vegetables, laying of parks and flower garden for which it supplies improved seeds, grafts, seedlings, saplings, etc. Of late the

department has been popularising and encouraging plantation of *ber* and *aonla* trees under "grow more trees" scheme on *usar* and *banjar* land in the countryside. For this purpose loans are advanced to the needy at the rate of Rs 730 per hectare for *ber* and Rs 780 per hectare for *aonla*. Marketing and storage facilities for fruits and vegetables are also arranged by the department.

Soil Conservation Department

The regional head of the department is the project officer (soil conservation), with headquarters at Aligarh.

There were two soil conservation officers in 1977-78 posted at Aligarh and Khair. They conduct surveys, prepare plans and initiate measures to combat erosion of land by natural elements. They provide scientific and technical guidance to the cultivators for the purpose of controlling soil erosion by making *bundis*, levelling and construction of *guls* and *pakka* channels in the affected areas.

Animal Husbandry Department

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry posted at Agra. The district live-stock officer is in charge of the department at the district level. He looks after the work of improvement of breed of cattle and poultry and prevention and treatment of their diseases. He is also responsible for taking measures to prevent and control out-breaks of cattle epidemics. The staff under him in 1977 included one project officer poultry, two semen collection officers, three veterinary officers, 35 veterinary assistant surgeons, 146 live-stock development assistants, and 26 compounder.

Co-operative Department

The department is concerned with the organisation, registration, supervision and promotion of co-operative institutions in the district.

The deputy registrar co-operative societies, Agra, is the regional head of the department. At the district level the work is looked after by an assistant registrar co-operative societies who is assisted by six additional co-operative officers in controlling and supervising the activities of the co-operative institution in the district.

In each of the 17 blocks in the district an assistant development officer (co-operatives) looks after and supervises the working of the co-operative societies in the block. Besides there were also in 1977-78 two co-operative circle officers and 103 co-operative supervisors in the district in 1977-78.

Education Department

The regional head of the boys' educational institutions is the deputy director of education stationed at Agra. The girl's institutions are controlled by the regional inspectress assisted by a deputy inspectress, also stationed at Agra.

The district inspector of schools is the chief officer of the department in the district. He is responsible for the supervision, control and inspection

of the educational institutions for the boys in particular. He is assisted by an associate district inspector of schools.

The department besides looking after the educational facilities also ensures proper arrangements for games, sports physical education, training in scouting and national discipline scheme, in the educational institutions in the district.

Public Works Department

The department is under the administrative control of the superintending engineer, circle II, public works department, Agra.

In 1977 there were two divisions of the department, at Aligarh, the provincial division and the departmental construction division (unit), each under the charge of an executive engineer. Besides the executive engineers, the two divisions had, by way of junior field staff, a compliment of 4 assistant engineers and 27 junior engineers for work relating to buildings and roads, and three assistant engineers and 21 junior engineers for execution of work and plans by the construction division.

Industries Department

The district is within the Agra zone of the industries department, controlled by a joint director with headquarters at Agra.

At the district level the district industries officer assisted by an inspector and some other staff, looks after the working and development of the industrial units. Broadly his duties include rendering of all possible assistance for the setting up of new and expansion of the existing industries. By the end of 1977, there were 917 small-scale active industrial units in the district.

The units engaged in production of handloom cloth etc. are also looked after by the district industries officer. At the State level, however, the work is, looked after and supervised by the director, handlooms and textiles, Kanpur.

Forest Department

The forest in the district forms part of the Vraj Bhumi forest division with headquarters at Agra, and circle office at Bareilly. The sub divisional forest officer who has his office at Aligarh, looks after the management of the forest in the district which is subdivided into five range sections viz., Sumara, Khair, Sikandra Rao, Hathras and Aligarh.

CHAPTER XIV LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

From the account given in the foregoing chapter on history, it is evident that the district had formed an integral part of the territory governed successively by the Nandas, Mauryas, Guptas, Pratiharas and Dor Rajputs before it came under the sway of the Muslims rulers. Local autonomy was a special feature of the ancient Hindu polity and in that context, it is reasonable to believe that viable units of self-government functioned in the villages and towns for a long time till they became extinct for want of State patronage. In the absence of any record it is not possible to delineate the rise and fall of these institutions in the district from the earliest times.

During the ancient period, the villages enjoyed a very large measure of autonomy and were governed by the panchayats which exercised both administrative and judicial powers. These institutions received great set-back under the Muslim rule and almost totally disappeared under the British rule. Those that existed were mutilated in form devoid of all power and status of the former days confining their authority only to the social life of the village community. Under the Mughal rule, many of the municipal functions in the cities were usually in the hands of the Kotwal, who was responsible for watch and ward, elementary conservancy and regulation of the offensive trades. Over centralization of administration during the early British period brought about total extinction of the traditional institutions of local self-government both in the rural and urban areas.

The events of 1857, however, had an eye-opening and softening influence on the British rulers and the subsequent years saw numerous steps being taken for gradual decentralization of administration with a view to usher in local self-governing institutions in the district. From the earliest days of the British rule, a committee known as the local agency was established at Koil (Aligarh) and Hathras for the management of local affairs, including police, conservancy and local improvements. Funds were raised from town duties, a form of octroi and after the abolition of town duties in 1856, house tax was introduced for purposes of watch and ward. In 1865, the towns of Koil (Aligarh), Hathras, Atrauli, Sikandra Rao and Harduaganj were constituted as municipalities under the Municipal Act of 1850, and four years later the house tax was replaced by octroi. The only subsequent change of importance, apart from the effects of the various enactments regarding the administration of municipalities generally, was the removal of Harduaganj from the list of the municipalities in 1882. The earlier municipal committees were nominated bodies and it was after the passing of the N. W. P. Municipal Improvements Act, 1868, that the elective principle was introduced for the first time. The constitution of these institutions underwent change as a result of the passing of the N. W. P. and Oudh Municipal Act, 1873, the N. W. P. and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883 (which also changed the name from municipal committee to municipal board) and the

N. W. P. and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1900. Some concrete progress towards popular representation in the municipal boards was made by the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, which for the first time provided for the election of a non-official person as chairman. This Act continues to be the guiding statute of the municipalities and notified areas in the State. Several amendments have been made in it to adjust it to the changing situations in recent years, particularly in the post-independence period.

The Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) was applied to those towns which were not big enough to be governed as municipalities and yet had a population big enough to make it necessary to provide rudimentary civic services. The Act was applied to Aligarh and Hathras immediately after its promulgation. In 1860, it was also applied to Atrauli, Sikandra Rao, Harduaganj, Tappal, Khair, Mursan, Sasni and Mendu. A year later the list was extended by the inclusion of Pilkhana, Kauriaganj, Purdilnagar, Vijaigarh, Jalali, Kachaura, Datauli, Hasayan, Chharra Rafatpur and Gangiri. In 1865, the status of Koil (Aligarh), Hathras, Atrauli, Sikandra Rao and Harduaganj was raised to that of municipalities, while in 1867 Beswan, Jattari and Daryapur were declared as Act XX towns. Harduaganj, which was made a municipality in 1865, was reduced to the status of an Act XX town in 1882, in 1902 Daryapur was removed from the list and in 1909 the application of the Act was withdrawn from Datauli, Gangiri and Jattari on account of their dwindling importance. Between 1860 and 1867 in addition to the above mentioned towns, the Act was also applicable to Dadon, Barauli, Chandaaur, Iglas, Madrak, Somna and Akabad, but it was withdrawn owing to the insignificance and poverty of the places concerned at various dates between 1882 and 1895. In 1909, there were only fifteen towns to which Act XX of 1856 was applicable. Such towns usually derived their income from house tax and utilised it for the maintenance of town police, conservancy staff and for local improvements. The Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) was replaced in 1914 by the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The principal change made by it was to relieve the towns of their watch and ward duties and make the town area committee primarily responsible for the sanitation of the towns. This statute with certain modifications continues in operation in the district.

The first legal provision for the establishment of self-government in rural areas was the passing of the N. W. P. and Oudh Local Boards Act, 1871. Earlier to that the administration of local funds other than those derived from the town duties and house tax was entrusted to various committees like the road and ferry funds committee, which came into existence after the first regular settlement (1833—38), the dispensary committee and the school committee. These were joined to form a district committee in 1871, when the various cesses were consolidated into a single demand. The different committees also continue to function in their respective spheres under the general control of the district committee, till the formation of the district board in 1884, under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Local Boards Act, 1883, when the elective principle was also introduced. In 1906 the district board was reconstituted with more powers. The board, then, consisted of 25 members, including a magistrate as chairman, and six sub-

divisional officers, and three elected members from each tahsil sitting for a period of three years. The U. P. District Boards Act, 1922, made some more changes in the constitution and functions of the board. The number of members was raised and the system of separate electorates for Muslims and non-Muslims was also introduced. From now on the chairman was elected indirectly. The jurisdiction of the board was extended to cover the entire non-urban areas of the district with more emphasis on rural development. The district board was also authorised to impose a tax on circumstance and property and to tap other sources to augment its income by levying licence fee, local rates, etc.

With the advent of independence in 1947, universal adult franchise was introduced for the election of the members. The election of the president was also made direct. The number of members was raised and the system of joint electorate was ushered in. Seats were also reserved for the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The practice of nominating members was done away with. Government also increased its grant to the board and thus strengthened its finances. As a long leap towards more decentralisation, the district board was converted into Antarim Zila Parishad by the U. P. Antarim Zila Parishads Act, 1958. A more comprehensive statute, the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, covering the entire gamut of the activities and administration of the local bodies at the district and development block levels with close organic links with the *gaon* panchayats (established by the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act of 1947) was enforced in 1962.

There were in 1978, 4 municipal boards, 14 town areas, a Zila Parishad, 17 *kshettra samitis* and 1,496 *gaon* panchayats in the district.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS

Aligarh

The Aligarh municipal board came into existence in August, 1865, under the Municipal Act of 1850. The first municipal committee was a nominated body and it was after the passing of the N. W. P. Municipal Improvement Act, 1868 that the elective principle was introduced. The N. W. P. and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883 changed the name from 'municipal committee' to 'municipal board'. Ever since the passing and enforcement of the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916 (as amended from time to time), the affairs of the municipality are managed under it.

The municipality covered an area of 34.45 sq. km. and had a population of 2,52,314 in 1971. It is divided into 19 wards from which 45 members are elected directly through adult franchise. Seats are also reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The president is elected by the members of the board. Normally the term of the municipal board is five years, but it may be extended by the government in exceptional circumstances. The board, is at present under supersession and is being administered by the district magistrate.

Finance—The main sources of income of the board are municipal rates and taxes, realisation made under special Acts, revenue derived from

municipal property and government grants and contributions. The main items of expenditure are general administration and collection charges, public safety, public health and convenience, street lighting, waterworks and other public works. The details of income and expenditure of the board for the last 10 years (i.e. from 1967-68 to 1976-77) are given in the Table I(a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Waterworks—The town has its own protected water-supply scheme which is looked after by a staff of 59 persons. There were 463 public taps on the roads and streets and 6,514 private tap connections in the city in 1976-77. An amount of Rs 7,13,949 was spent by the board on the waterworks during 1976-77.

Street Lighting—Formerly, kerosene oil lamps were the only means for illuminating the streets but now it is done by means of electricity supplied by the U. P. State Electricity Board. There were 4,734 electric street lamps in the town in 1976-77. An amount of Rs 4,94,511 was spent on this head during 1976-77.

Public Health and Medical Services—The public health department of the board deals with sanitation and cleaning of roads, medical aid and slaughter houses. It is under the control of the medical officer of health and is assisted by 2 chief sanitary inspectors, 7 sanitary inspectors and some other staff. The municipal board maintains a hospital for the general public and a dispensary for the employees of the board. There are 13 tractors for removing dirt and garbage and watering of roads in the town. The total expenditure incurred under this head during 1976-77 amounted to Rs 37,23,507.

Drainage—There are 100 km. of pucca drains of which nearly 56 km. are flushed daily. The sullage water and refuse is made into compost by trenching and is sold by public auction. A sewerage scheme was also under execution by the board in 1977.

Other Activities—The board manages 10 parks and gardens in the town. It also maintains 9.38 km. of metalled roads and 4.7 km. of unmetalled roads.

Atrauli

The municipality of Atrauli was constituted in 1865 under the Municipal Act of 1850, and is now administered under the U. P. Municipalities Act of 1916. It had an area of 1.37 sq. km. and a population of 20,980 in 1971. The town is divided into 6 wards. The municipal board has a president and 11 members, one seat being reserved for the Scheduled Castes. All members are elected directly through adult franchise for a term of 5 years.

Finances—The income of the board is mainly derived from municipal rates and taxes, by realisation under special Acts, revenue drawn from municipal property, grants and contributions by the government and from miscellaneous sources. The main items of expenditure are general adminis-

tration and collection charges, public safety, public health and convenience. Details of income and expenditure of the board for the last 10 years (from 1967-68 to 1976-77) are given in Table II(a) and II(b) at the end of the chapter.

Waterworks—The waterworks started functioning in December, 1962. The waterworks department consists of a waterworks engineer who is assisted by a staff of 7 persons. There were 91 public water taps in the town and an amount of Rs 51,171 was spent by the board in 1976-77 on this item.

Street Lighting—Prior to 1942, the board provided kerosene oil lamps for street lighting but since 1942, electric lamps have been installed in the town. There were 429 electric lamps for lighting the streets in 1976-77. A sum of Rs 19,619 was spent under this head in 1976-77.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board looks after the sanitation of the town and makes arrangement for the removal and cleaning of garbage and night-soil. There is a sanitary inspector under the board who supervises this work with the help of sweepers and other conservancy staff. An amount of Rs 2,30,496 was spent by the board on public health and medical services during the year 1976-77.

Drainage—There are 18 km. of pakka drains which are flushed daily. The sullage water and refuse is made into compost by trenching and is sold yearly by public auction.

Other Activities—The board maintains 8.23 km. of metalled road and 1.59 km. of unmetalled road in the town. It also maintains a library and a higher secondary school.

Hathras

Hathras was constituted a municipality in 1865, under the Municipal Act of 1850. At present it is administered as a municipality under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916. The municipality had an area of 8.34 sq. km. and a population of 74,349 in 1971 and is divided into 17 wards. The board consists of 17 members and a president. The municipal board, at present, is superseded and is being administered by the district magistrate.

Finances—The main sources of income of the board are municipal rates and taxes, realisation under special Acts, revenue derived from municipal property and grants and contributions from government and the main items of expenditure are general administration, collection charges, public safety and public health and convenience. The details of the income and expenditure of the board during the last 10 years (from 1967-68 to 1976-77) are given in Table III(a) and III(b) at the end of the chapter.

Waterworks—The waterworks started functioning from March, 1965. The total length of the pipelines in the town in 1977 was 35.96 km. and the number of taps for public use was 228 in the same year. The waterworks department is looked after by a waterworks engineer assisted by a staff of 49 persons. It spent an amount of Rs 3,78,810 under this head during 1976-77.

Street Lighting—Formerly, kerosene oil lamps were the only means for illuminating the streets of the town but now it is done by means of electricity supplied by the U. P. State Electricity Board. Electricity was made available in the town from 1935. There were 1,700 electric lamps in the streets of the town in 1977. An amount of Rs 61,792 was spent by the board on this item in 1976-77.

Public Health and Medical Services—The public health department of the board deals with sanitation and other public health activities and is managed by a medical officer of health, a chief sanitary inspector, 3 sanitary inspectors and other staff of 357 persons. An expenditure of Rs 16,28,995 was incurred by the board on public health activities during 1976-77.

Drainage—There are 85 km. of pakka drains in the town which are flushed daily. There is also a 35 km. long sewer line which carries the sullage water out of the inhabited area of the town. It is rich in manurial content and is used to irrigate the fields by the cultivators. The refuse of the town is transported to a trenching ground where it is converted into compost and sold to cultivators.

Sikandra Rao

The town became a municipality in 1865. Previously the town was administered under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856). At present, the municipal board is governed by the U. P. Municipalities Act of 1916. It had an area of 0.65 sq. km. and a population of 17,253 in 1971. The town is divided into 6 wards. The board has a president and 16 members elected by adult franchise for a term of 5 years. The municipality, at present is superseded and is being administered by the district magistrate.

Finances—The main sources of income of the board are government grants, receipts from taxes and other sources. The board spends its income on general administration and collection charges, public health, street lighting and public works. Details of income and expenditure of the board for the last 10 years (i.e. from 1967-68 to 1976-77) are given in Tables IV(a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Waterworks—The waterworks was completed in this municipal area in January 1964. The total length of pipelines in 1977 was 6.12 km. There were 23 public taps and 413 private water connections in the town in 1977.

Street Lighting—Formerly, kerosene oil lamps were the only means for lighting the streets. Now it is done by means of electric lamps, power being supplied by the U. P. State Electricity Board. There were 600 electric lamps in the streets of the town in 1977. A sum of Rs 28,798 was spent by the board on street lighting during 1976-77.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board looks after the sanitation of the town and makes arrangements for the removal of garbage and night-soil. It also undertakes vaccination work in the town. 2,339 persons were vaccinated during 1976-77. A sum of Rs 3,75,746 was spent by the board under this head during 1976-77.

Other Activities—The board maintains a park and a library which has a collection of about 2,000 books. It also gives financial aid to a privately managed library in the town.

TOWN AREAS

In 1977, there were 14 town areas in the district those of Beaswan, Bijaigarh, Chhanya Rafatpur, Harduaganj, Hanayana, Jalali, Jattari, Kannaganj, Khair, Mendu, Muran, Pitkhana, Purdinagar and Sasni. They are administered under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. Each of the town areas is administered by a committee consisting of a chairman and a number of members (all directly elected) ranging from 9 to 15, according to the population of the place. Members are elected for four years, it being open to the State government to extend the term in exceptional circumstances. Seats are also reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The town area committees are empowered to levy taxes on houses, on circumstances and property, on agricultural land situated within the limits of the town area, etc. Other sources of income are the sale proceeds of manure and rent of *natal* lands under its management. The main functions of the town area committees usually include the providing of sanitation and street lighting and construction and maintenance of drains, streets and roads, in the town.

Beaswan

Beaswan was constituted a town area in 1867 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856). Now, it is administered under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. According to the census of 1971, it has an area of 5.5 sq. km. and a population of 8,374. Formerly, kerosene oil lamps were used for lighting the streets of the town, but now it is done by 48 electric lamps. The town has its own waterworks and the total length of pipelines laid till 1977 was 4.36 km. There were 18 public hydrants and 160 private water connections in the town in the same year.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table V at the end of the chapter.

Bijaigarh

This place was created a town in 1861 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) and is now administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 17 sq. km. and a population of 5,869 in 1971. The town area committee, at present, is superseded and is being administered by the district magistrate. The town is electrified and the lighting of streets was done by 100 electric lamps in 1976-77. The committee also looks after the sanitation and public health activities of the town and other public works.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1974-75 to 1976-77 have been given in Table VI at the end of the chapter.

Chhanya Rafatpur

This place was formerly administered under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) but now the provisions of the U. P. Town Areas

Act, 1914 apply to it. The town had an area of 5.8 sq. km. and a population of 5,507 in 1971. Prior to electrification of the town in 1959, kerosene oil lamps were used for lighting the streets of the town. There are 75 electric lamps in the town for this purpose.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table VII at the end of the chapter.

Harduaganj

Harduaganj was constituted a town area in 1860 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) and in 1865, it was upgraded to the status of a municipality. In 1882, it was again reduced to the status of a town (under Act XX) and at present, is being administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The town had an area of 12.3 sq. km. and a population of 4,751 in 1971. The town is electrified and the lighting of streets is done by 102 electric lamps. Water supply scheme of the town was completed in 1978 and the total length of pipelines laid was 5.03 km. There were 102 water connections in the town in 1978.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table VIII at the end of the chapter.

Hasayana

Hasayana was constituted a town in 1861 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 and at present it is administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 4 sq. km. and a population of 2,863 in 1971. Formerly, kerosene oil lamps were used for street lighting, but now it is done by electric lamps.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area from 1969-70 to 1976-77 have been given in the Table IX at the end of the chapter.

Jalali

Administered as a town under Act XX of 1856 since 1861, Jalali became a town area after the enforcement of the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 17.6 sq. km. and a population of 10,686 in 1971. The town is at present electrified and lighting of the streets, was done by 110 electric lamps in 1977.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area from 1968-69 to 1977-78 have been given in Table X at the end of the chapter.

Jattari

Jattari was constituted a town in 1867 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856. At present the provisions of the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914 apply to it. It had an area of 5.8 sq. km. and a population of 5,817 in 1971. The town area committee is at present, superseded and is being administered by the district magistrate. The town is electrified and lighting of the streets is done by 286 electric lamps. An amount of Rs 3,276 was spent by the town area on street lighting in 1976-77.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XI at the end of the chapter.

Kauriganj

Kauriganj was constituted a town in 1861 under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 and now, it is administered under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 4.8 sq. km. and a population of 5,525 in 1971. The town is electrified and lighting of streets is done by 72 electric lamps. An amount of Rs 1,900 was spent by the town area committee on street lighting in 1976-77.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XII at the end of the chapter.

Khair

Khair is one of the oldest towns in the district to come under the operations of the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856). The Act was applied to it in 1860. Now, it is administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The town had an area of 15.5 sq. km. and a population of 11,705 in 1971. The town area committee was superseded on April 12, 1977 and the district magistrate took charge of the administration of the committee. The town has its own protected Water-supply scheme which started functioning from 1968. The total length of pipeline laid till 1977 was 2.5 km. and there were 292 water connections in the town in the same year. The electricity was made available in the town in 1950 and since then, lighting of the streets is done by means of electric street lamps, which numbered 625 in 1977. An amount of Rs 10,000 was spent by the committee for this purpose in 1976-77. The town area committee also maintains a hospital in which 5,000 persons were treated in 1976-77.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1969-70 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XIII at the end of the chapter.

Mendu

Mendu is also one of the oldest towns in the district, being declared so in 1860 under the Act XX of 1856. Now the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914 applies to it. It had an area of 10.4 sq. km. and a population of 6,231 in 1971. The electricity was made available in the town in 1962 and since then, lighting of streets is done by means of electric street lamps, which numbered 28 in 1977. The town area committee maintains a park in the town.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XIV at the end of the chapter.

Mursan

Mursan too is one of those places in the district over which the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856 was made applicable in 1860. Now it is administered under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. According to 1971

census, the town had an area of 1.14 sq. km. and a population of 5,262. The town is electrified and the lighting of the streets is done by electric lamps.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1974-75 to 1978-79 have been given in Table XV at the end of the chapter.

Pilkhana

Pilkhana was constituted as an Act XX town in 1861. Now it is administered under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 12.6 sq. km. and a population of 5,225 in 1971. The town area committee, at present is superseded and is being administered by the district magistrate. The town is electrified and the illumination of streets is done by 53 electric lamps.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1969-70 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XVI at the end of the chapter.

Purdlinagar

This place became a town in 1861, under the Bengal Chaudidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) and was constituted a town area after the passing of the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. According to 1971 census, it had an area of 9.8 sq. km. and a population of 6,441. Electricity was made available in the town in 1966 and there were 71 electric lamps for illuminating the streets of the town in 1977.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1973-74 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XVII at the end of the chapter.

In 1860 Sasni was given the status of town under the Bengal Chaudidari Act, 1856. Now, it is administered as a town area under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. It had an area of 0.29 sq. km. and a population of 6,873 in 1971. The town is electrified and street lighting is done by 150 electric lamps. It has its own waterworks and the total length of pipeline in the town in 1977 was 7.3 km. There were 23 public water taps and 390 private water connections in the town in 1977. The town area committee maintains 2 dispensaries in which 94,795 patients were treated in 1977. It also maintains 2 parks in the town.

The details of the income and expenditure of the town area from 1967-68 to 1976-77 have been given in Table XVIII at the end of the chapter.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

Panchayati Raj, as the very name suggests, is the system which has ushered in democratic decentralisation of administration and devolution of

power and responsibilities to village institutions. As in other parts of the country, it has existed in some form or the other in the villages of the district for centuries. The significant feature of the system is the newly constituted structure of self-governing bodies with a three-tier organisation—the *gaon sabhas* being at the base, the *kshettra samitis* in the middle and the Zila Parishad at the apex. There is a *gaon panchayat* (which is the executive body of the *gaon sabha*) for every village with a minimum population of 250, a *kshettra samiti*, (block committee) for each development block and a Zila Parishad for the district. These institutions were constituted with the primary objective of development of initiative in the people of the rural areas and creation of opportunities for the evolution of local leadership so that the responsibility for the planned development of the rural areas may be taken over by the village folk themselves. The institutions within this three-tier system are organically linked with each other to ensure continuous co-ordination and co-operation and a two-way exchange of ideas.

ZILA PARISHAD

Originally the body administering the rural areas was the district board which was constituted in 1884 under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Local Boards Act, 1883. The District Boards Act of 1906 and 1922 are important landmarks in the growth of the district board. They made important constitutional changes and conferred wider administrative and financial powers on the board for taking up rural development programme, particularly construction of roads and schools, and medical and public health activities.

In 1958, certain important changes were made in the constitution and responsibilities of the board after the enforcement of the U. P. Antarim Zila Parishads Act, 1958, which brought into existence the local body known as the Antarim Zila Parishad into which were merged the district planning committee and the district board. Under the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, the word 'antarim' was dropped and the present Zila Parishad formally came into being in 1963. The Zila Parishad consists of 60 elected and 3 nominated members. The Zila Parishad comprises of all the *pramukhs* of the *kshettra samitis*, the presidents of the municipal boards, the members of the Parliament and of the State legislatures elected from the district and representatives of the co-operative institutions of the district. Seats are also reserved for women and members of the Scheduled Castes. The *adhyaksha* (presiding officer) is elected indirectly by the members of the Zila Parishad for a term of five years which can be extended by the State government in special circumstances.

The functions of the Zila Parishad are comprehensive, embracing those which were the concern of the old district board and the district planning committee and include the implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes of the district and the utilization of the funds allotted by government for this

purpose in the fields of agriculture, co-operation, animal husbandry, welfare of children, young people and women etc., as well as the raising and expending of taxes levied by it for certain specific activities with which it is directly concerned.

Finances—The main sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants, local rates and cesses, tax on circumstances and property and cattle pounds and the major heads of expenditure being general administration and collection charges, education, medical and public health, public works, and fairs and exhibitions. Details of income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad for the last 10 years i.e. from 1967-68 to 1976-77 are given in Tables XIX(a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Public Health and Medical Services—The Zila Parishad too, in addition to the chief medical officer, looks after the vaccination and medical facilities in the rural areas of the district. It maintains a homoeopathic and 5 allopathic hospitals in which 6 doctors and 20 other staff were employed in 1976-77. There was also an assistant superintendent of vaccination who carried out vaccination work with the help of 20 vaccinators. A sum of Rs 2,64,599 was spent by the Zila Parishad on medical and public health in 1976-77.

Public Works—The Parishad has an engineer and 3 junior engineers for the maintenance and repairs of the metalled and unmetalled roads in the rural areas of the district. During 1976-77 the Parishad maintained 260.57 km. of roads. It spent an amount of Rs 7,33,314 on public works during 1976-77.

KSHETTRA SAMITIS

There were 17 *kshettra samitis* (one for each development block) in the district in 1977. With the enforcement of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961 in the district in 1962, the functions that had previously been the concern of the block development committees devolved upon the *kshettra samitis*. The membership of one such *samiti* consists of all the *pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas* in the development block, all the chairmen of the town area committees, the members of the Zila Parishad who belong to the development block, members of the Parliament and of the State legislatures elected from the block area and representatives of the co-operative institutions in the block. Seats are also reserved for women and members of the Scheduled Castes. The *pramukh* (chairman) of the *samiti* is elected by its members, the block development officer being its chief executive officer. The main functions of the *samitis* are the achievements of targets fixed in the Plan schemes of the development blocks in the spheres of agriculture, minor irrigation, co-operation, animal husbandry, fisheries, education, social education, public health, welfare of children, youth and women.

etc., and utilization of funds available in the budget of the block for these purposes.

GAON PANCHAYATS

Gaon panchayat is the basic institution of local government and the foundation of all decentralised administration. There are sufficient reasons to believe that these institutions flourished and reached a very high degree of development in the country in ancient times and not only regulated the civic life of villages, but served to settle disputes by arbitration and other methods. The Muslim rulers were concerned mostly with the urban areas of the district and were indifferent towards these village bodies. During the British rule, these institutions further suffered almost total eclipse because the government authority was vested in the officials appointed by the government. The first and the only notable British measure in this direction was the U. P. Village Panchayats Act of 1920, which authorised the collector to establish a *panchayat* for any village or a group of villages where the villagers wanted such an institution. In the post-independence period, government gave serious thought to the necessity of resuscitation of *gaon panchayats* and the result was the enactment of the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, which was enforced in the district in 1949, whereby 774 *gaon sabhas* and as many *gaon panchayats* were constituted.

There were in 1977, in the district, 1,496 *gaon sabhas* and as many *gaon panchayats*. A *gaon sabha* is constituted for a village or a group of villages with a minimum population of 250 persons and consists of all the adult members of the village or villages. The *gaon panchayat*, which is the executive organ of the *gaon sabha*, has a *pradhan* (president) and an *up-pradhan* (vice-president), the former and the members of *gaon panchayat* being elected by the elders of the *gaon sabha* for a term of five years. The number of members of *gaon panchayat* is determined in proportion to the population of the *gaon sabha*. The members of the *gaon panchayat* elect an *up-pradhan* from amongst themselves.

The resuscitation of the *gaon panchayats* has been a far-reaching and comprehensive step towards decentralisation of power. The *gaon panchayats* of the district control and manage all village activities concerned with community interests, their chief concerns being implementation of village plans in the spheres of agriculture, minor irrigation, co-operation, afforestation, animal husbandry, wells, health and sanitation, communications, welfare activities relating to children, youth and women and registration of births, marriages and deaths, etc. Other important duties of the *gaon panchayats* are the prevention of illegal occupation of land of the *gaon sabha* and regulation of markets and fairs. The main sources of the finance of the *panchayats* for these activities are government grants, voluntary contribution and taxes raised by them in 1975-76, the total income of the *gaon panchayats* of the district was Rs 12,34,435 and the expenditure was Rs 10,93,053. Parti-

culars of the main activities of the *gaon* panchayats of the district in the last three years are given in the statement given below :

Works done	Year		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Taxes collected (amount in Rs)	10,52,786	3,41,083	12,63,568
Number of panchayat <i>ghars</i> constructed and repaired	15	9	8
Repairing and construction of metalled roads (in km.)	5	7.5	12.5
Repairing and construction of unmetalled roads (in km.)	155	118	197
Construction and cleaning of <i>guls</i> (in km.)	169	90	178
Construction of <i>kharanjas</i> (in sq. metres)	31,000	23,824	46,355
Number of culverts constructed	56	69	90
Number of wells constructed	50	37	28
Number of water hand pumps installed	227	166	166
Construction of drains (in km.)	22.7	14.6	27.8
Number of school buildings constructed	36	17	16
Number of public latrines constructed	78	50	22

TABLE I (a)
Receipts (in rupees) Municipal Board, Aligarh

Reference Page no. 191

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special acts	Revenue derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	28,83,070	40,065	4,36,228	11,41,420	3,724	96,490	46,00,927
1968-69	31,07,306	47,761	4,72,284	11,88,789	6,262	67,602	48,90,004
1969-70	32,53,839	53,282	5,27,362	12,75,149	14,389	6,23,904	57,47,925
1970-71	31,87,740	57,449	5,56,354	20,77,286	4,812	15,78,500	74,62,141
1971-72	36,87,734	64,014	8,10,210	17,43,046	4,828	4,48,238	67,58,070
1972-73	40,17,476	70,254	6,02,459	22,54,212	7,855	2,07,514	71,59,770
1973-74	44,57,628	80,458	6,73,305	19,17,543	3,867	10,53,602	81,86,403
1974-75	44,08,265	87,133	11,52,913	27,37,128	29,251	17,59,942	1,01,74,832
1975-76	67,00,440	89,399	11,59,467	16,29,975	840	9,03,144	1,04,83,265
1976-77	71,22,382	97,423	14,17,840	16,30,256	62,904	3,69,501	1,07,00,306

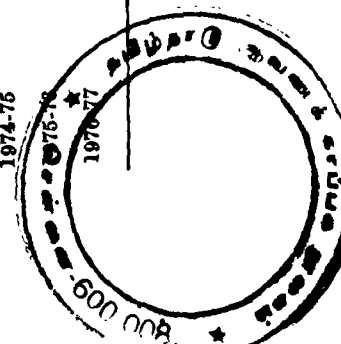


TABLE I (b)
Expenditure (in rupees) Municipal Board, Aligarh

Reference Page no. 191

Year	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Education	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	4,27,175	2,24,480	24,26,190	8,97,447	2,00,422	3,64,812	45,40,526
1968-69	4,97,480	2,28,011	29,35,628	9,79,475	2,23,195	1,40,128	50,03,917
1969-70	5,21,335	2,98,451	33,32,211	11,12,945	2,33,699	2,09,727	57,08,368
1970-71	4,79,342	3,89,896	51,07,323	11,07,192	2,67,134	1,72,776	75,23,663
1971-72	5,31,962	4,25,520	38,76,434	12,64,462	2,83,879	3,94,174	67,76,431
1972-73	6,67,527	3,63,985	41,89,970	13,79,747	2,21,050	4,08,758	72,31,057
1973-74	7,76,826	4,65,897	59,20,203	4,53,062	2,15,412	4,36,767	82,68,167
1974-75	9,34,394	4,69,732	54,64,715	8,455	3,03,555	5,41,543	77,22,394
1975-76	9,48,176	4,99,107	88,58,417	—	4,44,759	8,96,286	1,16,46,745
1976-77	10,94,594	5,08,903	73,93,239	—	5,18,339	10,44,716	1,05,59,791

ALIGARH DISTRICT

TABLE II (a)
Receipts (in rupees) Municipal Board, Atrauli

Reference Page no. 192

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special acts	Revenue derived from municipal property, etc. other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68			N. A.				
1968-69			N. A.				
1969-70	1,85,761	393	1,27,187	2,26,827	2,956	75,697	6,19,821
1970-71			N. A.				
1971-72	2,21,277	745	1,03,988	1,68,950	13,241	15,150	5,23,301
1972-73	1,24,693	829	96,776	1,71,492	13,550	300	4,07,940
1973-74	2,24,802	739	1,10,222	1,19,641	7,045	150	4,62,599
1974-75	1,20,764	578	99,959	1,04,189	5,899	83,973	4,15,362
1975-76	1,84,195	73	1,06,588	95,999	4,438	42,712	4,34,005
1976-77	4,09,487	1,017	9,590	90,914	2,839	10,500	5,24,347

TABLE II (b)
Expenditure (in rupees) Municipal Board, Hathras

Reference Page no. 192

Year	Administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and conveniences	Education	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68 } 1968-69 }				N. A.			
1969-70	61,888	27,111	2,23,988	1,49,582	43,276	1,02,326	6,08,170
1970-71				N. A.			
1971-72	66,581	14,396	2,84,781	1,97,581	40,791	16,084	6,20,214
1972-73	84,291	19,568	1,82,805	1,92,632	39,141	400	5,18,837
1973-74	92,917	13,788	1,60,539	94,467	46,434	9,737	4,17,882
1974-75	1,19,284	15,207	2,45,809	28,776	30,204	54,113	4,93,933
1975-76	1,68,341	17,806	3,50,186	7,747	57,233	40,439	6,41,752
1976-77	1,67,293	19,619	3,17,154	7,262	40,294	43,437	5,95,059

TABLE III (a)
Receipts (in rupees) Municipal Board, Hathras

Reference Page no. 192

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from Municipal property, etc. other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	9,78,559	21,851	2,19,838	3,52,126	31,200	4,63,062	20,66,436
1968-69	11,12,189	20,397	1,84,103	3,18,700	27,784	2,80,729	19,43,902
1969-70	14,51,633	23,665	2,44,678	4,15,170	73,906	5,38,526	27,47,578
1970-71	15,87,185	30,249	1,66,503	3,25,119	56,410	3,37,291	25,02,757
1971-72	15,43,175	28,148	2,04,548	4,74,992	55,208	6,78,772	29,84,843
1972-73	14,49,961	35,954	2,07,538	3,45,836	60,662	1,31,002	22,30,953
1973-74	14,73,774	36,194	2,57,840	2,87,611	47,456	1,84,847	22,87,722
1974-75	13,77,858	39,571	2,36,329	5,60,050	76,053	5,52,084	28,41,945
1975-76	21,83,298	45,993	3,23,299	4,79,955	1,33,634	2,01,217	33,67,396
1976-77	24,13,490	45,303	3,15,866	5,89,584	60,947	1,81,114	36,06,304

TABLE III (b)
Expenditure (in rupees) Municipal Board, Hathras

Reference Page no. 192

Year	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Education	Grants and contribution,	Miscella- neous	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1967-68	2,31,992	78,534	10,16,117	2,82,209	6,100	74,061	5,42,491	22,31,504
1968-69	2,37,301	1,59,554	8,85,500	2,65,243	6,350	59,235	4,12,285	20,25,468
1969-70	2,60,967	1,12,637	15,11,957	2,97,463	8,100	79,829	5,24,267	27,95,220
1970-71	2,67,943	1,87,848	14,26,871	3,24,942	10,450	1,05,563	2,65,006	25,88,623
1971-72	3,00,529	1,72,176	16,01,415	3,32,918	11,240	1,23,981	3,73,258	29,15,517
1972-73	3,09,965	1,16,708	12,58,401	1,85,987	630	1,55,884	1,90,444	22,18,039
1973-74	3,39,764	91,289	14,87,133	4,562	1,500	2,04,889	1,96,112	23,25,249
1974-75	4,45,536	1,24,748	19,38,307	2,59,243	700	1,06,474	7,178	28,82,186
1975-76	4,57,455	96,642	19,07,360	2,47,430	4,000	4,22,675	2,35,687	33,67,149
1976-77	4,72,594	1,18,387	17,56,273	2,12,768	1,000	3,77,169	3,89,136	33,27,327

TABLE IV (a)
Receipts (in rupees) Municipal Board, Sikandra Rao

Reference Page no. 193

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from Municipal property, etc. other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	3,62,198	2,029	29,099	1,25,496	12,626	—	5,31,518
1968-69	5,22,904	1,790	28,067	1,29,601	6,058	30	6,86,450
1969-70	6,11,967	1,797	55,641	1,31,876	8,325	33,333	8,42,939
1970-71	6,22,282	3,539	34,558	1,30,993	5,434	3,289	8,90,095
1971-72	7,57,207	3,142	4,150	1,26,283	3,319	25,796	9,56,897
1972-73	8,28,917	2,664	42,631	1,73,797	17,740	8,284	10,74,033
1973-74	8,75,111	1,630	64,082	1,44,139	19,577	13,327	11,17,866
1974-75	6,10,191	2,867	69,458	1,62,997	31,770	17,205	8,94,488
1975-76	7,81,713	4,055	99,520	2,03,660	12,520	89,602	11,91,070
1976-77	10,85,967	3,861	74,005	1,65,582	4,595	18,568	13,52,578

TABLE IV (b)
Expenditure (in rupees) Municipal Board, Sikandra Rao

Reference Page no. 193

Year	General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Education	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1967-68	61,545	39,972	2,19,448	1,57,536	1,100	82,529	49,315	6,11,445
1968-69	79,867	42,613	2,48,232	1,48,373	3,253	92,551	91,061	7,05,950
1969-70	94,563	31,204	4,20,799	1,29,888	200	79,831	1,15,377	8,71,862
1970-71	1,05,179	59,106	2,78,346	1,17,373	250	42,442	67,434	6,70,130
1971-72	1,14,924	59,109	3,80,538	1,23,596	2,250	39,765	87,647	8,07,829
1972-73	1,30,895	64,240	5,40,877	1,04,740	200	48,356	32,872	9,22,180
1973-74	1,51,307	36,089	6,58,552	33,313	3,730	73,463	40,830	9,97,284
1974-75	1,81,780	34,321	8,78,596	343	1,140	88,904	1,51,625	13,36,709
1975-76	1,75,946	27,529	7,17,088	306	900	66,729	36,648	10,25,146
1976-77	1,71,280	28,798	6,71,410	390	1,920	77,879	45,932	9,97,609

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TABLE V
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Beswan

Reference Page no. 194

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1967-68	6,996	5,171	779	12,856	1,296	1,564	6,982	9,842
1968-69	43,020	8,326	8,332	59,678	3,866	7,271	13,846	24,983
1969-70	69,250	14,176	22,942	1,06,368	5,169	14,215	1,13,089	1,32,473
1970-71	30,335	55,298	8,634	94,267	3,818	20,178	54,276	78,272
1971-72	Not available							
1972-73								
1973-74								
1974-75								
1975-76								
1976-77	—	25,333	8,933	34,266	15,701	—	19,547	35,248

TABLE VI
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Bijaigarh

Reference Page no. 194

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68									
1968-69									
1969-70									
1970-71	Not Available								
1971-72									
1972-73									
1973-74									
1974-75	10,000	23,702	6,023	29,725	6,951	25,120	12,031	12,162	56,264
1975-76	10,000	22,798	4,776	27,573	7,826	25,019	12,078	1,618	45,541
1976-77	10,000	23,723	6,236	39,959	5,686	27,834	17,363	1,755	52,638

TABLE VII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Charra Rafatpur

Reference Page no. 195

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General Administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		10
1967-68	52,778	10,121	30,533	93,432	4,077	28,882	35,752	3,751	72,432
1968-69	28,894	13,747	16,024	58,665	3,632	28,368	24,720	1,984	58,704
1969-70	25,900	5,032	23,737	54,698	4,053	25,015	35,869	4,349	69,286
1970-71	14,274	22,740	13,663	50,677	4,479	30,924	13,170	3,209	51,782
1971-72	32,206	20,918	13,259	66,383	4,175	26,177	28,718	3,905	62,975
1972-73	22,209	22,656	48,218	93,083	3,653	33,798	—	58,245	95,696
1973-74	20,566	62,332	6,003	88,901	1,104	54,449	3,002	4,423	62,978
1974-75	43,412	1,48,510	19,505	2,11,427	1,10,018	96,314	7,761	16,962	2,31,045
1975-76	30,992	1,37,450	10,294	1,78,736	34,148	1,14,139	9,254	4,224	1,61,765
1976-77	—	1,03,883	19,147	1,23,030	42,627	32,026	—	87,273	1,61,926

TABLE VIII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) **Town Area, Harduaganj**
Reference Page no. 195

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General Administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68	55,000	8,680	17,678	81,358	980	14,818	4,186	5,266	25,210
1968-69	55,000	7,012	17,589	79,601	770	10,492	85,366	8,092	1,04,720
1969-70	66,000	4,701	11,506	82,207	1,068	17,199	24,948	4,205	47,420
1970-71	—	5,768	54,762	60,530	696	15,372	40,995	6,432	63,495
1971-72	45,000	5,757	17,494	68,251	687	17,802	40,076	6,909	65,454
1972-73	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1973-74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974-75	20,000	5,357	40,482	65,789	4,609	31,613	34,652	6,054	76,928
1975-76	—	6,382	48,557	54,939	1,714	31,050	—	5,581	38,345
1976-77	—	10,656	23,269	33,925	4,112	24,424	13,492	3,023	45,051

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TABLE IX
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Hasayana
Reference Page no. 195

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1969-70	7,792	2,687	2,842	13,321	1,376	5,123	9,695	2,472	18,666
1970-71	1,771	5,754	4,067	11,592	1,745	6,039	10,830	1,883	20,497
1971-72	33,377	5,675	2,555	41,607	2,357	6,484	1,670	1,195	11,706
1972-73	12,304	5,756	3,427	21,487	2,238	8,656	30,124	3,954	44,972
1973-74	12,386	5,559	3,255	21,200	1,543	7,249	2,149	2,913	13,854
1974-75	10,703	7,414	4,462	22,579	2,204	5,613	20,202	11,276	25,160
1975-76	29,000	5,297	6,639	31,936	2,407	20,202	9,006	—	31,615
1976-77	12,062	4,643	6,417	23,062	3,428	10,316	3,558	—	17,302

TABLE X
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Jalali

Reference Page no. 195

Year	Govern- ment grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscella- neous	Total expendi- ture
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68				Not Available					
1968-69	5,442	11,227	19,715	36,384	2,196	22,947	4,531	735	30,409
1969-70	6,496	14,944	16,905	38,345	2,846	26,321	4,010	3,791	36,968
1970-71	8,806	37,043	17,253	63,102	2,948	27,670	8,996	3,522	43,136
1971-72	6,819	32,670	12,706	52,195	1,756	26,121	7,484	1,944	37,305
1972-73	5,402	10,048	14,373	29,823	2,112	32,751	2,886	4,240	41,989
1973-74	4,174	15,111	27,993	47,278	2,491	35,760	19,216	8,965	66,432
1974-75	6,533	14,888	14,440	35,861	2,657	33,202	6,600	3,868	46,327
1975-76	6,597	25,964	17,160	49,721	2,825	24,522	4,018	2,848	34,213
1976-77	5,851	19,884	28,374	52,109	5,477	36,206	5,687	6,626	53,996
1977-78	13,758	46,246	56,005	1,16,009	6,839	50,378	21,742	32,564	1,11,523

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TABLE XI
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Jattari

Reference Page no. 196

Year	Govern- ment grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General adminis- tration and collec- tion charges	Public health	Public works	Miscella- neous	Total expendi- ture
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68	5,000			Not Available					
1968-69	5,000			Not Available					
1969-70			2,208	21,875	2,312	13,528	3,451	50	19,431
1970-71			3,203	15,626	1,498	9,268	614	4,084	15,474
1971-72	11,000		3,626	21,546	1,807	10,944	1,814	2,654	17,219
1972-73	10,000	13,040	32,833	55,873	1,965	12,770	19,703	8,590	43,028
1973-74	10,000		5,503	12,435	2,946	13,027	14,398	4,624	34,995
1974-75	10,000		61,746	83,540	5,200	20,234	6,940	47,025	79,399
1975-76			16,220	83,960	7,022	30,507	20,000	39,480	97,009
1976-77	10,000		57,334	61,890	7,779	29,902	34,826	37,828	1,10,335

TABLE XII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Kauriganj

Reference Page no. 196

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charge	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68	28,279	2,234	5,436	35,949	960	5,593	9,101	487	16,141
1968-69	22,564	491	6,761	29,816	1,442	8,171	30,126	536	40,275
1969-70	22,587	2,250	4,084	28,934	2,338	6,671	4,454	210	13,573
1970-71	3,203	5,139	8,415	16,757	1,727	7,566	32,581	2,219	44,093
1971-72	32,627	6,992	6,459	46,078	946	10,709	3,083	335	15,073
1972-73	13,551	4,533	9,376	27,454	1,597	14,294	41,029	1,108	58,028
1973-74	14,435	11,404	6,541	32,380	1,738	14,229	20,245	2,095	38,217
1974-75	1,233	8,063	8,199	12,495	723	12,551	850	750	14,874
1975-76	11,300	6,901	8,869	27,061	704	16,318	227	1,500	18,749
1976-77	14,016	10,533	7,070	31,619	4,404	14,899	296	1,650	21,240

TABLE XIII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Khair

Reference Page no. 196

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1969-70	6,000	1,40,597	39,541	1,86,138	85,752	67,052	33,362	20,671	2,06,837
1970-71	7,500	1,56,763	63,529	2,27,792	63,000	72,969	33,286	42,135	2,11,390
1971-72	6,000	1,73,876	67,691	2,47,567	76,789	86,354	3,576	65,825	2,32,544
1972-73	11,200	2,15,502	19,502	2,46,204	80,443	70,524	14,821	49,247	2,15,035
1973-74	10,000	2,33,539	30,430	2,73,969	1,02,184	70,288	1,20,096	25,817	3,18,385
1974-75	—	1,71,585	1,26,505	2,98,090	1,19,501	1,26,675	40,741	10,727	2,97,644
1975-76	20,000	3,18,464	1,32,906	4,71,370	1,38,837	1,44,136	1,09,057	50,563	4,42,593
1976-77	10,000	2,71,845	1,75,510	4,57,355	1,66,141	1,82,516	1,08,630	27,153	4,84,440
1977-78	30,000	3,64,841	1,23,167	5,18,008	2,12,916	1,86,581	78,399	39,939	5,17,835
1978-79	10,700	3,04,140	2,11,080	5,25,920	2,03,205	2,10,021	64,427	44,970	5,22,623

TABLE XVI
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Pilkhana

Reference Page no. 197

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General ad-ministration and collec-tion charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68 } 1968-69 }	Not Available								
1969-70	7,275	6,058	5,068	18,401	1,595	6,158	27,416	389	35,558
1970-71	49,539	6,419	5,736	61,694	2,346	8,004	38,634	1,866	50,850
1971-72	28,669	5,413	2,822	36,904	1,134	7,688	10,891	1,643	21,356
1972-73	15,348	7,050	7,510	29,908	2,064	12,619	15,367	2,968	33,018
1973-74	17,197	7,162	4,854	29,213	2,650	16,155	19,258	705	38,768
1974-75	14,586	4,893	10,834	30,313	2,569	11,424	19,135	442	33,570
1975-76	20,884	5,110	5,364	31,358	2,312	13,412	13,837	726	30,287
1976-77	14,569	7,359	16,345	38,273	1,950	12,978	20,035	482	35,445

TABLE XVII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Purdilnagar

Reference Page no. 197

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General Ad-ministration and collec-tion charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68	Not Available								
1968-69	Not Available								
1969-70	Not Available								
1970-71	Not Available								
1971-72	Not Available								
1972-73	Not Available								
1973-74	10,878	12,261	2,518	25,657	2,538	13,687	16,359	3,228	35,812
1974-75	27,942	7,651	13,196	48,789	3,655	14,705	35,783	3,330	57,473
1975-76	21,837	11,542	6,023	39,402	2,369	24,852	1,560	1,480	30,261
1976-77	16,914	17,675	9,255	43,844	2,897	25,037	24,100	2,104	54,138

TABLE XVIII
Receipts and Expenditure (in rupees) Town Area, Sasni

Reference Page no. 197

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General Administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1967-68	25,000	9,168	76,305	1,10,473	13,066	25,873	15,813	5,346	60,098
1968-69	20,000	5,817	79,080	1,04,877	13,758	26,970	56,595	6,173	1,03,496
1969-70	21,000	4,624	60,700	86,324	13,728	27,471	49,111	3,167	93,477
1970-71	17,500	2,104	70,492	90,096	13,136	30,748	50,593	14,805	1,09,282
1971-72	11,000	4,144	1,16,423	1,31,567	18,055	38,478	37,574	26,521	1,20,628
1972-73	11,200	2,635	1,38,173	1,52,008	19,450	50,176	78,625	30,731	1,78,932
1973-74	85,000	3,760	1,68,130	2,56,890	24,691	50,047	1,56,064	25,604	2,56,406
1974-75	75,000	3,313	3,97,449	4,75,762	35,381	63,322	2,87,354	38,997	4,25,054
1975-76	2,19,000	943	3,05,159	5,25,102	36,048	77,386	3,06,037	1,13,530	5,33,001
1976-77	..	919	3,36,352	3,37,271	60,242	1,27,807	1,09,967	82,767	3,80,883

TABLE XIX (a)
Receipts (in rupees) Zila Parishad

Reference Page no. 199

Year	Government grants	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1967-68	51,06,139	5,04,100	3,367	5,459	3,87,392	60,06,457
1968-69	57,12,374	4,71,740	3,479	7,075	2,73,992	64,69,260
1969-70	77,40,871	5,26,825	4,133	4,358	2,41,398	85,17,385
1970-71	77,64,779	5,44,393	3,458	4,490	3,06,302	86,23,422
1971-72	1,16,44,068	5,51,633	3,567	3,912	18,84,389	1,40,87,569
1972-73	45,72,358	3,42,445	3,606	1,572	7,19,643	56,39,624
1973-74	13,53,449	1,59,242	3,104	1,203	4,78,009	49,95,007
1974-75	8,21,214	1,43,177	2,798	6,531	10,27,035	20,00,755
1975-76	15,97,723	1,72,172	7,586	6,034	19,22,079	37,05,594
1976-77	11,31,353	1,81,062	7,635	6,904	17,12,136	30,39,120

TABLE XIX (b)
Expenditure (in rupees) Zila Parishad

Reference Page no. 199

Year	General Administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Public works	Fair and exhibitions	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	1,14,066	50,93,975	2,20,264	4,24,057	5,500	66,307	59,24,169
1968-69	1,11,714	54,54,936	1,98,031	5,84,210	5,000	70,686	64,24,577
1969-70	1,17,302	69,89,711	2,28,949	4,13,430	5,500	99,427	78,54,319
1970-71	1,28,887	67,97,666	2,17,041	3,33,734	500	1,08,493	75,86,321
1971-72	1,28,913	80,86,083	2,07,791	13,58,557	5,000	3,19,891	1,01,06,235
1972-73	1,77,553	53,15,399	2,21,452	20,66,169	5,000	22,69,147	1,00,54,720
1973-74	2,15,036	3,44,203	1,52,883	29,23,442	5,500	1,58,212	37,99,276
1974-75	2,39,296	5,27,592	3,09,730	8,11,886	—	9,82,471	28,70,974
1975-76	2,57,112	5,06,041	2,76,461	8,33,333	5,500	17,99,226	36,77,673
1976-77	2,75,598	6,58,844	2,64,679	7,33,314	5,700	3,79,780	23,17,915

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The region covered by the present district of Aligarh formed part of the kingdom of Panchala and later of that of South Panchala. This region was a centre of Vedic learning and it is believed that it was here that the Vedic texts assumed their final form.

Learning in ancient times was imparted by the teacher to the pupils who gathered around him and came to live in his house as members of his family. The family functioned as a domestic school, an *ashrama* (hermitage) or *gurukula* or the home of the teacher with whom the pupils came to live as *antevasin*, members of his family. The admission was made after the ceremony of *upanayana* or initiation when the pupil left the home of his parents for that of the preceptor. Besides these *gurukulas* there were institutions for the promotion of advanced study and research. These were academics of learned men, whose discussions hammered into shape the very language of the country, the Sanskrit as the vehicle of highest thought. These academics were called *Parishads*. There is a reference to the Panchala Parishad in the *upanisads*, in whose proceedings even kings participated.

According to ancient Indian theory of education, the training of the mind and the process of thinking are essential for the acquisition of knowledge. Education was reduced to the three simple processes of *Sravana*, *Manana* and *Nidhyasana*. *Sravana* was listening to the truths as they fell from the lips of the teacher. Knowledge was technically called *Sruti* or that was heard by the ear and not what was seen in writing. It was the system of oral tradition by which learning was transmitted from teacher to pupil in an unbroken chain called *Guru-parampara*.

The second process of knowledge called *Manana* implies that the pupil has to think out for himself the meaning of the lessons imparted to him orally by his teacher so that they may be assimilated fully. The third step known as *Nidhyasana* means complete comprehension by the pupil of the truth that is taught so that he may live the truth and not merely explain it by word.

The system of education seems to have continued, with occasional modifications, till about the advent of the Muslims. Since about the time of the Nandas and Mauryas, the Jains and the Buddhists are also known to have had their own religious establishments, particularly at Ahichhatra, which later also served as places where education was imparted.

In course of time *pathshalas*, schools run by private teachers, also came into vogue. They were usually attached to the local temples or religious shrines. The Muslims, as they gained foothold in the country established their own Islamic educational institutions. These were *maktabs*

for elementary education and *madrasas* for higher learning. They were maintained by the rulers or nobles and were usually attached to the mosques and religious shrines of Muslims.

For many years even after the establishment of British rule, *maktabs* and *pathshalas* were the only schools which existed though they received no official support and had a very precarious existence. Their scope was limited to imparting of the rudiments of reading, writing, book-keeping and arithmetic or else to elementary instruction in the Sanskrit and Arabic or Persian scriptures. In 1845 an educational census was conducted and it then appeared that there were 159 Persian and Arabic and 137 Hindi and Sanskrit schools in the district, of which 86 were situated in Koil (Aligarh) alone. In 1853 *halkabandi* or village schools were started under government control, but the progress was checked by the first struggle for freedom in 1857, which caused all the schools to be broken up. In 1858, an Anglo-vernacular school was started at Koil (Aligarh), followed by a school for girls in 1863. By 1868 there were in the district the Zila school at Aligarh, 6 Tahsili schools, one each at the tahsil headquarters towns, 101 *halkabandi* schools, 32 girls' schools, 200 indigenous schools and 3 Anglo-vernacular schools, the total number of students in these institutions being 6,683.

The Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh was started as a school in 1875 and was at first located in the old mess-house of the cantonment. In 1898, there were 528 schools of all types with nearly 13,000 students on roll.

The table below gives the number of schools in the district in 1908-09, 1920-21 and 1932-33 :

Year	Primary			Secondary		
	Number of schools	Number of boys	Number of girls	Number of schools	Number of boys	Number of girls
1908-09	368	11,726	1,096	12	2,082	NIL
1920-21	833	14,010	2,265	13	830	NIL
1932-33	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	13	4,041	NIL

During the post-independence period there has been considerable expansion of education in the district. An idea may be had regarding the number of institutions and students on the roll in the decade ending 1960 can be had from the following table :

Type of institutions	1956-57		1959-60	
	Number of institutions	Number of pupils	Number of institutions	Number of pupils
University and degree colleges	5	7,265	6	8,248
Intermediate and higher secondary schools	51	24,454	55	28,150
Junior high schools	111	13,118	112	12,039
Training schools	1	96	2	157
Other schools	646	64,225	813	82,573

Growth of Literacy

The progress of education is illustrated to some extent by the statistics of literacy recorded at successive census enumerations. At the census of 1872 it was ascertained that of the whole population 2.22 per cent were literate. By 1881 the proportion of literate males was 4.7 per cent, but this had fallen to 4.1 ten years later, though in 1901 it was 5.2 per cent. Literacy had made some progress among females too, the figure rising from .08 per cent in 1881 to 0.1 per cent in 1891 and to 0.24 per cent ten years later. In 1901 the female literates were 2.68 per cent of the total population.

The percentages of male and female literacy in the district in subsequent decades were as under :

Year	Percentage of literacy	
	Male	Female
1921	7.9	0.8
1931	9.8	1.2
1951	21.3	4.9

The subsequent decade recorded further improvement in the matter. At the census of 1961 the percentages of literacy among male and female population had risen to 29.8 and 8.2 respectively, the percentage of literacy to the total population being 19.8 which was higher than the State average of 17.7. The district then ranked 18th in the whole State in the matter of literacy. At the census of 1971 the percentage of literates among males had risen to 35.09; among females to 12.65, and of the total population to 24.89 against the State average of 21.70.

EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

Particular emphasis is now laid on the education of members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. Students of the aforesaid classes are provided with incentives like exemption from tuition fees, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for purchase of books and stationery. Relaxation in the upper age-limit for admission to certain educational and technical institutions is also allowed. The number of such students receiving education in senior Basic and higher secondary institutions in the district in 1977-78 were as follows :

Educational institutions	Boys	Girls
Senior Basic including higher secondary (up to class X)	2,600	321
Higher secondary (classes XI and XII)	1,668	82

General Education

Education now starts with the pre-junior Basic or pre-primary stage commonly called nursery stage, and ends at the university stage or with vocational training. In 1976-77, the number of pre-junior Basic schools in the district was 3 (mostly of the Montessori or Kindergarten type), besides 1,459 junior Basic and 276 senior Basic schools. In addition, there were 127 higher secondary institutions, and 6 degree colleges imparting education in arts, science and commerce. The following table gives the number of various kinds of institutions and the students on roll in them in 1976-77 :

Institutions	Number of schools	Number of teachers	Number of students
Junior Basic	1,459	5,490	3,15,938
Senior Basic	276	1,124	34,205
Higher secondary	127	3,439	94,490

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior Basic education, which is imparted to children roughly up to the age of 6 years, is of recent growth in the district. There are three such schools in the district namely the Maheshwari Bal Mandir, Aligarh (with 580 children), Vidut Parishad Bal Vidyalaya, Kasimpur (with 382 children) and Raghuvir Bal Mandir, Aligarh (with 201 children).

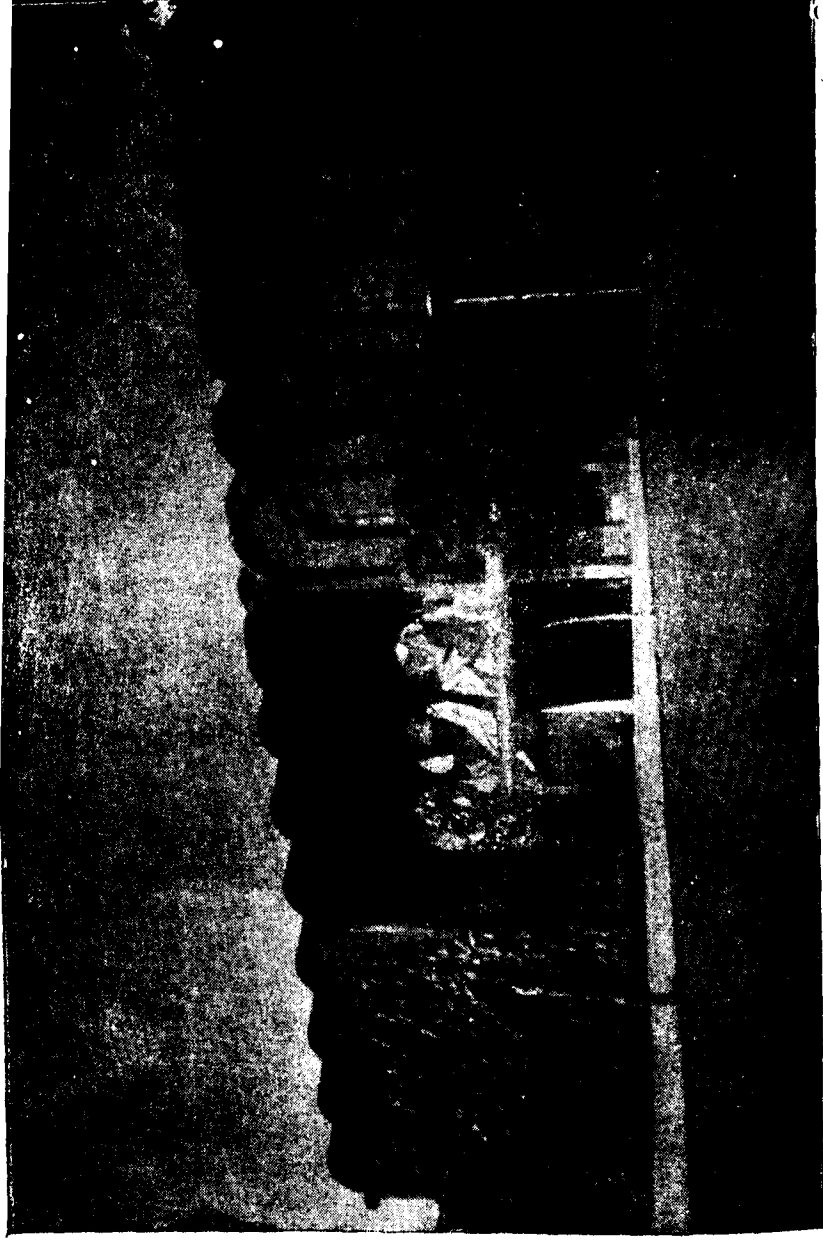
Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Basic education (which is also known as the Wardha Scheme of education) owes its origin to Mahatma Gandhi. With certain modifications it was adopted by the State government in 1939. In the district, as elsewhere in the State, Basic education consists of a course of education extending over 8 years—the junior Basic schools covering classes I to V and the senior Basic schools covering classes VI to VIII.

With a view to ensure better academic and administrative efficiency, institutions of Basic education have been provincialised since July 1972, after the passing of the U. P. Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam. The Basic schools have accordingly been transferred from the management of the local bodies to the Shiksha Samities. Control at the State level is vested in the Basic Shiksha Parishad, at the district level in the Zila Shiksha Samiti and at the village level in the Gaon Shiksha Samiti. The district Basic Shiksha Adhikari supervises and controls the entire Basic education set-up in the district. At the State level the director of education, Allahabad assisted by an additional director (Basic education) supervises and controls the entire set-up of the Basic education.

Re-orientation Scheme

The re-orientation scheme aimed at training students in agriculture by inculcating in them sense of dignity of labour and also to improve the



Kennedy House, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh



Victoria Gate, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

finances of educational institutions, was introduced in the district in 1954. By 1976-77, 82 educational institutions of the district with farm land measuring 243 hectares had been brought under the scheme for imparting instructions in agriculture as a compulsory subject by teachers especially trained in agriculture, rural economics and veterinary science

Secondary Education

The secondary schools in the district except few which are run by the government, are under private management and they get financial assistance from the government. As an encouragement for the spread of girls' education, no tuition fee is charged from the girls up to the high school stage (class X) since January 1965.

The total number of junior and senior Basic and higher secondary schools and students in the district for the 10 years ending 1976-77 are given at the end of the chapter in Table I.

In order to implement the policies of the government in the field of education from Basic up to the secondary stage and to ensure proper control and supervision over the schools there are in the district an inspector of schools (for secondary institutions, from class IX to XII) and district Basic education officer for the Basic education institutions (classes up to VIII). They are assisted by a number of subordinate inspecting staff. The government has taken a number of steps in recent years, in order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency in the government-aided private educational institutions besides providing better service benefits to the teachers. Since 1964, the 'triple benefit scheme' has been introduced under which the benefits of contributory provident fund, compulsory life insurance and pension (both retirement pension and family pension in case of death of the incumbent in service) have been made available to the teachers. The pay scales of the teachers of the aided-schools are also now at par with those of the government schools. In the matter of appointments and payment of the salaries of the teachers too, the government has assumed more power and responsibilities. The appointment of teachers is made through a selection committee which consists of the inspector of schools or the Basic education officer or his nominee and representative of the managing committee of the school concerned. The government also appoints expert member to the committee dealing with appointments to the secondary schools. The mode of payment of salaries to teachers is now through cheques drawn jointly by the inspector of schools or Basic education officer as the case may be, and the manager of the school and the actual disbursement of the pay is made by the school authorities.

Higher Education

In 1875 Sir Syed Ahmad Khan started, at Aligarh, a school which on January 8, 1877, became the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (M. A. O.) College and, on December 1, 1920, was raised to the status of a university called the Aligarh Muslim University. It was no doubt founded to educate the Muslims to get them out of their isolation and backwardness, but Sir Syed's liberal outlook did not allow the institution to become preserve of

a single community believing, as he did, that the basis of a common nationality was not religion but homeland. Thus, from its inception, the doors of the M. A. O. College were thrown open to all communities. Hindus and Muslims alike donated large sums of money to establish the college.

The institution is now a fully developed residential and teaching university with separate constituent colleges, the chief being the College of Engineering and Technology, the Polytechnic, the Tibbiya College, the Medical College, the Institute of Ophthalmology, the Institute of Islamic Studies, the Centre of West Asian Studies and the Centre of Advanced Study in History. The university is administered by the Central Government and had a budget of about Rs 6 crores in 1976-77. It had a little over 10,000 students on the roll of whom about 6,500 lived in halls of residence (hostels)—eight halls for men and two for women. Girls numbered more than 1,500. Apart from number of girls in the undergraduate classes studying in a separate Women's College of the university, otherwise the university has co-education in all its constituent colleges. The university attracts quite a number of students from foreign countries too. There were over 300 boys and girls from over 30 countries in 1976-77.

In 1976-77, there were 6 degree colleges in the district (affiliated to the Agra University), some particulars of which are given below :

Name of institution	Year of foundation	Members of teaching staff	Students on roll
Sri Varshney Mahavidyalaya, Aligarh	1947	122	3,758
Dharma Samaj Mahavidyalaya, Aligarh	1947	140	3,498
Tikaram Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Aligarh	1957	51	815
Bagela Degree College, Aligarh	1958	49	1,724
Saraswati Degree College, Hathras	1973	6	103
Rameshwar Dayal Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Hathras	1975	10	247

Professional and Technical Education

Engineering—Higher education in technical subjects is imparted by the Aligarh Muslim University under the auspices of Zakir Husain College of Engineering and Technology, the course of studies being electrical, mechanical or civil engineering. Facilities for research work are also provided. The Polytechnic attached to it also conducts a course in draft-manship. There were 2,088 students in the college on roll in 1976-77.

Polytechnic—The Murlidhar Gajanand Polytechnic, Hathras was started as a technical institute to train boys in trades like refrigeration, electroplating, mechanics, etc. It had 313 trainees on roll in 1976-77.

Teacher's Training Schools—There were two government normal schools, one each for boys and girls at Hathras and Gobhana respectively. The trainees are awarded certificates after successful completion of training which is spread over a period of two years. The total enrolment in these institutions was 168 during 1976-77.

Medical Education—In 1945, the Aligarh Muslim University at the instance of the State government, decided to award the Bachelor's degree in Unani medicine and surgery to the graduates of Tibbiya College. In 1952, with the establishment of the Institute of Ophthalmology in collaboration with the Gandhi Eye Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine came into existence. During the session of 1962-63 the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College an affiliated college of the Aligarh Muslim University, came into being and since then has attained a high reputation as a seat of medical education. It provides education for the graduate course (M.B.B.S.) and for post-graduate degree of M.D. and M.S., besides diploma courses in several specialised subjects. A hospital is also attached to it where students receive practical training. It had 564 students in 1976-77.

Oriental Education

By the beginning of the present century many old institutions of oriental learning were closed as endowments meant for the Sanskrit *pathshalas* and Arabic *madrasas* were gradually diverted to running high schools and intermediate colleges where the teaching of Sanskrit or Arabic was not compulsory. During 1976-77, there were 11 Sanskrit *pathshalas* in the district—2 at Aligarh, 2 at Hathras, 2 at Mau Chirail and one each at Antala Gabhana, Gautham, Jawan and Kachaura. Of the Arabic and Persian institutions 4 are at Aligarh and one each at Dadon and Nosha.

Adult Education

For spread of literacy and rudimentary education in Basic disciplines adults schools are run on a voluntary basis in the development blocks in the district. Teachers of Basic schools are appointed to work in these institutions and they are paid for this additional part-time job. The duration of the course is one year. The enrolment in these schools was 1,193 adults in the district in 1976-77.

Physical Education

In the district, as elsewhere in the State, physical training is compulsory in all educational institutions up to the senior Basic stage. Games and sports meets are also organised both in urban as well as in rural areas. Mass physical exercises and displays are main features of the regional sports and games meets every year. In a number of higher secondary institutions of the district, training under the auspices of the National Cadet Corps and the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association is also given.

FINE ARTS AND MUSIC

Koil (Aligarh) is undoubtedly a town of great antiquity, as statues of Buddha and other Buddhist as well as Hindu remains have been found in

excavations made on an eminence in the centre of the city known as the Bala Qila. The mounds at Lakhanu and Sahegarh are supposed to contain ruins of ancient buildings and habitations but no systematic excavations have been carried out. The most conspicuous of Hindu buildings at Aligarh is the temple of Achaleswar on the edge of Achal tank.

In and around the town of Aligarh there are nearly a hundred mosques and several tombs of Muslim saints. All of them follow the traditional concepts of Muslim architecture, i.e. domes and minarets. Of the European constructions is the handsome building of Lyall library (now Malaviya Pustakalaya). The town has a magnificent clock tower and a fine public hall. Victoria gate an imposing structure leads to the fine university buildings.

Classical and light music had always been a popular form of amusement with the people in the towns and villages. Aligarh has also contributed to the film world : Begum Para, Neena, Renuka Devi, Rehman, Tabassum, and Javed son of the poet late Jan Nisar Akhtar were associated with the Aligarh Muslim University.

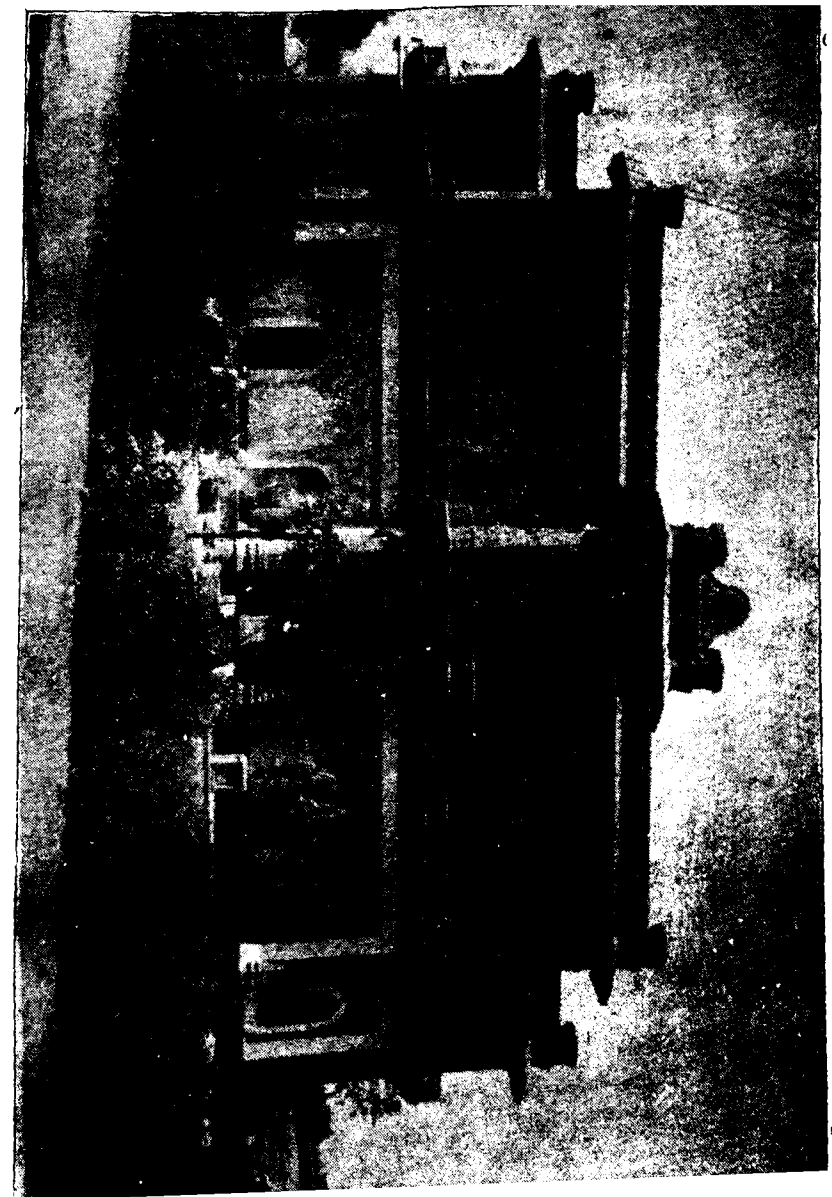
Folk-songs

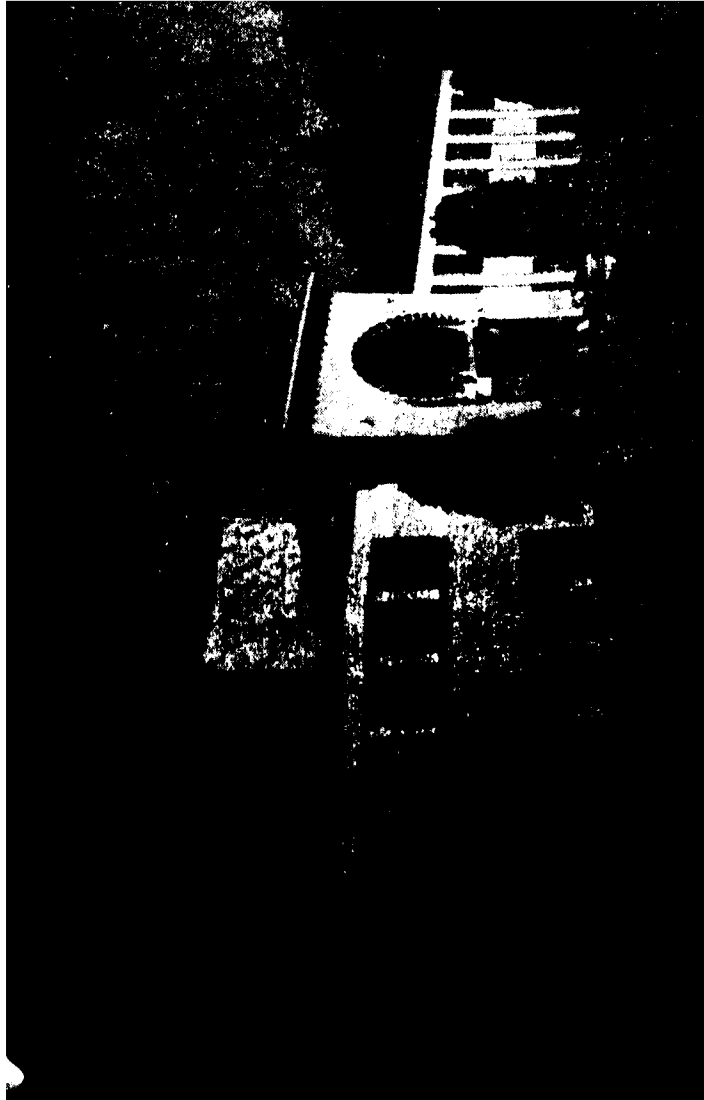
The folk-songs related with various seasons that are commonly sung in the villages are the Holi or Phaangs in the spring, the rainy season songs and the famous Alha which is also generally sung or recited during the monsoon. Women have their own songs for special occasions such as Sohar (sung on the occasion of the birth of the child), Suhag for Bana Bani songs (marriage songs) and those sung at festivals connected with the worship of the goddesses Durga and Devimata. Bhajans (devotional songs) sung solo or in chorus to the accompaniment of musical instruments are quite popular and liked by the people. Nautankis (open air dramatic performances) and plays drawn from the epic, mythology and legends like the *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharata* and *Puranas*, etc. are also a special feature and they attract large gatherings particularly in the villages. *Mushairas* and *kavi sammelans* (poetical gatherings at which Urdu and Hindi poems are recited), are popular in the towns. The Qawwali programmes are quite frequent and popular. The district has produced a number of celebrated artists a noteworthy among them being Habib Painter.

Libraries and Reading Rooms

The scheme for establishing a public library at Aligarh for the benefit of the people in general and students in particular was drawn in 1882. The Lyall library, named after the then lieutenant governor, was opened in 1889. In 1948, the library was renamed as the Malaviya Pustakalaya after the distinguished educationist Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. Its double-storeyed buildings, set in a well laid out garden, is an imposing structure of semi-oriental architecture, with two fine halls on the ground floor, where a large number of journals, dailies and periodicals are regularly laid on the table. The library had a total collection of nearly 42,000 books in 1976-77.

Malaviya Pustakalaya, Aligarh





The Maulana Azad Library of the Aligarh Muslim University is very richly equipped, specially with books in English and oriental languages. It also possesses an excellent collection of the Arabic, Persian and Urdu manuscripts, specimens of calligraphy, paintings and other pieces of art and coins. The schools and colleges in the district have their own libraries. The development blocks cater to the need of the people of the rural area in this behalf by establishing information centres and reading rooms, organising community radio and television centres under the auspices of the *gaon* panchayats.

MEN OF LETTERS

Aligarh became a centre of brisk literary and educational activities when Sir Syed (1817-1898) selected it as the nucleus of his educational movement in the later half of the nineteenth century. He wrote several books, including a history of Delhi (*Asar-us-Sanadi*) and, despite his multifarious engagements, were responsible for the foundation of a scientific society which undertook translation of standard European works on science and history, as well as publication of a journal called the *Aligarh Institute Gazette*.

Amongst the associates and friends of Sir Syed, Khwaja Altaf Husain Hali (1837-1914), Maulana Shibli (1857-1914), Shams-ul-Ulama Nazir Ahmad (1831-1914), Maulvi Zakaullah (1832-1910) and Wahiduddin Salim (1867-1927) were scholars of outstanding literary achievements. Hali's poem on the 'Rise and decline of Islam' and his biographies of Sir Syed, Ghalib and Sa'adi have become classics in the Urdu literature. Shibli's *Shir-ul-Ajam*, *Al-Faruq*, *Al-Mamun*, *Ilm-i-Kalam* earned for him an unrivalled place in the literary world. Shams-ul-Ulama Nazir Ahmad wrote in a free and courageous spirit and advocated large-scale social reforms. Maulvi Zakaullah wrote *History of India* in ten volumes. Wahiduddin Salim edited the *Ma'arif* of Aligarh, the *Aligarh Gazette* and wrote the *Vaz-i-Ishtilhat* on the formation of technical terms in Urdu.

The M.A.O. College the forerunner of the Aligarh Muslim University, itself had on its staff some very eminent Indian and foreign scholars like H. G. Siddons, T. Beck, P. M. Wallace, Sir T. W. Arnold, T. Morison, W. A. Archbold, C. A. Storey, Sardar K. M. Pannikar and J. C. Chakarvarti. Sir T. W. Arnold was a leading orientalist of his day and his books on the *Caliphate*, *The Preaching of Islam* and the *Legacy of Islam* are considered authorities on the subjects they deal with. Sardar K. M. Pannikar distinguished himself in the field of historical writing. He wrote as many as twenty-four books, the most celebrated being the *Asia and Western Dominance*. Dr Zakir Husain (1897-1969) who also served as the President of India (1967 to 1969) was a proud product of M.A.O. College. He distinguished himself in the field of education being associated with Gandhiji in the formulation of the famous Wardha scheme of education or the Basic education (Nayi Talim) system of the thirties of the present century. The Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi (a national university) owes much to Dr Zakir Husain for its development, growth and present stature.

He also served as the vice-chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University from 1948 to 1956.

Among other notable men of letters and scholars associated with the district are Aley Ahmad Suroor, Abdul Haq, Enayatullah, Hasan Barni, Hari Shankar Sharma, Jainendra Kumar, Khusi Mohammad Nazir, Kaka Hathrasi, Mohammad Habib, Maulana Aziz Memon, Maulvi Abdul Haq, Majaz, Nathuram Shanker Sharma, Rasheed Ahmad Siddiqui, Sajjad Hyder Yaldaram, Saadat Hasan Minto, Syud Hosain, Satya Narain and several others.

TABLE I
Literacy and General Education

Year	Junior Basic Education						Senior Basic Education						Higher Secondary Education					
	Number of schools		Number of students		Number of schools		Number of students		Number of schools		Number of students		Number of schools		Number of students		Number of schools	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
1967-68	1,124	276	1,47,039	77,140	177	17	20,931	3,221	68	14	51,378	9,386						
1968-69	1,125	289	1,51,368	82,095	199	22	21,207	3,541	74	14	54,599	11,692						
1969-70	1,126	300	1,59,400	86,544	200	23	23,193	3,893	82	16	61,481	13,237						
1970-71	1,105	295	1,78,993	1,06,270	198	25	25,077	6,259	86	17	63,957	14,102						
1971-72	1,072	310	1,85,297	1,04,910	199	53	25,177	5,054	92	17	68,377	14,665						
1972-73	1,074	311	1,86,859	1,05,227	205	58	26,278	5,594	95	19	69,403	16,947						
1973-74	1,084	355	2,02,607	1,11,826	214	62	27,204	6,904	101	19	72,376	17,405						
1974-75	1,094	365	2,03,458	1,14,091	225	62	27,240	7,091	108	19	74,973	18,052						
1975-76	1,125	334	2,02,408	1,13,530	217	59	27,201	7,004	108	19	75,806	18,684						
•1976-77	1,125	334	2,04,408	1,13,530	186	46	28,201	7,504	108	16	76,606	19,084						

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Facilities in Early Times

No direct reference is available which could throw light on the medical facilities and systems of medicine prevailing in early times in the district, but it is reasonable to surmise that the system that prevailed in the country also obtained in this area. The physician of early times, who practised the indigenous system of medicine, was some times very successful but there were many quacks as well and the *ojha* (sorcerer) also plied a popular calling in the rural areas of the district. Disease was often and is still attributed by many people in and outside the district to sins, crimes, vices and disobedience of natural and religious laws, the cure prescribed being the offering of prayers (as to Shitla, the goddess who unleashes smallpox when angry), fasting, animal sacrifice and various other modes of invocation of deities and supernatural powers, often with the help of the local *ojha*.

Ayurveda (the science of life and longevity and one of the earliest known systems of medicine) was practised from very early times in the district as a pious duty. The Ayurvedic physicians known as *vaid*s did not charge fees for treating ailments. They used herbal, mineral and other kinds of medicines. Some of them were also skilled surgeons. People in affluent circumstances and of charitable disposition extended financial help to them and looked after their material needs. The people also had an awareness of personal hygiene, as the religious customs of the Hindus enjoins on its followers observance of personal cleanliness, taking of daily bath, washing of hands and feet before meals, etc. The habitations afflicted with infectious diseases were disinfected by fumigation by burning the leaves of certain medicinal trees such as neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and the infected clothes were burnt.

Near about the thirteenth century, when the Muslims settled down in these parts, they introduced the Unani system of medicine. The practitioners of this system were called hakims. Their activities remained confined to the towns and to the homes of the affluent Muslims. In mediaeval times a crude type of surgery was also practised by *jarrahas*, who were more or less quacks.

In the nineteenth century when the British came into power, they brought with them the allopathic or the western system of medicine which gradually gained popularity mainly because of patronage by the State. In 1849, a dispensary at Aligarh was opened by public subscription. It was taken over by the government in 1851 and during the same year dispensaries were started at Hathras and Sikandra Rao also. A fourth dispensary was opened at Atrauli in 1873. In 1892 a dispensary at Khair and the Dufferin hospital at Aligarh were opened by public subscriptions.

These were followed by dispensaries at Iglas, Dadon and Gabhana the next year. A female dispensary at Hathras was established in 1896. In addition to these institutions, there was a canal dispensary at Nanau, two railway hospitals, a police and a jail hospital at Aligarh. At these medical institutions allopathic medicines were dispensed by doctors under the supervision of the civil surgeon.

After independence the government has opened numerous hospitals, dispensaries, primary health centres and maternity centres at different places in the district. There were 12 allopathic hospitals and 15 dispensaries, 2 homoeopathic and 12 Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries in the district in 1977. The Aligarh Muslim University also maintains a modern and well-equipped hospital under the aegis of its medical college with indoor and outdoor facilities of treatment for the patients.

Vital Statistics

Registration of deaths has been practised from an early date. It began soon after 1864, but the system adopted was very defective and no reliability can be placed on the figures. The general prevalence of famine in 1877 led to a closer scrutiny of the registers and to more strict supervision of the work. This resulted in a more truthful account being kept and the death-rate showed an increase from 18.49 per mille in 1877 to 35.49 per mille in the following year. In 1879 the rate rose to 118.49 per thousand on account of the terrible epidemic of fever which followed the period of scarcity. Next year the rate came down to 28.15. For the ten years ending 1890 the average was 33.58. It being raised to some extent by one or two severe outbreaks of cholera and smallpox. The average birth-rate was 37.56, which may certainly be regarded as below the normal. In the absence of any epidemics of unusual magnitude, the mean death-rate for the decade terminating with 1900 was 31.31, as compared with a birth-rate of 46.28 per mille. Between 1900 and 1920, the worst year was 1918, when the deaths per thousand were 114.37. This abnormal figure was mainly due to the severe outbreak of plague and fever. The mean decennial birth-rate and death-rate per thousand during the three decades ending with 1950 for the district are given below :

Decades	Birth-rate	Death-rate
1921—30	39.5	26.7
1931—40	37.8	21.9
1941—50	26.0	15.7

Generally, the birth-rate has been ahead of the death-rate and the death-rate has shown a very marked tendency to fall since independence.

mainly on account of better sanitary and health measures and medical facilities provided by the government and the eradication of epidemics like plague, cholera and smallpox. Family planning consciousness may well have contributed to some extent to the fall in the birth-rate. The following table shows the birth and death-rates per thousand people in the district during the three years 1969, 1970 and 1971.

It may, however, be mentioned that these are registered rates. Many births and deaths are neither reported nor registered. Hence, the actual birth-rates and death-rates must be higher than those shown in this table :

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate
1969	17.2	5.4
1970	14.0	4.9
1971	24.4	6.9

Infant Mortality

Mortality among children below one year of age was high in the past mainly due to lack of adequate maternity and child welfare services. In the fifties the maximum infant mortality was 4,427 in 1958 while the minimum was 2,533 in 1957. The position has vastly improved in recent years, the infant mortality having gone down to 1,383 in 1974.

Common Diseases in the District

The diseases which accounted for a large number of deaths in the district during the three decades ending 1940 were fevers of all types, respiratory disorders, diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera and smallpox. They held the district periodically in their grip and were endemic in the past, but now show a marked decline. Since the enforcement of district health scheme in 1936, regular anti-epidemic measure have been taken by the State medical and health departments. Plague, cholera, and smallpox have since completely disappeared from the district. This comparative relief from the onslaught of these and several other diseases has been brought about largely through the measures adopted by the State government and the extension of medical and health facilities in the rural areas.

Fevers—They are, perhaps, the biggest teasers and tormentors. They include malaria and typhoid and many others.

The following statement gives the number of deaths caused by fever in the district in recent years :

Year	No. of deaths
1972	2,374
1973	3,615
1974	2,677

Respiratory Diseases—Diseases such as Pneumonia pleurisy and bronchitis were included in the category of fever before 1941. Such diseases are not an immediate cause of death, but they often result in permanent or temporary infirmity and in some cases, even *premature* death. The following table shows the number of deaths on account of respiratory disorders in recent years :

Year	No. of deaths
1972	1,980
1973	1,637
1974	1,370

Epidemics

Epidemics of cholera, plague and smallpox usually accounted for a high incidence of deaths in the past.

Plague—Plague first appeared in the district in 1904 claiming 4,093 lives. In the following year it appeared in an epidemic form claiming 14,910 lives. In 1907, it took 4,945 lives. In later years it subsided. **During the twenties it touched very low figures declining to 2 in some years.** It finally disappeared in the fifties of this century. Since then no case has been reported from the district. Inoculation, evacuation and destruction of rats were the principle preventive measures taken in the district to eradicate this scourge.

Cholera—Cholera has not been as common in the district as elsewhere in the State, though the disease was always more or less prevalent during the five decades ending 1950. A large number of deaths were **reported in 1944 and 1949. The incidence of the disease declined very considerably in the decade ending 1960.** The district has been free from cholera since 1975 due to adoption of preventive measures such as anti-cholera inoculation, cleaning and disinfection of wells and other sanitary and precautionary measures.

Smallpox—The district was never free from this disease in the past but no severe epidemic of smallpox, however, was reported during the latter half of the present century, due to the preventive measures and better medical facilities in both the rural and urban areas. A special programme was launched in the State to eradicate smallpox and not a single case has been reported from the district since 1976. The International Commission of Smallpox Eradication visited the State in April, 1977 and declared the disease as finished. However, prophylactic measures such as primary vaccinations of the new-born and left over cases are taken regularly.

Other Diseases—Leprosy, tuberculosis, cancer, diphtheria, bronchitis, gastro-enteritis, enlarged spleen and pneumonia are among the other diseases responsible for deaths in the district. Recourse is taken to mass

b. c. g. vaccinations and special curative treatment in the T. B. hospital, Hathras and T. B. clinic, Aligarh in order to combat the tuberculosis menace. Leprosy is not very common here. Blindness appears to be on the decrease, the number of persons afflicted having declined in the last nearly three decades, on account of facilities of treatment for eye ailments at the Gandhi eye hospital, Aligarh, the Hari eye hospital, Hathras and the comparative immunity from the smallpox in recent years in the district.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANISATION

Organisational Set-up

In the past, administration of hospitals and dispensaries at the district level was under the charge of the civil surgeon and the public health and family planning programmes were supervised by the district medical officer of health and family planning. Special health programmes like drives against malaria, filaria, etc., were looked after by separate officers who were directly responsible to their respective programme officers at the State level. In July 1973, the departments of medical and public health were reorganised in the State, the posts of the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health were abolished and a chief medical officer appointed under the new set-up. He heads the entire medical, public health and family planning set-up in the district. He is assisted by three deputy chief medical officers.

In municipal areas, the municipal medical officers assisted by the sanitary inspectors and other staff are responsible for the public health activities. The rural area has been divided amongst the three deputy chief medical officers for supervising all medical health and family planning work and the primary health centres.

In the rural areas, the primary health centre (with its own medical officer) is unit of the integrated medical and public health services and renders preventive and curative treatment to the people.

The following tables give some details about the hospitals and dispensaries in the district in the year 1977 :

Hospitals

Name of hospital	Number of doctors	Number of beds
Malkhan Singh hospital, Aligarh	14	156
Female hospital, Aligarh	7	70
Police hospital, Aligarh	1	44
P. A. C. hospital, Aligarh	1	Nil
Jail hospital, Aligarh	1	14
T. B. clinic, Aligarh	3	12
Women's hospital, Atrauli	1	4
Women's hospital, Chadampa	1	6
Bashla civil hospital, Hathras	3	46
M. D. T. B. hospital, Hathras	2	25
S. F. hospital, Hathras	1	44
Women's hospital, Sikandra Rao	1	4

Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh



Dispensaries

Name of dispensary	Doctor	Number of beds
Allopathic		
E. S. I. dispensary, Aligarh	2	Nil
Beswa dispensary, Beswa	1	4
Bamnai dispensary, Bamnai	1	4
Chhaleswar dispensary, Chhaleswar	1	4
E. S. I. dispensary, Hathras	3	Nil
Gorai dispensary, Gorai	1	4
Jarauli Dhomsingh dispensary, Jarauli	1	4
Jatari dispensary, Jatari	1	Nil
Koriganj dispensary, Koriganj	1	4
Karil dispensary, Karil	1	4
Naglamani dispensary, Naglamani	1	4
Narona Akapur dispensary, Narona Akapur	1	Nil
E. S. I. dispensary, Sasni	2	4
Pisawa dispensary, Pisawa	1	4
Vijaigarh dispensary, Vijaigarh	1	4
Homoeopathic		
State Homoeopathic dispensary, Bamnai	1	—
State Homoeopathic dispensary, Hathras	1	—
Unani/Ayurvedic		
Bhankuri dispensary, Bhankuri	1	—
Bajidpur dispensary, Bajidpur	1	—
Chandaus dispensary, Chandaus	1	—
Dinapur dispensary, Dinapur	1	—
Gomat dispensary, Gomat	1	—
Mitai dispensary, Mitai	1	—
Madurai dispensary, Madurai	1	—
Mendu dispensary, Mendu	1	—
Naugaon dispensary, Naugaon	1	—
Paharpur dispensary, Paharpur	1	—
Teekri dispensary, Teekri	1	—
Tochigarh dispensary, Tochigarh	1	—

Primary Health Centres

In order to extend medical facilities and improve the health standards of the people in the rural areas the government has established primary health centres one each in every development block of the district. There were 18 such centres in 1977. Each centre is manned by a medical officer, who is assisted by a para-medical and health staff consisting of pharmacists, health inspectors, health visitors, smallpox inspectors and supervisors and family welfare workers. Generally, each centre has a four-bed ward

for the indoor patients. The following table gives the location of these centres in the district in 1977 :

Primary health centre	Development block in which situated	Tahsil
Atrauli	Atrauli	Atrauli
Bijauli	Bijauli	"
Chharra	Chharra	"
Maho	Maho	Hathras
Mursan	Mursan	"
Sasni	Sasni	"
Gonda	Gonda	Iglas
Iglas	Iglas	"
Chandaus	Chandaus	Khair
Khair	Khair	"
Tappal	Tappal	"
Harduaganj	Harduaganj	Koil
Jawan	Jawan	"
Jalali	Jalali	"
Lodha	Lodha	"
Akrabad	Akrabad	Sikandra Rao
Hasayan	Hasayan	"
Sikandra Rao	Sikandra Rao	"

Maternity and Child Welfare

To check the high rate of infant mortality due chiefly to the non-availability of proper medical aid and advice, lack of knowledge and insanitary conditions, proper medical aid is sought to be provided to infants and expectant mothers through a net-work of maternity and child health centres started in the district since 1965. In each of the 18 primary health centres a maternity and child welfare centre is also attached where midwives and *dais* render advice and medical aid and also pay domiciliary visits in the villages. Similar facilities are being made available at each of the three sub-centres (generally located in the interior) under each primary health centre.

Family Welfare

In order to arrest the abnormal growth of the population in the district, the family welfare programme was introduced in the district in the closing years of the fifties of this century. In 1965 concrete measures were taken to popularise the concept of a small family through films, placards, posters and personal contacts. The chief medical officer is in charge of the entire family welfare programme in the district since 1973. The programme is implemented through the family welfare centres attached to each primary health centre and is supervised by the medical officer in charge of the centre.

The table given below indicates the achievement made under the family welfare programme in the district from 1974-75 to 1976-77 :

Year	Number of sterilizations	Number of loops inserted	Number of contraceptives distributed
1974-75	974	2,245	1,82,512
1975-76	2,108	3,713	2,55,976
1976-77	13,122	2,433	2,57,127

Vaccination

A large number of deaths occurred on account of smallpox till the beginning of the present century as the people were averse to vaccination and medical treatment, but gradually people began to realise the benefits of these measures. The vaccination programme has been intensified since 1963, when the national smallpox eradication programme was launched in the district.

The following table gives the number of persons vaccinated against smallpox between 1975 to 1977 :

Year	Total number of persons vaccinated
1975	2,81,537
1976	2,48,053
1977	1,48,257

National Malaria Eradication Programme

The national malaria eradication programme was taken up in the year 1959-60 when the district was divided into two parts viz.: hyper endemic (highly malarious) and hypo-endemic (less malarious). Under the programme the district has passed through four phases viz. preparatory, attack, consolidation and maintenance. In the maintenance phase the national malaria eradication programme has become part of the regular district health scheme. The incidence of the malaria during the three years ending 1977 is given in the following table :

Year	Number of blood slides collected	Number of positive reactions
1975	1,36,300	19,301
1976	1,43,083	27,919
1977	2,29,624	40,832

Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

The chief medical officer is the licensing authority for food and drug distribution in the district. All municipal officers of health in the municipalities are responsible for this job in the urban areas.

The following table gives the number of samples collected, those found adulterated and cases prosecuted during the years 1975 to 1977 :

Year	Number of samples collected	Number of samples found adulterated	Number of cases prosecuted
1975	565	109	57
1976	539	170	195
1977	981	165	188

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

After the attainment of Independence the government drew up many schemes with a view to providing better facilities for workers and labourers and to creating for them an atmosphere congenial to work. The labour welfare programmes aim at providing benefits for the labourers, such as reasonable minimum wages, social security like State insurance of employees, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated working hours, payment of bonus for providing incentive, payment of compensation in case of death and infirmity, proper measures for lighting ventilation and safety in the place of work, provision of canteens, recreations, leave and holidays, holiday homes and residential houses. Labour participation in the management is also encouraged by the government to promote harmonious relations between the employers and the workers.

The district falls in the Agra region of the State labour department. At the district level, the labour inspector stationed at the district headquarters ensures the administration and enforcement of labour laws, including prosecutions for their infringement, the implementation of the labour welfare schemes and maintains liaison between the employees and the employers in the district.

The factory inspector ensures the enforcement of various statutes like the Factories Act, the Payment of Wages Act, etc., and takes necessary action against the erring employers. There were 91 boilers in the district in 1977, which are supervised by the inspector of boilers who has his headquarters at Kanpur.

The Central and State Governments have passed a number of Acts for the benefit of labourers and their families. The government has taken active interest in promoting the welfare of the labourers in the post-Independence period, though a number of statutes for the purpose existed previous to that also, such as the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1938 and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, which are still in operation having been amended from time to time to suit the new requirements and the changing pattern of labour welfare schemes. The Acts passed after 1947, which are enforced in the district, are the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers' Act, 1961, the U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, the U. P. Dookan Evam Vanijya Adhusthan Adh'niyam, 1962, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and the Biri and Cigar Workers (condition of Employment) Act, 1966.

In 1975, as many as 3,651 inspections under the above Acts were made and 1,262 prosecutions were launched. The following table gives the figures of inspections, prosecutions and convictions under certain Acts in the district in that year:

Name of Act	No. of inspections	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions
The Uttar Pradesh Dookan Evam Vanijiya Adhistan Adhiniyam, 1962	2,415	849	372
The Minimum Wages Act, 1948	945	372	37
The Motor Transport Workers' Act, 1961	101	31	7
The Factories Act, 1948	27	6	6
The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	128	4	1
The Sthai Adesh Adhiniyam, 1946	12	—	—
The Sthai Adesh Adhiniyam, 1972	21	—	—
The U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961	2	—	—

The total amount of compensation which was paid in the years between 1973-74 and 1977-78 under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, to the workers or their dependents on being involved in accidents in the course of employment, resulting in disablement or death, is given in the following table :

Year	Fatal cases		Disablement cases	
	Number	Amount of compensation	Number	Amount of compensation
1973-74	6	41,000	3	6,690
1974-75	11	1,15,720	5	6,828
1975-76	10	80,000	2	9,820
1976-77	14	1,30,600	1	5,880
1977-78	13	2,20,200	11	23,746

Trade Unions

The Indian Trade Union Act, 1926, provides for the registration of the associations or trade unions of the workers or employees engaged in industrial activity. It empowers the registrar of trade unions (whose head-quarter is at Kanpur) to grant registration to such bodies and to scrutinise their working. The trade unions concern themselves with matters relating to the general interests of the workers, their service conditions, dismissal, discharge and other punishment cases.

The trade unions are corporate bodies which function in the interest of their members and aim at furthering good relations between employers and employees. They strive to improve the economic, moral and social conditions of labourers and ensure payment of fair wages, provision of healthy living and working conditions and proper medical and educational facilities to their children and family members.

The following table gives the names, dates of registration and the number of members of the workers' unions which existed in the district in 1975 :

Name of Union	Date of registration	Total number of members (1975)
1	2	3
Congress Mazdoor Sangh, Hathras, Aligarh	21-12-45	249
Central Dairy Farm Workers Union, Aligarh	17-12-46	200
Non-industrial Workers Union, Government of India Farm Press, Aligarh	3-3-47	32
Glass Works Mazdoor Sangh, Sasni, Aligarh	17-2-47	1,400
Clerks Union Government of India Farm Press, Aligarh	2-3-47	—
Hathras Mazdoor Panchayat, Aligarh	14-4-49	505
Rajkiya Press Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	21-2-53	743
Rashtriya Tel Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	17-7-54	78
Government of India Press Workers Union, Aligarh	12-11-54	723
Dal Mill Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	21-4-55	59
Dharu Udyog Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	24-4-56	216
Hathras Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	9-7-56	8
Hammer Metal Karamchari Union, Aligarh	27-8-56	123
Aligarh Metal Industries Workers Union, Aligarh	9-11-57	754
Press Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	14-3-58	16
Ice and Oil Mill Workers Union, Aligarh	4-4-59	444
Chaku Tala Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	4-4-59	104
Zila Shramik Sewa Samaj, Aligarh	11-6-60	26
Suti Mill Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	16-2-62	88
Rubber Udyog Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	10-5-62	55
Glaxo Staff Association, Aligarh	31-3-63	185
Kaichi Chaku Tala Mazdoor Sangh, Aligarh	25-2-65	318
Vanaspatti Workers Union, Aligarh	1-10-65	91

[contd.

Karamchari Sangh Aligarh Vidyut Vitaran Sansthan, Aligarh	2-3-68	163
Jal Kal Technical Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	11-4-68	56
S. K. Agencies Chain Factories Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	7-8-68	25
Dugdha Utpadak Sahkari Sangh, Karamchari Union, Aligarh	30-3-71	116
Water Works Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	30-3-71	30
Tiger Group of Industries Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	30-3-71	537
Glaxo Laboratories Canteen Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	21-7-72	45
Glaxo Senior Staff Association, Aligarh	13-9-73	32
Sasni Glass Workers Union, Aligarh	16-11-73	213
Premier, Enamel, Ceramic Industries Workers Union, Aligarh	24-1-74	26
Postal Seals Industries Sahkarita Mazdoor, Union, Aligarh	25-1-74	102
Glaxo Laboratories (India) Ltd., Karamchari Union, Aligarh	2-2-74	67
Dookan Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	7-6-74	101
Lekhan Samagri Utpadan Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	19-7-74	77
Suti Mill Mazdoor Panchayat, Aligarh	13-11-74	215
Bhartiya Sri Gandhi Ashram Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	30-9-75	—
Uttar Pradesh Kamani Engineering Udyog Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	21-10-75	172
Indian Federation of Graphical Workers, Aligarh	5-11-75	3 Unions
Malgodam Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	5-11-75	72
Hathras Munim Evam Karamchari Sangh, Aligarh	7-11-75	40

Labour Welfare Centres

To provide healthy recreation and opportunities for all-round development for working class people and their families, the State government runs a number of government labour welfare centres at different industrial places in the State. There are four such labour welfare centres situated at Sasni Gate and Premier Nagar in Aligarh and at Sadabad Gate and Shramik Basti in Hathras. The centres provide the facilities of medical treatment, necessary attention and care during child-birth, prenatal and postnatal guidance, sewing classes for working women, indoor and outdoor games, libraries and reading rooms, etc. Cultural programmes are also organised in the centres from time to time for the benefit of the workers.

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme—The Employees' State Insurance Scheme is an integrated measure of social insurance and is designed to accomplish the task of protecting employees against the hazards of sickness, maternity, disablement and death due to injuries sustained in course of employment and providing medical care to the injured persons and their families. In 1977, there were 245 registered factories in the district whose workers were benefited by the provisions of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. With the enforcement of the Act, three dispensaries were opened one each at Aligarh and Hathras in 1958 and one at Sasni in 1965, which provided medical facilities to 11,650 families of workers till March, 1976.

Old Age Pension

The old age pension scheme was introduced in the district in December, 1957, to provide financial help to the destitutes who have no means of subsistence, have an income not more than rupees thirty per month and are above 60 years of age, if women; and above 65 years of age, if men. The amount of monthly pension which was Rs 20 per individual, was raised to Rs 30 in 1972 and to Rs 40 per month from 1976. The benefits of this scheme are not available to beggars, mendicants and inmates of poor-houses. Initially the pension was sanctioned by the labour commissioner, Kanpur, but from 1975, it is being sanctioned by the district magistrate after verification of the particulars of the applicants. The number of men and women who were benefited under the scheme in the district were 198 and 113 respectively till January, 1978.

PROHIBITION

The district is not a dry area, but steps have been taken by the government to discourage people from indulging in excessive drinking. Prohibition publicity and propaganda work is carried out by the social worker in the district. Wide and intensive prohibition propaganda is done by an honorary *pracharak* (propagandist) to discourage addicts from indulging in drink or intoxicants. The *pracharak* organises publicity programmes in the labour colonies, bazars, fairs, *melas* and educational institutions of the district through various media such as *bhajans*, *kirtans*, *nataks* and cinema shows, etc. Liquor shops have fixed opening and closing hours. Tuesday is a dry day and other dry days observed are Holi, Dipavali, August 15 (Independence Day), October 2 (birthday of Mahatma Gandhi) January 26 (Republic Day) and January 30 (day of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination observed as Martyr's Day). The first of every month, when people receive their monthly pay, has also been declared a dry day.

UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

The Harijan Sahayak department was set up in 1950 at the State level to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Criminal Tribes (later known as Denotified Tribes). In 1956, a district Harijan welfare officer was posted in the district whose designation was changed to Harijan and social welfare officer in 1961, when the Harijan

Sahayak and social welfare departments, were merged. His main functions are to look after the interests of the members of these groups and to implement the schemes formulated by government for their welfare and amelioration.

Members of the Scheduled Castes who were considered to belong to the depressed classes during the British rule, had earlier been outside the pace of the work of reforms of various orthodox groups. Social workers tried to better their lot but the alien government took little interest in their welfare. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930, when a scheme was formulated for awarding stipends to students of the Scheduled Castes. It was only with the advent of Independence that concrete steps were taken for the betterment of their lot. In 1977 scholarships and stipends of Rs 27,00,000 were awarded to 3,455 students of the district by the Central Government and Rs 6,65,553 to 4,832 students by the State Government.

In 1947, the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act was passed which ensured to the members of these castes the unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The untouchability (offences) Act, 1955, came into force in the State in June, 1955. It has rendered the practice of untouchability an offence punishable under the Act in the district as elsewhere in the country.

The government also threw open all avenues of employment to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes and major steps have been taken for their adequate representation in public services.

The upper age limit for the recruitment of candidates of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes to civil posts was relaxed up to two years over and above the prescribed age limit. In 1953, the percentage of reservation of seats for this group in government service was raised from 10 to 18. In 1955, the upper age limit was raised by five years for gazetted posts as had been done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. Government keeps a watch on the progress in the recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Class candidates to various posts and repeatedly emphasises that the prescribed percentage for filling up posts by such candidates must be maintained in government offices.

The government also provides advances and loans for the people of these groups for various purposes such as agriculture, industries, construction of houses, etc. Some details of such help to them provided by the government in the Fourth Five-year Plan (1969-74) are given below :

Schemes	Amount Distributed (in Rs.)
House building and repairs	2,26,448
Development of cottage industries	1,50,832
Drilling and repair of wells	1,00,832
Purchase of animals and agricultural implements	1,10,832

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

There are a number of trusts in the district which are meant for charitable and educational purposes, their names and some relevant particulars about them are given below :

Name of Trust	Date of foundation	Name of founder	Annual Income (in Rs.)	objectives
Laurance Boarding House Trust	27-3-1928	—	244	Maintenance of Boarding House
Sindhari Hospital Endowment Trust, Hathras	18-12-1908	—	528	Maintenance of hospital
Raja Mansingh Mauris Dispensary Trust	28-10-1930	—	540	Purchase of medicines and help to the sick
Srimati Kripa Kishan Kishori Kumari Devi Charitable Endowment Trust	16-9-1933	Smt. K.K.K. K. Devi	59	Help to the poor

Muslim Waqfs (Trust)

Shia Waqf—There are 41 waqfs in the district registered with the Shia Central Board of Waqf, U. P., Lucknow, created mainly for religious, educational and charitable purposes. A brief account of some important Shia waqfs is being given below :

Name of waqf	Date of foundation	Name of founder	Annual income (in Rs)	Objective of waqf
Sughra Bibi	6-10-1928	Sughra Bibi Saheba	10,000	Religious and charitable purposes
Musammat Badla Jan	8-6-1920	Musammat Badla Jan	715	Ditto.
Bibi Fatima Begam	20-10-1928	Bibi Fatima Begam	425	Ditto.
Imambara Pugloo	1868	Jaswant Singh Saheb	400	Ditto.
Thakur Dharam Singh				
Imambara Syed Jawwad Ali	1-4-1912	Syed Mehdi Hasan and Bibi Ejaz Fatima	400	Ditto.
Waqf Sved Tafazal Husani		..	400	Ditto
Maharaj Avadh Raj Bahadur	1784	Maharaj Avadh Raj	310	Ditto.
Musammat Munnajan Saheba	19-11-1891	Musammat Munnajan Saheba	150	Ditto.
Sved Ameer Hasan	18-4-1917	Syed Amir Husain	150	Ditto.
Jama Masjid Jalali	20-6-1907	Haji Syed Mehdi Ali	89	Ditto.
Bibi Intezam Fatima	20-9-1919	Bibi Intezam Fatima	63	Ditto.
Waqf Aam				
Syed Sajjad Husain Saheb	10-4-1901	Syed Sajjad Husain Saheb	60	Ditto.
Mehdi Ali Saheb	..	Mehdi Ali Saheb	10	Ditto.

Sunni Waqf—There are many waqfs in the district registered with the Sunni Central Board of Waqf, U. P., Lucknow. Relevant particulars of some of the better known are given below :

Name of waqf	Date of foundation	Name of founder	Annual income (in Rs)	Objective of waqf
Sheikh Aminuddin	19-7-1911	Sheikh Aminuddin	6,696	Religious and Charitable purposes
Moti Masjid	..	Waqf by user	5,228	Ditto.
Jama Masjid	..	Ditto.	11,752	Ditto.
Masjid Halwayan	..	Ditto.	7,938	Ditto.
Masjid Atashbazar	..	Ditto.	5,283	Ditto.
Muslim Musafirkhana	..	Ditto.	11,735	Ditto.
Kaneez Fatima	31-7-1969	Ditto.	8,292	Ditto.

Welfare of Ex-servicemen

For the welfare of ex-servicemen there is the district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board in the district which was established in 1945. It functions under the control and supervision of the director, soldiers' welfare, U. P. The work of the board in the district is supervised by a secretary who is generally an ex-serviceman and a paid employee of the board. The board provides facilities for ex-servicemen and their families and assists in their rehabilitation. The facilities include free education from the primary to the postgraduate stages to the children of the dead and disabled soldiers, concession in tuition fees from the primary to the high school classes to the children of the serving personnel up to the rank of junior commissioned officers and grant of stipends to school-going children by the State government or from the U. P. Post-war services reconstruction fund trust. Free medical treatment in military hospitals is provided for pensioner and their families. Financial assistance is provided for handicapped and infirm ex-servicemen and their widows. Monetary help is also given for the marriage of the daughters of soldiers who have died in action and land is allotted to the widows of the ex-servicemen and disabled soldiers. Seats are reserved for employment of ex-servicemen in the State and Central Government services. The following table gives the number of ex-servicemen and their dependents who received assistance and help through the board from 1973 to 1977 :

Year	No. of ex-servicemen helped
1973	88
1974	104
1975	109
1976	129
1977	146

For providing employment to ex-servicemen licenses were given to them for running a gas agency, a petrol pump, two fertilizer agencies and three sugar quota shops from 1973 to 1977. A fair price shop was also opened for their benefit.

Awards for outstanding gallantry have also been given to the following persons belonging to the district :

Rank	Village and tahsil	Name of national award	Year of award
IC-4799 Lt. Col C. M. Gupta	Nagar Khair	Vishistha Seva Medal	1972
49640 MCERA-II Chandan Singh	Matiyani Pathological Lab. Mursan, Gate, Hathras	Vishistha Seva Medal	1971
IC-14509 Major Jal Vir Singh	Kalai, Koil	Mahavir Chakra	1971
2nd Lt. Chander Pal	Lekh Bhawan, Lekh Raj Nagar, Koil	Vir Chakra	1972

The district is proud of its gallant soldiers who fought against the country's enemies in recent years and sacrificed their lives in her defence. Some details about them are furnished below :

Name of war/operation	No. of soldiers killed	No. of soldiers disabled
Chinese Aggression, 1962	7	—
Indo-Pakistan Conflict, 1965	15	1
Indo-Pakistan Conflict, 1971	20	1
Total	42	2

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly)

For the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha in 1952, the district was divided into eight constituencies, from which ten members in all were to be elected, two seats being reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The Congress won all the seats. The single-member constituencies were Iglas, Koil (Central), Atrauli (North), Atrauli (South)-cum-Koil (East), Sikandra Rao (North)-cum-Koil (South-East) and Sikandra Rao (South) and the double-member constituencies were the Hathras and Khair-cum-Koil (North-West).

The total number of electors in the district was 7,72,200. Of these 5,49,990 electors exercised their right of franchise, the number of valid votes polled being 5,30,753 and invalid 19,237. Roughly the percentage of voting was fifty-one. The table given below highlights some of the important features of this election :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	5	—	18,215
Communist Party of India	—	—	4,034
Indian National Congress	10	10	2,98,923
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	7	—	26,547
Ram Rajya Parishad	2	—	4,205
Scheduled Castes Federation	2	—	41,511
Socialist Party of India	7	—	95,954
Independents	14	—	40,864
Total	49	10	5,30,753

At the general elections of 1957, the constituencies were delimited in 1956 in such a manner as to have six constituencies of Tappal, Aligarh, Atrauli, Gangiri, Sikandra Rao, Iglas and two double-member constituencies of Koil and Hathras with one seat each reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates.

There were 37 candidates in the field for the ten seats. The number of electors was 8,75,458 ; total votes polled numbered 6,28,354 ; and the

number of invalid votes was 16,755. The percentage of polling was about fifty-one.

The following table indicates the number of candidates set up, seats won and votes secured by each contesting party at the elections for the Vidhan Sabha in 1957 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	4	—	45,181
Communist Party of India	2	—	34,219
Indian National Congress	10	9	2,76,397
Praja Socialist Party	4	—	19,672
Independents	17	1	2,36,130
Total	37	10	6,11,599

The system of double-member constituencies was abolished in the 1962 general elections. The newly formed constituencies were those of Hathras, Sasni, Sikandra Rao, Gangiri, Atrauli, Aligarh, Koil, Iglas, Khair and Tappal. The Sasni and Koil constituencies were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The number of electors was 9,14,070, valid votes polled numbered 4,82,046 and 28,891 votes were declared invalid. Nearly fifty-six per cent votes were polled in the district. The results of this election were as under :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	9	—	68,318
Communist Party of India	3	1	22,706
Indian National Congress	9	9	1,05,728
Praja Socialist Party	3	—	13,917
Ram Rajya Parishad	4	—	6,080
Republican Party of India	5	2	61,790
Socialist Party of India	3	1	34,465
Swatantra Party	7	1	46,969
Independents	32	3	1,22,063
Total	75	10	4,82,046

For the general elections held in 1967, the constituencies were delimited afresh and the newly formed constituencies were those of Hathras, Sasni, Sikandra Rao, Gangiri, Atrauli, Aligarh, Koil, Iglas, Khair and

Chandua. The constituencies of Sasni and Koil were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates.

The total number of electors in the district was 10,38,824 of whom 5,80,274 cast their votes. The votes treated as invalid numbered 38,083. The percentages of votes polled in the district was fifty-six.

The following table shows the number of candidates put up, seats captured and votes secured by each contesting party or the independent candidates for the Vidhan Sabha elections of 1967 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	4	95,515
Communist Party of India	2	—	13,180
Indian National Congress	10	3	1,60,146
Praja Socialist Party	5	1	31,646
Republican Party of India	2	—	18,000
Samyukta Socialist Party	5	—	21,991
Swatantra Party	5	—	14,481
Independents	57	2	1,87,232
Total	94	10	5,42,191

The Vidhan Sabha, constituted after the 1967 general elections, was dissolved on February 25, 1968, due to a large number of defections among the members which forced the government to submit its resignation, and the State was placed under the President's rule. A mid-term poll was held after about a year in 1969. Out of 10,92,961 electors, 6,55,753 exercised their right of franchise. The number of invalid votes was 16,536. The percentage of polling was sixty. In all 83 candidates belonging to twelve different political parties (besides independents) contested for the ten seats. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	10	1	70,119
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	10	5	1,94,922
Communist Party of India	1	—	2,000
Forward Block	2	—	2,557
Indian National Congress	10	2	1,84,538
Kisan Mazdoor Party	1	—	7,553
Mazdoor Parishad	2	—	1,310
Praja Socialist Party	2	—	18,447
Republican Party of India	8	—	79,658
Republican Party of India (Ambedkrite)	1	—	366
Samyukta Socialist Party	6	1	19,464
Swatantra Party	2	8,388	—
Independents	28	1	49,895
Total	83	10	6,39,217

On 1st of October, 1970, the State was again placed under the President's rule, though for a very brief period. On 18th October, 1970, ministry was formed by the Congress party. In June 1973, the chief minister along with his cabinet colleagues submitted resignation of the ministry and the State was placed under the President's rule once again. Thus after the general elections of 1967, the President had to invoke his power of direct rule over the State thrice.

The popular government returned to power again through the general elections held in February 1974. The district was split into ten constituencies of Hathras, Sasni, Sikandra Rao, Gangiri, Atrauli, Aligarh, Koil, Iglas, Barauli and Khair. The constituencies of Sasni and Koil were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The number of electors was 12,10,920, total votes cast were 7,43,536, the number of valid votes polled being 7,25,338. The percentage of polling was nearly sixty-one.

The table given below indicates the number of candidates, seats won, and valid votes secured by each contesting party at the elections of 1974 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Akhil Bhartiya Forward Block	3	—	3,700
Akhil Bhartiya Ram Rajya Parishad	3	—	1,801
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	10	2	1,31,945
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	10	3	2,18,696
Communist Party of India	1	—	24,140
Indian National Congress	9	5	2,32,108
Indian National Congress (Organisation)	7	—	39,342
Indian Union Muslim League	2	—	8,025
Rashtriya Loktantrik Sangh	2	—	1,297
Republican Party of India	2	—	234
Republican Party of India (Gayakvare)	3	—	6,900
Republican Party of India (Khovargarhe)	9	—	5,458
Socialist Party	4	—	3,443
Swatantra Party	6	—	8,094
Independents	27	—	40,145
TOTAL	98	10	7,25,338

In May 1977 the Legislative Assembly was dissolved and mid-term polls were held after a month. The number of constituencies remained the same.

This election was contested mainly between two parties, namely, the Indian National Congress and the Janta Party, the latter being an amalgamation of five parties, Bhartiya Lok Dal, Jan Sangh, Congress (Organisation), Socialist Party and Congress for Democracy adopting the symbol of Bhartiya Lok Dal. The total number of electorate was 12,75,081, out of which total 5,90,239 votes were cast, the number of valid votes polled being 5,84,317 and invalid 5,922 votes. The percentage of polling was nearly 46%.

The following statement gives the number of candidates, seats won and valid votes polled, by the contesting parties at the elections of 1977 :

Name of Party/Independents	Number of contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Forward Block	2	—	653
Indian National Congress	10	—	1,93,930
Janata Party	10	10	3,16,207
Muslim League	2	—	2,318
Republican Party of India (Khovergarhe)	6	—	10,828
Independents	46	—	60,381
TOTAL	76	10	5,84,317

Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

For the purpose of representation in the Vidhan Parishad, the district is included in three constituencies, the Aligarh Local Authorities' constituency, the Agra Graduates' constituency and the Agra Teachers' constituency. In 1974, a resident of the district was elected from the Local Authorities' constituency and in 1976 another person who belonged to Sikandra Rao in the district was elected from the Agra Teachers' constituency.

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

For elections to the Lok Sabha (House of the People) in 1957, the district formed part of the Aligarh double-member constituency, with one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors was 8,75,458, valid votes polled were 8,82,486 and 46,749 votes were declared invalid. The elections were contested by four candidates belonging to the Congress, the Jan Sangh and the Praja Socialist parties and three independents. Both the seats were secured by the Congress party.

At the general elections of 1962, the district comprised two single-member constituencies, the Aligarh and the Hathras, last one being reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors was 9,14,020, valid votes polled numbered 4,84,066 and 26,563 votes were declared invalid. The elections were contested by ten candidates belonging to different parties including three independents. Both the seats were secured by the Republican party.

For the general elections* of 1967, the constituencies remained unchanged. Hathras constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidate. The election was contested by thirteen candidates of different parties including seven independents. There were 10,38,824 electors out of which 5,77,530 cast their votes, the number of invalid votes was 29,059. The unreserved seat went to an independent candidate and the reserved one to the Congress.

On account of a rift in the Indian National Congress, the Lok Sabha constituted after the general elections of 1969 was dissolved on December 27, 1970, and fresh polls were ordered. The mid-term Lok Sabha elections were held in 1971 and the new Lok Sabha was constituted in March the same year. The constituencies remained the same. The number of electors was 10,98,265, out of which 5,77,120 cast their votes. The number of invalid votes was 9,355. The reserved seat of Hathras constituency went to the Congress (R)* and unreserved seat of Aligarh constituency to the Bhartiya Kranti Dal candidate.

The table below gives some relevant details of the elections to the Lok Sabha held in the district from 1957 to 1971 :

* Indian National Congress presided over by Sri Jagjivan Ram, later rechristened as Congress (R).

Party/ Independents	1967				1962				1967				1971			
	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled		Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled		Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled		Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	69,964	1	—	41,214	1	—	58,793	1	—	60,349				
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2,08,346				
Forward Block	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5,465				
Indian National Congress or	2	2	3,87,893	2	—	1,20,662	2	1	1,38,881	—	—	—				
Indian National Congress (R)*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2,46,499				
Praja Socialist Party	1	—	57,906	—	—	—	1	—	10,691	—	—	—				
Ram Rajya Parishad	—	—	—	1	—	7,365	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Republican Party of India	—	—	—	2	2	1,59,734	1	—	40,752	—	—	—				
Samyukta Socialist Party	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	25,035	1	—	23,637				
Swatantra Party	—	—	—	1	—	19,493	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Independents	3	—	3,66,723	3	—	1,35,598	7	1	2,74,319	5	—	23,469				
Total	7	2	8,82,486	10	2	4,84,066	13	2	5,48,471	12	2	5,67,76				

*R—Ruling

In the sixth general elections of 1977 to the Lok Sabha, the district retained the two seats as before, namely Hathras and Aligarh, the former being reserved constituency. Out of the electorate of 12,68,829, the total number of votes polled was 8,03,622 in which 7,90,245 were valid votes and 13,377 were invalid.

The following statement shows the number of contestants, seats won and number of valid votes polled in the Lok Sabha elections of 1977 :

Name of Party/Independents	Number of contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
Indian National Congress	2	—	1,83,035
Janata Party	2	2	5,81,718
Independents	4	—	25,492
TOTAL	8	2	7,90,245

Political Parties and Organisations

The various political parties in the district generally function as units of the national political organisations, none being of purely local character. The numerical strength of the membership of these parties varies from time to time. Till the general elections held in 1967, the main political parties in the district were the Indian National Congress, the Bhartiya Jan Sangh and the Praja Socialists. The position underwent a change in 1969 with the split of the Congress into two rival Congress groups popularly known as Indian National Congress (Ruling) and Indian National Congress (Organisation). In the general elections of 1977, a new political party was formed known as the Janata Party. The constituents of Janata Party were the Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Bhartiya Lok Dal, the Socialist Party, the Congress (Organisation) and the Congress for Democracy.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Local Publications

The publication of newspapers and periodicals was started in the district in the first quarter of 19th century with the appearance of *Sunisar*. In 1846, *Krishna Khand* was translated. After 1850, Aligarh had become a literary centre of some repute owing to the influence of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and the Mohammadan Anglo-oriental College; but the publication was generally limited to pamphlets and magazine articles. In 1864 Sir Syed Ahmad Khan established the Aligarh Institute and Scientific Society, having a library and a press which undertook the translation of standard European works on science and history, as well as the publication of a journal called the *Aligarh Institute Gazette*. The journal was afterwards resuscitated by Nawab Mahdi Ali Khan, Mohsin-ul-Mulk and was published by the college in the form of an Urdu weekly. The college authorities also published the

Aligarh Monthly. Several newspapers and magazines were published at Aligarh by the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Some of them were the *Khaqun*, which dealt with general literature and the promotion of female education, the *Al Islam*, an Urdu weekly of mainly religious character and the *Rafiq-ul Atfal*, a fortnightly magazine for children. Mention may also be made of the *Alamgir*, an Urdu monthly, which was started in 1905 and was chiefly an advertising medium and the *Urdu-i-Mualla*, a monthly publication which was political, social and educational. The number has since then swelled considerably and in 1972 following newspapers and periodicals were published from the district :

Name of newspapers/magazines	Periodicity	Year of commencement	Number of copies in circulation
1	2	3	4
HINDI :			
Aligarh Gazette	Daily	1970	N. A.
Bhala	"	1968	N. A.*
Guru Dev	"	1958	5,000
Hathras Times	"	1962	N. A.
Janta Yug	"	1971	1,346
Lok Times	"	1964	N. A.
Nagrik	"	1947	2,000
Pravada	"	1963	5,575
Prakash	"	1952	N. A.
Sach	"	1968	N. A.
Shrotri	"	1967	250
Aaj Ka Bhim	Weekly	1966	N. A.
Aaj Ka Haldhar	"	1969	1,400
Aasman Ki Khabren	"	1970	1,000
Aligarh Mail	"	1967	N. A.
Aligarh Morcha	"	1971	2,000
Amar Khoon	"	1971	N. A.
Amar Saput	"	1970	1,000
Bal Pushpawali	"	1971	N. A.
Bhisham Pratigya	"	1971	718
Braji Samachar	"	1965	1,000
Braji Vihar	"	1971	325
Chal Chitra Awal	"	1971	844
Daro Mat	"	1970	N. A.
Diggaj	Weekly	1970	N. A.
Dudhara	"	1964	500
Duniya Ki Awaj	"	1971	N. A.
Hathras Vyapar Samachar	"	1970	N. A.
Kal Dhvani	"	1969	1,800
Kalyug	"	1956	N. A.
Kiranti Chetna	"	1971	N. A.

* Not available.

[Contd.]

1	2	3	4
Kranti Path	Weekly	1965	1,580
Lalsa	"	1968	N. A.
Maula	"	1968	425
Nidar	"	1971	N. A.
Nirdwand Kranti	"	1971	N. A.
Panchavai Rai	"	1949	N. A.
Parda Fash	"	1964	1,500
Raidath	"	1966	N. A.
Rashtra Purush	"	1966	N. A.
Samajik Ksanti	"	1969	N. A.
Stya Mev	"	1971	500
Sudharak	"	1926	2,000
Tej Doot	"	1964	1,650
Unch Nich	"	1970	N. A.
Veer Shahid	"	1967	N. A.
Vishwa Pukar	"	1971	900
Juganu	Fortnightly	1971	1,000
Agarwal Sandesh	Monthly	1961	50
Aligarh Ke Shishu	"	1965	N. A.
Barahseni	"	1919	1,300
Chikitsa Rahasya	Monthly	1970	600
Churk Chikitsa	"	1971	N. A.
Dhanwantari	"	1924	16,983
Dughat Utpadan	"	1971	668
Film Sangeet	"	1959	1,100
Mahesh Vihar Darshan	"	1971	1,000
Manushya Bano	"	1935	200
Mathurwa Agrawal Patrika	"	1964	N. A.
Moolak Sadash	"	1967	500
Sangeet	"	1935	2,230
Sarafa Samachar	"	1971	1,430
Shikshak Bandhu	"	1935	2,000
Tarun Manjusha	"	1970	500
Vidyarthi Samachar	"	1958	N. A.
Vishudhi Shanti Marg	"	1970	500
Dropadi	Quartely	1971	400
Pushpadh Randhu	"	1957	N. A.
URDU :			
Aligarh Times	Weekly	1971	N. A.
Hamari Zaban	"	1941	1,000
Jaras	"	1967	N. A.
Pardafash	"	1969	N. A.
Syasaat Hind	"	1971	1,000

[Contd.]

1	2	3	4
<i>Sangriezey</i>	Fortnightly	1970	464
<i>Shahr-e-Iumana</i>	"	1968	1,900
<i>Farang</i>	Monthly	1970	250
<i>Himaga:</i>	"	1971	1,200
<i>Hippy Panch</i>	"	1971	250
<i>Momma Board</i>	"	1971	N. A.
<i>Noor Hidayat</i>	"	1965	N. A.
<i>Urdu Adab</i>	Quarterly	1950	310
ENGLISH :			
<i>Datriot</i>	Weekly	1970	500
<i>Bold</i>	Fortnightly	1971	N. A.
<i>Hindukush</i>	"	1970	N. A.
<i>Indian Communist</i>	Quarterly	1968	46
<i>Islamic Thought</i>	"	1954	500
<i>Service Matters</i>	"	1970	N. A.
<i>Skylark</i>	"	1970	287
BILINGUAL :			
<i>Hathras Vyapar Samachar</i>	Weekly	1970	1,000
<i>International Neer</i>	"	1970	1,000
<i>Sanyukta Morcha</i>	"	1956	2,000
<i>Shabab</i>	"	1939	330
<i>Muslim University Gazette</i>	Fortnightly	1961	N. A.
<i>Sri Mohita Ayurved Patrika</i>	Monthly	1965	N. A.
MULTILINGUAL :			
<i>Sri Akhil Gautam Brahman Sandesh</i>	"	1966	N. A.

Other Periodicals

The popular dailies, weeklies and monthlies which are published outside the district and have circulation in the district are listed below :

Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly
HINDI :			
<i>Hindustan</i>	<i>Dharmyug</i>	<i>Sarita</i>	<i>Maya</i>
<i>Tarun Bharat</i>	<i>Saprahik</i>	<i>Mukta</i>	<i>Manohar</i>
	<i>Hindustan</i>		<i>Kahaniyan</i>
<i>Navisavan</i>			
<i>Nav Bharat Times</i>		<i>Madhuri</i>	<i>Chandamama</i>
			<i>Niharika</i>
<i>Swatantra Bharat</i>			<i>Kadambini</i>
			<i>Parag</i>
<i>Aaj</i>			<i>Lot Pot</i>
ENGLISH :			
<i>The Statesman</i>	<i>Blitz</i>	<i>Filmfare</i>	<i>Imprint</i>
<i>The times of India</i>	<i>The Illustrated</i>	<i>Star and</i>	<i>Life</i>
	<i>Weekly of India</i>	<i>Style</i>	
<i>The Hindustan Times</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>Caravan</i>	<i>Mirror</i>
			<i>Reader's</i>
<i>Indian Express</i>	<i>Screen</i>	<i>Women's</i>	<i>Digest</i>
		<i>Era</i>	
<i>Northern India Patrika</i>	<i>Pastime</i>		<i>Picture</i>
<i>The Pioneer</i>			<i>Post</i>
<i>National Herald</i>			
URDU :			
<i>Milap</i>		<i>Biswin Sadi</i>	
<i>Qaumi Awaz</i>		<i>Shama</i>	

Voluntary Social Service Organisations

The humanitarian urge among the people to organise voluntary associations or to participate in them to serve some social purpose is noticeable everywhere since the dawn of civilisation. With the advent of the British rule and the western system of education in the country, missionary institutions were set up, which gave rise to numerous parallel religious, cultural and social organisation, besides the establishment of hospitals, and educational institutions both technical and general. After independence the government has taken active interest in the organisation and proper functioning of the voluntary cultural and social service organisations.

Though voluntary organisations are free to undertake any welfare scheme, the government ensures that their activities are in harmony with the objectives and policies of the State. This is ensured through providing financial assistance to these organisations and periodical checks and reviews of their performance and working.

There are a number of such social service organisations engaged in the welfare of children, women, youth, destitutes, the handicapped and the Harijans in the district. A brief account of some of the more important ones is given below :

The Kanya Gurukul Mahavidyalaya which was established at Hathras in 1931 and registered in 1939, aims at educating the girls with a background of vedic religion and ancient Indian culture. It also attempts to make them physically, mentally and spiritually sound so that they may lead a simple and austere way of life. The subjects taught here include Sanskrit, home science, embroidery, knitting, etc. It also organises classes for adult education. Students from Thailand and some of the African countries have also received education here. The institution is managed by a committee consisting of 20 members. Its annual income and expenditure approximate Rs 17,000. The source of income is mainly public subscriptions and grants by the education and social welfare departments of the State. The Mahavidyalaya is housed in its own building. It has a library, a reading room, a hostel and also a cattle shed where 35 cows are housed.

The Mahila Samaj, Sikandra Rao, Aligarh was founded on August 1, 1958. Its main aim is to inculcate a sense of self-dependence among the women. Its headquarters are at Sikandra Rao. It is managed by a committee of 14 members. Its budget in 1960-61 was Rs 4,929, the source of income being donations, grants and public subscriptions. It imparts training to women in tailoring and music. The women between the age group of 25-45 are provided adult education and are prepared for the VIII class examination.

Sri Kamal Kumar Jain Prasutika Grah (maternity home), Kamlapur, Aligarh, is located on the Agra-Hathras Road. It was inaugurated in 1957. Its branches are spread at Uparkot, Manik Chowk and Nagla. Its annual income and expenditure approximate Rs 41,000. The sources of income are

the medical fee, public donations, besides grants from the local municipal board, Zila Parishad and the family welfare department of the Central Government. The maternity home provides assistance and care to the expectant mothers.

The Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh, was established in 1928. Its branches are spread in Muzaffarnagar, Moradabad, Mathura, Rampur, Dhampur (in district Bijnor), Etah, Orai, Jhansi, Budaun, Mahoba (in the district Hamirpur) and Bulandshahr. The hospital provides treatment of the eye diseases. Its budget in 1960-61 was Rs 5,00,000, the source of income being grants by the State and the Central Governments and the Social Welfare Board of the State.

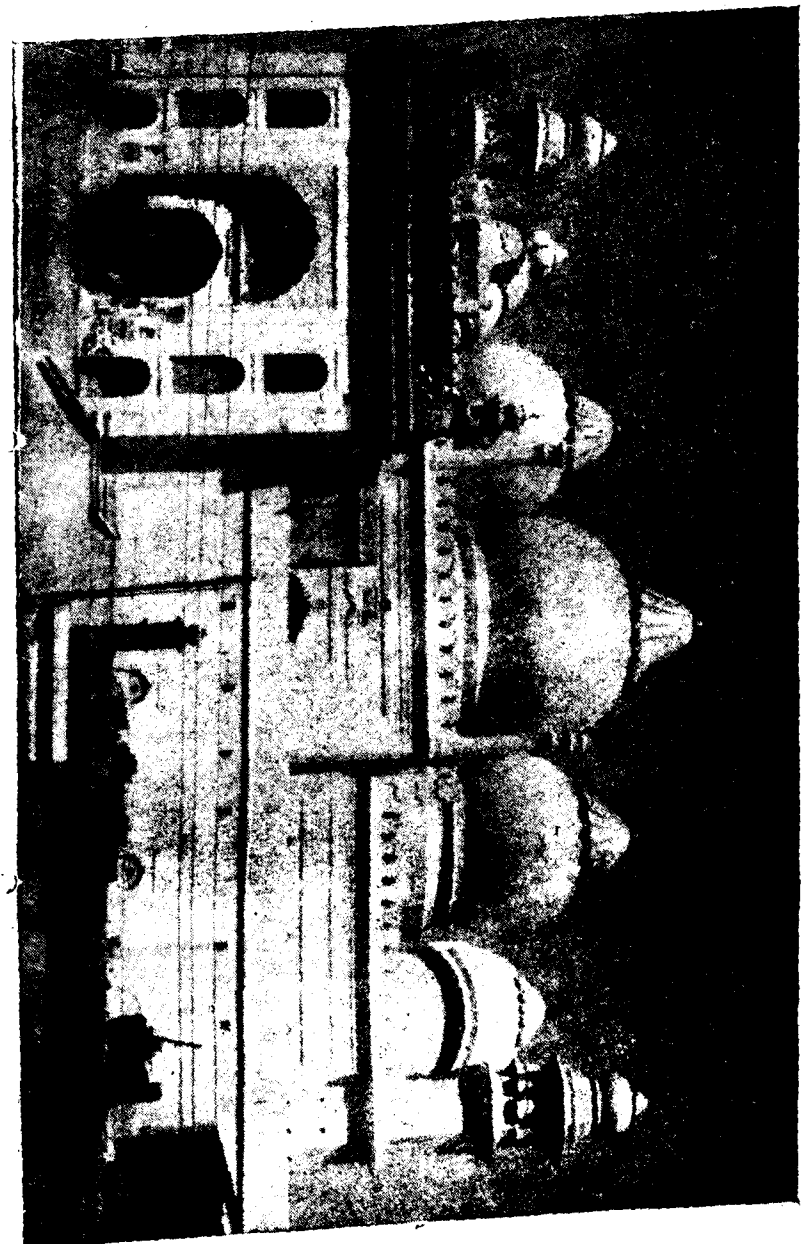
The Uttar Pradesh Backward Classes Federation, which has its headquarters at Lucknow, is running a branch in Aligarh. It organises seminars to discuss the problems of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes and their uplift. It also provides educational facilities to the students of these communities.

The Manav Sewak Samaj with headquarters at Allahabad is running a branch in Aligarh. It is an institution for community welfare. It imparts training to young persons in swimming, life saving and scouting. It also renders help to the people during fairs (*melas*) and at the time of natural calamities like floods fires, etc.

A branch of the Uttar Pradesh Bal Kalyan Samiti, Lucknow, functions in the district. It looks after the welfare of children by encouraging primary education, publishing literature for children and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders.

Samaj Seva Kendra, Mahila College Muslim University, Aligarh, was established in 1955. It imparts training to needy women in tailoring and embroidery and makes them self reliant. It also imparts pre-primary education to the children of college workers.

Jami Masjid, Aligarh



CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST*

Aligarh (pargana and tahsil Koil)

Being the headquarters of the district of the same name, Aligarh stands in Lat. 27° 53' N. and Long. 78° 4' E. and derives its name from an old fortress situated some distance to the north. It also denotes the old city of Koil, and the name Koil is still generally used. The Grand Trunk road skirts the eastern part of the city separating it from the civil station. Through the former runs the metalled road from Agra. Metalled roads head north-wards to Anupshahr, north-eastward to Atrauli, south-eastwards to Sikandra Rao, southwards to Hathras, south-westwards to Iglas and westwards to Khair. Besides roads, Northern and North-Eastern railways also serve the transport needs of the place. The main line of Northern railway connects Aligarh with Delhi on the west and Howrah via Kanpur, Allahabad, etc., on the east. The other line leads to Bareilly. The town has a population of 2,52,314 and an area of 34.45 sq. km.

The town is of considerable antiquity. It gradually grew up round the old Dor stronghold, still known as the Balai Qila meaning lofty fort. Of the fort itself nothing now remains, and the site is occupied by Sabit Khan's great mosque called the Jami Masjid. The building possesses little architectural merit and is constructed of block *kankar*, with a little red sandstone, the domes being of brick. Near this mosque there is another mosque called the Moti Masjid. This too is attributed to Sabit Khan, as also is the adjacent tank. The ruined Koil Minar, which stood on the highest ground of the Balai Qila was the oldest building in the town. Antiquities in Koil are scarce. About half a km. to the west of Jami Masjid and to the south of the Khair road is a curious group of tombs. Many of these bear Arabic inscriptions, and some are undoubtedly very old. One is known as that of Shah Jamal Shams-ul-Arfin and is held in great veneration. He is said to have been a darvesh who took up his abode in the town before its capture by the Musalmans. Another Shah Jamal was a chief in the Muslim army and is buried near the railway station. On his *dargah* a large gathering is held in June to commemorate his death. Near the old race course is the tomb of Pir Bahadur, who is said to have been killed in the capture of Koil. The most striking tomb is that of Gesu Khan, an open pillared *chhatra* of Hindu style. It was built in 1563, as is recorded in an inscription on the adjoining Idgah, and the occupant is believed to have been the governor of Koil. Close to the Moti Masjid is the tomb of Ilah Bakhsh, a Faqir. The story goes that this mausoleum, built in 1717 by Sabit Khan. On being warned by Ilah Bakhsh that he would never lie in it, he replied that either himself or the Faqir should be buried in it whoever died first. The Nawab (Sabit Khan) himself is buried in his own garden. There are nearly a hundred mosques and *imambaras* in the

*Figure of population and area pertain to 1971

town, but few are of any antiquity or interest. Old Hindu buildings are also rare. The most conspicuous is the temple of Achaleswar to the south of the city, on the edge of the Achal tank, a reservoir of considerable size. It was at first an unpretentious building, but was greatly enlarged and enriched by the Jats.

In the beginning the town was not imposing and developed, however, since the dawn of the 20th century, however, the place has grown into a flourishing town. The open space round the Jami Masjid is flanked by good shops. The city Kotwali is situated at this place. From here wide roads radiate to the north-east and the railway station, on the west to Kanwariganj and the Khair road, and to the south, connecting with a road that winds round the western outskirts. The business quarter of the town lies to the east, and is traversed from north to south by a broad street, which forms the principal market. This is crossed by the station road from the Jami Masjid and a branch leads eastwards past the Achal tank, to the Grand Trunk road, serving as the main line of communication for the eastern part of the town. The northern part of the principal market is known as Miaganj and connected with it is the Perronganj market. In the days of the Maratha supremacy the city extended only as far as the large masonry building on the edge of Perronganj, as this quarter is still known as the Aligarh Darwaza. Under the British rule the city spread northwards and was much improved. The market and quarters were constructed to commemorate the names of the British administration, such as Russellganj and Kinlochganj. In the northern extension of the town, towards the railway station, are Faizganj, the municipal hall, the mission church and the Bramby hospital. Of particular importance is the clock tower in the middle of a small park maintained by the municipality. It is known as the Harrison clock tower named after J. H. Harrison, Collector of Aligarh about 1890. It is a five-storyed, quadrangular structure in stone and brick, each story having a vaulted roof supported on open arches with inlaid and cut stone work. At each corner is a graceful turret and pinnacle, while the central spire is crowned by a steel weather cock. Another handsome building is the Crosthwaite Hall, situated to the north of the Harrison clock tower. It was built in 1898, the foundation stone being laid down by Sir Charles Crosthwaite in 1894. There is a large central hall with a gallery, approached by spiral staircases in the turrets flanking the porch, and three rooms. To the south-east of the hall is a mission church. To the west of the parade ground are the district courts and the police lines, while on the north are the extensive building of the Aligarh Muslim University which began as a small institution in 1875 known as Muslim Anglo-Oriental College.

The celebrated fort of Aligarh, presumably built by one Muhammad Khan, governor of Koil under the Lodis in 1524, stands some 3 km. to the north of the town and is approached by a short metalled road branching off from the road leading to Barauli. It was rebuilt in 1717 by Sabit Khan, and its name was changed to Sabitgarh, while in 1757 it was taken by the Jats and was named Ramgarh. Further additions were made by

Achal Tank, Aligarh





Harrison Clock Tower, Aligarh

Afrasyat Khan, in whose days the fort received its present appellation. It was then considered a place of great strength. The Marathas were compelled in 1785 to resort to stratagem for its reduction. Under De Boigue and Perron the fort was vastly improved by the agency of French engineers and when stormed by Lord Lake in 1803, it appears to have been a polygon of ten sides, with a bastion at each angle. All round ran a broad and deep ditch, crossed at the entrance by a narrow causeway, which was defended by a traverse. Immediately after its occupation by the British the ditch was completed and the causeway replaced by a draw-bridge, and subsequently the outline was remodelled, the number of bastions being reduced to eight, while a second gateway was added on the north. Many other changes were made in the fort to suit the needs of the new occupiers. For a short while, during the struggle of 1857, the fort was occupied by the freedom fighters. It was recovered and the damages repaired in 1858. After sometime, it appears to have lost its utility as a military outpost and was abandoned. In 1843 Lord Ellenborough conceived the idea of transforming it into a central jail, and the scheme sanctioned, though it was never carried out.

Besides the rich historical background, Aligarh is gradually growing into commercial importance, having a large trade in cotton, grain, sugar, ghee and other commodities. Indigo has long disappeared but cotton ginning and pressing business has attained large dimensions. Of considerable importance is the lock industry of Aligarh for which it is famous throughout India. A large number of lock factories are to be found in the city. Weaving is also a thriving trade and the cotton *daris* and rugs of Aligarh, as well as various coloured fabrics, have a well deserved reputation.

Of special significance is the Aligarh exhibition which began on a modest scale in 1880 as a horse show. Gradually, however, it assumed importance and at present it is considered as one of the biggest industrial exhibitions of the State and is held every year usually in the month of February. Besides being a display centre of the social, economic and cultural programmes and achievements of the State, it attracts a large number of traders and dealers from all over the country. Small and well decorated shops of handlooms, art and craft and other products are arranged in a beautiful manner. Besides these, modern and scientific agricultural implements are also put on display. For amusement and recreation, wrestling competitions, *mushairas*, *kavi sammelans*, dog show, games, sports and fire works are also arranged. After the exhibition is over, prizes are distributed for decoration, arrangement of shops and other activities.

A number of fairs are also held in the town, of which the Ram Lila fair is an important one. Beautiful *jhankis* are taken out and decorations are made, its prime centre being the Ram Lila Bhawan, a building of exquisite beauty. Thousands of people from far and near visit this fair.

After the conquest of Aligarh the civic affairs of the city were placed in charge of an official committee. In 1865, however, it was made a municipality and since then it is working as such.

The faised site of the old town of Koil has a good natural drainage; but the low ground in the neighbourhood has proved a source of much trouble, as the surface water is apt to accumulate in stagnant and unwholesome pools without proper outlet. Even the construction of the Aligarh drainage system has not very much improved the situation.

The town is well provided with medical facilities having a number of male and female hospitals, the prestigious Gandhi Eye Hospital, the Tibbiya College and Medical College of the Aligarh Muslim University for specialised medical treatment and higher studies in medicine and surgery. The town is also amply provided with educational facilities. Besides the famous Aligarh Muslim University and a few degree colleges, there are 20 higher secondary schools and over a hundred junior Basic schools and a polytechnic in the city. For banking facilities the town possesses branches of almost all the scheduled and commercial banks.

Besides the amenities of electricity and a regular water supply, the city has five dak bungalows maintained by the public works department, the municipal board, State Electricity Board, canal department and the university. It also has six dharmshalas to provide lodging facilities to the visitors. The city has a general post-office and a number of small sub-post-offices, there are 7 big hotels and 11 cinema houses in the town.

Atrauli (pargana and tahsil Atrauli)

Being the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, Atrauli stands in Lat. 28.2'N. and Long. 78.17'E., on the south side of the road from Aligarh to Ramghat and Moradabad at a distance of about 25 km. north-east from the district headquarters. From Atrauli a metalled road lead in a north-westerly direction for some 8 km. to the railway station known as Atrauli road in the village of Raipur, thence continuing to Pindrawal in the Bulandshahr district. Other roads lead to Sankara and to Dadon on the east, to Gangiri and Kasganj on the south-east and to Barla and Datauli on the south. The place has a population of 20,980 and an area of 1.37 square km.

The town is said to derive its name from its founder Uttar Kunwar an unknown chieftain of the 12th century. It is mentioned as one of the halting places of Mubarak Shah in 1426, when he was engaged in fighting with Sultan of Jaunpur. In Akbar's days it gave its name to a pargana, then held by Bargujars, whose descendants became Musalmans and were long notorious for their turbulent disposition. Under the Marathas the town was the headquarters of an *amil*, who resided in the old fort built on the raised central site. There are remains of another fort close to the town on the south-west. During the struggle of 1857, the local Bargujars caused great trouble and remained in occupation of the town till September,

1857. In the same month, however, the British government appointed one Muhammad Ali as joint magistrate to appease the freedom fighters. The Bargujars refused to acknowledge his authority and on the 25th of September they rose and murdered Muhammad Ali at the gate of the tahsil. As a consequence of this several freedom fighters were hanged later on.

Since Independence the town has been steadily developing and is now a thriving town with considerable trade. From the central market place two streets lined with shops branch out in easterly direction, subsequently rejoining the south of the town. The Bara Bazar is a busy thoroughfare, and is the scene of a thriving trade in cotton, iron, brass vessels and grain. The town has the police-station, a post and telegraph office and a town hall in which the municipal board has its office and holds its meetings. Atrauli also possesses a female hospital, a primary health centre, 2 higher secondary schools, 2 junior Basic schools and 2 private schools one each of Persian and Arabic. For providing banking facilities, it possesses a branch of the State Bank of India.

The town was brought under the operations of Act XX of 1856 in 1861, but in 1865 it was constituted a municipality, and since then it is being administered as a municipality. Atrauli is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Chharra (pargana Gangiri, tahsil Atrauli)

The town of Chharra stands in Lat. 27°55'N. and Long. 78°24'E., on the metalled road from Nanau to Dadon, at a distance of some 18 km. south-east from Atrauli and about 36 km. from Aligarh. Branch roads lead from Chharra to Atrauli and to Gangiri. The place has a population of 5,507 and an area of 5,856 hectares.

Though of no great size, Chharra is a place of considerable importance, having a large trade in grain and sugar. The main site is built on the roadside, but a short distance to the north-west stands the old fort, the decadent remains of which still exist. The place contains a post and telegraph office, a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school, 2 hospitals and a family welfare centre. The town has a regular water supply and is electrified. For banking facilities it has a branch of the Central Bank of India.

Chharra is a town area and is being administered as such since 1861. It is also the headquarters of a development block.

Harduaganj (pargana and tahsil Koil)

The town of Harduaganj stands in Lat. 27°56'N. and Long. 78°9'E., on the borders of the Koil and Morthal parganas, on the south side of the metalled road from Aligarh to Atrauli, about 11 km. north-west from the district headquarters. A metalled road leads northwards from the west of the town to the Harduaganj station, situated in the village of Rampur

about 6 km. away. Another road goes southward to join the Grand Trunk road at Rohna. About 1.5 km. to the east flows the Ganga canal, crossed by a bridge at Barotha on the Atrauli road. The town has a population of 4,751 and an area of 1,231 hectares.

The *ganj* or the existing town is about a km. to north of Hardua, an ancient village, whose foundation is ascribed to Hardewa or Balarama, the brother of Krishna and the tank there is said to have been excavated by Chiman, the leader of the Ahir followers of the founder. After the capture of Delhi by the Turks, the village and the neighbourhood were occupied by Chauhans, but Harduaganj does not appear to have come into existence till the days of Sabit Khan, to whose patronage the creation of the bazar may be attributed.

The place appears to be commercially significant as it is an important trading centre in cotton and grains. The main market is a good open street lined with brick built shops, widening out into a large circular space. The site here is raised, but elsewhere the level is low, especially on the west, and during the rains the outlying portions tend to be flooded, the surface water draining southward, into a large depression.

Harduaganj has a police-station a post and telegraph office, a senior Basic school, a junior Basic school, a dispensary and a health centre.

It is electrified and at present administered as a town area. However, between 1865 and 1882 it functioned as a municipality.

Hasayan (pargana and tahsil Sikandra Rao)

The small town of Hasayan, frequently but incorrectly called Husain, in former days gave its name to a *taluka*, which was sometimes treated as a separate pargana. It stands in Lat. $27^{\circ}36'N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ}10'E.$ Of its early history nothing is known, but about 1760, when Raja Ratan Singh, the head of the Porach Rajputs, was expelled from Hathras by the Jats, he retired to Farrukhabad. Subsequently he won the favour of Nawal Singh of Bharatpur, who gave him in 1770 certain villages in *jagir* and the revenue engagement for the Hasayan *taluka*. The latter had come into existence some years previously and at first represented the farm of a number of villages drawn from pargana Jalesar. Ratan Singh died in 1787 and was succeeded by his son, Mitra Sen, who was deprived by the Marathas of the *taluka*, which was given first to an Afghan named Kotal Khan, then to Bapuji Sindhia, and subsequently to the French commanders, De Boigue and Perron, as part of their *jagir*. When the country came into the hands of the British, the engagement was given to Mitra Sen in addition to three villages in revenue free tenure. He was succeeded by his son, Jaswant Singh and after him came Narayan Singh who in 1836 held the three revenue-free villages and forty others on a conditional and temporary lease without prejudice to the rightful owners. Soon afterwards Narayan Singh mortgaged his right to Pirthi Singh of Awa, and on former's death in 1846 he was succeeded by his two widows. In course of time, however, the entire estate passed into the hands of the Raja of Awa.

Hasayan has a population of 2,863 and an area of 412 hectares. Being administered as a town area, the town stands on the south side of a large depression, at a distance of 13 km. south-west from Sikandra Rao, with which it is connected by a metalled road, 35 km. from Aligarh and about 7 km. from the metalled road from Kasganj to Mathura. The town possesses a police station, a post and telegraph office, a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school, a dispensary, a health centre and maternity and child welfare centre. The town is also electrified and has a small market place. The market is held twice a week.

Hathras (pargana and tahsil Hathras)

Hathras, the headquarters town of the pargana and the tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. $27^{\circ}35'N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ}3'E.$, on the State highway from Aligarh to Agra, at a distance of about 35 km. south from the former. This road is crossed in the north of the town by a similar road from Mathura to Sikandra Rao and Kasganj, parallel to which runs the metre-gauge line of the Mathura—Kasganj railway. Other roads lead from Hathras to Iglas and Khair on the north-west and to Jalesar on the south-east. Hathras is an important railway junction where the Mathura-Kasganj lines of North-Eastern Railway and Delhi-Mughalsarai lines of Northern Railway meet, connecting it with many important cities of northern India.

The town, though very ancient, first attained importance with the rise of Jat supremacy in the district. In 1752 Baran Singh, one of the Jats of Jewar obtained Hathras in grant from the Nawab vizier of Avadh. It was a place of considerable size in 1817, when Daya Ram was ejected by British forces and his great fortress was taken by siege. The remains of the fort are still to be seen to the east of the town, which consists of a broken mound of earth-work and four-corner bastion of great size, surrounded by a ditch. Inside the fort there are the ruins of an old temple. About 10 km. south-east of Hathras, there is a very ancient place called Lakhnu where a large number of ancient Buddhist sculptures and other remains have been found in a mound.

Hathras, which is the second largest town of the district. The place has a population of 74,349 and an area of 8.34 sq. km. It is a growing and prosperous city. The rise of the town began since the introduction of railways in this part which, combined with the advantageous position of the place at the junction of two main roads, has brought it into the foremost rank as a commercial and industrial centre. Bijli cotton Mills and R. G. Paper and Straw Board Mills are the two main factories of the town. The important trades of the town are the manufacturing of textile goods, ready-made garments, agricultural implements, electrical goods, paints, candles, locks and Ayurvedic medicines. The other important commodities manufactured here are *niwar*, knives and brass wares. Ghee, oils, pulses and khandsari are other commodities of export of the town.

For purposes of civic administration Hathras is a municipal area and is divided into 17 wards. The place is electrified and contains a police-

station, a post and telegraph office, 2 inspection houses and 15 dharmshalas. The city is also provided with ample medical and educational facilities. There are 29 junior, 7 senior Basic and 9 higher secondary schools, 2 degree colleges, one polytechnic institution and two Sanskrit *pathshalas*. In the town there is a temple of Dauji (Baldeo), near which a fair is held in the month of Bhadrapada which attracts about 20,000 persons. Another fair is held here on the occasion of Dasahra which is attended by about 20,000 persons. The place is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Iglas (pargana Gorai, tahsil Iglas)

Iglas, the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. 27°43'N. and Long. 77°56'E., on the Aligarh—Mathura road at a distance of 26 km. south-west from Aligarh. It is also connected with Khair, Sasni and Hathras by roads.

The place is an old Jat settlement, but in the days of Marathas the taluqa of Iglas, comprising eleven villages, came into the hands of Gangadhar Pandit, to whom it was assigned for charitable and religious purposes. This grant was confirmed by the British government, but was resumed at his death in 1816, when one-fourth of the income was appropriated for his heirs and the rest devoted to charitable and public purposes, the beneficiary being the Agra College. During the struggle of 1857, the Jats of the neighbouring villages attempted to seize Iglas, but it was successfully defended by British troops.

Iglas, which was formerly administered as a town under the Bengal Chaukidari Act of 1856, is now only a large agricultural village. It has a population of 2,928 and an area of 284.5 hectares and has a hospital, a family planning centre, a bank, a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school and 2 higher secondary schools. Markets are held here twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays. A fair is held here on the occasion of Dasahra which is attended by about 20,000 persons. It is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Jalali (pargana and tahsil Koil)

Jalali stands in Lat. 27°52'N. and Long. 78°15'E., about 21 km. east from Aligarh, and is approached by a small metalled branch from the road connecting Aligarh to Kasganj. The site is well raised and presents a somewhat remarkable appearance owing to a number of mosques and imambaras interspersed among the houses. It has a population of 10,686 and an area of 1,766 hectares.

Formerly Jalali was the name of a separate pargana, but in 1862 it was divided between the Koil, the Gangiri and other parganas. The place is of considerable antiquity and is believed to be one of the oldest inhabited sites in the district. Tradition is that under its former name of Nilauti it was the stronghold of the Dors before the foundation of the Koil itself. It is certain that an old Hindu town once existed here, for to the west of

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the town is a large, bare mound which still awaits exploration. The existing Jalali town was founded by Jalal-ud-din Khalji during the reign of Balban. The date may be determined with some degree of accuracy, since that Jami Masjid bears an inscription with the name of Balban dated in 665 H. or 1267 A.D. This mosque has on several occasions been repaired, for an inscription on the third arch of the south side tells of its restoration by Muhammad Qasim Beg in the days of Akbar, another on the middle arch refers to the similar work undertaken by Sabit Khan in 1625; and a third, near the *mimbar* inside the mosque, is dated 1825 and mentions the work undertaken by Saiyid Ahmad Husain. The founder of the town appears to have settled here a colony of Pathans to keep in check the rebellious Meos, and a garrison seems to have been maintained here for a long time, since Jalali was one of the posts captured and held by the armies of Jaunpur. The descendants of the original Pathan colonists were supplanted in the reign of Shah-Jahan by a family of Saiyids, who had long resided in the town, the founder being one Kamal-ud-din who had settled here in the days of Alauddin Muhammad Khalji and had acquired a footing by his marriage with the Gazi's daughter. The Saiyids are still influential and possess considerable property in the town.

Besides being electrified the town possesses a post-office, a police-station, 2 junior Basic schools and one senior Basic school. Medical facilities are provided through a hospital and a health centre. Markets are held twice a week, on Mondays and Fridays. For banking facilities it has a branch of a commercial bank.

Khair (pargana and tahsil Khair)

Khair, the headquarters town of the pargana and tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. 27°56'N. and Long. 77°51'E., on the right bank of the river Karwan, 24 km. north-west of Aligarh, with which it is connected by road. Other roads radiate from the town to Sonna on the north-east, Iglas and Hathras on the south-east, Tappal on the north-west and Brindaban in Mathura district on the south.

The place was originally the seat of a Chauhan family, which held the whole pargana, but Rao Pirthi Singh was dispossessed by Perron and the estate was given to Dunde Khan, the Rao received a small allowance and a piece of land which lapsed on the death of his son Lachhman Singh, but a small portion was restored to the family on the expulsion of Dunde Khan by the British in 1807. During the struggle of 1857, Rao Bhopal Singh got the opportunity of regaining his ancestral lands, but on the 1st of June 1857 he was ejected and captured by British troops and was hanged. Before the end of the month the Chauhans, aided by the Jats, attacked the town, but they were defeated by the British.

The town which is administered as a town area has a population of 11,705 and an area of 1,554 hectares. It possesses a police-station, a post and telegraph office, 3 banks, a seed store, a hospital, a family planning centre, a maternity and child welfare centre, an inspection house maintained

by the public works department and 4 dharmshalas. There are 5 junior and 3 senior Basic schools and 2 higher secondary schools in the town. Markets are held on Tuesdays. A fair is held on the occasion of Dasahra which attracts about 10,000 persons. It is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Mursan (pargana Mursan, tahsil Hathras)

Mursan, the headquarters town of the pargana of the same name, lies in Lat. $27^{\circ}34'N$. and Long. $27^{\circ}56'E$., on the State highway from Mathura to Hathras, about 11 km. west from the latter and 40 km. south-west from Aligarh. An unmetalled road leads northwards through the town to Iglas and another goes south-eastwards to Sadabad. Mursan is a railway station on the Mathura-Kasganj section of North-Eastern Railway.

The town was originally the stronghold of Jats. A fort now in a ruined condition stands to the south of the town. The fort was dismantled by the British forces after the surrender of Raja Bhagwant Singh in 1817. The place is chiefly noted for the production and export of glass bottles and milk products.

The town has a population of 5,262 and an area of 1.14 sq. km. It is electrified and is being administered as a town area. It has a police-station, a post and telegraph office, a hospital, a health centre, 3 junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school and 2 higher secondary schools. Mursan is the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Sasni (pargana and tahsil Hathras)

The town of Sasni lies in Lat. $27^{\circ}43'N$. and Long. $78^{\circ}5'E$., on the Aligarh-Agra road, at a distance of 23 km. south from Aligarh and 13 km. north from the tahsil headquarters. To the south of the town several branch roads take off, leading to Iglas on the west and to Nanau and Akrahad on the north-east.

Sasni is a place of great antiquity. It contains the ruins of the once celebrated fortress built by Raja Puhup Singh of Mursan, who retired to Sasni after his expulsion by the Jats of Bharatpur in 1757. When in 1802 Sasni and other territories were ceded to the East India Company by the Nawab Vizier of Avadh the fortress was held by Raja Bhagwant Singh. He was forbidden by the Britishers to collect transit dues. An allowance was offered as compensation, but the order was disobeyed by him and in the following year Sasni was finally taken over by the British. A short distance to the east of Sasni is situated a large and conspicuous mound, called Gohan Khera, an old Buddhist establishment. There are also the traces of an ancient temple. Fragments of Buddhist statues were found in great number during the exploration of the mound.

The town has a population of 6,873 and an area of 0.29 sq. km. and is being administered as a town area. It is a flourishing place where glass wares are manufactured and exported to various places. The place

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has a police-station, a post and telegraph office, a bank, 4 junior Basic schools, a senior Basic schools, 2 higher secondary schools, a hospital, a maternity and child welfare centre and an inspection house. It is the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Sikandra Rao (pargana and tahsil Sikandra Rao)

This town, which gives its name to a pargana and tahsil stands in Lat. $27^{\circ}23'N$. and Long. $78^{\circ}23'E$. on the Grand Trunk road, some 27 km. south-east from Aligarh. To the north of the town this road is crossed by that from Kasganj to Mathura, and along the southern side runs the metre gauge line of the North-Eastern railway, the station being connected both with the town and with the Grand Trunk road by short metalled feeders. From the southern extremity a metalled road leads to Purdilnagar. It has a population of 17,253 and an area of 0.65 square km.

The place is said to derive its name from Sultan Sikandar Lodi and was at first called Sikandarpur. Subsequently it was given in *jagir* to an Afghan named Rao Khan, and became known as Sikandra Rao. It has long been a Pathan settlement, and the two main divisions of the town are named Qasba Naukhal and Qasba Afghanan. It would appear to have been the seat of a Musalman governor for a long period. One such official, Shahdil Khan, was the builder of a mosque which dates from the time of Akbar. At the cession in 1802 the Pathans were people of much influence and held large estates which were lost partly through mismanagement, and were finally ruined because of the participation of several Pathans in the struggle of 1857.

The town site is very low and has defective drainage. The northern portion is fairly raised, but to the south and east are extensive depressions, the latter forming the natural source of the Igan river. Two metalled but narrow and winding streets lead into the town from the Grand Trunk road. The northern road gives access to the tahsil, while the southern road forms the principal bazar and enters the business portion of the place. In addition to the tahsil office Sikandra Rao has a police station, a post and telegraph office, a hospital and a maternity and child welfare centre. The town is electrified and has regular water supply system. For providing educational facilities, it has 3 senior Basic schools and 17 junior Basic schools. For banking facilities it has a branch each of the State Bank of India, the Punjab National Bank and the Canara Bank. It also has a public library and a reading room.

The town was brought under the operations of Act XX of 1856 in 1861, and in 1865 it was constituted into a municipality, and since then it is being administered as such. The important products manufactured in the town are iron rods, acids, Ayurvedic medicines, crude glass, etc.

Tappal (pargana Tappal, tahsil Khair)

The headquarters of a pargana of the same name, Tappal lies in Lat. 28°2'N. and Long. 77°35'E., on the high bank of the Yamuna. at a distance of, about 29 km. north-west of Khair and 53 km. north-west of Aligarh and is connected by road with both places. Other roads lead to Chandaus on the east and to Lalpur on the west.

Tappal was in former days a place of some importance. Towards the edge of the high land are the remains of an old fort, said to have been built some eight hundred years ago. There is another fort of more recent construction on the north-eastern outskirts of the town, and this belonged to Begam Somru of Sardhana, the whole pargana forming part of her estate till 1836.

The place has a population of 6,414 and an area of 2,600 hectares. It possesses a post-office, a police-station, a family planning centre, a dispensary, a maternity and child welfare centre, a seed store and a rest house. There are 2 junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school and a higher secondary school in the village. Market is held here on every Sunday. A fair is also held here on the occasion of Dasahra which attracts about 4,000 persons. The place is the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

CONVERSION FACTORS**Money**

- 1 pie = 0.52 naya paise
- 1 pice = 1.56 naya paise

Linear Measure

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

Square Measure

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

Cubic Measure

- 1 cubic foot = 0.28 cubic metre

Measure of Capacity

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

Measure of Weight

- 1 tola = 11.66 grams
- 1 chhatak = 58.32 grams
- 1 seer* = 933.10 grams
- 1 maund* = 37.32 kilograms
- 1 ounce (Avoirdupois) = 28.35 grams
- 1 pound (Avoirdupois) = 453.59 grams
- 1 hundredweight = 50.80 kilograms
- 1 ton = 1016.05 kilograms = 1.016 metric tonnes

Thermometer Scales

- Fahrenheit = $9/5^{\circ}$ Centigrade + 32

* As defined in Indian Standards of Weight Act, 1939

.GLOSSARY

<i>Achakan</i> —Knee-length coat	<i>Khandsari</i> —Indigenous sugar
<i>Atta</i> —Flour	<i>Khutbah</i> —Mohammedan prayer and sermon delivered in the mosque on Friday
<i>Atta Chakki</i> —Small flour mill	<i>Kirtan</i> —Recitation of names and attributes of deities
<i>Ayas</i> —Untrained midwives	<i>Maida</i> —Fine flour
<i>Ban</i> —Twine made of <i>moonj</i>	<i>Mandis</i> —Wholesale markets
<i>Bhajan</i> —Devotional songs	<i>Moonj</i> —Long reed of which ropes are made
<i>Bhakti</i> —Devotion	<i>Munsif</i> —Subordinate Judge
<i>Charpoy</i> —Common Indian bedstead	<i>Natak</i> —Drama
<i>Churidar</i> —Tight-fitting pyjama	<i>Niwar</i> —Cotton tape
<i>Dal</i> —Pulse	<i>Nyaya</i> —Justice
<i>Dari</i> —A type of carpet	<i>Panch</i> —Committee of five persons
<i>Dupatta</i> —Long scarf for head and shoulder	<i>Pankha</i> —Fan
<i>Garara</i> —Very full, long divided skirt	<i>Rab</i> —Raw indigenous sugar
<i>Gaon Sabhas</i> —Village assembly	<i>Sahukars</i> —Bankers
<i>Gur</i> —Unrefined cane sugar (Jaggery)	<i>Sarpanch</i> —Presiding officer
<i>Imambara</i> —Building for performance of Islamic (Shia) ceremonies	<i>Shramdan</i> —Voluntary labour
<i>Jagat Seths</i> —Bankers	<i>Waqf</i> —Endowment (usually religious or charitable)
<i>Kathas</i> —Mythological or religious stories	
<i>Kavi-Sammelan</i> —Symposium of poets (Hindi)	

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