

UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



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DEORIA

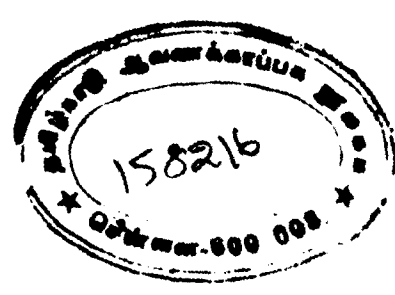
DANGLI PRASAD VARUN
I.A.S.
State Editor

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PREFACE

In presenting this volume, the twenty-ninth in the series of revised District Gazetteers of the State of Uttar Pradesh, I should like to state that it is the first gazetteer of the district of Deoria, which was carved out of the old district of Gorakhpur and formed into a separate administrative unit in 1946.

Earlier accounts relating to the area covered by the present district were E. B. Alexander's *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces, Gorakhpur District*, (Allahabad, 1881), various Settlement reports of the region and H. R. Nevill's *Gorakhpur : A Gazetteer* (Allahabad, 1909) and its supplements which were consulted in writing the new gazetteer as were diverse other reports, documents, source material, etc.

The census data of 1961, in general have been made the basis for statistics of population and other co-related figures. The census data of 1971 have been incorporated in this Gazetteer wherever possible.

I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the State Advisory Board, to Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Indian Gazetteers, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi, and all those officials and non-officials who have helped in one way or another in the preparation, printing and publication of this Gazetteer. It may also be mentioned that a portion of the expenditure incurred on the compilation and printing of the District Gazetteers is being met by the Government of India.

LUCKNOW :
November 29, 1976

D. P. VARUN

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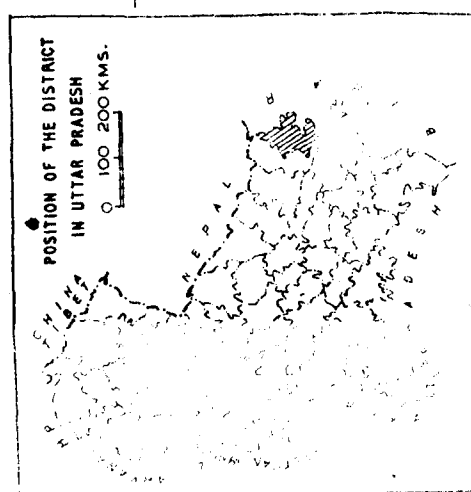
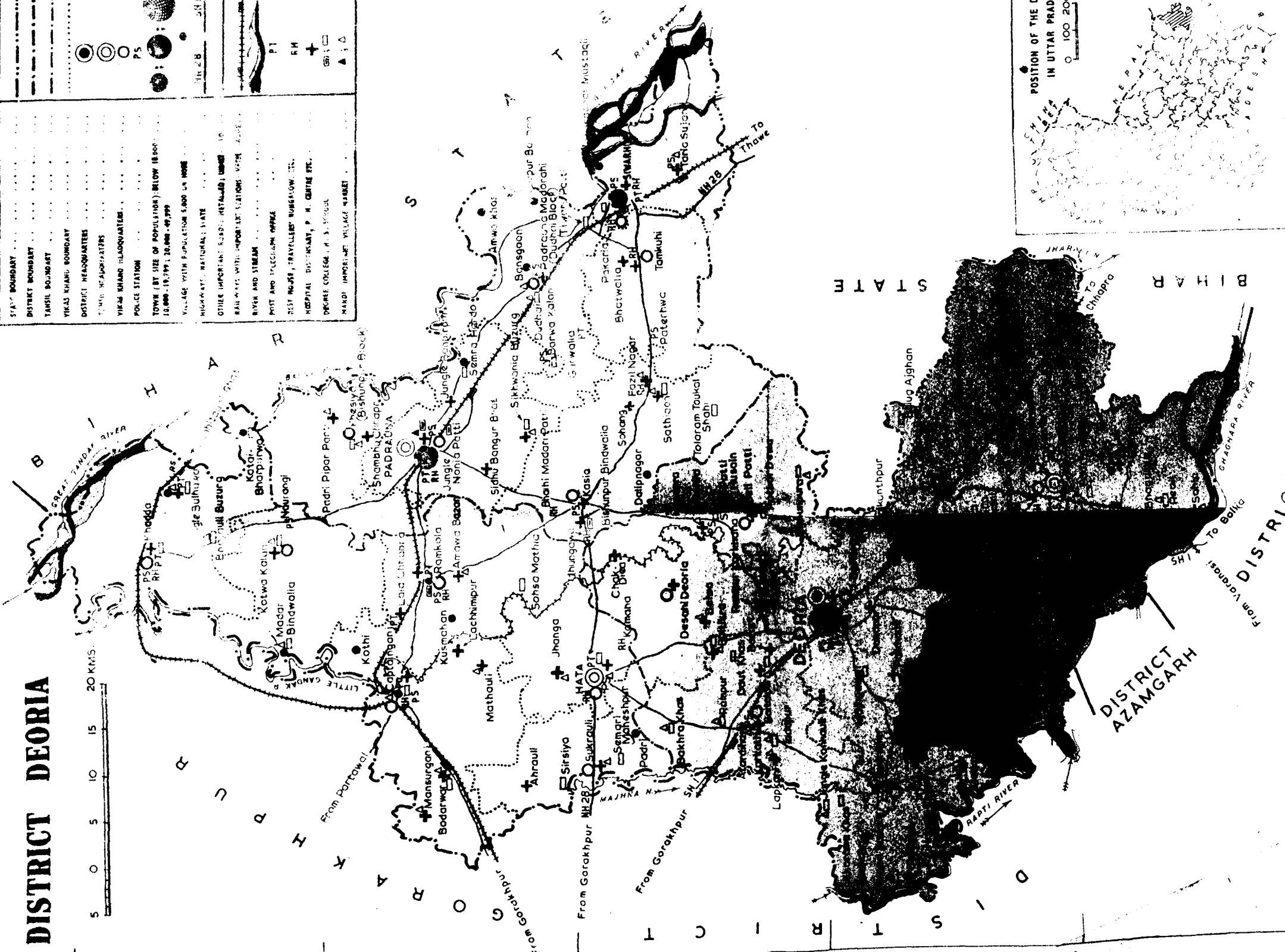
CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Preface</i>	
<i>Advisory Board</i>	
<i>Map of the District</i>	
<i>Chapter</i>	
I General	1
II History	17
III People	44
IV Agriculture and Irrigation	78
V Industries	107
VI Banking, Trade and Commerce	120
VII Communications	131
VIII Miscellaneous Occupations	137
IX Economic Trends	144
X General Administration	159
XI Revenue Administration	163
XII Law and Order and Justice	176
XIII Other Departments	191
XIV Local Self-government	199
XV Education and Culture	225
XVI Medical and Public Health Services	243
XVII Other Social Services	259
XVIII Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations	269
XIX Places of Interest	279
<i>Appendix</i>	
Conversion Factors	299
Glossary	301
Bibliography	303
Index	311
<i>Description of Illustrations</i>	<i>Facing Page</i>
1. Barhaj Ghat on the Ghaghra (Deoria)	5
2. Ruins of Buddhist Monastery, Kushinagar	20
3. Buddha Post-graduate College, Kushinagar	230
4. Buddha Mahaparinirvana Temple, Kushinagar	287
5. Rambhar Stupa, Kushinagar	288
6. Dugdheshwar Nath Temple. Rudrapur	293

DISTRICT DEORIA

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STATE BOUNDARY	PS
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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Origin of Name of District

The district is named after its headquarters town. The name Deoria commonly means a place which contains a temple. The town of Deoria is said to have derived its name from a ruined shrine of Shiva in the north, on a mound near the Karna river.

Location, Boundaries, Area and Population .

Location and Boundaries—The district of Deoria, constituting a district of the Gorakhpur Division, occupies the extreme north eastern corner of Uttar Pradesh. It lies between Lat. 26°6'N. and 27°18'N. and Long. 83°29'E. and 84°26'E., its maximum length from north to south being about 135 km. and the maximum breadth from east to west about 90 km.

The district is bounded on the west by the district of Gorakhpur as is partly the northern apex which is also flanked on the east partly by the Bettiah district of Bihar which, with district Siwan (also of Bihar), forms its boundary on the east, the dividing line being partly artificial and partly provided by the Gandak and Little Gandak rivers. On the south the Ghaghra separates the districts of Azamgarh and Ballia from it.

Area—According to the central statistical organisation, the district had in 1971 an area of 5,400 sq. km. and stood 24th in the State in this respect. During that year the area of land utilised for various purposes in the district (on the basis of land records and census figures) was 5,423.1 sq. km.

Population—According to the census of 1971, the district has a population of 28,12,350 (females 13,76,277) the rural population being 27,29,241 with 13,38,832 females and the urban 83,109 with 37,395 females. The district stood 8th in the State in respect of population.

History of District as Administrative Unit

The area covered by the present district formed part of district Gorakhpur since 1801 but in 1946 the tahsils of Hata, Padrauna,

Deoria and Salempur were separated from district Gorakhpur to form the district of Deoria.

Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas

The district is divided into four subdivisions—Hata, Padrauna, Deoria and Salempur, each comprising a single tahsil of the same name.

Tahsil Hata is bounded on the north by district Gorakhpur, on the north-east by district Betiah, on the east by tahsil Padrauna, on the south by tahsil Deoria and on the west again by district Gorakhpur. According to the census of 1971, it has an area of 1,410.5 sq. km. and a population of 6,60,920 persons and contains 694 inhabited and 26 uninhabited villages. For development purposes it has been divided into seven development blocks.

Tahsil Padrauna, comprising the north-eastern portion of the district, is bounded on the north by tahsil Hata, on the north-east by district Betiah, on the south by district Siwan and on the west by tahsils Hata and Deoria. According to the census of 1971, it has an area of 1,461.0 sq. km. and a population of 7,28,464, the rural population being 7,01,459 and the urban 27,005. It has 861 inhabited and 41 uninhabited villages and the towns of Padrauna and Sewarhi and has been divided into seven development blocks.*

Tahsil Deoria is bounded on the west by district Gorakhpur, on the north by tahsil Hata, on the north-east by tahsil Padrauna, on the east again by tahsil Padrauna and district Siwan and on the south-west by the Rapti which separates it from district Gorakhpur. According to the census of 1971, it has an area of 1,266.8 sq. km. and a population of 7,17,840, the rural population being 6,79,679 and the urban 38,161. There are in the tahsil 915 inhabited and 40 uninhabited villages and the town of Deoria. For development purposes it has been divided into eight development blocks.

Tahsil Salempur, comprising the southern portion of the district, is bounded on the north by tahsil Deoria and district Siwan, the latter forming the eastern and south-eastern boundary also. On the south the Ghaghra separates it from districts Azamgarh and Ballia, the south-western boundary being formed by the Rapti which separates it from district Gorakhpur. On the west lies tahsil Deoria. According to the census of 1971, it has an area of 1,284.4 sq. km. and a population of 7,05,126, the rural population being 6,87,183 and the urban 17,943. The tahsil has been divided into eight development blocks and contains 1,089 inhabited and 141 uninhabited villages and the town of Gaura Barhaj.

Thanas—There are in the district 23 thanas (police-stations) of which four lie in tahsil Deoria, five in tahsil Hata, six in tahsil Padrauna and eight in tahsil Salempur. The areas of the thanas are not necessarily coterminous with those of the tahsils.

TOPOGRAPHY

The district is a level plain with gentle undulations and a general slope from north-west to south-east. The Ghaghra and the Gandak, bordering the district on the south and north-east respectively, along with their tributaries, have played an important role in fashioning the topography of the district. A major part of the district consisting of the alluvium brought down by the Gandak is known as the *bhat*. Higher elevations occur in places where the general flat surface is broken by irregular ranges of sand-hills. The most clearly defined ridge of this nature enters the district from tahsil Mahrajganj (of district Gorakhpur) and runs in a winding course through the southern part of tahsil Hata as far as Deoria, presumably marking the long-abandoned channel of the Gandak as throughout its length it is bordered by a chain of depressions and lakes, while in several places pebbles and boulders have been encountered in sinking wells. Another range of sand-hills of a like nature crosses the road between Padrauna and Kasia and has the distinction of being the highest portion of the district. In contradiction to the high ridges are the low and often broad valleys of the rivers, known generally as the *kachhar* as opposed to the *bangar* or upland.

The district may therefore be divided into three main topographical units, the *bhat*, the *bangar* and the *kachhar*.

Bhat—This tract, consisting of the alluvium brought down by the Gandak, has a unique character, the distinguishing feature being its remarkable whiteness, which is due apparently to the unusual proportion of lime in the soil. The peculiarities of the *bhat* are great and in a large measure determine the special characteristics of the topography and the agriculture in this tract and do not occur elsewhere in the State. The soil is extremely retentive of moisture. The friable nature of the *bhat* renders the construction of unprotected wells extremely difficult if not impossible. The tract comprises the entire tahsil of Padrauna, the northern and eastern parts of tahsil Hata, the eastern part of tahsil Deoria and the north-eastern part of tahsil Salempur and covers practically the whole *doab* as far as a point a little south of Kasia between the Gandak and Little Gandak, probably extending continuously across an intervening tongue of the Betiah district of Bihar. The Little Gandak and Khanua (further west) are flanked for a greater or lesser distance by this *bhat* soil on

both banks and throughout their length, as far as the junction of the Little Gandak and the Ghaghra. As a whole the tract is a fertile plain with a gentle slope in a south-easterly direction, the level surface being diversified only by the river valleys and a few sandy ridges, one of which, between Kasia and Padrauna, rises to a height of 117.65 m. above sea-level and is the highest natural eminence in the district.

There are many scattered patches of bush and scrub forests specially in tahsil Padrauna and in places along the Gandak and stretches of grassy waste are also to be found.

Bangar—This tract, comprising the western part of tahsils Hata and Deoria and the major portion of tahsil Salempur, is a very fertile level plain. The gently undulating surface marked in places by low sandy pits is broken by occasional ridges of sand and the few river valleys.

The *bhat* region also has occasional patches of *bangar* between the Jharai and the Khanua. A broad stretch of *bangar* runs tapering towards the north nearly as far as Padrauna; similarly between the Khanua and the Little Gandak there is a large area of *bangar*.

Kachhar—The tract along the Rapti and the Ghaghra in the extreme southern part of the district is known as the *kachhar*, a name given to lowlying areas. The *kachhar* along the Rapti is a narrow strip of new alluvium, which is subjected to more or less regular flooding. The annual flood leave behind them extensive deposits of silt and sand which are generally beneficial as the silt in the majority of cases is exceedingly fertile, even the sand after two or three years exposure weathering into a loam capable of bearing good crops. It is fully cultivated and usually retains sufficient moisture to grow crops without irrigation. Along the Ghaghra the *kachhar* (also known as *diyara*) is flanked by steep and well-defined banks but occasionally the waters rise in heavy floods inundating the low country in the neighbourhood with disastrous results. The deposits left behind are invariably sandy with an extensive growth of *jhao* which gradually collects silt in the roots so that in time the soil becomes culturable and, should the river recede from the neighbourhood, remains so for a long period, some parts being high enough to escape the ordinary monsoon floods and to produce even autumn crops. When the river subsides after the rains, numerous sandbanks and aits appear in the channel.

The Gandak *diyara* is divided into two portions, the first being at the extreme north and the second at the extreme south-east,

The former has an area of 78 sq. km. of which a little more than a quarter is cultivated. The latter is liable to more heavy floods than the rest of the surrounding country.

RIVER SYSTEMS AND WATER RESOURCES

The drainage of the entire district discharges itself into the Ghaghra except that carried off by the Gandak, which falls into the former river. The drainage of the whole tract takes a south-easterly direction following the general slope of the district but there are three main internal subdivisions of the drainage which comprise the Rapti system in the west, the Little Gandak system in the centre and that of the Gandak in the east. The chief rivers of the district are the Ghaghra, Gandak, Little Gandak and Rapti, with their various tributaries.

Ghaghra—This river, known variously as the Sarju and Dehwa, has its source in the snowy heights of the Himalayas in district Pithoragarh. It touches the district after its confluence with the Rapti near Gaura Barhaj and running south-eastward it leaves the district in the extreme south-eastern corner of tahsil Salempur. This mighty river, which derives its name from the rumbling sounds (*gharghar*) it produces, flows in a wide and sandy bed, within the limits of which the channel shifts, at pleasure to an astonishing extent. The 'deepstream' forms the boundary between this district on the north and Azamgarh and Ballia on the south. In the case of the latter district, the channel is confined within comparatively narrow limits owing to the existence of a hard ridge of *kankar* and stiff soil near Turtipar on the southern bank but along the Azamgarh border the variations are almost unlimited, resulting in constant changes in the area of both the districts. The bed of the river as a rule is flanked by steep and well-defined banks but occasionally the water rises in heavy floods, inundating the low country in the neighbourhood with distressing consequences.

Rapti—This river (originally known as *Iravati*, then corrupted to *Ravati* and finally to *Rapti*) has its source in the outer ranges of Nepal and after traversing the Bahraich, Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur districts touches the district in the south-western part of tahsil Deoria and flows south-eastward in a tortuous course separating the district from district Gorakhpur as far as its confluence with the Ghaghra near the town of Gaura Barhaj in tahsil Salempur. It varies in size and velocity considerably and bears in solution a large quantity of mud. The annual floods leave behind them extensive deposits of silt and sand which are generally beneficial as the silt is of an exceedingly fertile type.



Barhaj Ghat on the Ghaghra (Deoria)

Gaura—This stream, an affluent of the Rapti, enters the district from district Gorakhpur in the south-western part of tahsil Deoria and runs southward past Silhat. Flowing on in the same direction it comes quite close to the Rapti but takes a south-easterly course to join it on its left near Samogar. In its lower reaches the river is known as the Katna.

Majhnan—The Majhnan, an affluent of the Gaura (Katna), rises near Mansurganj in tahsil Hata and runs southward as far as Sakrauli where it is joined by the Bari. Flowing in the same direction it separates this district from district Gorakhpur, entering tahsil Deoria near Khandauli. Running southward it receives on its left bank the Barhari which is not an important stream. A larger tributary is the Karna which joins the Katna further south near Rudrapur. The combined stream flows due south to join the Rapti.

It is a sluggish stream, flowing in narrow and sharp bends through stiff clay soil with little trace of sand. It keeps to its own banks and rarely damages the fields along its banks.

Karna—This stream takes its rise in the swamp which lies under the well-known village of Rampur Sohrauna in tahsil Deoria and drains under broken sand-hill ridges. It flows south-westward in a tortuous course to Tewar. It then separates tahsil Deoria from tahsil Salempur for about 7 km. and then, again traversing tahsil Deoria, takes in the Majhnan just past Rudrapur. The stream causes no harm as its bed lies well below the level of the surrounding country.

Nakta—The chief tributary of the Karna is the Nakta which rises near Kataura in tahsil Deoria and flows southward to join the Karna near Tewar. The channel runs parallel to and about 5 km. east of the Majhnan until, in the extreme south, it runs in a south-eastern direction.

Little Gandak—Rising in Nepal and traversing district Gorakhpur, this river first touches the district in the extreme north-western corner of tahsil Hata and flows along the western boundary of the tahsil separating the district from district Gorakhpur as far as to the north of Captainganj. It then takes a south-eastern course and traversing tahsils Hata, Deoria and Salempur reaches the eastern border of tahsil Salempur near Ramnagar. It then runs along the eastern boundary of tahsil Salempur, separating the district from district Siwan (of Bihar) till it joins the Ghaghra near Simari.

The chief tributaries of the Little Gandak on its right are the Maun, Unchi and Koilar which carry water only during the rains. The main tributary on its left is the Khanua, the insignificant once being the Sundia, Ghaghi and Ghaghar.

Maun—This is the chief tributary of the Little Gandak and has its source in the south-eastern part of tahsil Mahrajganj of district Gorakhpur. It enters the district about 4 km. north-west of Captainganj in tahsil Hata and runs south-eastward through the tahsil to join the Little Gandak at a point near Hetimpur on the border of tahsil Deoria. The course of the river is influenced by a broken ridge of sand-hills whose general trend is north and south. It is a perennial stream.

Unchi—Rising near Desahi Deoria, a village near the northern boundary of tahsil Deoria, the Unchi flows south-eastwards through tahsil Deoria to meet the Little Gandak near Baikunthpur.

Koilar—Rising from a *tal* near Khukhunda in tahsil Salempur the Koilar runs south-eastward to join the Little Gandak on its right near the village of Barsipar.

* **Khanua**—This stream, which is an overflow of the Little Gandak, has its source near Mahua Diha and flows south-eastward separating tahsil Deoria on its right and Padrauna on its left as far as its junction with the Sonda. It then takes a south-westerly course and separating tahsil Deoria from district Siwan leaves the district near Koeripatti at a point where it is joined by the Kadarjot, a small stream of tahsil Deoria. It again touches the district near Balua in tahsil Salempur and after forming the boundary between this district and the district of Siwan for some distance, traverses tahsil Salempur to join the Little Gandak about 4 km. north-west of Bhatpar Rani. It acquires importance during the rains and becomes the main source of drainage of the *bangar* tract entering at Rajwabar and receiving the water of the Ghaghi, Bhalua and some other nullahs which drain the northern *bangar*. It flows through the Ramabhar Tal and in a swollen condition causes extensive inundations in the neighbourhood of Kasia.

Sonda—This stream has its source near the village of Kuchia and flows southward through tahsil Padrauna to Baripatti. It then takes a south-westerly course and separates the district from district Siwan till it joins the Khanua near Kap. It is an insignificant watercourse, which has acquired some importance due to its position.

Jharhi—Rising in the northern part of tahsil Padrauna near the village of Bansgaon the Jharhi, now a tributary of the Ghaghra, represents an old channel of the Gandak, at all events for some distance below Gagalwa. It takes a southerly course through tahsil Padrauna past Tamkuhi to the village of Dibni Banjarwa where it leaves this district to enter district Siwan (of Bihar). It again appears in the district in tahsil Salempur and flows southward, separating tahsil Salempur from district Siwan, as far as a point where it receives the water of the Siahi, a small stream running through the eastern part of the tahsil.

Gandak—This river rises in a snowy range of the Himalayas and bursts through the lower Nepal hills at Tribeni Ghat in Nepal. Running south-west it reaches the northern apex of Hata. The Gandak (or Great Gandak) is also known as the Saligrami and Naraini owing to the presence in its bed of a large number of black stone pebbles with a white band round the middle which are venerated by the Hindus as Narayana (the god) or Saligram. It has also been identified as the Kondochates of the Greek geographers and according to some writers is the Sadanira, the 'overflowing water', of the epics (the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*). It enters the district near the village of Kariwania in tahsil Hata through which it runs for about 7 km. in a south-easterly direction and separates the district from district Betiah (of Bihar) leaving district Deoria near the Chhitauni railway station. It again touches the district near Sahibganj in tahsil Padrauna and flowing on south eastwards, separates tahsil Padrauna from district Betiah. It finally leaves the district a few km. south-east of the village of Bank Khas in tahsil Padrauna to join the Ganga at Sonapur. In its early course in the district its bed is stony, the water cold and clear and the currents swift. It is subjected to violent and sudden floods which cause extensive inundations of the villages situated along its banks in tahsils Hata and Padrauna. This mighty river is nowhere fordable and it cannot be used for irrigation. In the past it made many changes in its course and its prevailing tendency has been to shift eastwards.

The flood water still spills into the old channels and also deposits much silt.

Bansi—This stream, which is a mere backwater of the Gandak and is also known as the Sota Gandak, branches off near Chhitauni and flows south-eastward separating the district from Bihar. It enters the district to the north of Baikunthpur in tahsil Padrauna and flowing on south-eastward through the eastern part of the tahsil, joins the Sota near Tarkaulia (Sahibganj). The river drains the

north-eastern and east-central portion and eventually falls into the Gandak.

Banri—This stream, an overflow of the Little Gandak, has its source near the village of Lakhua in tahsil Hata and flows south-eastward through tahsils Hata and Padrauna past the town of Padrauna to join the Bansi near Bansighat.

Another Banri, known as the western Banri, appears about 12 km. south of the point where the Banri emerges from the Little Gandak. Eventually it meets the Ghagi, turns south and falls into the Khanua which is practically a continuation of the Little Gandak. In the north the two Banris are only about 3 km. apart.

Lakes—There are a large number of depressions and lakes in the district which in most cases are formed in the abandoned channels of the rivers but only a few of them are of any magnitude. The most important is the Rambhar Tal, lying about a kilometre south of Kasia. During the hot weather it is about a kilometre in length and 180 m. broad but in the rains the area is doubled, the abnormal floods in the Khanua causing the lake to rise and spread over the surrounding tract. The other lakes are the Kusehar Tal near Dhara in tahsil Hata, Chakahwa Tal in tahsil Deoria, Dumrani Tal to the east of Tarkulwa, several sheets of water in the vicinity of Qazipur and the numerous *mans* (abandoned river channels) along the old courses of the Gandak and the Little Gandak, many of which are of large dimension. South-east of Tamkuhi, there is a large depression called the Chakhni Tal, which assumes large proportions in the rains. There is another stretch of water, the Qitaman Tal lying north of Dumath which extends about 5 km. east and west and about 125 m. across and is in some places very deep.

GEOLOGY

Geologically, the district forms part of Indo-Gangetic alluvium, the deposition of which commenced after the final upheaval of the Himalayas and has continued all through the pleistocene period down to the present. The exact thickness of the alluvium is not known but it is supposed to be considerable. The northern part of the district lies close to the *terai* area and is characterised by the dominance of a coating of finer soil over coarser material. The alluvium consists of sands of various grades, silt, clay and *kankar* in varying proportions. The older alluvium, called *bhangar* or *bangar*, is rather dark coloured and contains concretions and nodules of

impure calcium carbonate known as *kankar*. It is of the Middle to Upper Pleistocene age, forming slightly elevated terraces generally above flood level, the river having cut through it to a lower level. The newer alluvium, locally known as the *kachhar*, is light coloured and poor in calcareous matter and is assigned an upper Pleistocene to a recent age. Among the minerals found in the district are saltpetre, *kankar*, *reh* (a saline efflorescence), sand and clay.

Saltpetre—This mineral occurs principally in tahsil Salempur and is manufactured in a crude state in considerable quantities near Gaura Barhaj and Scorahi.

Kankar—This mineral (which is in the shape of irregular concretions of impure calcareous matter) is found in village Pagra on the Kasia-Hata road, in Mathauli on the Captainganj-Hata road and near Chandki-Devi-ka-Asthan on the Captainganj-Hata road. It is used as road metal.

Reh—This, a saline efflorescence on the earth's surface, is chiefly found in the northern part of tahsil Salempur and is used in the manufacture of washing soap and as a leather pigment.

Sand—This mineral is extracted near Sirsiaghat to the east of the ridge on the Little Gandak on the Deoria-Kasia road also near Gaura Barhaj at Badawarghat in tahsil Salempur. In tahsil Padrauna it is extracted near Bansighat along the Bansi river as well as from nearby *asar* tracts.

Clay—This mineral, used for making bricks, earthen toys and utensils, is found almost everywhere in the district.

The district falls in a zone liable to moderate damage by earthquakes. Although no major earthquake originated close to it, one was experienced in Gorakhpur on January 4, 1894, the damage being slight. Being not far from the Great 'Himalayan Boundary Fault', the district experiences the effects of moderate to great earthquakes occurring there. In the seismic map of India prepared under the auspices of Indian standard institution, district Deoria has been placed in zone IV where the seismic intensity may reach VIII on the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale-1931, between I (meaning 'not felt') and XII (meaning 'total damage').

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is more equable than that of the adjoining districts to the south, the northern portions of the district

being, to some extent, influenced by the *tarai* swamps. The year may be divided into four seasons; the cold season from mid-November to February; followed by the summer from March to the middle of June; the period from mid-June to the end of September which is the south-west monsoon season; and October and the first half of November which constitute the post monsoon season.

Rainfall—Records of rainfall in the district are available for three stations for a period of over 90 years, the details of the rainfall at which and for the district as a whole being given at the end of the chapter. The average annual rainfall in the district, based on the data for the period 1901 to 1950, is 1,189.8 mm. The rainfall in the district in general increases from the south-west towards the north-east and varies from 1,058.4 mm. at Deoria to 1,259.6 mm. at Hata. About 87 per cent of the annual normal rainfall in the district is received during the monsoon months from June to September, July and August being the rainiest months. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is appreciable. The highest annual rainfall during this period, amounting to 144 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1938. The lowest annual rainfall, which was 57 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1907. In the same fifty-year period, the annual rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 8 years, 3 of them being consecutive. Considering the rainfall at individual stations, 4 consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once at Hata and 7 consecutive years once at Deoria (1926 to 1932). The following statement showing the frequency of annual rainfall from 1901 to 1950 reveals that the annual rainfall in the district was between 1,000 and 1,400 mm. in 26 years out of 50.

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
601—700	1	1,201—1,300	7
701—800	1	1,301—1,400	5
801—900	5	1,401—1,500	7
901—1,000	5	1,501—1,600	3
1,001—1,100	8	1,601—1,700	1
1,101—1,200	6	1,701—1,800	1

chebula), *bahera* (*Terminalia bellerica*), *bel* (*Aegle marmelos*) and *bijaisal* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*). Other trees generally found in the district are mango (*Mangifera indica*), babul (*Acacia arabica*), bargad (*Ficus bengalensis*), dhau (*Anogeissus latifolia*), deethori (*Pongamia glabra*), gular (*Ficus glomerata*), neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and sissoo (*Dalbergia sissoo*).

Among the shrubs which generally grow here are ail (*Cassalpinia sepia*), akola (*Alangium salviifolium*), ban nibua (*Glycosmic pentaphylla*), ban talsi (*Pogostemon plectranthoides*), ber (*Zizyphus spp*), jhau (*Tamarix dioica*), karaunda (*Carissa carandas*), madar (*Calotropis procera*), mainphal (*Randia dumetorum*), musali (*Asparagus spp*), rohini (*Mallotus philippinensis*) and sarpgandha (*Rauwolfia serpentina*), the chief climbers being the dudhi-bel (*Ichnocarpus frutescens*), gurich (*Tinospora cordifolia*), harijor (*Cissampelos pareira*) and kalibel (*Ventilago madras-patana*).

Among grasses *narkut* (*Phragmites karka*) is chiefly found in tahsils Hata and Padrauna, *kans* (*Saccharum spontaneum*) in the kachhar tract and *munia sentha* (*Saccharum munja*), *pater* (*Typha elephantina*), *dub* (*Cynodon dactylon*) and *kus* (*Chrysopogon gryllus*), throughout the district.

Groves—In 1949-50 the grove area of the district was 18,159 ha. which by 1972-73 had decreased to 12,622 ha. Of the total grove area, 4,538 ha. was in tahsil Deoria, 3,926 ha. in tahsil Padrauna, 2,984 ha. in tahsil Hata and 1,174 ha. in tahsil Salempur. The groves consist in most cases of mango (*Mangifera indica*) trees, though occasionally other species such as guava (*Psidium guajava*) and *mahua* (*Madhuka indica*) are also to be seen. The Chausa is the common and most relished variety of the mangoes grown in the district.

FAUNA

In former days a large number and variety of wild-animals, birds and reptiles were found in the district, most of which was covered with forests and grasslands. Even as late as 1858 the mails to Padrauna were stopped by the tigers which then infested the roads from Gorakhpur to Padrauna. Owing to the clearance of the forest area for agricultural and other purposes and reckless shooting, a large variety of wild-animals has now practically disappeared from the district. The large animals found in the district are nilgai (*Boedaphus tragocamelus*) and some varieties of deer, especially in the northern part of the district and the kachhar tract along the Ghaghra, the former receiving protection from the orthodox Hindus due to its so-called name *gai* (cow). The other animals found in the district

include the jackal (*Canis aureus*), fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*), hare (*Lepus ruficandatus*), porcupine (*Hystrix lunra*) and monkeys (*Macaca rhesus*).

Birds—The bird life of the district has decreased considerably owing to the clearance of the forest tract, the decrease in the area under groves and indiscriminate shooting, etc., by hunters and poachers. The species found in the district is similar to that of the adjoining districts and includes varieties of duck, partridge and pigeon. During the cold weather the lakes and marshes are the haunts of almost every variety of waterfowl. Besides other varieties, the birds commonly found in the district are quail (*Coturnix coturnix*), jungle fowl (*Gallus gallus*), snipe (*Capella gallinago*), parrot (*Psittacula krameri*), kite (*Milvus govinda*), crow (*Corvus splendens*), vulture and sparrow.

Reptiles—The majority of the snake species found in the district is non-poisonous except the cobra (*Naja naja* or *Naja tripudians*), the krait (*Bungarus caeruleus*) and the Russell's viper (*Vipera russelli*). The crocodiles (*Gavialis gangeticus*), mugger (*Crocodilus palustris*) and turtle (*Chelonia Mydas*) are found in the Ghaghra and the Gandak, though the first two are becoming rare.

Fish—Fish are found in the rivers, lakes and larger ponds of the district. About 60 species have been recorded, the chief being the rohu (*Labeo rohita* and *Labeo pangusia*), mahashor (*Barbus tor*), bhatur (*Catla catla*), karach (*Labeo kalbaru*) and bata (*Labeo bata*).

Game Laws

The game laws are governed by the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, which imposes a total ban on the shooting of species becoming extinct.

Station	Years on which data are based	Normal rainfall												Extreme rainfall					
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal year	Lowest annual rainfall as % of Normal and year	Amount (mm.)	Date	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*
Deoria	50 a	12.7	16.3	7.9	12.9	25.4	134.6	285.2	291.3	205.0	57.9	5.6	3.6	1,058.4	146	52	279.7	June 4, 1888	
	b	1.1	1.6	0.7	1.0	2.0	6.7	13.3	13.4	9.0	2.3	0.3	0.4	51.8	(1916)	(1931)	—	—	
Hata	50 a	12.2	18.0	9.7	9.1	43.7	182.6	350.3	339.9	227.8	57.9	5.1	3.3	1,259.6	145	56	303.5	September 5, 1935	
	b	1.0	1.7	0.9	0.8	2.7	7.3	14.2	14.3	9.5	2.6	0.4	0.4	55.8	(1922)	(1907)	—	—	
Padrauna	50 a	13.7	17.8	10.4	18.0	47.0	189.2	351.0	327.4	209.8	59.4	4.8	3.1	1,251.6	145	56	268.7	September 16, 1956	
	b	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.0	2.7	7.9	13.5	14.1	9.3	2.4	0.3	0.3	55.3	(1938)	(1901)	—	—	
Deoria (district)	a	12.9	17.4	9.3	13.3	38.7	168.8	328.8	319.5	214.2	58.4	5.2	3.3	1,189.8	144	57	—	—	
	b	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.9	2.5	7.3	13.7	13.9	9.3	2.4	0.3	0.4	54.2	(1938)	(1907)	—	—	

(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 1965

(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 1965

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The region covered by the present district of Deoria once formed part of the ancient kingdom of Kosala, a famous centre of Aryan civilization, which was bounded by the Himalayas on the north, the river Syandika in the south, the Panchala country on the west and Magadha (Bihar) in the east.¹ Besides the numerous legends connected with this region, valuable evidence in the form of pieces of sculpture, images, coins and large bricks has been found here and the remains of temples, stupas and monasteries with many brick-strewn mounds (*kheras*) are spread all over the district. These indicate that the tract enjoyed an advanced and settled social life since very early times. One legend speaks of the sage Vasishtha who had a cow which was carried off by a tiger and was traced at Lar by the trail of saliva (Hindi, *lar*) dropping from her mouth.² Lar is a village in the district. Another ancient place is Sohmag where, according to tradition, Parasuram, the famous sage in Rama's story, practised penance to regain his lost divinity. The place has also an ancient tank. There are two statues representing Jamadagni and Renuka, the parents of Parasuram.³

Khukhundu, which possesses several ancient Brahmanical ruins, is also associated with Pushodanta, one of the Jain *tirthankaras*, who sanctified this place by his birth.⁴ The mounds found here contain ruins of ancient Brahmanical and Jain temples. The images in the former are of Siva, Parvati and Ganesa and a four-armed Vishnu which is carved out of blue stone. Large tanks and fragments of moulded bricks (with flower ornaments) further confirm the antiquity of this place.⁵

The traditional history of the district can be traced back to the epic period when Rama, the most celebrated Kosala king,

1. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*. P. 41; Pathak, V. N. : *History of Kosala up to the Rise of Mauryas*, pp. 39-42 and 68; Macdonell, A. A. and Keith, A. B. : *Vedic Index of Names and Subjects*, Vol. II, p. 109
2. Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in the North Western Provinces and Oudh*, p. 246
3. *Ibid.*, p. 250
4. Cunningham, A. : *The Ancient Geography of India*, p. 360
5. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 248

crowned his eldest son, Kusa, king of Kushavati,¹ which most probably covered the major part of this district. Kushavati, Kushinara, Kushigrama, Kushinagri, Kushinagar and modern Kasia seem to be the different names of Kushavati or are derived from it.² After Rama, Kusa did not remain at Kushavati for long and left it in favour of Ayodhya. Kushavati was then occupied by his cousin, Chandraketu, a son of Lakshmana, who was given the appellation 'Malla' (valiant) in the *Ramayana*.³

During the pre-Mahabharata period, the only king who happened to be connected with this district was the *chakravartin* ruler, Mahasudassana. It is difficult to identify him further, but his name finds mention in the *Mahasudassanasuttanta*. During his reign, his capital, Kushavati, which held a commercially important and strategic position, reached the zenith of its glory. Its defences, surrounded by seven ramparts and four gates, were perfect. It was populous, progressive and prosperous.⁴ In the neighbourhood of his kingdom there was an extensive forest called Mahavana and some other Malla towns—Bhoganagava (lying between Jambugrama and Pava) Anupiya and Uruolakoppa.⁵

In the Mahabharata period the Mallas, who then ruled this territory, were defeated by Bhimasena (the second of the five Pandava brothers) when he was conquering the eastern region on the occasion of the Rajsuya yagna (imperial sacrifice) performed by his eldest brother, Yudhisthira.⁶ The name of Bhimasena is commonly associated with a coarse, grey sandstone column, known as Bhimasena Ki Lat, in the village of Kahon⁷ which was an ancient town.⁸ The large bricks used in constructing walls of two temples at this place bear this out.⁹ After the close of the Mahabharata war (which is said to have taken place in 1400 B. C.)¹⁰ the Mallas organised themselves into a *ganatantra* (republican state)¹¹ with two

1. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 195
2. Dutt, N. and Bajpai, K. D. : *Development of Buddhism in Uttar Pradesh*, p. 345
3. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 278
4. Bajpai, K. D. and Dikshit, R. K. : *Buddhist Centres in Uttar Pradesh*, p. 15
5. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, p. 8
6. *Srimahabharatama*, Sabha Parv, Ch. 30
7. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 243
8. Cunningham, *op. cit.*, p. 366
9. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 243
10. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, p. 304
11. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 286

seats of power in this district, one at Kushinara or Kushinagar and the other at Pava. The latter is identified with the present Fazilnagar or Chetiyawa situated ten miles (16 km.) south-east of the former.¹ The territory of the Mallas was bounded on the west by the Koliya republic, touching the border of the Sakya republic in the north-west. In the south it extended as far as the Moriya republic and in the east it stretched to the Lichchhavi republic, the dividing line between the republics of the Lichchhavis and the Mallas being the river Sadanira.² It came to be the biggest and the most important of the autonomous states of Kosala, in respect of territorial extent and political influence.³ At some places all the republics of Kosala combined and were called Mallarashtra.⁴ The Mallas, like the Lichchhavis, were the Veratya Kshatriyas, also called Vasishtas in the *Mahaparinibbanasuttanta*. They had a monarchical form of government, Okkaka (Ikshvaku) being mentioned in the *Kusa Jataka* as a Malla king. They formed a *sangha* whose members were called rajas. They retained their independence till the death of Buddha.⁵

By the sixth century B. C. Malla, (ruled over by the Mallas) had become one of the sixteen Mahajanpadas,⁶ with an independent entity and a status equal to that of Kosala itself.⁷ Its chief, Bandhula, was a close ally of Prasenjit, the king of Kosala, as well as of Mahali, the Lichchhavis prince of Vaisali.⁸

The Mallas were enthusiastic followers of both Mahavira and Buddha.⁹ Mahavira often visited Pava (now Fazilnagar) where, before attaining *kaivalya*, he delivered his last sermon¹⁰ which was attended by 18 confederates—nine Mallas and nine Lichchhavis, besides the kings of Kasi and Kosala.¹¹ The *Kalpasutra* mentions how the Mallas celebrated the solemn occasion of the demise of Mahavira with illuminations saying, 'Since the light of the intelligence is gone, let us make an illumination of material matter'. The

1. *Ibid.*, p. 277
2. Pandey, R. B. : *Gorakhpur Janpad Ka Itihas Aur Uski Kshetriya Jatiyan*, p. 75
3. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 286
4. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 81
5. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 8
6. Raychaudhuri, H. C. : *Political History of Ancient India*, p. 95
7. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 358
8. *Ibid.*, p. 284
9. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, pp. 347-48
10. Pathak, *op. cit.*, pp. 281, 283, 421
11. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 415

teacher obviously wielded great spiritual influence over this district.¹

Buddha also exercised a great religious hold over the people of this district,² though according to some writers they were not in favour of the new religion he propounded and issued a mandate that persons welcoming Buddha would be fined 500 *kahapanas*. In spite of this order a few Mallas became converts.³ A number of places in the district had been sanctified by their association with the events of Buddha's life. Images, items of sculpture, clay seals, votive tablets, ruins of *stupas*, monasteries, the mounds found at Sohmag, Sahiya, Bhagalpur, Khukhundu, Padrauna, Kasia, etc.,⁴ confirm that Kushinagar, which was then known as Kushinara,⁵ was the favourite resort of Buddha, though by this time the city had lost its former splendour. During his visits Buddha stayed at the *Baliharana-vana* also, where he preached the *Kushinara sutta* and the *Kinti sutta*. The stories of the *Mahāsudassanasuttanta* and the *Mahāsudassana Jataka* were narrated by Buddha at Kushinara.⁶ The Mallas of Pava who honoured and revered the great teacher, invited him to inaugurate the *Santhagara*—the assembly hall named *Ubhataka*.⁷

When Buddha fell ill at Vaisali (Bazarb, modern Muzaffarpur in Bihar) and realized that his death was imminent, he started for Kushinagar, which was selected by him as the place of his death.⁸ On the way he passed through some villages of the Malla clan. At Pava he accepted his last meal, given to him by Chanda, a Kummara (goldsmith). He continued his journey till he arrived at the *Shalvana* of Kushinagar,⁹ where he sent a message to the Mallas to the following effect: "Give no occasion to reproach yourselves hereafter saying, 'In our own village did the death of our Tathagata take place and we took not the opportunity of visiting the Tathagata in his last hours.'"¹⁰ Buddha's last act was the ordaining of an old *parivrajaka*, the ascetic Subhadda. Knowing that the end of his

1. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 284

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 282-83

3. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 369

4. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 240, 247-48, 250

5. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 68

6. Bajpai and Dikshit, *op. cit.*, p. 15

7. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 283

8. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 350

9. Malalasekera, G. R. : *Dictionary of Pali Proper Names, Part II*, p. 653

10. Bhikshu Kittima, *Mahāparinirvāna Sutta*, p. 207.



Ruins of Buddhist Monastery, Kushinagar

sojourn on earth was at hand, he asked his beloved disciple, Ananda, to prepare a bed between two sal trees in a grove outside the town, and during the last watch of the night he attained *mahaparinirvana*. The Mallas gave him great homage at his passing befitting the revered teacher. His mortal remains adorned with garlands and perfumes¹ lay for six days amidst music and dancing and singing of hymns. They cremated the body at Makutabandhana with full honours. The celebrations continued for a week in honour of the immortal relics, which were deposited in the assembly hall.² The news of Buddha's *nirvana* brought to the site emissaries from many states claiming their share of the sacred relics but the Mallas of Kusinara refused to part with the relics and a war became imminent. But confrontation was averted at the instance of one Drona and it was agreed that it would not be proper to fight for the relics of the one who throughout his life had pleaded for peace.³ The remains were divided into eight portions, each being enshrined in a *stupa* in a different place. Two *stupas* were built in this district by the Mallas of Pava and Kushinara to house their share of the relics.⁴

After his *nirvana* Buddha's cousin and disciple, Aniruddha, stayed on to console the grief-stricken Mallas. As a mark of respect for him Kushinagar was called Anarudhawa,⁵ a part of which is a low mound of an irregular shape comprised mainly of debris. Close by, is a large mound of bricks, apparently the ruins of a large palace. Cunningham also identifies this mound and the village of Anarudhawa as the site of the ancient Malla city, in the centre of which stood the palace where Buddha's cremation took place.⁶

At that time a part of the district was under the domination of the Moriyas (of Pippalivana, in district Gorakhpur) which extended to Rudrapur and its outskirts situated along the banks of the river Rapti.⁷ A number of mounds are to be found mostly in the north of Rudrapur, as also the remains of an ancient fort called Sahankot. It is said that the northern side of the fort measured 2,500 ft (762 m.), the southern 2,200 ft (670 m.) and the western 2,015 ft (614 m.). Its wide ramparts varied in height from 15 to 25 ft (4.6 m. to 7.6 m.).⁸

1. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, pp. 350-51

2. *Ibid.*, p. 351

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 351-52

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 352-53; Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 240

5. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 280

6. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 247

7. Pathak, *op. cit.*, p. 275

8. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 249-50

According to tradition, at the close of the sixth century B. C., Vasistha, a prince of the solar Kshatriya race, settled at Rudarpur and built a stronghold which is identified with the remains of the Sahankot fort. Either he or his successor was ousted from this place by the Bhars during the first half of the fifth century B. C.,¹ who are said to have constructed a fort, the ruins of which are found in Bairauna Khas village in tahsil Deoria.²

At the beginning of the fifth century B. C., the rising power of Magadha under Ajatsatru had reduced the political significance of the Mallas, who could retrieve their independence in name only and acted as a buffer between the kingdoms of Kosala and Magadha.³ About the middle of the fourth century B. C., the area covered by this district was annexed to the empire of Magadha by Mahapadma Nanda.⁴ The Mallas saved their authority and existence by accepting the supremacy of the Nandas.⁵ In his *Arthashastra* Kautilya had mentioned this republic as being a *samgha* or federation.⁶ He also enjoined Chandragupta Maurya, who ascended the throne of Magadha in 321 B.C., to cultivate friendship with the Mallas because, in his opinion, the acquisition of the help of corporations was better than the acquisition of an army or the help of a friend. Asoka (273-236 B. C.), the first great royal patron of Buddhism,⁷ came on pilgrimage to Kushinagar with the monk, Upagupta.⁸ Stupas and pillars at this place are ascribed to him. One of the stupas was built near the Parinirvana temple with a stone pillar in front of it, on which the circumstance of Buddha's *nirvana* were inscribed. Another stupa marked the site of the division of the sacred relics, the stone pillar in front of it recording the circumstance of the division of the relics.⁹ The excavated large-sized bricks at this site speak of the buildings of the Mauryan age.¹⁰

The Mauryas were supplanted by the Sungas. Pushyamitra Sunga (187-151 B. C.) who was a patron of Brahmanical Hinduism, uprooted the Malla republic.¹¹

1. Alexander, E. B. : *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of North-Western Provinces Gorakhpur District*, Vol. VI, p. 529
2. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 237
3. Pathak, *op. cit.*, pp. 221, 287
4. Majumder and Fuzalkar, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 31
5. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 116
6. Pathak, *op. cit.*, pp. 287-88
7. Bhandarkar, D. R. : *Asoka*, p. 236
8. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 253
9. Patil, D. R. : *Kusinagara*, pp. 11-12
10. *Ibid.*, p. 9
11. Pandey, *op. cit.*, pp. 126-27

The history of the district is obscure till the advent of the Kushanas. The discovery of a large number of coins of Vima Kadphises, Kanishka and Huvishka at different places in this district implies that it was under the sway of the Kushanas during the first and second centuries A. D.¹ A large though mutilated statue of Buddha, locally known as Matha Kunwar, found in Kushinagar, is said to belong to this period.² The statue is a monolith carved out of blue stone of the Gaya region.³ The figure represents Buddha seated under the Bodhi tree in the *Bhumisparsha mudra* (a symbolic gesture or pose of the hand) symbolizing the supreme moment in his life just before his enlightenment.⁴

The political history of the district again remains shrouded in obscurity for over a century till Chandragupta I (320-335 A. D.) who exercised political authority over the district.⁵ During the reign of his grandson, Chandragupta II (380-415 A. D.) Kushinagar formed part of the Shrivasthi *bhukti* (province).⁶ The celebrated Buddhist pilgrim from China, Fa-hiuen (400-411 A. D.) paying homage to Buddhist holy places during his visit to India, arrived at Kushinagar.⁷ He found the city populated only by monks.⁸ But the *viharas* (monasteries), the stupas and other holy places where the Mallas had honoured the mortal remains of Buddha for a week, where the division of the relics had taken place and where holy orders were conferred on Subhadda, still existed.⁹ Sixteen silver coins of Kumaragupta (414-455 A.D.) were discovered (by Carlleyle)¹⁰ in the excavations at Kushinagar in 1875-77. In the course of excavations conducted by Hiranand Shastri in 1910-12 a copper vessel covered with an inscribed copperplate was found in a stupa standing behind the Parinirvana temple. The copperplate mentions the name of Haribala. A silver coin of Kumaragupta, found in the vessel, leads to the conclusion that the stupa was restored or renovated by one Haribala during the reign of Kumaragupta. Probably the colossal monolith statue of Buddha's *parinirvana* carved in reddish sandstone, was also installed at this time.¹¹ The approximately 6 m. long image

1. Srivastava, A. K. : *Findspots of Kusana Coins in U. P.*, p. 39
2. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 163
3. Patil, *op. cit.*, p. 29
4. *Ibid.*; Bajpai and Dikshit, *op. cit.*, p. 22
5. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 239
6. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 168
7. Giles, H. A. : *The Travels of Fa-Hsin*, pp. 40-41.
8. Patil, *op. cit.*, p. 10
9. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, pp. 354-55
10. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 169
11. Dutt and Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 361; Patil, *op. cit.*, pp. 10, 20

reclines on a stone throne. A stone slab in front of it has three mourning human figures, each carved in a separate niche, representing Buddha's three disciples, Ananda, Subhadda and Vajrapani, a Mailla king.¹

The peace and prosperity of the Gupta period was disrupted by the Huna invasions during the reign of Skandagupta (455-67 A.D.) son and successor of Kumaragupta.² The pillar of Kahon, which was constructed during his reign, is a single block of coarse, grey sandstone over 8 m. in height from the ground to the top of the metal spike which adorns it. In the base of the pillar there is a niche holding a naked standing figure with long arms, which represents the Jain *tirthankara*, Parsvanath, a large seven-headed snake forming a canopy over the image. The pillar contains an inscription of 12 lines in the characters of the fifth century A. D. recording the dedication in the reign of Skandagupta of stone images of five *tirthankars*—Adinath, Shantinath, Neminath, Parsvanath and Mahavira by one Madra.³

A beautiful and big statue of Vishnu, with four arms about 4 m. in height, carved in black stone, has been found in the ruins of an ancient temple in the vicinity of Rudrapur (in the district).⁴

After the decline of the Guptas, the district appears to have remained under the sway of the Bhars.⁵ Towards the beginning of the sixth century the Maukharis, who ruled this region, were subdued by Harsha (606 to 647 A. D.)⁶ and the district came to form part of his extensive empire.⁷ During his reign, Hsuen Tsang, another famous Buddhist pilgrim from China (629—644 A. D.) visited Kushinagar, the name being transcribed by him as Kou-sulh-na-ka.⁸ He has given a tragic account of the devastation of this place. He found the old brick foundation of the city and its walls in ruins and the towns and villages deserted. The various monuments which he came across were a large brick temple, a *stupa* in ruins and a stone pillar containing a description of Buddha's *nirvana* (the last two built by Asoka) another *stupa* built over the place where

1. Bajpai and Dikshit, *op. cit.*, p. 20
2. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 261
3. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 243-44
4. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 173; Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 250
5. Nevill, H. R. : *Gorakhpur : A Gazetteer*, p. 174
6. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kannauj to the Muslim Conquest*, p. 75
7. Tripathi, R. S. : *Ancient History of India*, p. 299
8. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol. II, p. 25

Subhadda died, the *stupa* where his cremation took place and the *stupa* built on the spot where Mahakashyap had paid his last homage to Buddha, the inscribed pillar to its front stating that it was constructed at the place where Buddha's relics were distributed. About six other *stupas*, marking the spot associated with the miraculous events of Buddha's life, were¹ also observed by him. Harsha had probably tried to rehabilitate Kushinagar by providing a number of facilities to the people because Itsing, the Buddhist pilgrim from China who visited Kushinagar towards the close of the seventh century A. D., had found it in a good condition.² He has mentioned a *chaitya* at Kushinagar and the monastery of Makuta Bandhana, described by him as the Pan-do-no monastery, in which about a hundred monks resided. He also found that idol worship was regaining popularity.³

The history of the district is again enveloped in obscurity till the ninth century when a Kalachuri prince, Gunambodhideva, came to possess the territory near about Gorakhpur from the Pratihara king, Bhojadeva or Bhoja I (A. D. 836—882) of Kannauj. He extended his suzerainty as far east as the Saran district (in Bihar) including the Deoria region as well.⁴ His successor, Sodhadeva, also continued to hold this tract.⁵ At the same time Kushinagar and the adjoining area came to be ruled by petty Kalachuri rulers⁶ who were feudatories of their Gorakhpur branch.⁷ Their genealogy is partly preserved in an undated, defaced and fragmentary inscription in characters of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, found in Kasia⁸ at the base of the monastery built by a Kalachuri ruler, enshrining in a chapel the famous and colossal Matha Kunwar statue of the seated Buddha.⁹ In the north of Kushinagar, Kirtipaladeva of Saumya Sindu ruled over a small area¹⁰ and Bisen Singh carved out a Principality at Nawapur (now Salempur) in 1100.¹¹ The entire district was conquered by Govind Chandra

1. Patil, *op. cit.*, pp. 11-12
2. Bajpai and Dikshit, *op. cit.*, p. 18
3. *Ibid.*, p. 19
4. Puri, B. N. : *The History of the Gurjara-Pratiharas*, pp. 63-64
5. Niyogi, R. : *History of the Gahadvalas*, p. 26
6. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. V, p. 66
7. Niyogi, R., *op. cit.*, p. 26
8. Bajpai and Dikshit, *op. cit.*, p. 18
9. *Ibid.*, p. 22
10. Niyogi, *op. cit.*, p. 27
11. Alexander, *op. cit.*, p. 439

(1114—1154) a Gahadvala king¹ whose kingdom extended as far east as Bihar. His grandson, Jai Chandra, was defeated by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri in 1194,² the Gahadvala power thus coming to an end. Bisen Kshatriya declared his independence in Salempur Majhauili about this time but it was the Bhars dominated the rest of the district.

MEDIAEVAL PERIOD

It is disputable whether the area covered by the present district of Deoria fell under the government of Avadh or of Bihar during the early days of Muslim rule³ but it may be assumed that its association with either must have been of a shifting nature depending largely on the personality of the governor concerned.⁴ The early sultans of Delhi, the Slaves and the Khaljis exercised nominal suzerainty over this tract. The occasions when Muslim armies penetrated into the trackless forests of this region must have been rare, as no mention is made of any place in this district by Muslim historians in their accounts of the eastern campaigns.⁵

The first reference to this tract occurs in the description of Firuz Tughlaq's campaign in 1353 against Haji Ilyas Shah, the ruler of Bengal.⁶ During his march to Bengal, Firuz must have halted somewhere in the vicinity of this district where the local chieftains assembled to pay their homage as indicated by the fact that Bisen, raja of Majhauili, and Udai Singh, the ruler of Gorakhpur, had submitted to the imperial forces and paid arrears of tribute.⁷ According to the *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*, the latter "having presented twenty lacs of Tankas, and two elephants became the recipient of the imperial favour."⁸ Nizam-ud-din, the author of the *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, mentions that these two chieftains accompanied the sultan on his forward march to Champaran,⁹ through the region occupied by this district.

Apparently during the fag end of Tughlaq rule, this tract of land with its title, Malikush-sharq, (king of the east) was conferred

1. Majumdar and Pusalker, Vol. V, p. 55

2. Pandey, *op. cit.*, p. 228

3. Lari, Ahmar : *Mukhtasir-Tarikh-i-Gorakhpur*, p. 16

4. Nevill, H. R. : *Gorakhpur : A Gazetteer*, p. 174

5. *Ibid.*, p. 175

6. Nevill, H. R. : *Gorakhpur : A Gazetteer*, p. 175 ; Husain, A. M. : *Tughluq Dynasty*, pp. 399, 400

7. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 175

8. Sarhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad : *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi* (Eng. trans. by K. K. Basu), p. 128

9. *Ibid.*

by Mahmud Shah on Khan Jahan Sarwar-ul-Mulk, founder of the Sharqi dynasty of Jaunpur.¹ No effective control over this region was really exercised by the Sharqi kings who followed the policy of reconciliation and alliance with the chiefs of this region over² which their tenuous authority seemingly lasted up to the reign of Bahlul, the first Lodi sultan of Delhi (1451—1489). He subjugated the Jaunpur kingdom and left Qutb Khan Lodi, Khan Jahan and some other nobles in Majhauili (in the present district of Deoria) to consolidate the conquest.³ No sooner had the sultan turned his back on this region than Husain Shah Sharqi, the fugitive prince, staged a brief come back to his lost kingdom, suddenly reoccupying Jaunpur and forcing the imperial governor, Mubarak Khan Nuhani, to retire to Majhauili. Finding himself unable to hold the place, the latter entered into an arrangement with Husain Shah in order to engage him till assistance arrived.⁴ Hearing of these developments Bahlul at once despatched his son, Barbak Shah, with a large force to the east, himself following closely. Husain Shah fled to Bihar⁵ after which, late in 1477, this district came under the direct though loose control of the Delhi sultanate, the local Rajput chiefs continuing to be masters of their own petty principalities. There is hardly any evidence that even Sher Shah exercised effective control over this outlying region, except that he received tribute from it.⁶ It is now authoritatively believed that besides these petty local principalities another family of kings, perhaps the progenies of the Karnataka family of Tirhut, ruled on both sides of the Gandak (roughly corresponding to district Gorakhpur, which included the present district of Deoria till 1946 and Champaran) for a greater part of the 15th century. At least the names of two kings of this family, Prathivi Simhadeva (1431—35) and Madansimhadeva (1446—59) are testified to by documentary evidence. The latter was the author of the celebrated work, *Madana-ratnapradipa*.⁷ Historical records do not afford anything more to connect their names or the names of other rulers of their family with the development of the history of the region covered by this district

The Bisens of Majhauili, claiming their emergence in the southern part of the district from the beginning of the 12th century

1. Lal, K. S. : *Twilight of the Sultanate*, p. 9

2. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 151

3. Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 151

4. Elliot and Dowson : *The History of India as told by its Own Historians*, Vol. V, (1964), p. 90

5. *Ibid.*; Nizamuddin, Khwaja : *Tabaqat-i-Akbari* (Eng. trans. by B. De), p. 353

6. Lari, Ahmar., *op. cit.*, p. 17; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 176

7. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI, p. 408

A. D., belonged to one of the most prominent Rajput clans. Initially they kept aloof from the Domwars or Domkatars, their strong neighbours on the west¹ who, about the middle of the 14th century, were supplanted by Chandra Sen, the founder of the Satasi raj, which flourished on the western borders of the present district and who maintained amicable relations with the Bisen raja of Majhauri.² Two generations later war broke out between the rajas of Satasi and Majhauri, which lasted for about a century. The subject of dispute was a piece of land between the two territories near Rudrapur in the south, which was eventually occupied by the Bisens whose domain at the time extended over the whole of Silhat and Salempur.³

With the accession of Akbar in 1556 the history of this tract becomes more accurate and authentic, though it does not seem to have attracted the attention of the monarch till 1565 when Ali Quli Khan Khan-i-Zaman raised the standard of revolt against the imperial authority. The local chieftains are believed to have assisted the rebel, for they never entertained any shred of authority from the imperial court.⁴ Khan-i-Zaman sent his brothers, Bahadur Khan and Sikandar Khan, to instigate the country north of the Ghaghra, which included this district, to rise against the emperor who, as a consequence of this revolt, sent Mir Muiz-ul-Mulk and Todar Mal to crush the rebellion. On hearing of the approach of the imperial forces both Sikandar and Bahadur Khan sued for peace and pardon. But the haughty attitude of Muiz-ul-Mulk compelled the rebels to take up arms against the Mughal forces. In the battle which took place somewhere in Avadh the imperial forces met with complete disaster and defeat.⁵ A peace was temporarily restored through the intercession of Munim Khan (a Mughal general) but Khan-i-Zaman almost immediately rose again in rebellion. On hearing of the discomfiture of the royal forces, Akbar himself marched with a large army to punish the recalcitrant Khan-i-Zaman who got frightened and fled across the Ghaghra into the submontane forest for his life. After the royal forces gave up his pursuit, he emerged and joined, Bahadur Khan and Sikandar Khan, near the Ganga. Having been pardoned a second time, he again rose in rebellion a year later only to be defeated and killed with his brother, Bahadur Khan. Sikandar Khan, pursued by the imperial army, escaped to Ayodhya from where he took to the river and crossing the Ghaghra marched to

1. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 110

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 110

4. *Ibid.*, p. 177

5. Ahmad, Nizam-ud-din: *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, Vol. II (Eng. trans. by B. De), pp. 295-296; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 177

Gorakhpur after passing through this district. The pursuing forces did not remain content with the quelling of Khan-i-Zaman's rebellion and another force under Fidai Khan, a general of Akbar, came into conflict with the raja of Majhauri who was believed to have assisted Khan-i-Zaman against the imperial troops. At first the Bisen raja contemplated resisting but eventually submitted and the story goes that he became a Muslim and took the name of Islam Khan or Mohammad Salim and founded the town of Salempur.¹ This local story has little historical evidence to support it. Another account attributes the name of the town to the celebrated Sheikh Salim Chishti who is said to have received a grant of land opposite Newapur, the name of the village being changed to Salempur in his honour.² Having subdued Bisen, the imperial forces marched up the river Rapti, defeating the raja of Satasi and bringing the entire area of Gorakhpur, which then included this district, under imperial control. A garrison was stationed at Gorakhpur to ensure due observance of allegiance by the local chieftains. Around 1572, the district came within the charge of Payinda Mohammad Bangash with his headquarters at Gorakhpur. He exercised his authority over this tract as a deputy of Munim Khan Khan-i-Khanan, the governor of Jaunpur. During that year this tract was wrested from the men of Payinda Mohammad by Yusuf Mohammad, the son of Suleman of Bengal.³ The Afghans were also encouraged to revolt by the local Rajput chieftains. The Gorakhpur garrison of Payinda Mohammed could not check the Afghan revolt and so Munim Khan marched with a large force from Jaunpur to suppress it⁴ and to relieve the place from Afghan ascendancy. On Munim Khan's approach the Afghans fled and joined Daud Khan and others who had raised their heads in Bengal.⁵

The district witnessed flourishing conditions during Munim Khan's short tenure of authority. It no longer remained an unknown and inaccessible tract. It formed a part of the governorship of Bihar with Afzal Khan as its governor, who preferred Gorakhpur for his headquarters to Patna (the official capital) and it continued to be within his sphere of influence till his death in 1612.

In the territorial division of 1596 during Akbar's rule, the whole tract forming this district fell within the sirkar of Gorakhpur in the subah of Avadh, the parganas of Sidhua Jobna, Salempur and

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 298

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 178

4. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VI, p. 40

5. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 178

Shahjahanpur, which now form almost the entire district, corresponding with the old Akbari *mahal* (pargana) of Dewapara. A small portion in the north-west of the district formed the pargana of Haveli. It is believed that the parganas of Sidhua Jobna and Shahjahanpur were at that time included together as a *mahal* in the sirkar of Saran in the province of Bihar and continued to be so till 1730 when that *mahal* was transferred to the sirkar of Gorakhpur. Shahjahanpur became a separate pargana in 1743. Majhauri, whose fortunes seem to have been in the ascendant at that time, was much enlarged towards the north including a considerable portions (now included in the district of Gorakhpur) such as Dhuriapar, Chhillupar, Aonla and Bhaupar. The Bisen Rajputs of that place are recorded as the zamindars of their lands which included, besides the aforementioned places, the two *mahals* of Dewapara and Kotla (also called Dewapara Kuhana) which represented the country beyond the Dewa or Ghagra. These two *mahals* (which correspond to the bulk of the present district of Deoria) had an area of 16,195 bighas and 17 *biswas* under tillage and were assessed at 7,17,840 dams, the local levies numbering 20 horse and 2,000 foot in 1596.¹ Majhauri (or Mahauri as given in the *Ain-i-Akbari*) is separately recorded as having a tillage of 2,523 bighas and was assessed at a land revenue of 6,18,256 dams and contributed a total levy of 2,000 foot.

The statistics available for the district are not articulate about the living conditions of the people as they give only the area of land under cultivation and the strength of the fighting forces which each assessed area was expected to maintain and furnish at the time of war.²

After the death of Afzal Khan in 1612, this region seems to have relapsed into a state of confusion. The local chieftains, who could never reconcile themselves to an outside authority, made the best use of the dwindling imperial sway over this region. In 1625 Raja Basant Singh of Satasi attacked the Mughal governor, drove him away and made himself the overlord of Gorakhpur which included this district. The other local chieftains also enjoyed complete independence and almost all withheld payment of tribute to Delhi. This state continued till Aurangzeb took effective measures to bring the area back under his sovereignty. In 1680, Qazi Khalil-ul-Rahman was appointed *chakladar* of Gorakhpur. He immediately proceeded with a large force to subjugate this region and expelled the raja of Satasi and forced the Sarnet chieftain to take shelter in pargana

1. Abul Fazl: *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. II, p. 186; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 179

2. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 180

(Silhat, where he founded the town of Rudrapur. Exercising complete control, the collection of revenue could be made with some regularity. In 1690, prince Muazzam (who became known as Bahadur Shah) visited Gorakhpur and in his honour a new division with the appellation of Muazzamabad was formed which embraced Gorakhpur and Saran which included a considerable portion of the present district of Deoria. A decade later, Himmat Khan was appointed governor of Avadh together with the *faujdar* of Gorakhpur, which then included almost the entire portion covered by this district.¹

During the fading years of Mughal power, the local chieftains again began to become independent within their small domains, the imperial officers having to remain content with merely nominal submission from them.²

MODERN PERIOD

At the time of Aurangzeb's death in 1707, the area covered by the present district was included in the sirkar of Gorakhpur (in the subah of Avadh)³ which included the region comprised by the modern districts of Gorakhpur, Deoria and Basti. When Bahadur Shah ascended the imperial throne in June, 1707, he appointed Chin Qulich Khan the imperial *faujdar* of Gorakhpur who held it till his resignation in 1710.⁴ But the real power vested in the local Rajput chiefs, who paid a nominal tribute to the imperial treasury. Their independent position was perhaps more strongly felt in this region than in any other part of Uttar Pradesh except the hill country and the north of Avadh.⁵ They freely assigned lands and honours, the imperial sanction for such grants being seldom solicited.

In September, 1722, Saadat Khan, a Saiyid of Nishapur (in Khurasan) and a Shia by faith, was appointed governor of the subah of Avadh, including the *faujdar* of Gorakhpur⁶ (which covered the Deoria region). By 1724, Saadat Khan, though nominally subedar of the imperial government, had almost formed an independent

1. Khan, Saqi Mustad: *Maasir-i-Alamgiri* (Eng. trans. by Sri J. N. Sarkar), p. 202

2. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 181

3. Srivastava, A. L.: *Awadh ke Pratham do Nawab*, (Hindi translation of the *First Two Nawabs of Awadh*), p. 35; Thornton, E.: *A Gazetteer of the Territories of the East India Company and of the Native States on the Continent of India*, Vol. II, p. 388; Irwin, H. C.: *Garden of India*, Vol. I, p. 93

4. Chandra, Satish: *Parties and Politics at the Mughal Court, 1707-1740*, pp. 27-28; Irvine, William: *Later Mughals*, Vol. I, pp. 40-41

5. Nevill, H. R.: *Gorakhpur; A Gazetteer*, p. 181

6. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 33

kingdom—that of Avadh.¹ Accordingly, the region ceased to have anything to do with the imperial government of Delhi as it formed an integral part of the dominions of the nawab of Avadh.

Saadat Khan endeavoured to reduce the power of the strongest rajas who cherished their traditional freedom and were reluctant to submit to the nawab. But while he succeeded fully in the southern portion of the region, his authority was far less generally acknowledged in the northern.² Therefore, towards the beginning of 1725, he turned his attention more closely to the affairs in the northern parganas of the present district where lawlessness, to the extent of anarchy, had been reigning for several years.³ With the help of Banjara mercenaries, Tilak Sen (the ruler of Tilakpur, then in Gorakhpur but now in the terai region of Nepal) had been laying these tracts waste by plunder and rapine.⁴ The Banjaras were responsible for the destruction of numberless villages, with the result that much of the region was left desolate and jungles abounded in every direction.⁵ Saadat Khan despatched a strong force to chastise Tilak Sen and his allies but even after several irregular engagements little impact could be made on them as they disappeared into the forests and resumed their destruction on the withdrawal of the nawab's army.⁶ The whole area suffered from anarchy, the raja of Majhauri being the only chieftain strong enough to maintain peace and security in his domain.⁷ This state of affairs continued till the time of Saadat Khan's son-in-law and successor, Abul Mansur Khan Safdar Jang (1739-1754) who after prolonged warfare restored some sort of order in this area.⁸ In about 1750, he sent a large army into the northern parganas of this region where it routed a force led by Tilak Sen's son.⁹ Tradition has it that it was during this expedition that village Mansurganj (in tahsil Hata) was founded and named after Abul Mansur Khan Safdar Jang.¹⁰ The nawab appointed *chakladars* who depended on the local chieftains' help for the collection of revenue from the cultivators and were powerless where it was withheld.¹¹

1. Burn, R. (Ed.): *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, p. 625; Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 34

2. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 182

3. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 43

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 43-44; Alexander, E. B.: *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces, Gorakhpur District*, p. 444

5. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 182

6. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 44

7. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 182

8. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 44

9. Alexander, E. B., *op. cit.*, p. 445

10. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 277

11. *Ibid.*, p. 182

Safdar Jang died on October 5, 1754, and was succeeded by his only son, Shuja-ud-daula.¹ Except for the first few years of his reign which were devoted to his pleasures, Shuja-ud-daula proved himself to be an efficient administrator and his dominions enjoyed internal peace. Civil feuds and rebellions were few and far between as compared to the times of his predecessors and defiance by the chieftains became a thing of the past. During his reign, the sarkar of Gorakhpur (which included the area of district Deoria) flourished² considerably. It abounded in plenty in all things of everyday use.³

Shuja-ud-daula died in 1775⁴ and was succeeded by his son, Asaf-ud-daula. In 1778, Hannay, a colonel in the British army, was lent to the Avadh government and entrusted with the command of the nawab's troops and the collection of revenue in this tract. He apparently exercised supreme power and enforced it with cruelty and oppression, his only aim being to clear the ground for the entry of the British.⁵ His troops coerced the rajas and a regular land tax was imposed and realised for the first time. The method of collection was coercive and the demand exacted was so excessive that many peasants were compelled to abandon their villages and his name was always recalled with detestation for a long time in these tracts. Hannay was accused by Burke during the impeachment of Warren Hastings of having done incalculable mischief and Mill states that he laid waste a vast tract of country which in former days was rich and flourishing.⁶ The presence of Hannay's military force also gave a long rope to the revenue officials in the collection of dues.

Hannay left in 1781. Matters were rendered worse by the inroads of the Banjaras, who once again became a scourge to almost the entire region. Their activity was marked in the area of the present Deoria district as there was no one to oppose them.⁷ With their strength increasing, they began to take active part in the politics of the region, fomenting quarrels between the rajas and adding

1. Srivastava, A. L., *op. cit.*, p. 260

2. Srivastava, A. L.: *Shuja-ud-Daulah*, Vol. I, p. 14

3. Srivastava, A. L.: *Shuja-ud-Daulah*, Vol. II, p. 347

4. *Ibid.*, p. 287

5. Irwin, H. C.: *The Garden of India*, Vol. I, p. 78; *Imperial Gazetteer, United Provinces, Gorakhpur Division*, p. 4; Mill, J. and Wilson, H. H.: *History of British India*, Vol. IV, pp. 313-314

6. Mill and Wilson, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 313

7. Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 183-184

whichever side offered the best prospects. In many cases they posed as the agent of the nawab.¹ They usurped all titles, such as *chakladar*, *nazim*, *naib-nazim* and *amil*, but their sole object was plunder against which the local chiefs were helpless.² Ajit Mal, the Bisen raja of Majhauri, mobilised all his forces for the defence of his ancestral domains.³ He also abandoned his possessions in Padrauna in order to form buffers for his estate, with the result that in self defence the smaller chiefs were compelled to place themselves under the rule of Padrauna, who thus became lord of a vast estate.⁴ About the same time Ajit Mal gave ready support to Fateh Sahi (an exile from Saran in Bihar) to establish the Tamkuhi estate in tahsil Padrauna where he was welcomed by the former as a powerful bulwark against Banjara raids.⁵ The policy of Ajit Mal was mostly successful, for these new estate holders rapidly gained the support of their weaker neighbours to the advantage of both parties. They preferred to be dependents of chieftains interested in the maintenance of security rather than to be the prey of lawless marauders. Force and fraud were used in many instances in the formation of these estates. The security thus obtained was of the utmost value to the subordinate landholders.⁶ They also became free from the extortions of the *amils*, who dared not touch the great estate owners of Majhauri, Padrauna and Tamkuhi, with the result that at the time of the cession by the nawab of Avadh of the tract to the East India Company in 1801, in liquidation of his debts, these three estates were the most flourishing and populous in Gorakhpur,⁷ of which the present Deoria district formed a part.

In the beginning of the nineteenth century, the dominions of the Gurkhas and the British were conterminous along the terai which touched the northern part of the present tahsil of Deoria.⁸ At that time the zamindari of Butwal was held by Prithvipal Singh, the raja of Palpa, though some sort of suzerainty was exercised of and on over Butwal by the nawab of Avadh. After the cession of Butwal to the East India Company by the nawab, an agreement was

1. *Ibid.*, p. 184

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 184, 288

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 111, 116, 117, 288

6. *Ibid.*, p. 184

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 111, 118, 184-185; Aitchison, C. U. : *A Collection of Treaties, Engagements and Sanads relating to India and neighbouring countries*, Vol. II, p. 61; Basu, P. : *Oudh and the East India Company*, p. 169; Dewar, Douglas : *A Handbook to the English Pre-mutiny records in the Government Record Room of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh*, p. 404

8. Sanwal, B. D. : *Nepal and the East India Company*, p. 115

made between the collector of Gorakhpur and the representative of Prithvipal Singh by which the latter agreed to pay a rent of Rs 32,000 per annum to the British.¹ This made the Gurkhas cross the border and take possession of a large belt of country lying within British control and they practically annexed Butwal. The Gurkhas murdered Prithvipal Singh for his agreeing to pay rent to the British who gave shelter to his family in Gorakhpur and managed their lands in Butwal through their officers. By 1806, the British had induced the Gurkhas to retreat but the negotiations fell through and the Gurkhas remained undisturbed. In 1810-1811 they became more aggressive and entered Gorakhpur. A boundary commission appointed in 1813 presided over by Bradshaw (Major) could produce no result, the two sides forcing totally different opinions. In the beginning of 1814, the governor general of the East India Company (Lord Hastings), ordered the Gurkhas to quit Butwal and enjoined the magistrate of Gorakhpur to march into the disputed tract if the orders were not obeyed in 25 days.² But the Gurkhas remained where they were and Roger Martin, the magistrate, asked the military officer commanding to take action as a result of which the Gurkha War was declared in November 1814³ but even after protracted fighting the Gurkhas did not relinquish Butwal. The negotiations lingered on for nearly a year when a compromise was reached and a treaty signed at Sagauli in November 28, 1815. But as the Gurkhas refused to ratify the treaty, hostilities were resumed and the British penetrated into Nepal and defeated the Gurkhas. The raja of Nepal agreed to ratify the treaty on March 4, 1816.⁴ During the war conditions in the Deoria region became disastrous. Lawlessness was rampant till the conclusion of the hostilities, after which numerous bands of dacoits and robbers were either captured or dispersed. Peace was gradually restored and the region prospered till the freedom struggle of 1857.

At that time the area covered by the present district of Deoria was in the charge of the collector of Gorakhpur. The military force garrisoned at Gorakhpur consisted of Indian soldiers, the 17th Native Infantry, whose headquarters was at Azamgarh and a squadron of the 12th Irregular Cavalry.⁵ About May 25, 1857,

1. *Ibid.*, p. 132

2. Alexander, E. B., *op. cit.*, p. 453

3. Dodwell, H. H. : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V (First Indian Reprint), p. 378

4. Dodwell, H. H., *op. cit.*, Vol. V, pp. 378-379; Sanwal, B. D., *op. cit.*, p. 209

5. Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Freedom Struggle in Uttar Pradesh*, Vol. IV, p. 149

the Indian sepoy refused to use the newly-circulated greased cartridges.¹ By the end of May precautionary measures had been taken by the authorities, the jail guard and police also being strengthened. In spite of all threats and promises, on May 31 the zamindars of village Paina (in tahsil Deoria) started capturing the boats laden with grain on the Ghaghra² and the thanedar of Salempur was deputed to quell the disturbances near Barhaj (a town in tahsil Deoria). On June 5 news arrived in Deoria that the Indian soldiers at Azamgarh had joined the freedom struggle. The following day, the Indian soldiers at Gorakhpur refused to march to Azamgarh when ordered. The next day 20 convicts were killed in the firing when they attempted to break out of jail. On June 8 an abortive attempt was made by the Indian sepoy to seize the treasury.³ The next day news came from the British Resident (Ramsay) at Kathmandu that a contingent of 200 Gurkhas was being despatched to Gorakhpur.⁴ On June 10 a proclamation was issued to the effect that the estates of those zamindars who were found guilty of any act to subvert the government or of any act of abetment would be forfeited and made over to those who exerted themselves in the cause of the British.⁵ Meanwhile Wynyard, the district judge, had practically assumed the charge of Gorakhpur and endeavoured to maintain order by posting detachments of cavalry throughout Gorakhpur (including the area covered by the present district of Deoria). Martial law was proclaimed but the struggle could not be curbed. The rajas of Satasi and Narharpur openly supported the struggle in these parts. The Gurkhas arrived on June 30 and for the next month the British authorities retained hold on the region of the district, though on the outskirts the fight for freedom continued. The zamindars of Paina and the neighbouring villages closed the navigation of the Ghaghra. The rajas of Narharpur, Nagar and Satasi and the Babus of Pandepur held frequent meetings and decided to seek assistance from Avadh⁶ against the British. When the British authority was about to be overcome, Jang Bahadur, the ruler of Nepal, offered the services of the Nepalese army to the British who requested expeditious despatch of help.⁷ On the 29th of July 3,000 Gurkhas from Kathmandu reached Gorakhpur and their colonel (Wroughton) disarmed the remnant of the 17th Native Infantry⁸ which was no longer trusted by the British. But a

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 144, 152

3. *Ibid.*, p. 144

4. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 188

5. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 146

6. Rizvi, S. A. A., *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 152

7. Sen, S. N. : *Eighteen Fifty-seven*, p. 237

8. Rizvi, S. A. A., *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 153

body of cavalry who had accompanied Wroughton's column, turned against the British and marched to Salempur (in tahsil Deoria) where it raided the house of the opium agent.¹

In spite of the arrival of the Gurkha troops in time to help the latter, the British could not restore power and order in the Deoria region. On August 12, the town of Captain Ganj (in tahsil Hata) was occupied by the Indian sepoy among whom was Muhammad Hasan, the ex-nazim of Gorakhpur who had lost his office after the annexation of Avadh. Forty troopers of the 12th Irregular Cavalry, who had been sent for the protection of Captain Ganj, went over to him.²

The Gurkha officers were averse to despatching any of their troops into the interior of Deoria and pleaded to be allowed to take rest after their long and harassing march, as in addition many were suffering with cholera (of whom 150 died) and fever. The Gurkha commander, Pahalwan Singh, publicly stated that his force was reduced to the strength of only four effective regiments.³ The freedom struggle had assumed such dimensions that the British authorities recommended the abandonment of Gorakhpur. When the Gurkhas were leaving, Wynyard summoned all the European planters to Gorakhpur and handed over the charge of the district to the rajas of Majhauri, Satasi, Banshi, Gopalpur and Tamkuhi but the joint magistrate (Bird) insisted on remaining behind to supervise their works. The others accompanied the Gurkhas, who left Gorakhpur on August 13 for Azamgarh. They were followed by a force under Muhammad Hasan who had openly come out against the British and was now proclaimed nazim of Gorakhpur. Two days later the fighting sepoy took charge of thana Mansurganj (in tahsil Hata).⁴ The British policy of governing the territory with the aid of the local rajas failed as the only one to attend on the district authorities was the raja of Gopalpur. The raja of Satasi strengthened his stronghold at Rudrapur (in Deoria) and actively participated in the struggle against the British. Muhammad Hasan arrived at Gorakhpur on August 20, and was welcomed by the agent of the raja of Satasi. The jail guard and his force also joined Muhammad Hasan who released the prisoners in the jail and compelled Bird to fly for his life.⁵ Muhammad Hasan was now supreme in this region. Few persons of any note remained actively loyal to the British except the

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 153-154

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, p. 155

5. *Ibid.*, p. 156

raja of Tamkuhi who protected the government servants but his loyalty was also not beyond doubt as he is reported to have sent his agent with a petition to the rebel leader.¹ The raja of Majhauri also protected some government servants and was exposed to great danger by the arrival of Har Kishan (a compatriot of the famous patriot, Kunwar Singh), who advanced on Salempur with 500 soldiers but the raja was saved by the coming of the Saran column, under Rowcroft,² the commanding officer.

The rule of Muhammad Hasan in the region did not last for more than six months. On December 26, a force consisting of Gurkhas, artillery, Bengal police and the naval brigade was brought from Bihar by Rowcroft which pursued a large body of the freedom fighter who retreated to Majhauri where they made a stand against the British but were defeated, many being killed.³ On January 11, 1858, the British forces occupied Gorakhpur and Muhammad Hasan escaped into district Faizabad.⁴

The struggle of 1857-58 was followed by the transfer of power from the East India Company to the British crown. As soon as order was restored, civil administration was re-established. The administrative area under the Commissioner of Gorakhpur, including the present district of Deoria, was merged in the Benares (Varanasi) Division. The town area of Padrauna was established in 1871. In 1873-74 the region was affected by a severe famine. The commissionership of Gorakhpur was re-established on April 1, 1891. The town area of Deoria was established in 1892. In 1893 the Gaurakshini (the anti-cow-slaughter movement) was started in this region. The region was again visited by famine in 1877 and 1896 and in 1906 serious floods occurred in it.

In time the district could not but be influenced by the inspiration engendered by the formation of the Indian National Congress in 1885 by some freedom loving people (notably the English founder, Allan Octavian Hume) and some prominent Indian leaders. Though the people of this area, as of the rest of India, had little sympathy with the British, the Deoria region helped their efforts in the 1914-1918 World War by supplying combatants and non-combatants and by subscribing towards the Indian war loan.

Mahatma Gandhi launched his famous non-co-operation movement in August, 1920, and the people of Deoria supported it

1. *Ibid.*, p. 160
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 158-159
3. *Ibid.*, pp. 297-299
4. Alexander, E. B., *op. cit.*, p. 457

wholeheartedly. The movement received a great impetus from his visit to Gorakhpur on February 8, 1921.¹ A special force of volunteers was raised for implementing the programme. On August 14, a political conference of the Congress was held in village Harpur (in tahsil Hata) and a week later a large Congress meeting took place at Lar (in tahsil Deoria). Jawaharlal Nehru visited Deoria on September 17 and was welcomed by a huge crowd.² Alarmed at the mass enthusiasm for the movement, the government promulgated the prohibitory order under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in Deoria and Hata. The movement continued to gather momentum and nationalist activities increased. Night patrolling by volunteers at Padrauna, Deoria, Kasia and Ramkola was introduced to solicit the people's sympathy for the movement. Meetings were organised in every part of the district and processions became a daily feature. Liquor shops were picketed and palm trees (*tar*), from which juice is collected to prepare toddy, were cut down by the score. In Salempur, a man found drinking in a shop was taken round the town by volunteers after his face had been blackened and with a necklace of shoes round his neck. Foreign goods were boycotted and foreign cloth burnt publicly. Clothes of khadi and Gandhi caps became popular and a symbol of protest against British rule. Normal studies in educational institutions were disrupted as students left their classes to take part in meetings and processions. On January 31, 1922, a meeting was held by volunteers at Hata at which they decided to picket Mundera Bazar,³ a market adjacent to Chauri Chaura (in district Gorakhpur). This gave rise to the Chauri Chaura *Kand* incident,⁴ resulting in the killing of a police subinspector and some policemen. This was one of the reasons why Mahatma Gandhi suspended the non-co-operation movement.

In 1923 some volunteers of Padrauna and Deoria went to Nagpur to participate in the Nagpur Jhanda Satyagraha which was offered in protest against an order prohibiting the taking out of a procession with tricolour flags (the flags of the Indian National Congress) on the first day of May.

1. Hallows, B. J. K.: *District Gazetteers of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, Supplementary Notes and Statistics up to 1931-32*, Vol. XXXI (D) Gorakhpur District, p. 24
2. *Swatantra Sangram ke Sainik, District Deoria*, (Published by the Information Department, U. P.), p. 7
3. Hallows, B. J. K., *op. cit.*, p. 25
4. Sitaramayya, Pattabhi: *The History of the Indian National Congress*, Vol. I, (Hindi translation, Delhi, (1948), p. 193; Gupta, Manmath-nath: *History of the Indian Revolutionary Movement*, pp. 99-100; Chopra, P. N.: *Rafi Ahmad Kidwai*, p. 17

On April 13, 1924, Jawaharlal Nehru visited Deoria again and presided over a political conference. He appealed to the people to subscribe to the funds of the Indian National Congress, which led to large sums of money being collected for the organisation.

In 1928, when the Simon Commission visited India, it was subjected to boycott all over the Country, black-flag demonstrations and protest meetings being held in Deoria also. Two large meetings were also held at Hata and Padrauna on July 15, 1928,¹ to protest against the government's repressive policies. In that year, when Biswanath Mukerji, a member of the All-India Congress Committee, was holding a public meeting at Tamkuhi, he was brutally assaulted by the servants of the raja of Tamkuhi.²

Gandhiji visited Padrauna and Deoria on October 4, 1929, and received a rousing ovation everywhere. The crowd that welcomed him at Padrauna and Deoria was about 25,000 strong. From both these places he received a sum amounting to Rs 9,200 for the work of the Congress. His wife, Kasturba, and the leaders, J. B. Kriplani and Sri Prakash (of Varanasi) accompanied him. He congratulated those who had participated in the Nagpur Jhanda Satyagraha.

Gandhiji's famous Dandi march undertaken on March 12, 1930, as a symbolic protest against the government monopoly of salt and salt taxation and to assert the right for the manufacture of salt, was the signal for the beginning of the civil disobedience movement in Deoria also (as elsewhere in the Country). The first phase emerged at a meeting held at village Baikuntpur in Deoria at which it was decided to violate the salt law. This was followed by the manufacture of contraband salt on April 13 under the leadership of Baba Raghava Das at Bangra Bazar. Salt was publicly manufactured not only in Deoria proper but also in all parts of the district. The enthusiasm of the people for this movement was unprecedented. The tricolour was taken out in processions in Deoria, Barhaj, Padrauna and Rudrapur. Many arrests were made but picketing of liquor and toddy shops and shops of foreign cloth continued. An excessive amount of tax was realised by the government from the shopkeepers of Padrauna³ as a repressive measure but large numbers of people kept up their non-violent struggle.

A period of intense activity and widespread agitation against the government and the landlords followed. Early in 1931 the

tenants protested against the illegal and oppressive cesses realised by the landlords, often with the help of the police. The farmers enrolled themselves as Congress volunteers and took out large processions throughout this region. The police combed Rudrapur, Hata, Padrauna and Barhaj, arrested volunteers and kisans and sealed Congress offices.¹ The oppression to which the peasantry of this region was subjected is best summed up in the words of Jawaharlal Nehru in his letter dated June 6, 1931, to the chief secretary of the State, "I was met with numerous complaints of ill-treatment and harassment of kisans by zamindars and, in many instances, by the police or by chowkidars . . . Large numbers of our men have been proceeded against under Section 107 and other sections. Lathi charges have taken place on the kisans and some of our volunteers. It is stated, were beaten inside the police station."² But these oppressive measures could not crush the spirit of the people. They invited the national leader, Purushottam Das Tandon, on June 8, 1931, to address their meetings at Indupur (in tahsil Hata).³

Rafi Ahmad Kidwai (a great national leader) visited Deoria on May 11, 1935, and presided over a two-day conference of the Congress.

Under the Government of India Act of 1935, Congress decided to contest the elections for the State assembly. All the seats allotted to the Deoria region were won by the Congress candidates with an overwhelming majority. This district also enjoyed the regime of the first Congress ministry in Uttar Pradesh which was sworn in on April 1, 1937, with Govind Ballabh Pant as the leader. The ministry resigned in 1939 on the issue of India's active participation in the Second World War⁴ only if she were assured her independence. A year earlier (in 1938) Deoria was visited by severe floods.

When Mahatma Gandhi launched the programme of individual satyagraha in 1940, the response of the people was once again enthusiastic and all leaders of any consequence in the district were sent to jail⁵ by the British government.

When the Quit India movement was launched on August 9, 1942, Deoria did not lag behind. There were spontaneous hartals in every large town or village, followed by protest meetings. Processions

1. *Swatantrata Sangram ke Sainik, District Deoria*, p. 13

2. Gopal, S. (Ed.): *Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, Vol. V, pp. 415-416

3. *Swatantrata Sangram ke Sainik, District Deoria*, p. 14

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 16-19

2. Gopal, S. (Ed.), *op. cit.*, Vol. V, p. 79

3. *Swatantrata Sangram ke Sainik, District Deoria*, p. 17

4. *Ibid.*,

5. *Ibid.*

were also taken out at some places but the demonstrations were peaceful and non-violent. The ruthless measures adopted by the government aggravated the situation. Within three days all the prominent Congress leaders of Deoria were thrown behind the bars.¹ The movement now went underground and on August 13, hundreds of students came from Benaras (Varanasi) and toured the rural areas to encourage the local students to join the movement.² At Deoria, a batch of students hoisted the Congress flag on the engine of a passenger train, which steamed off to Ballia.³ There was also wholesale defiance of the prohibitory orders under Section 144 (Cr. P. C.) and the Congress flag was hoisted on all Congress offices and on many private buildings. The government tried to subdue the surge by adopting the familiar measures of mass arrests, lathi charges on peaceful and defenceless demonstrators, seizing of Congress offices, dishonouring the Congress flag, imposition of collective fines, etc. On August 18 the government official came to village Sisai to realise the collective fines. As the villagers refused to make payment, the officials manhandled three villagers, on which the villagers openly challenged them and they fled. But soon after Baluchi soldiers surrounded the village and machine gunned its inhabitants.⁴ The excesses led to a revolutionary movement in Deoria. On August 21, the revolutionaries cut the telegraph and telephone wires, removed rails, damaged roads, air-strips, bridges, etc., at Kasia, Padrauna, Gauri Bazar, Hata, Captain Ganj, Salempur and Deoria.⁵

The administration now found a ready excuse for embarking on a course of terrorism. The police searched every nook and corner to hunt out any revolutionaries and arrested people on the slightest pretext. On August 23 some Congress workers organized a meeting at Doharia which attracted about 25,000 persons from Deoria and Gorakhpur. The police rushed to the venue of the meeting asked the assembly to disperse. The crowd refused and the police opened fire as a result of which 11 persons were killed.⁶

In connection with the Quit India movement, more than 580 persons from Deoria were convicted to various terms of imprisonment. This movement clearly showed that there was universal discontent against British rule and it was an indication that it could not continue for long. By 1945, when the Second World War ended, British public

opinion in England had veered round to the idea of complete Independence for India.

In 1946, the Deoria region was detached from the district of Gorakhpur and formed into a separate district. On August 15, 1947, the Country (and with it the district) was liberated from alien rule and became Independent. This August day has since been declared as 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 on almost all private buildings. Before the people could fully enjoy the sense of liberation and victory, they woke up to find that a great tragedy had accompanied freedom as the partition of the Country was agreed upon. About 533 displaced persons from Pakistan came into the district and were rehabilitated.

On hearing the news of the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (on January 30, 1948) the whole district went into mourning, schools, markets and offices were closed and several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the father of the nation. Though he died, he still lives in the memory of the people and is remembered on October 2, his birthday, which is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti in the district (as in other parts of the State). On this occasion meetings, discussions and discourses are organised all over the district to eulogise his deeds. The people also take a pledge to serve the nation and follow his way of life.

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 processions being taken out, meetings being held and houses, shops and government buildings, etc., being illuminated. This day is solemnly observed with enthusiasm every year all over the district as Republic Day.

The nation has always venerated those who participated in the freedom struggle. In 1973, on the occasion of the celebration of the silver jubilee year of Independence, 598 persons of the district, who had taken part in India's freedom struggle or their dependents, were presented with *tamra patra* (copperplates) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears.

1. Sahai, Govind : '42 Rebellion, p. 247

2. *Ibid.*, p. 265

3. *Journal of Indian History*, XLIX, p. 22

4. Sahai, Govind, *op. cit.*, p. 248

5. *Swatantrata Sangram ke Sainik, District Deoria*, pp. 23-26

6. *Ibid.*, p. 26

CHAPTER III PEOPLE

GROWTH OF POPULATION

The growth of population in the area covered by the present district during the last seventy years has been phenomenal. This district was carved out of the old district of Gorakhpur in 1946. The first census of this district took place in 1951, when its population was found to be 21,02,627, giving a density of 1,005 persons per square mile (or 388 persons per sq. km).

The decennial growth, with the variation and the percentage of variation in population during the period of 1901-1971 of the region which now forms the district, as per census records of 1971, is as follows :

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1901	14,87,801	—	—
1911	16,20,214	+ 1,32,413	+ 8.90
1921	16,53,979	+ 33,765	+ 2.08
1931	17,66,188	+ 1,12,209	+ 6.78
1941	19,69,943	+ 2,03,725	+ 11.53*
1951	21,02,627	+ 1,32,714	+ 6.74
1961	23,75,073	+ 2,72,443	+ 12.96
1971	28,12,350	+ 4,37,275	+ 18.41

The increase of 2.08 per cent during the second decade was the least and was due to mortality caused by epidemics of plague, smallpox and cholera. By 1971, the population had increased by 13,24,549 persons or 89.08 per cent, almost doubling itself since 1901.

In 1971, the district population consisted of 14,36,123 males and 13,76,227 females. The majority or 97.34 per cent lived in the rural areas and the rest in the urban. The rate of growth of the population of the district during the decade 1961-71 was 18.41 per cent, which was lower than the 19.8 per cent of the State. This district then occupied the 8th position in the State in respect of population. As regards the density of the rural population, the district is second to none in the State which indicates its predominantly agricultural aspect.

According to the central statistical organisation, the total area of the district was 5,400 sq. km. as on July 1, 1971, giving it the 24th place in the State.

In 1971, the density of the population in the district was about 521 per sq. km., which was considerably higher than the State density of 300. The most densely populated tahsil was Deoria, the density being 567 per sq. km. Next came Salempur with 549, Padrauna with 499 and Hata with 469 persons per sq. km. The density in the rural areas of the district was about 508 and in the urban 2,875 persons per sq. km. The highest rural density was 537 in tahsil Salempur and the urban 10,349 in Seorahi, a town of Padrauna tahsil. Like most of the districts situated in the eastern plain of the State, this one has a sex ratio ranging between 900-1,000. The ratio figures of the area covered by the present district between 1901 and 1971 with the number of males and females are as follows :

Year	Male	Female	No. of females per 1,000 males
1901	7,39,847	7,47,954	1,011
1911	8,12,148	8,08,066	995
1921	8,41,481	8,12,498	966
1931	9,08,686	8,57,502	944
1941	10,01,126	9,68,787	988
1951	10,49,928	10,52,699	1,003
1961	11,86,527	11,88,548	1,002
1971	14,36,123	13,76,227	958

The ratio of 958 in 1971 was considerably higher than the State average of 879. The district shows a marked difference between the rural and urban sex ratios which may be on account of the migration of the rural male population to the towns in search of employment. The sex ratio in the rural and urban areas was 963 and 818 females per 1,000 males respectively. The tahsilwise figures were 911 for Hata, 949 for Padrauna, 1,018 for Deoria and 1,026 for Salempur. The corresponding figures at the census of 1961 were 933, 1,007, 1,015 and 1,075 respectively.

In 1971, the district contained 3,559 inhabited villages and 4 towns. In 1961, the number of inhabited villages and towns was 3,552 and 3 respectively. In 1951 there were 7 notified towns in the district but the number came down to three in 1961 as the four towns of Lar, Rudrapur, Rampur and Captain Ganj were declassified. The number of villages has registered an increase of 269 since 1951.

Distribution of Population

In 1971 the distribution of the population according to different age groups was as follows :

Age-group (in years)	District population			Rural population			Urban population		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
0-14	11,89,356	6,22,873	5,66,483	11,55,202	6,04,720	5,50,482	34,154	18,153	16,001
15-19	2,14,468	1,17,889	96,579	2,06,706	1,13,292	93,414	7,762	4,597	3,165
20-24	1,89,560	89,897	99,663	1,82,808	85,870	96,938	6,752	4,027	2,725
25-29	2,04,677	96,903	1,07,774	1,98,408	93,667	1,04,741	6,269	3,236	3,033
30-39	3,63,330	1,75,283	1,88,147	3,52,694	1,69,451	1,83,243	10,736	3,832	3,904
40-49	2,78,720	1,40,879	1,37,841	2,70,566	1,36,218	1,34,348	8,154	4,661	3,493
50-59	1,82,496	97,695	84,801	1,77,638	94,798	82,840	4,838	2,897	1,961
60 and above	1,89,608	94,694	94,914	1,85,184	92,983	92,801	4,424	2,311	2,113
Age not stated	35	10	25	35	10	25	—	—	—
Total	28,12,350	14,36,123	13,76,227	27,29,241	13,90,409	13,38,832	83,109	45,714	37,395

Population by Tahsils

The district had four tahsils in 1971—Hata, Padrauna, Deoria and Salempur—3,559 inhabited villages and the 4 towns of Padrauna and Seorahi in tahsil Padrauna, Deoria in tahsil Deoria and Gaura Barhaj in tahsil Salempur. All, except Seorahi (town area) were managed by municipal boards. They accounted for 2.7 per cent of the district population in 1971 as shown below :

Name of town	Area in sq. km.	Population		
		Total	Male	Female
Deoria	16.19	38,161	21,531	16,630
Gaura Barhaj	5.10	17,943	9,287	8,656
Padrauna	6.89	19,450	10,705	8,745
Seorahi	0.73	7,555	4,191	3,364
Total	28.91	83,109	45,714	37,395

According to the 1971 census, the tahsilwise break up of the rural and urban population with the number of villages and towns was as follows :

Tahsil	Villages		Towns	Population			Percentage of total popula- tion	Rural/ urban percen- tage
	Inhabited	Uninha- bited		Persons	Males	Females		
Hata								
Rural	694	26	—	6,60,920	3,45,729	3,15,191	23.5	100.0
Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	694	26	—	6,60,920	3,45,729	3,15,191	23.5	100.0
Padrauna								
Rural	861	41	—	7,01,434	3,58,775	3,42,684	25.2	96.2
Urban	—	—	2	27,005	14,896	12,109	00.8	8.3
Total	861	41	2	7,28,464	3,73,671	3,54,793	26.0	100.0

Deoria

Rural	915	40	—	6,79,679	3,45,742	3,33,937	24.2	94.6
Urban	—	—	1	38,161	21,591	16,630	1.3	5.4
Total	915	40	1	7,17,840	3,67,273	3,50,567	25.5	100.0

Salempur

Rural	1,089	141	—	6,87,183	3,40,163	3,47,020	24.4	97.4
Urban	—	—	1	17,943	9,287	8,656	0.6	2.6
Total	1,089	141	1	7,05,126	3,49,450	3,55,676	25.0	100.0
Grand total	3,559	248	4	28,12,350	14,36,123	13,76,227	100.0	—

The extent of population in the 3,559 inhabited villages of the district was as follows :

Range of population	Number of villages	Persons	Males	Females	Percentage of rural population
Less than 200	532	58,073	29,622	28,451	2.1
200—499	1,109	3,85,649	1,95,037	1,90,612	41.1
500—999	1,128	8,01,753	4,06,785	3,94,968	29.4
1,000—1,999	586	8,15,974	4,15,703	4,00,271	29.9
2,000—4,999	184	5,14,500	2,63,317	2,51,183	18.8
5,000—9,999	16	1,05,114	54,839	50,275	3.9
10,000 and above	4	48,178	25,106	23,072	1.8
Total	3,559	27,29,241	13,90,409	13,38,832	100.0

About 97.3 per cent of the total district population lived in the rural areas, inhabited villages numbering 1,641 were of small size, each with a population of under 500 the medium-size villages with the population between 500, and 2,000 numbering 1,714. The remaining 204 villages were large ones, with a population of above 2,000 persons.

The area and population of the district in 1961 and 1971 have been stated in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Immigration and Emigration

Immigration does not appear to have contributed to the growth of the population of the district. The census of 1951 shows that of the total number of inhabitants in the district, 96 per cent was born within its boundaries and only the remaining 4 per cent was made up of immigrants of which 1.8 was born in other districts of the State and 2.2 in other parts of India or abroad. About 36,691 persons came from other neighbouring districts leaving only 819 from other parts of the State. Similarly of the 44,764 immigrants from the adjacent States, 43,465 were from Bihar, 530 from Punjab, 492 from Rajasthan, 162 from Madhya Pradesh and remaining 115 were from other States. Of the immigrants who came from territories beyond India, 351 were from Pakistan and 389 had their birthplace in other territories. In 1961, among the people enumerated in the district, 94.1 per cent was born within the district, 2.8 per cent in districts of the State, 3 per cent in other parts of India and 0.1 per cent in other countries. Among those from other countries, 526 were from Nepal, 482 from Pakistan, 32 from Burma and 7 from other countries. The rural area returned 96.2 per cent as immigrants and the remaining 3.8 per cent was returned from the urban areas. Of the immigrants, 11.8 per cent was males and 88.2 per cent females. Of the immigrants from adjacent States, 69,824 persons were from Bihar, 618 from Rajasthan, 559 from Punjab, 324 from Madhya Pradesh, 27 from Delhi and 4 from Himachal Pradesh.

The number of emigrants from the district is not available except that many Muslim inhabitants migrated to Pakistan after the partition of the country in 1947. Some people have also gone out for purposes of employment, trade or business or on account of marriage.

During the non-agricultural seasons, some rural inhabitants shift temporarily to urban areas in search of other occupation. A small percentage of the educated among the rural inhabitants is settled in the urban areas for purposes of employment and the education of their children. The movement of people from the urban areas to the villages is negligible.

Displaced Persons

According to the census of 1951, the number of displaced persons that migrated to the district (mostly from Pakistan—largely Hindus and Sikhs) was some 9 and 357 in 1946 and 1947 respectively, in 1948 and 1949 it was 140 and 10 respectively and in 1950 it was 24. Of their total population, 87.2 per cent came from Pakistan and 12.8 per cent from unstated countries. Most of the displaced persons settled in the urban areas of the district. As revealed by the census of 1971, there had not been much increase in their number till 1971.

Various measures were taken by the government to rehabilitate these displaced persons in agriculture, government service, trade and industry and by advancing loans, giving licences for selling controlled items and other facilities. Most of them became engaged in business and all settled down and merged in the district population.

LANGUAGE

The extent in the district in 1971 of different languages spoken as the mother-tongue in each case is indicated below :

Mother-tongue	Spoken by persons		
	Total	Males	Females
Hindi	27,09,492	13,78,757	13,24,675
Urdu	1,05,919	55,799	50,120
Persian	957	625	332
Bengali	692	200	492
Punjabi	470	247	223
Gorakham/Nepali	360	205	155
Sindhi	79	38	41
Rajasthani	212	144	68
Marathi	63	48	15
English	50	17	33
Gujarati	30	7	23
Malyalam, Kannada, Arabic/Arabi, Telugu, Tamil and Assamese	Each having less than 20 persons		

In 1971, Hindi was the mother-tongue of about 96.1 per cent (with all its regional dialects) of the inhabitants of the district, followed by Urdu, spoken by about 3.7 per cent persons.

The common tongue of the people is known as Bhojpuri which is directly descended from the Prakrit of Magadha. This language is further divided according to locality and the type in use in Deoria (which might be termed northern standard Bhojpuri) is called Sarwaria which is generally spoken by all sections of the population.

Script

The Devanagiri script is used for writing Hindi and the Persian scripts for Urdu, other languages generally using their own particular scripts.

RELIGION AND CASTE

The numbers of adherents of the different religions followed in the district in 1971 were as shown below :

Religions	Adherents						
	Total			Males		Females	
	Persons	Males	Females	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Hinduism	23,56,249	11,58,034	11,98,215	11,19,105	38,929	11,66,725	31,490
Islam	4,54,665	2,77,360	1,77,305	2,70,789	6,571	1,71,582	5,723
Sikhism	183	108	75	16	92	14	61
Christianity	1,171	574	597	483	91	502	95
Jainism	55	30	25	4	26	4	21
Buddhism	23	15	8	12	3	5	3
Religion not stated	4	2	2	—	2	—	2
Total	28,12,350	14,36,123	13,76,227	13,90,409	45,714	13,38,832	37,395

There were 83.7 per cent Hindus, 16.1 per cent Muslims and 0.2 per cent Sikhs, Christians, Jains and Buddhists in the rural areas. Of the urban population 84.7 per cent were Hindus, 14.7 per cent Muslims and the remaining 0.6 per cent included Sikhs, Christians, Jains and Buddhists. The higher percentage of Muslims in the rural areas as compared to that in the urban is also a peculiarity of this district.

Principal Communities

Hindus—The Hindus, traditionally divided into four principal castes—the Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaish and Shudra and their numerous subcastes and other groups which have acquired the status of independent castes, have shown signs of becoming less rigid in religious matters and those pertaining to caste restrictions, etc. It is difficult to ascertain the exact number in each group, caste or subcaste, because people of the same group or caste often bear different surnames.

The bulk of the Brahmanas are known as Sarwaris, a distortion of the term Sarjuparis meaning inhabitants of the tract north of the Ghaghra. The Sakaldipi, Kanaujia and some other subdivisions are somewhat sparsely represented here. Many Brahmanas here have the label 'Sawalakhi'. Other Brahmana subcastes represented here are the Tiwari, Sukula, Dube, Mishra and Bhargava.

The Kshatriyas are considerable in number and are spread all over the district, their number being larger in tahsil Hata. They belong to numerous groups, the foremost being the Bisen. The Bisens are evenly distributed all over the district but their number in tahsil Deoria is the largest. Another Rajput clan, the Panwar, is strongest in tahsils Hata and Deoria. The Sarnet Rajputs are comparatively larger in number in tahsil Hata. The other well known clans represented in the district are the Kaushik, Surajbansi, Chandel, Palwar, Amethia, Baghel and Chauhan. By occupation they are generally agriculturists. The Bhuinhars are also numerous in the district, particularly in tahsil Salempur. Their chief subdivisions are the Gautam, Kinwar and Gaur. They are now generally agriculturists.

The Vaishas are dispersed all over the district, their number being larger in the tahsils of Deoria and Padrauna. They monopolize the greater part of the district trade and money-lending business. The Kandus (generally confined to the eastern part of the State) outnumber the other Vaish subcastes. They are generally engaged in sugar manufacturing and grain parching. The Kasaundhans are mainly money-lenders. The Patanwars, Parwars, Rauniars

and Unais, also belong mostly to the eastern part of the district. The Agarwals and Agraharis are also prominent Vaishas. As elsewhere in the State, they are generally people of wealth and substance.

The Ahirs are fairly evenly distributed throughout the district and are strongest in tahsils Padrauna and Deoria. The majority is engaged in agriculture and forms the backbone of the cultivating community. They are said to have come here with the Rajputs. Women Ahirs were once employed as wet nurses. Several Ahir families owe their wealth and status to a Rajput foster-brother of the founder and are distinguished by the name Bargaha. The majority belong to the Gwalbans subcaste (which is settled in the eastern districts) and the rest to the Dhindhori clan.

The Koeris are skilled cultivators but devote more attention to market gardening and the production of sugar-cane and other valuable crops. They are evenly distributed over the district but are strongest in tahsil Deoria. Their subsections are the Kanaujia, Bhagatiya, Katiya, Jurihar, etc.

The Kurmis are also hardworking cultivators, unequalled in general farming. Their womenfolk also participate in the work in the fields. They are strongest in tahsil Hata. They claim descent from Mayur, the founder of the Bisen Rajputs. Their important subdivisions are the Dhelphor of Hata, the Chanau of Padrauna, the Sainthwar, Jaiswar, Patariha, Utarha and Naipali.

The Kahars are distributed all over the district. The Karmkors, who are closely akin to them, are confined mainly to tahsil Padrauna. Previously their main job was carrying the palanquin, drawing and filling water, washing utensils, etc., but now they are mainly employed as domestic servants as also are the Baries, who draw water and make *pattals* (leaf platters, bowls and containers).

The occupational groups like the Barhai (carpenter), Bharbhujia (grain-parcher), Chippi (cotton-printer), Darzi (tailor), Kori or Orh (weaver), Kumhar (potter), Lohar (blacksmith), Nai (barber), Sonar (goldsmith) and Mallah (boatman), which together form a small percentage of the Hindu population, are spread throughout the district.

About forty subdivisions of the Scheduled Castes are represented in the district. In 1971 the people of these groups numbered 4,38,861 of which 2,20,853 males and 2,18,008 females formed nearly 18.6 per cent of the Hindu and 15.61 per cent of the total district population. They contribute to 15.82 per cent of the rural and

about 8.58 per cent of the urban population. The Chamars are the largest in number with a population of 2,79,831 (males 1,43,104 and females 1,36,727). They form the bulk of agricultural labourers, most of them having given up their traditional profession of cobbler. Dhobies, who still follow their old profession of washing clothes, numbered 42,958 in 1971. Next came the Dusadh (32,824); Pasi or Tarmale (14,949); Musahar (13,024); Khatik (9,614); Gual (5,741); Dom (5,723); Bansphor (2,136); Kori (2,131); Nat (1,977); Balmiki (1,821); Hela (1,334); Dangar (1,276); Dhanuk (1,264); Dharkar (1,003); Turariha (839); Basor (809); Dabgar (755); Kanjar (574); Beldar (544); Rawat (266); Barwar (224); Majhwar (160); Khorot (117); Baheliya (116); Kharwar (103); Hari (89); Kol (84); Bhuyiar (51); Lalbegi (51); Badhik (36); Domor (25); Balai (24); Agariya (22); Shilpkar (18); Baiswar (11); Saharya (2) and Bhandu (1). The unspecified Scheduled Castes numbered (16,332).

In 1971, there were 320 members of the Scheduled Tribes, of whom 174 were males and 146 females. The majority (240) resided in the rural areas and 206 were to be found in tahsil Salempur. Only 7 were Bhotias and the remaining were unclassified.

In 1971, the distribution of the population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the district was as follows :

District/Tahsil	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
District						
Rural	4,31,726	2,17,037	2,14,689	240	125	115
Urban	7,135	3,816	3,319	80	49	31
Total	4,38,861	2,20,853	2,18,008	320	174	146
Hata						
Rural	1,21,447	62,156	59,291	25	15	10
Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,21,447	62,156	59,291	25	15	10
Padrauna						
Rural	1,05,476	52,779	52,697	6	1	5
Urban	2,049	1,074	975	—	—	—
Total	1,07,525	53,853	53,672	6	1	5
Deoria						
Rural	1,03,923	52,482	51,441	3	2	1
Urban	2,982	1,638	1,344	80	49	31
Total	1,06,905	54,120	52,783	83	51	32
Salampur						
Rural	1,00,880	49,620	51,260	206	107	99
Urban	2,104	1,104	1,000	—	—	—
Total	1,02,984	50,724	52,260	206	107	99

The members of the Scheduled Castes were given the name 'Harijan' by Mahatma Gandhi and are usually called by this appellation. The Arya Samaj at the social level and the Congress movement at the political were instrumental, to a great extent, in breaking down caste barriers. To redress the grievances of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act, 1947, and the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, were enacted. These legislative measures authorised them to use public wells, visit temples and other religious places and to maintain a status equal with other castes but in practice they have yet to be accepted as equals by the other castes. After 1947, the State Harijan welfare department has taken measures to improve their social and economic condition by arranging loans, free education, residential facilities and the like for them. Seats have been reserved for their appointment in government services and educational institutions. Most of the Harijans are still uneducated, illiterate, backward and economically poor.

Muslim—Most of the Muslims of the district are Sunnis, only a few thousands being Shias. They are more numerous in tahsil Padrauna. Of their subdivisions in the district, the Julaha has the largest number of persons who call themselves Momins). Closely akin to this group is the Dhunia, Dhuna or Behana, the hereditary occupation of which is cotton carding though its members often pursue other occupations.

The Sheikh subdivision occupies the second place in respect of numbers and is the largest Muslim group in tahsil Hata. Many of the members are of Hindu origin and have adopted either new names or the names of gazi or mufti, their chief subsections being the Qureshi and Siddiqi, the former being resident mainly in the tahsils of Padrauna and Deoria. The Ansari, Abbasi, Faruqi and Usmani are also subsections of the Sheikh subdivision.

The Pathan subdivision has comparatively a smaller number of people. The Lodi, Yusufzai, Kakar, Ghor, Dilazak, Rohilla and Bangash are their important clans. There are many unspecified Pathans of Rajput origin. The Khanzada subdivision comprises Muslims who were originally Rajputs. They belong to the tahsils of Padrauna and Deoria. Their chief clans are the Bais, Panwar, Chauhan and Bisen, as also the Chandel, Dikhit, Raghubansi and Surajbansi whose members have retained these names. One of the Bisen rajas of Majhauili adopted Islam but few of his clansmen appear to have followed his example. Most of the Khanzadas are the descendants of immigrants from Avadh.

The remaining Muslim subdivisions, mostly occupational, are the Darzi, Faqir, Hajjam, Manihar, Dhobi and Qassab.

Sikh—In 1971, there were 183 Sikhs in the district of whom 108 were males and 75 females, 30 residing in the rural area.

Jain—The Jains in the district numbered 55 in 1971 with 47 residing in the urban areas, the males being 30 and the females 25.

Buddhist—There were 23 Buddhists in the district—the smallest group of religionists, of whom 15 were living in the rural areas, 5 of them being females.

Christians—There were 1,171 Christians in the district in 1971 of whom 574 were males and 597 females. The majority of them (985) were living in the rural areas. Most of them being Protestants.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Hindu—Hinduism (here as elsewhere in the country) is a collection of diverse beliefs, doctrines and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the *paramatman* (divine essence). The Hindus believe in complete freedom of thought and action so far as religious beliefs and practices are concerned. This has naturally given rise to many philosophical schools and sects. A unique feature of the religion is the belief in the transmigration of souls and rebirth after death according to the actions performed in life. Hinduism includes the worship of a pantheon of gods in their various aspects, the chief being Brahma, Siva, Vishnu and the consorts, Parvati and Lakshmi of the last two respectively and Rama, Sita, Hanuman, Krishna and Shakti in her different forms. It includes the worship of tutelary village and other deities in their various aspects, spirits and powers of natural phenomena such as streams, trees, rocks and *nagas* (snakes), the sun, moon, rain, fire and cosmic forces (often conceived as personal beings in the forms of gods and goddesses). The observance of various rituals when taking a holy bath in a holy river on special occasions (such as Kartiki Purnima, Dasahra and on other important festivals) is also common in the district. Worship in temples is not obligatory and only a few visit them daily, others doing so only on special occasions. Some people also have a separate place for puja in their homes where the idols if a favourite deity or deities are kept and worshipped and prayers performed daily in the morning and evening. Fasts are also observed on various days according to certain dates of the lunar calendar and on important festivals like Nav Durga, Rama Navami, Jannamastami, etc.

Discourses and recitations (*kathas*) from religious books like the *Gita* and *Srimad Bhagavata* and collective singing of devotional hymns (*kirtans*) are sometimes arranged privately or publicly. The illiterate and more backward sections of the community indulge in various superstitious beliefs and practices as well as the propitiation of ghosts, spirits, etc. Hindus also have faith in their favourite saints. Among the few important religious places in the district are Pava (Fazil Nagar) about 15 km. from Kasia, where Mahavira is said to have attained nirvana and a fair is organised every year during Dipavali. There is a historic statue of Dugdheswar Nath at Rudrapur. Tradition associates it with Maharishi Dadhichi, who is said to have donated his *ashthi* (bones) to Indra, to facilitate the victory of the *devas* (gods) over the *asurs* (demons). A fair is also held here on the occasions of Sivaratri and Jyaishta Dasahra.

Sohnag village in Salempur tahsil has also been recognised as a place of great religious importance, as it is said that Parushram (a mythical figure) lived and devoted himself to austerity (*tapasya*) here. This village is also the site of an annual fair, organised in his honour in the month of Vaisakha.

The members of the Arya Samaj are monotheists and repudiate idol worship and rituals. In the district (as elsewhere) they do not worship in temples and generally offer *sandhya* (prayers) twice in the day. Some members of this sect also perform the *havan* (ceremonies of the sacred fire).

There are in the district some followers of the Radhasoami faith which is an offshoot of the *bhakti* cult of Hinduism but is appreciably differentiated from that religion. It is open to people belonging to any caste or creed. The Satsangis (its followers) 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 guru), *sat-shabd* (the true word), *satsang* (the true order or association) and *sat-anurag* (true love).

Muslim—The Muslims of the district believe (as they do elsewhere) that there is one God and follow the principles laid down by the prophet Muhammad. Islam enjoins five duties upon its followers—the recitation of the *kalma* (an expression of faith in God and the prophet Muhammad); the offering of *namaz* (prayers) five times a day, preferably in a mosque (individually or in congregation), the *namaz* of Fajr, Zuhar, Asr, Maghrib and Isha; to keep *roza* (fast during the month of Ramadan; *hajj* to Mecca; and giving *zakat* (contributions and alms) for charitable purposes. Their holy book is the *Koran*.

Most of the Muslims of the district offer prayers (*namaz*) regularly, particularly the *namaz* of Friday. On their important festivals like Id-ul-Fitr and Id-uz-Zuha they offer *namaz* collectively at Idgahs. The sacrifice of sheep and goats is a common feature on the occasion of Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid). There are many mosques in the district, the important ones being at Salempur, Fazil Nagar and Padrauna. The Muslims also have faith in *pirs* (saints) and hold *urs* or celebrations on their anniversaries in their honour. The *urs* of Burhan Sahid is celebrated at village Jangal Sahlipur in tahsil Padrauna and is attended by about 25,000 persons. The *milad* celebrations, to commemorate the birth of the prophet Muhammad in the month of Rabi-al-Awwal, are also arranged here with great rejoicing, when homes are illuminated and religious discourses on the teachings of Islam are arranged.

Sikh—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, disavowing idolatry and has no caste distinctions. It enjoins the wearing by each adherent of a *kanghi* (combs), an iron *kara* (bangle), a *kripan* (dagger) and a *kuchcha* (drawres) and prohibits the cutting of the *kesh* (hair) of the body. The Sikhs attend congregational prayers in *gurdwaras* (places of their worship). The *Granth* is their holy book and consists of teachings uttered by their preachers and gurus. They celebrate the birth anniversaries of their gurus, when the *Granth* is taken out in procession. They also perform collective marriages in *gurdwaras*. In summer they offer water and free sweet drinks to everyone on certain occasions.

Christian—The Christians believe in one God, his only son Jesus Christ, the holy spirit, the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. The *Bible* is their holy book and congregational prayers are performed in churches or chapels particularly on Sundays.

Buddhist—The Buddhists believe in the eight-fold middle path of righteousness: *satya vichar*, *satya viswas*, *satya bhasan*, *satya karma*, *satya nirvoh*, *satya priyatna*, *satya dhyan* and *satya bhao* (right views, right belief, right speech, right conduct, right living, right effort, right meditation and right affection). This path leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and nirvana. Their important pilgrim centre is at Kasia (Kushinagar) where Gautam Buddha achieved *parinirvana*. There is a temple containing a statue of the sleeping of Buddha, about 7 m. in length (perhaps the oldest in such a posture) carved out of a single piece of red stone. Buddhists have constructed many temples here. A fair is also organised here for about a month in Vaisakha. This prominent religious centre is visited by thousands of persons round

the year. According to the census figures of 1971, there were 23 Buddhists in the district.

Jain—The Jains believe in the *triratna* (three gems)—right faith, right knowledge and right conduct which leads to the path of *moksha* (salvation). According to their belief, the universe has had no beginning and will have no end and no creator is necessary to explain the cosmic phenomena. They believe in the doctrine of ahimsa and the law of karma and worship in their temples where the images of their *tirthankaras* or Jinas are installed.

Festivals and Fairs

Hindu—The Hindus of the district celebrate almost all their important festivals, which are spread over the whole year, some of the important ones being briefly described below.

The festivals commence with Shitala Astami, which falls on the 8th day of the dark fortnight of Chaitra, the first month of the Hindu (lunar) calendar, when the goddess, Shitala, is worshipped. On the 9th day of the bright half of the same month is celebrated Rama Navami, the birthday of Rama, when devotees observe a fast till midday, decorate the temples of Rama and worship his idols. The *Ramayana* and *Ramcharitamanas* are read and devotional music and discourses, etc., are arranged. On the 10th day of the latter half of Jyaishta, falls Ganga or Jeth Dasahra when a bath is taken in a river. Naga Panchami falls on the 5th day of the bright half of Sravana, when the *Nagas* (serpent gods) are worshipped by offerings of milk, flowers and rice. On the festival of Raksha Bandhan, a brother pledges to protect his sister. It is celebrated on the 15th of the first half of the same month, when a *rakhi* (thread symbolising protection) is tied by the sister round the right wrist of the brother and the same is done by Brahmana priests in respect of their patrons. Hartalika Teej falls on the third day of the first fortnight of Bhadra and is celebrated widely in the district when women fast for the welfare of their husbands. Janamastami falls on the 8th day of the dark half of Bhadra and celebrates the birth of the god, Krishna. Worshippers fast throughout the day and break their fast only at midnight, which is supposed to be the time of his birth, by tasting *prasad*. The temples of Krishna are decorated and small shrines with representations of the infant god are set up especially in homes and elsewhere. The people of the district also perform Krishna Lila on open air and indoor stages for about a fortnight, to celebrate this festival. Anant Chaturdasi falls on the 14th day of the latter half of Bhadra and is celebrated in memory of the rishi, Ananta. Pitra Visarjan Amavasya which falls on the 15th day of the

dark half of Asvina, is dedicated to the memory of deceased kinsmen. The worship of Durga is continued for nine days during the bright half of Asvina and is known as Nav Ratri, the 9th day being Durga Navami. On the next day, Dasahra or Vijaya Dasami, the goddess Vijaya is worshipped and the victory of Rama over Ravana, is also celebrated. Ramlila celebrations are held at different places in the district. Sharad Purnima, the brightest full moon night of the year, falls on the 15th day of the bright half of Asvina. The 4th day of the first half of Kartika, Karva Chauth, is celebrated by married women who fast for the well-being of their husbands. Dipavali falls on the last day of the dark half of Kartika but festivities start two days earlier with Dhan Teras, when new utensils are purchased as a token of prosperity. The next day, Chhoti Divali or Naraka Chaturdasi, a few *diyas* (small earthen lamps) are lit as a preliminary to the next day's festival when every Hindu home is illuminated and the goddess Lakshmi is worshipped. Govardhana Puja is performed on the day after Dipavali, when women worship in their homes cowdung replicas of the Govardhana mountain. On the 2nd day of the bright half of Kartika, Chitrugupta puja or Dawait puja is celebrated to pay symbolic homage to Chitrugupta who was said to have been endowed with celestial powers in accountancy. Bhaiya Dwij is also celebrated on that day when a sister puts a *tika* (small red mark) on the forehead of her brother. Gopastami is celebrated on the 8th day of the bright half of Kartika when cows 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. A big bathing festival is observed on Kartiki Purnamashi, the full moon day of Kartika. On this occasion people take a bath in a river and big fairs are held at the village Jangal Singa Patti in tahsil Padrauna, Kusahri in tahsil Deoria and Gaura Barhaj in tahsil Salempur. Sakat Chauth falls on the 4th day of the dark half of Magha, when boys cut into two pieces the representations of goats made of *til* and women fast for the day. Another bathing festival, Makar Sankranti, falls on the 13th or 14th day of Magha. Vasanta Panchami, the spring festival, falls on the 5th day of the latter half of Magha and is devoted to the worship of Sarasvati, the goddess of learning and heralds the advent of spring. On this occasion something yellow is worn, the colour being the special shade of the blossoming flowers of the mustard plant. Sivaratri, the day of the marriage of Siva, falls on the 13th day of the dark half of Phalguna. A fast is observed during the day and a vigil is kept at night when the god is worshipped, his temples being specially decorated. A large number of devotees offer water, yellow flowers and *belpatra* (the leaves of the *bel* tree) to icons of Siva. For the Arya Samajis, Sivaratri is a memorable day because Dayanand, the son of a devotee of Siva and the founder of this sect, obtained enlightenment

on this night. They celebrate the week preceding this day as *Rishibodhasaptah* and arrange discourses by learned scholars for seven days. Sivaratri fairs are also held in different places. Holi, the last important festival of the calendar, falls on the last day of Phalguna, when bonfires are lighted on cross-roads at a fixed time to commemorate the annihilation of all ill will and malice and the evil forces of the previous year represented by the demon goddess, Holika. Ears of barley are roasted in them as offerings to the gods. An important feature of this festival is the squirting of coloured water and the sprinkling of coloured powder (*abir* and *gulal*), in a spirit of gaiety, on friends, neighbours and others. Friends and relations exchange greetings, visit each other's places and join in various festivities. In the villages, *phaags* (songs of Phalguna) are sung not only on the day of the festival but starting weeks before.

About 30 Hindus religious fairs, big and small, are held annually at different places in the district as most of the festivals are accompanied by local fairs. Of these five each on Dasahra, and Rama Navami, four on Kartiki Purnima, six on Sivaratri and six in honour of different deities are held annually. The Ram Navami fair in village Paraina (in tahsil Hata) about 5 km. from the Ramkola railway station, is the biggest Hindu fair of the district and attracts about 80,000 persons. It is followed by a fair held at village Sohmag (in tahsil Salempur) about 3 km. from the Salempur railway station which is dedicated to Parasuram and is attended by about 75,000 persons. The Bansi fair, a bathing festival, held at village Jangal Singa Patti in tahsil Padrauna, about 10 km. from the Padrauna railway station, is also attended by about 75,000 persons. The Dhanush Yagya fairs, dedicated to Rama, is held at three villages, those at Bhagi Kutti and Karmaha of tahsil Hata (both places being about 5 km. from the Hata bus station) being attended by about 50,000 and 8,000 persons respectively and that at village Baikunthpur (in tahsil Deoria) by 15,000. The Kulkula Asthan fair, dedicated to Kulkula Devi, held at village Kundua alias Dalip Nagar in tahsil Padrauna, (about 8 km. from the Kasia bus station) is attended by about 30,000 persons. The Kuber Nath fair is held near the shrine of Siva at village Kohurwalia in tahsil Padrauna and has a gathering of about 30,000 persons. The Dasahra fair is organised in different places in every tahsil when the story of the *Ramayana* is enacted, that held in village Laxmiganj (in tahsil Hata) attracting about 60,000 persons. The Sivaratri fairs are held at villages Doodnath-Rudrapur, Doodnath Bankata, Barpar, Tahilpur (all in tahsil Deoria) and Mahen Babu (in tahsil Salempur) the first two attracting 25,000 and 1,000 persons respectively, the next two 10,000 and 5,000 respectively and the last 10,000 persons.

Muslim—The Muslims of the district celebrate almost all their important festivals though the number is small.

Their festivals start with Ashra, the 10th day of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar. The first ten days of this month are devoted to the memory of the martyrdom of Imam Husain (the grandson of Muhammad, the prophet of Islam) and his companions on the battlefield of Karbala and is observed as a period of mourning particularly by the Shias. Ashra was the day when Imam Husain was killed, so in commemoration, *tazias* are taken out for burial at Karbalas. Chelhum, on the 20th of Safar, falling on the 40th day from Ashra, usually marks the end of the period of mourning, during which a few Muslims wear black clothes and the women observe certain mourning customs such as the breaking of their bangles, not wearing any jewellery, etc. *Majlises* are also arranged for the reading of *marsias*, the expression of lamentations, etc. Barawafat, falling on the 12th of Rabi-ul-awwal, marks the birthday of the prophet Muhammad, when alms are distributed and discourses on his life and mission are held. Sab-e-Barat, falling on the 14th of Shaban, is a festival of rejoicing which marks the birth of the 12th Imam and is celebrated by the display of fireworks, distribution of sweets and the offering of *fatiha* (prayers) for the peace of the souls of departed ones. Ramadan (usually called Ramzan) is the month of fasting, on the expiry of which the festival of Id-ul-Fitr is celebrated (on the 1st of Shawal) by offering *namaz* in *idgahs* and mosques and exchanging gifts and greetings. Id-uz-Zuha, the last festival, is celebrated on the 10th of Zilhijja, in memory of the prophet Ibrahim's submission to the will of God by being willing to offer his son as a sacrifice. On this occasion *namaz* (community prayers) is offered in *idgahs* and goats and sheeps are sacrificed in God's name.

Other Muslim fairs are held in the district on the occasion of the *urs* celebrations of some important *pirs* (Muslim saints) who flourished here at one time or another. Among these (the *urs* in honour of Burham Shahid, held in village Jangal Sahlipur of tahsil Padrauna (about six km. from the Padrauna railway station) is attended by about 25,000 persons.

Sikh—The important festivals of the Sikhs of the district are held on the birthday anniversaries of Guru Nanaka and Guru Govind Singh, when processions are taken out, congregational prayers are held at *gurdwaras* and extracts from the *Granth* are recited. Their other festivals are Baisakhi Purnima and Lohri. Local fairs are held at *gurdwaras* on each occasion.

Jain—The Jains of the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of the last *tirthankar*, Mahavira, the former on the 13th

day of the bright half of Chaitra and the latter on Dipavali day. The Paryushan or the Dashalakshana—Parva, occurs during the last ten days of Bhadra and the three Ashtanhikas during the last eight days each of Kartika, Phalguna and Asadh and are the periodical holy days when devotees keep fasts and perform worship in their temples.

Christian—The important festivals of the Christians of the district are Christmas, which falls on December 25 and celebrates the birthday of Jesus Christ, Good Friday, which commemorates his crucifixion and Easter which is observed in memory of his resurrection.

Buddhist—The most important festival of the Buddhists of the district is Buddha Purnima which is celebrated on the last day of Vaisakha. It marks the birthday as well as the *nirvana* of Buddha. The Kushinagar fair in memory of Buddha, held in village Bishunpur Bindwalia (nearly 3 km. from the Kasia bus station) is attended by about 50,000 persons.

A list of some important fairs that are held in the district are given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

Among the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists, the succession to and inheritance of property other than agricultural holdings is regulated by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, which confers equal rights on daughters with their brothers in respect of paternal property. In practice, however, the law is often ignored and daughters are deprived of their inheritance, especially if there are one or more sons, by a will being made in favour of the son(s).

Prior to 1952 the succession to and inheritance of agricultural holdings, was governed by the U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939, but with the enforcement of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, the devolution of agricultural holdings came to be governed by that Act, instead of by the Hindu and Mohammadan laws as previously. The Act further provides that all male lineal descendants, without regard to propinquity or remoteness, may inherit.

Muslims are governed by their personal law of succession and inheritance and Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925.

The joint family and coparcenary systems are still in existence but they are disintegrating under the impact of new social and economic forces and the growing individualistic outlook of the younger

generation. The pattern of family life in the district is patriarchal and the women are, as a rule, dependent on their menfolk for maintenance and protection, only a few of them being economically independent and earning their own living.

Marriage and Morals

The distribution of the district population according to marital status or otherwise as in 1971, is shown in the following statement :

Marital or other status	No. of persons	Male	Female	Percentage of total population
Unmarried	12,90,161	7,36,434	5,53,727	45.8
Married	13,12,355	6,10,872	7,01,483	46.6
Widowed	2,06,834	86,417	1,20,417	7.6
Divorced or separated	2,295	1,840	455	
Unspecified	705	560	145	
Total	28,12,350	14,36,123	13,76,227	100.0

Among the males, the percentages of unmarried, married and widowed or/and divorced were 51.4 and 42.5 and 0.17 and among the females 40.2 and 50.9 and 0.04 respectively. As widowed females numbered 1,20,417, widow marriage does not appear to occur to any extent. The percentage of married males and females under the age of 15 years, was 1.1 and 2.6 respectively, indicating that inspite of the law, early marriage is still prevalent in the district, particularly in the case of females. The people are on the whole monogamous, although polygamy is not unknown.

Among the Hindus of the district (as elsewhere) marriage is a sacrament and is governed by the *Dharma-Shastras* and, to some extent, by custom and tradition as well. Some variations in the performance of marriage rites may occur from caste to caste or even from family to family within a caste but the ceremonies of *bhanwar* (or *saptipadi*, literally seven steps) and *kanyadan* (giving away the bride) are the essentials of every marriage. The people of the district do not favour intercaste marriages but now inter-subcaste marriages do take place. After the enforcement of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, certain customary restrictions like the prohibition of marriages between persons of the same *gotra* have been done away with. This Act makes polygamy illegal and invalidates the marriage between

sapindas (agnates within seven generations on the paternal and five generations on the maternal side) and also fixes the minimum marital age at 18 years for the bridegroom and 15 years for the bride but if the bride is under 18 years of age, the guardian's consent is necessary. As a rule, marriages are arranged by the parents of the bride and bridegroom. The betrothal ceremony (*tilak* or *sagai*) then takes place when presents and cash are sent by the bride's parents to the bridegroom. On the day fixed for the marriage, the *baraṭ* (bridegroom's party) goes to the bride's house in procession and *dwar puja* (puja at the door) is performed by relatives. The marriage ceremony then take place, the essentials of which are the giving away of the bride (*kanyadan*) and *bhanwar* or *saptipadi* (taking seven steps round the sacred fire). After the completion of the marriage ceremonies, the *vida* ceremony takes place when with the bride the bridegroom leave to his place. The people of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes also consider marriage to be a sacred rite and it is performed simply. A declaration before the caste panchayat by the bride indicating her willingness to accept the bridegroom or the reciting of *kathas* or the tying of one end of the bride's garment to that of the bridegroom's or the putting of a vermilion mark on the former's forehead by the latter, are enough to complete the alliance. Among Hindus once married, divorce or separation, though now prescribed by law, is not considered advisable or socially good. Both parties therefore usually continue to live together. A son is also considered necessary to propitiate the elders in the family and to continue the line.

Among the Muslims' of the district (as in other parts of the country) marriage is a contract and a person who is of sound mind and has attained puberty may enter into such a contract. Their religion also permits polygamy to the extent of four wives at a time. An important item for a marital contract is the settlement of the *mehr* (dower) to be paid by the bridegroom to the bride in the event of his divorcing her. Among Muslims, the guardian of a minor can enter into a marriage contract on behalf of the ward.

The *paigham* or *mangni* (asking for the hand of the bride) is the first ceremony, initiated by the bridegroom or his representative. On the day fixed for the marriage the bridegroom with his *baraṭ* (marriage or bridegroom's party) goes to the bride's place where her *vakil* obtains the consent of both the contracting parties in the presence of two witnesses. The *qazi* then performs the *nikah* (marriage) in the presence of witnesses and reads the *khutbah* with which the ceremony ends. Among the Shias, the *mujtahid* performs the marriage instead of the *qazi*. The *rukhsati* or *vida* (leave taking) takes place immediately after the marriage and the bride goes away with the bridegroom.

Christian marriages are governed by the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended in 1952. The marriage customs of the members of different denominations in the district usually follow the same general pattern. The marriage may be arranged by the individuals concerned or arranged by their relatives. The engagement first takes place and its period may be long or short. The banns of the marriage are published three times (once every week) by the minister in the church where the marriage is to be solemnised to give an opportunity for objections, if any, to be raised. Then on the fixed date, the marriage is performed by the minister in the church. The essentials of the marriage ceremony, which is deemed to be a sacrament, are the giving away of the bride by the father or other relative, the taking of the marriage vows by the bride and the bridegroom, the latter's placing the wedding ring on the third finger of the bride's left hand (sometimes the two exchange rings), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the minister and the signing of the marriage register by the couple and their witnesses.

The important features of a Sikh marriage are the recitation of extracts from the *Granth* and the couple's going round it several times. After offerings have been made at the *gurdwara*, the marriage party goes to the bride's place where the marriage festivities take place.

In a Jain marriage, sacred hymns from the scriptures are recited and puja is performed. Some Hindu rites (already described earlier) are also observed.

Dowry—The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, has prohibited the giving and taking of dowry but the system still persists in the district (as elsewhere). The dowry (which is a burden on the bride's parents) is generally settled before the performance of the marriage, and is offered and accepted in cash as well as in kind, openly or secretly.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for the performance and registration of marriages by a marriage officer appointed in each district for the purpose by the government. Religion or caste differences are no bar in a civil marriage and no formal rites or ceremonies are required but the consent of both the parties (who should be major in age) is necessary. The number of civil marriages performed by the marriage officer in the district was 5 and 8 in 1971 and 1972 respectively and 39 in 1973.

Widow Marriage—In spite of the Hindu Widow's Re-marriage Act, 1856 (Act 15 of 1856), which legalised widow marriage among Hindus, the marriage of a widow is still frowned upon among the upper caste people of the district who are dominated by their traditions and

social customs. Such marriages are common among the so-called lower castes. The personal law of the Muslims as well as that of the Christians permits widow marriage.

Divorce—The dissolution of marriage either by law or by custom was not permissible among the Hindus but among the Scheduled Castes and some of the Other Backward Classes, the dissolution of marriage was allowed with the sanction of the caste panchayat. After the enactment of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the divorce and dissolution of marriage among Hindus (including Sikhs and Jains) became permissible under certain special circumstances in respect of both the parties. The personal law of the Muslims allows husbands to divorce their wives on making payment of the *mehr* but the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939, empowers the wife to seek divorce from her husband. Divorce among Christians is governed by the Indian Divorce Act, 1869.

The tendency of seeking divorce in the district is not extensive and generally the people are opposed to divorce because of their inherited sense of remaining with the married partner for life. The statement below shows the number of divorce cases referred to the court by men and women in the district and those in which divorce was granted from 1969 to 1973:

Year	Cases referred to court			No. of cases in which divorce was allowed
	Total	By men	By women	
1969	2	1	1	—
1970	3	—	3	1
1971	1	1	—	—
1972	6	5	1	2
1973	9	5	4	1
Total	21	12	9	4

Prostitution and Traffic in Women—There is no organised prostitution or brothel in the district, probably the result of the enforcement of the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, which aims at rescuing minor girls from brothels or those found to be in moral danger and prohibits prostitution. Since the enforcement of the Act there has been a continuous check on this profession and no case was found to violate the provisions of the Act during the three years ended 1973.

Gambling—The Public Gambling Act, 1867, as amended from time to time, declared gambling in public an offence punishable under the law. The evil does not seem to have assumed serious form in the district and no peculiarities or special features like *satta*, *patka*,

etc., have come to light. The people usually gamble during the Deepavali festival by playing cards. The statement given below shows the number of prosecutions and convictions made under the Act in the district during the five years ended 1973:

Year	Prosecution	Conviction
1969	61	16
1970	35	26
1971	40	28
1972	51	20
1973	61	17

Home Life

The district contained 1,626 houseless persons in 1971 of whom 1,030 were males and 596 females and of the total 1,515 were residing in the rural and 111 in the urban areas. The break up of houseless persons was 529 in the Padrauna, 528 in the Hata, 385 in the Deoria and 184 in the Salempur tahsils. Those living in institutions like hostels and orphanages, then numbered 4,286 persons (males 3,169 and females 1,117) of whom 3,256 were residing in the rural and 1,030 in the urban areas. The distribution of such population was 2,100 in the Hata, 1,457 in the Deoria, 74 in the Salempur and 655 in the Padrauna tahsils. There was 6,27,055 census house, of whom 6,05,485 were in the rural and 21,570 in the urban areas.

The district contained 4,59,740 households (group of persons ordinarily living together and having a common kitchen) of whom 4,44,815 were in the rural areas. The average size of a household in the district was about 4.41 and in the rural and urban areas it was 5.41 and 5.57 persons respectively. Households living in two-roomed tenements predominated, accounting for 29.7 per cent, 21.9 per cent in three-roomed, 20.4 per cent in one-roomed, 17.7 per cent in houses having five or more rooms and 10.3 per cent lived in four-roomed tenements. In the district the average density of persons per room was 2.15 and in the rural and urban areas, it was 2.15 and 2.31 persons respectively. Those in the majority of households — 97.4 per cent — were found to be residing in their own houses and 2.6 per cent were living in rented accommodation. In the rural areas, people in 98.5 per cent households were residing in their own houses and 1.5 per cent in rented accommodation, in the urban areas people in 64.1 per cent households were living independently and 35.9 per cent were occupying rented accommodation. The following statement gives the number and classification of households according to their size and tenure status:

Tenure status	No. of census households	Households/having number of persons						
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six and more	Unspecified
District								
Owned	4,47,880	16,355	28,385	41,715	57,780	65,340	2,38,180	125
Rented	11,860	2,620	2,005	1,575	1,550	1,245	2,860	5
Total	4,59,740	18,975	30,390	43,290	59,330	66,585	2,41,040	130
Rural								
Owned	4,38,320	15,970	27,205	40,910	56,695	64,170	2,32,780	90
Rented	6,495	1,730	1,105	815	870	615	1,355	5
Total	4,44,815	17,700	28,310	41,725	57,565	64,785	2,34,135	95
Urban								
Owned	9,560	385	680	805	1,085	1,170	5,400	35
Rented	5,365	890	900	760	680	630	1,505	—
Total	14,925	1,275	1,580	1,565	1,765	1,800	6,905	35

The number of households having six or more persons predominated in the district, the number of households with a single member being the smallest. The majority of people in rural households resided in their own houses but in urban areas about 35 per cent of households were occupying rented houses.

Houses in Towns.—The houses in towns have not been constructed according to any set architectural style. About one-third of the dwellings are pakka and are made of burnt brick, which is used in 75.1 per cent houses. The main roofing material is reinforced brick and cement concrete which is used in 58.8 per cent houses, tiles, slate and shingle being used in 18.6 per cent houses. These pakka houses are generally of more than one storey. Kutchha houses are also to be seen in the urban areas which are occupied by poor people. About 14.4 per cent of the kutchha houses are made of mud, 5.1 per cent of grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo and about 5 per cent of other materials. Pakka houses do not have any decoration to speak of except some *jali* work on the outer portion. The *aangan* (courtyard) is usually inside and in the middle part of the house and is a common feature of almost every house. Big houses, generally occupied by rich persons, contain a drawing-room, dining-room, bedroom, storeroom, a kitchen and bath-rooms, etc. But the majority of the urban population lives in from one to three rooms.

Houses in Villages.—In rural areas the dwellings are generally kutchha. The walls of about 52 per cent of rural houses are made of mud and about 21 per cent made of grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo. In 54.7 per cent houses, grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, unburnt bricks or bamboo is used as roofing material and in 33.6 per cent houses, tiles, slate and shingle are used. Pakka houses have also been built in rural areas and their number is increasing. Houses in the rural areas generally contain big *gheras* and big *aangans* but separate kitchens are rare. Ventilation, better drainage, improved cattle sheds, etc., are now to be found in many villages where people have taken interest in and adopted the community development schemes.

Furniture and Decoration.—In the district, the social and economic status and taste of the people determine the items and quality of furnishings and other accessories in their homes. In urban areas people generally have sofa sets, chairs, dining/dressing-tables, *morhas* (chairs made of reeds), *takhis* (wooden divans) and beds, etc. In the rural areas, the use of string cots, *morhas*, *takhis* and chairs is not uncommon. Due to urban influences, some people of the rural areas also use furniture such as chairs, tables, etc. Ordinarily clay or wooden toys, pictures of gods and goddesses,

national leaders and film stars, calenders and religious designs made on doors and walls on certain festive occasions, serve as the only decoration in the houses of common people.

Food.—The staple food stuffs of the district are wheat, *makka* (maize) and rice. The pulses of *urd*, *arhar*, *chana* and *mung* are generally eaten by the people. Commonly people subsist on chapatis made of wheat flour and rice eaten with cooked pulses and vegetables. On special occasions, such as marriages, festivals and the like, people eat special food such as *puri*, *kachori*, sweets, preparations made of milk and other specially prepared dishes. The people generally eat their food in the kitchen. *Mattha* or *chhachhi* (butter-milk) sugar-cane juice and milk are the favourite drinks of such people as can afford it. *Sattu* a mixture of the flour of different cereals) and *chiura* (a preparation of rice) eaten with curd are also common dishes of the rural population. By habit and preference the people are mostly non-vegetarian. Drinking of tea and smoking hookas, *biris* or cigarettes and chewing pan have become very common.

Dress.—The dress of the people of the district is in no way distinctive because a kind of standardisation in the matter of dress has now taken place in urban areas. In the towns the common dress of men is the pyjama or (sometimes) the *dhoti* and a shirt or *kurtia* (long, loose shirt) but the wearing of trousers, bush shirts, coats, suits, etc., is common. Women wear the sari and blouse or *choli* (short blouse) and use woollen shawls, cardigans or coats in winters. Girls occasionally wear tight pyjamas or loose trousers with a *kurtia*. The young generation of the district (both boys and girls) often wear coloured trousers and printed shirts. In the rural areas the common wear for men is *dhoti* or pyjama and shirt or *saluka* (short shirt), a cap often being seen as well. Muslims wear pyjamas instead of the *dhoti*. Women wear the sari with a *saluka* or a blouse or *choli* and sometimes the *salwar* and *kamiz* or *kurtia* with an *orhni* (long scarf worn on the head and shoulders). Due to the influence of the town, the men of the rural areas have begun to wear trousers with a shirt or bush shirt.

Jewellery.—Men in the district do not wear jewellery but sometimes a ring on the finger and a gold or silver chain (around the neck) is worn. Women, who generally like to wear jewellery, wear what they can afford. Glass bangles are generally worn by nearly every woman and by girls in the urban and in the rural areas. Gold *churis* (bangles), finger-rings, necklaces, *bulaqas* or nose-rings, nose pendants or nose-studs, ear-rings, *payals*, (anklets), *bichua* (worn only by married women) and the like are worn by many women ordinarily. On special occasions such as festivals, marriages and

social functions, more jewellery is worn such as gold or silver bracelets (*pohnchi*, *kangan*, *dasband*, etc.), armlets (*bajuband*), collars (*hansuli* or *guluband*) and necklaces, etc. The jewellery of the poor people is made of silver and that of the rich of gold which is often studded with precious or semi-precious stones. The wearing of jewellery is on the decline due to the exorbitant price of gold, silver and precious stones, etc.

Communal Life

Amusements and Recreations—The indigenous amusements of the district are less and less to be seen and modern recreations such as the cinema, exhibitions, music conferences, dramatic performances and the like have become popular. In the urban areas there are better facilities for such amusements and recreations but the universal recreation now is the cinema. In 1974 there were 9 cinema houses, with a total seating capacity of 4,854 in the district. In 1976 the number of cinema houses increased to 14. The community development, family planning and information departments also arrange film shows in rural and urban areas using mobile cinema projectors. The people are increasingly using radio and radio transistor sets which have become common in the district. In 1974 there were about 12,612 radio sets in the district. There are several recreational clubs also, the better known being the Kutchary club, Rifle club, Rotary club and Officers' club (all in Deoria city).

The indigenous amusements and recreations which are still in existence in the district are the Ramlila, Krishnalila, *nautanki* (open air theatre), singing of group songs, dancing, singing of devotional songs (*kirians*), recitation of the *Ramayana*, circus shows and professional dances on important occasions. Common among the indigenous types of games and sports are foot races, *kabaddi*, kite flying, card-playing, *gulli-danda*, *chikka* and wrestling. Modern games (played in schools, colleges and some clubs) are hockey, cricket, basket-ball, football, volley-ball, badminton, table-tennis, tennis and carom, etc. Annual sports and games meets are also organised in school and colleges. Exhibitions are also organised in the district from time to time.

The Impact of Zamindari Abolition on Social Life—Prior to the enforcement of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, most of the land in the district was predominantly owned by the zamindars, whose wealth and traditional status influenced the social and economic conditions of the rural inhabitants of the district. The rural community then contained mainly two categories of persons, the zamindar and the ryot and the whole fabric of social life centered round the former. Factional

feuds and rivalries also abounded, particularly on the issues of the possession and ownership of land. Absentee landlordism was not uncommon. The big landlords maintained city residences in addition to their rural seats and their affairs were generally managed by their *karindas* (agents). The treatment of the cultivators and tenants by the *karindas* was often inhuman and arbitrary. The big zamindars set the pace in social life and spent lavishly on entertainments, social and religious functions and their own personal comforts. Only a privileged few could enjoy the company of these landed people and the masses who paid for it all often did not have a square meal in a day. With the abolition of zamindari and the consequent emergence of various economic forces in the rural areas, the ease and luxury of the landed aristocracy came to an end and many of them had to seek new avenues for earning their livelihood. Those who possessed *khudkasi* became *bhumidhars* side by side with their former tenants and cultivators.

The *gaon* panchayats were established in the rural areas under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, and the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, which were enforced in the district in 1949 and 1963 respectively. In these elective bodies, party politics found its manifestation in a marked and unpleasant form and these institutions have not been able so far to fulfil the aspirations and expectations of the framers of the Acts that led to their institution.

New Trends

The winds of change are blowing all round in the district under the impact of the Five-year Plans. The pattern in dress, ornaments, social customs, food and other habits of the people, their mode of living and their religious beliefs and practices have undergone a certain transformation. The impact of the cinema on the people of the district has been far-reaching but not necessarily healthy. With the diversification of occupations and the spread of education, social barriers are gradually breaking down as are the rigidity and the rigours of the caste system. Interprovincial marriages are not unknown now. Untouchability still persists particularly in the rural areas and the legislation for the abolition of untouchability has not made any serious impact on the rural population. The extension of general and technical education has opened up new vistas of employment on account of the schemes undertaken under the Five-year Plans. There is an attempt among educated women to shed their social backwardness and to secure a place with men in society. By and large, the people of the district have become politically conscious and take an active interest in participating in

the elections whether of the panchayats, State legislature or of parliament. With the increase in the district of agricultural production and its prices, the purchasing power of the agriculturists has increased with the result that they spend more on food, some comforts, dress and on their well-being. With the introduction of the *panchayat* raj, the farmers of the district have acquired some political power through the vote at the district level.

STATEMENT I
Area and Population

Reference Page No. 49

District and tahsil	Area in sq. km.		Population					
	1971		1971		1961			
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Females
District Deoria								
Total	5,400.0	5,424.2	28,12,350	14,96,123	13,76,227	23,75,075	11,86,527	11,88,548
Rural	5,371.1	5,402.6	27,29,241	13,90,409	13,38,832	23,17,498	11,54,677	11,62,821
Urban	28.9	21.6	83,109	45,714	37,395	57,577	31,850	25,727
Tahsil Hata								
Total	1,410.5	1,411.8	6,60,920	3,45,729	3,15,191	5,58,560	2,88,888	2,69,672
Rural	1,410.5	1,411.8	6,60,920	3,45,729	3,15,191	5,58,560	2,88,888	2,69,672
Urban								
Tahsil Deoria								
Total	1,266.8	1,266.5	7,17,840	3,67,273	3,50,567	6,03,857	3,02,047	3,01,810
Rural	1,250.6	1,250.3	6,79,679	3,45,742	3,33,937	5,75,450	2,85,597	2,89,853
Urban	16.2	16.2	38,161	21,531	16,630	28,407	16,450	11,957
Tahsil Padrauna								
Total	1,461.0	1,461.5	7,28,464	3,73,671	3,54,793	6,14,863	3,07,115	3,07,748
Rural	1,453.4	1,960.4	7,01,459	3,58,775	3,42,684	6,00,957	2,99,449	3,01,508
Urban	7.6	1.3	27,005	14,896	12,109	13,906	7,666	6,240
Tahsil Salempur								
Total	1,284.4	1,284.4	7,05,126	3,49,450	3,55,676	5,97,795	2,88,477	3,09,318
Rural	1,279.3	1,280.3	6,87,183	3,40,163	3,47,020	5,82,531	2,80,743	3,01,788
Urban	5.1	4.1	17,943	9,287	8,656	15,264	7,734	7,530

1. There has been no jurisdictional change in the district during the decade. The difference in area figures in due to the revised calculation of area done by the board of revenue.

2. According to the central statistical organisation, the area of the district was 5400 sq. km. in 1971

STATEMENT II

List of Fairs

Reference Page No. 63

Village/town	Name	Date	Approximate attendance
1	2	3	4

TAHSIL HATA

Puraina	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	80,000
Bhainsah	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	10,000
Laxmiganj	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	60,000
Karmaha	Dhanush Yagya	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	8,000
Bhagi Kutti	Dhanush Yagya	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	50,000

TAHSIL PADRAUNA

Kundua urf Dalip Nagar	Kulkula Asthan	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 10	30,000
Kohurwalia	Kuber Nath	Vaisakha, <i>krishna</i> 13	30,000
Bishunpur Bindwalia Kushi Nagar	Buddha Purnima	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	50,000
Tamkuhi	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	20,000
Jangal Singa Patti	Bansi fair	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	75,000
Jangal Sahlipur	Burham Shahid	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 12	25,000

TAHSIL DEORIA

Deoria Dhus	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 2	20,000
Pai Kauli	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 2	5,000
Pai Kauli	Janmastami	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 8	1,000
Indupur	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 19	25,000
Sohsa	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Doodhnath Bankata	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	10,000
Kusahri	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	25,000
Pakhar Bhinda	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	4,000
Baikunthpur	Dhanush Yagya	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	15,000
Doodhnath-Rudrapur	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	25,000

1		3	5
Barpar	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	10,000
Tahilpur	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	5,000
Doodhnath Bankata	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Doodhnath Bankata	Cattle fair	Every Monday	2,000
TAHSIL SALEMPUR			
Majhauri Bhagaura	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	10,000
Chaumukhia	Cattle fair	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	5,000
Mahua Bari	Cattle fair	Vaisakha, <i>krishna</i> 5	20,000
Sohnag	Sohnag fair	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 3	75,000
Gaura Barhaj M. B.	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Bhagalpur	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Mahen Babu	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	10,000

CHAPTER IV AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

LAND UTILISATION AND RECLAMATION

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

Utilisation purpose of	1951		1961		1971	
	Acres	Ha.	Acres	Ha.	Acres	Ha.
Cultivated area	10,62,495	4,29,977	10,86,438	4,39,666	10,83,375	4,38,427
Culturable area including groves	Not available	Not available	1,39,107	56,294	1,16,834	47,281
Old fallow	1,12,716	45,615	80,532	32,590	24,619	9,963
Current fallow	47,037	19,035	48,245	19,524	27,098	10,966
Uncultivated land	1,13,016	45,736	1,22,017	49,379	1,00,762	40,777
Total geographical area	13,35,362	5,40,500	13,41,426	5,42,855	13,34,370	5,40,000

Culturable Land

Land in the district under this category includes all types of culturable waste, forests, groves, land prepared for sugar-cane, new or old fallow lands and land otherwise classed as waste due to sandiness, barrenness, rot infection, ravine scouring or overgrowth of dhak and grass. The statement which follows gives the figures of culturable and unculturable lands in the district in 1972-73 :

Kind of land	Extent of culturable Land in ha.
Barren and unculturable land including land put to non-agricultural use	50,440
Cultivated area	4,38,242
Forests	1,393
Groves	12,622
Culturable waste	15,205
Pastures and grazing grounds	210
Fallow land	10,966

Precarious Tracts

Three main classes form three clearly defined agricultural tracts in the district, to which can be added the terai belt on the Nepal border. In the past the *rabi* area throughout the terai was small and the main product was linseed. Now there is an expansion of *rabi* cultivation as conditions are gradually changing with the increase in population, the damming of the two Gandaks, the increase of cultivators possessing greater agricultural skill and the slow but certain reclamation of the large culturable area though the enervating and unhealthy climate of the terai belt in the Padrauna tahsil constitutes a grave obstacle to easing the task of the cultivator. There is no clear line of demarcation between the terai and the northern *bangar*. In the *bangar* the nature of the crops depends on the composition of the soil. In the north, where the rainfall is abundant and throughout the clay areas, rice is the chief staple, the early variety being grown on the higher levels and the late in depressions which might be expected to hold sufficient water. In those parts where *balua* is prevalent, as is the case for some kilometres on either side of the Rapti and the Rohin, rice is less common and its place in the *kharif* is taken by maize, *arhar*, sugar-cane and millets.

In contradistinction to the high ridges are the low and often broad valleys of the rivers, known generically as *kachhar*. There is thus a wide area of lowland which is apt to be inundated in years of heavy rainfall, a factor of importance in the economic context of the district. The *kachhar* produces a little maize and some millets in the *kharif*, for though *arhar* is widely sown in certain parts, the harvest is necessarily of a speculative character. It is of the highest importance that the crops should be of the early ripening kind and capable of being reaped before the advent of the floods. The *kharif* is of relatively small importance and the cultivators devote all their energy to the *rabi*, which is normally of a high quality and is composed of the principal grain crops and oil-seeds.

Rice is again the staple crop in the portions of the *bhar* and in lowlying areas elsewhere. In the tract of light *dhusi* between Padrauna and Tamkuhi, the chief products are maize and millets. Further west is the *chauriar* in which early rice and sugar-cane preponderate. The low alluvium of the Gandak is locally called *dhab*. This tract suffers much less from floods than the *kachhar* in spite of the sudden and extensive inundations caused by the river, the reason being that in the *bhar* the autumn crops mature a month earlier than in the rest of the district and the floods are seldom of long duration, often subsiding before they have caused any appreciable damage. In the *dhab* it is a frequent practice to sow *chena*, early rice and late rice broadcast in the same field, each being cut in succession as it attains maturity. There

is also much sugar-cane cultivation. Throughout the *bhat* area the spring harvest is of secondary importance, the yield being inferior to that of the *bangar*, the crops taking from a fortnight to over a month before they ripen.

Each of these tracts has peculiar requirements in the matter of rainfall so that similar meteorological conditions do not produce similar results throughout the district. The rice lands need good rain for transplanting the plants in July and August. The early rice demands good rain in August when the crop is coming into ear, whereas the light soil requires moderate rain early in the rainy season. While the later rice tracts are independent of the winter rains, the rest of the district is also greatly benefited by the winter rains which are required to bring the crops to maturity. The *kachhar* can get on very well without any rain till December and frequently prospers without any supplementary precipitation. Unfavourable weather in the early months of the year often does far more damage in the *kachhar* than floods in the rains, the latter being disastrous only when they follow on the failure of the spring crop. In the *bhat* area the early rice is fairly secure and even the late rice fails only in seasons of exceptional drought, owing to the remarkable capacity of the soil for retaining moisture. For the same reason a heavy rainfall is more likely to cause damage in the parts where maize and millets are the chief staples than any deficiency in the monsoon and similarly in the *rabi*, wet weather is to be feared as it is likely to cause rust. Throughout the district the most dangerous period for the spring crops is when the grain is in the ear during February and March, since rain, hail or frost at such a time is certain to result in extensive injury to the harvest.

Soil Conservation and Reclamation of Land

The wanton destruction in the district of trees and other foliage and the reclamation of forest lands for purposes of cultivation, habitation sites, roads, etc., in the last few centuries and the lack of any coordinated effort to conserve the soil through scientific methods, have resulted in large-scale erosion of the fertile upper layer of the soil through the devastating action of wind and water. The Patel commission also laid emphasis on this aspect and recommended in January, 1964, the construction of drains and since then some drainage improvement works have been completed but no substantial progress has been made due to the reluctance of the cultivators to part with their land for the construction of drains. The magnitude of the problem necessitates intensive large-scale action in this direction. The area development project for the Gandak canal command area has stipulated comprehensive land development and water management

plans and works on various schemes have been started under an area development commissioner stationed at Gorakhpur.

The agriculture department of the State took up a comprehensive programme of soil conservation and established a unit at the district headquarters in 1966-67. The emphasis is on an integrated approach of change from a wasteful use of soil and water resources to scientific and protective purposes. The area of land in the district estimated to be affected by soil erosion was nearly 1,00,000 ha. in 1973-74 of which most of the land affected or threatened by soil erosion lies in the catchment areas of the Gandak, Jharhi, Basi and Bari and the Nakta Nala, Kurmanala, Bathnanala and Maghnanala. The area of the land covered under the various soil conservation works from 1967-68 to 1973-74 is given below :

Year	Area involving soil conservation work (in ha.)
1967-68	908
1968-69	3,028
1969-70	3,016
1970-71	3,374
1971-72	3,646
1972-73	1,614
1973-74	1,003

Between 1967-68 and 1973-74 more than 16,783 ha. of land was saved from soil erosion. The methods applied to achieve this end are afforestation, contour-bunding, making of check-dams, levelling, contour sowing, planting of grass on bunds, strip and cover cropping, hot weather cultivation and sowing of crops like *arhar* and castor which take a longer time for ripening. These agronomical practices provide a thick canopy on the land and are helpful in checking the action of rain on the soil and in reducing the chance of erosion.

IRRIGATION

Up to the fifties of the present century wells, lakes and ponds constituted the major sources of irrigation. Since the opening of the Naraini canal system in 1956, canals constitute the major source of irrigation in the district but there are considerable stretches which are not reached by the canals and have to depend on wells and *jhils*

and ponds. Although irrigation in various forms is practised, extensively in large areas it is either unnecessary or not feasible. Very little irrigation is carried on in the *kachhar* except in abnormal seasons as the natural moisture in the soil is ordinarily sufficient for the needs of the *rabi* crop and the construction of *guls* and channels is impossible due to the uneven terrain. If water is required in other areas, it is obtained in some places from lakes and tanks and where practicable from earthen wells though as a rule the sandy nature of the subsoil forbids their construction. Masonry wells are seldom sunk except for domestic purposes, their cost being out of proportion to the advantages derived on the rare occasions when utilised for irrigating the crops. The difficulties attending irrigation in the *bhat* tract are similar where the soil is too friable for the construction of any but masonry wells. Again in the great rice tract, where little attention is paid to the scanty *rabi*, irrigation is not needed except for the late rice which is watered by means of channels from the terai streams.

The actual extent of irrigation in former days can not be determined owing to the usual practice of classifying irrigable land as irrigated. Thus the returns of 1869-70 show an irrigated area of 59.5 per cent of the net cultivation, a proportion which could not be attained under any circumstances. Owing to the variations in the requirements of different seasons a fair idea of the irrigated area can only be derived from the averages of a more or less prolonged period. For the four years ended 1887-88 the irrigated area averaged 28.42 per cent of the total cultivation and the corresponding figures for the ensuing decade were 29.51 per cent. From 1899 to 1907-08 the average was 32.14 per cent of the area under the plough, the maximum being 37.24 per cent in 1900-01.

The following statement gives the decennial figures of the gross irrigated area in the district from 1951 to 1971 and in the year 1972-73:

Year	Gross area irrigated in acres/ha.		Percentage of gross cropped area
	Acres	Ha.	
1951	3,96,026	1,48,410	26.5
1961	3,91,328	1,56,531	28.2
1971	5,24,241	2,18,434	36.1
1972-73	4,88,033	2,03,347	34.2

Means of Irrigation

Irrigation from wells including tube-wells is common in tahsil Padrauna and it is increasing in tahsil Salempur. Elsewhere canals are more important. The large rivers have beds which are too low to supply irrigation. The alluvial land near the rivers is generally very moist and does not require watering. Tanks, lakes and ponds are also important and include a large number of artificial excavations which are of small size. The small streams are largely used and are dammed so as to flood the adjacent rice tracts. Regular channels for the distribution of water have also been made. The spring level is so high that water is raised from wells over a large part of the district by means of a *dhenkli* (lever with an earthen pot attached). The commonest method of irrigation used is by means of the swing basket (worked by men and women). Fields are not flooded as in the western districts but water is scattered over the land from small channels with an earthen spade. The statement below gives the figures of the net area irrigated from various sources in the district in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1972-73:

Year	Area irrigated from wells (including tube-wells) (in acres/ha.)		Area irrigated from canals (in acres/ha.)		Area irrigated from other sources (in acres/ha.)	
	Acres	Ha.	Acres	Ha.	Acres	Ha.
1951-52	3,33,185	1,33,274	—	—	50,878	20,351
1961-62	3,11,521	1,24,608	4,403	1,762	26,145	10,458
1972-73	3,90,427	1,62,678	8,871	1,613	24,758	10,316

Wells—The water level is high in the *bangar*, averaging about 3 m. from the surface and is much less in other tracts. For this reason the main difficulty encountered in sinking wells lies in the nature of the subsoil and where circumstances are favourable, large earthen wells are excavated in large number for temporary use in dry years needing little labour or expense. These shallow wells are worked in almost all cases by means of the *dhenkli*, the *mot* or leather basket being practically unknown, so that bullocks are not required for irrigation purposes. In ordinary years masonry wells preponderate and these in most cases are filled by percolation, the sandy subsoil extending to a great depth. Such wells yield but a limited supply which accounts for the use of the *dhenkli*. Kutchha wells are confined to a few localities, such as the greater part of tahsils Deoria and Hata and the parganas of Salempur, Silhat and Dhuriapar, which comprise these areas, possess about half the total number of masonry wells in the whole district. The usual

form of masonry wells, which are fairly durable, is a cylinder of burnt bricks put together with mortar. The *indara* or large well necessitates the use of mortar and is mainly confined to the village site, its cost amounting to several hundred rupees. The *kutchra* or earthen well is merely a shallow pit, lasting only for a single season and is filled up before the *kharif* is sown. It goes by the name of *chaunrs* and is generally lined with a *dol* or cylinder of bamboo wickerwork to protect the sides. There were 33,286 pakka and 1,519 kutchra wells in the district for providing irrigation and the area irrigated by them in the district was 85,968 ha. in 1972-73.

Tube-wells.—The economic condition of the peasant does not allow him to make private arrangements for irrigation, such as the construction and boring of wells and installation of *rahats* and pumping sets on them. Since the fifties of the present century the government have, under the successive Five-year Plans, not only taken up large-scale construction of State tube-wells but have also provided assistance to the cultivators for setting up their own private minor irrigation works like the installation of pumping sets and *rahats* (Persian wheels) on the wells. There were 28 State tube-wells in the district before the First Five-year Plan came into being in 1951-52. Between then and 1972-73, a total of 440 such wells were constructed, the area irrigated by them being 29,914 ha. in 1972-73, the planwise break up of their number being 166 in the First, 94 in the Second, 128 in the Third and 52 in the Fourth Five-year Plan periods. The figures showing the progress of the minor irrigation schemes is given below:

Works completed	First Five-year Plan 1951-56	Second Five-year Plan 1956-61	Third Five-year Plan 1961-66	Fourth Five-year Plan 1969-71
Construction of masonry wells	2,328	1,493	8,475	45,359
Installation of Persian wheels (<i>rahats</i>)	17	265	1,151	22,297
Installation of pumping sets	3	96	886	3,909
Construction of private tube-wells	10	15	1,240	4,845

Canals.—The agricultural backwardness of the eastern portion of the State is proverbial. When the tract comprising the present district was ceded to the British in 1801, there were no canals in the district, either for irrigation or navigation, the latter purpose being served by the numerous large rivers in the area. In 1859 the collector

(Bird) thought of converting the Little Gandak into a canal but no steps were taken to work out the idea.

A proposal to construct a gravity canal from the right bank of the Gandak was investigated by one Molony in 1907. This canal was to take off from the river about 4.5 km. upstream of the present off-take site of the existing Tribeni canal (constructed in 1910 for Bihar). But the scheme was dropped on the ground that the area produced mainly early paddy which did not require any irrigation in normal years.

Acute food shortage in the country after the Second World War brought the problem again to the fore and at the instance of the Government of India in 1947, the Bihar government investigated the possibility of taking off canals from both sides of the Gandak (which used to prove a great calamity in these areas). The river was to be harnessed to provide irrigation facilities to the districts of Gorakhpur and Deoria and also to large areas in Bihar. A preliminary Gandak canal project was prepared and submitted to the Government of India in 1954.

The failure of September and October rains for four consecutive years (1950 to 1953) in the districts of Gorakhpur and Deoria created severe drought conditions and made the solving of problem more urgent. In 1954, as an emergent step, the construction of an inundation canal, the Naraini canal, was taken in hand. The success of this canal directed attention to the possibility of utilising the Gandak in a similar manner. A start was made in 1961-62 when the Naraini canal scheme was merged in the Gandak project. The remodelling work of the Naraini canal was completed in 1969-70. The work on the Gandak canal project was started in 1967-68 and was completed in 1974. The Gandak canal system has been designed to provide irrigation to nearly 40 per cent of the total *kharif* area and 20 per cent of the total *rabi* area in the district. The Gandak canal was run for the first time in December, 1972. There are 17 canal systems which take off from the main western Gandak canal. The main systems are the Deoria, Mathia, Khajuria and Chaff branch systems. In addition there are the Rohin, Danda, Naraini, Bokhira, Kuana pump and Gandak canals and the Srinagar Tal. The cost of the project falling within the boundaries of Uttar Pradesh is Rs 54 crores. The benefited areas of 5.382 lakh ha. lie in the Maharajganj and Pharenda tahsils of the Gorakhpur district and the Padrauna, Hata and Salempur tahsils of Deoria district. The total length of branches, distributaries and minors is 2,242 km.

The following statement gives the area irrigated by various sources in the district for the year 1972-73 :

Canals	Tube-wells	Other wells	Tanks, lakes, ponds	Other sources	Net irrigated area in ha.
1,613	76,703	85,968	10,894	10,316	1,85,494

AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

Soils

The character of the agriculture of the district depends mainly on the nature of the soils in the different tracts. The portion of the district comprising the Padrauna tahsil forms a tract of a unique character. It is known as the *bhat* and consists of the alluvium brought down by the Gandak, the distinguishing feature being its remarkable whiteness which is apparently due to the unusual proportion of lime in the soil. The peculiarities of the *bhat* are great as the soil is extremely retentive of moisture. The whole of the remaining area is upland *bangar*, with the exception of the belts of the *kachhar*. This *kachhar* varies in quality. That along the Gandak and Ghaghra contains an undue proportion of sand and so has inferior fertility but that of the Rapti and its affluents, the Rohin and Ami, is either rich silt or sand which weathers rapidly into culturable and productive soil. In the *bangar* the variations in the soil are of the usual type, depending primarily on the proportion of sand present. Where this proportion is high, the soil is known as *balua*, corresponding to the *bhur* of other districts. At the opposite end of the scale comes *matiar* or clay. The intermediate soil, comprising the bulk of the area, is loam of varying consistency, going by the generic name of *doraz*, which is equivalent to the *dumat* of the west.

As early as the close of the last century the distinction of natural soils was more or less disregarded and their classification for assesment purposes depended on the absence or presence of irrigation facilities. The farmers now cultivate even the most inferior types of soils by adopting scientific methods of cultivation. They enrich the soil by inputs of organic manures and chemical fertilizers and by sowing seeds of high-yielding varieties. A pre-irrigation soil survey is essential for the efficient implementation of any irrigation project. In general the soils of the district are loam of high productiveness. There are belts of *bhat* soils in Padrauna. These soils require comparatively less water for the growth of crops and are better suited to

spices and vegetables. In the north there is a belt of terai soils with a larger humus content and a high water level. No detailed survey of the district area has been done so far.

Harvests

The mode of cultivation in the district is similar to that which prevails throughout the eastern districts of the State. Harvests are known by the usual names of *kharif*, *rabi* and *zaid*. The *kharif* crops are sown in the beginning of the hot weather and reaped after the cessation of the rains; the *rabi* crops are sown in October-November and harvested in March-April, the *zaid* or intermediate crops comprise a few minor crops like melons, vegetables and spices and cover a very small area. The relative figures of areas occupied by the *kharif* and *rabi* crops in the district are as follows :

Year	Area under <i>kharif</i> (in acres/ha.)		Area under <i>rabi</i> (in acres/ha.)	
	Acres	Ha.	Acres	Ha.
1961-62	8,79,897	3,51,958	5,20,588	2,08,235
1972-73	8,77,657	3,51,063	5,82,392	2,32,957

The area cropped more than once in a year (*dofasli*) is quite large in the district. In 1961-62, the district had 1,23,038 ha. under double-cropping and in 1972-73 this area increased to 1,54,773 ha. A good deal depends on the nature of the soil and the character of the crops grown. Double-cropping is mostly practised in those parts of the district where much of the land is ordinarily under sugar-cane, *arhar* and paddy. It is subsequently taken under *moong*, maize, wheat and *chana* etc.

Principal Kharif Crops

Rice—The main crop of this season is paddy. There are two main harvests of paddy in the district, early paddy known as *kuari* and the later, known as *jarhan*. The former is sown late in June or early July and a good harvest depends on adequacy of rainfall. After it is harvested, the fields are prepared for sowing *rabi* crops like wheat, barley, gram and pea. *Jarhan* is sown after the commencement of the rains. The plants are first raised in specially prepared nursery beds and on attaining a height of nearly 15 cm. are transplanted in properly prepared fields. The crop is reaped in November, after which the fields usually lie fallow during the *rabi* season. In 1961-62, the area occupied by paddy in the district was 1,59,308 ha. the area

under it rising to 1,92,079 ha. in 1971-72. Its total production amounted to 1,31,201 tonnes in the latter year.

Maize—A notable feature of the agriculture of the district is that the maize crop is cultivated without difficulty and gives a profitable return but its greatest advantage is that it is among the first to reach maturity and consequently is less liable to suffer from an early cessation of the rains and leaves the ground free for the preparation of the *rabi* while other crops are still standing. Various high-yielding varieties of maize evolved at the agricultural university at Pantnagar and other agricultural research centres are grown in the district in different seasons, including the summer. Maize was sown in an area of 23,346 ha. in 1961-62 and 25,913 ha. in 1971-72 with the total production amounting to 2,276 tonnes in the same year.

Jowar and Bajra—In the inferior soils and the narrow strips of sandy land along the river banks, jowar and *bajra* are the main *kharif* staples which are grown. The cultivation of jowar shows a fast decreasing trend in the district, the main reason being its lesser use for human consumption and an increase in the area under more palatable cereals because of the growth of assured irrigation. In 1961-62 the area under jowar was 918 ha. but in 1971-72 it had become insignificant as only 404 ha. were sown with it.

Bajra was sown in 1,992 ha. in 1961-62 but by 1971-72 the area under it had decreased to 1,497 ha. Poor soils are most suited for growing *bajra* which is also sown mostly mixed with *arhar*.

Other Crops—Among other *kharif* crops grown in the district are the cereals *sawan*, *kodon*, *kakun* and *mandua*—and pulses like *urd*, *moth* and *moong*. In 1961-62, the area under these cereals was 3,545 ha., 43,205 ha., 2,670 ha. and 2,700 ha. respectively. In 1971-72, *sawan* covered 4,020, *kodon* 38,514, *kakun* 1,270 and *mandua* 1,611 ha. in the district. The pulses occupied 63 ha., 18 ha. and 85 ha. respectively in 1971-72.

Principal Rabi Crops

Wheat—Wheat is the most important of the *rabi* staples in the district. The crop requires a good soil, careful tillage and an assured supply of irrigation, so that it practically monopolises the bulk of the best loam. In all the parganas it constitutes the chief product of the spring harvest but the proportion varies to a considerable extent in different parts. In the inferior soils which are yet capable of producing wheat, it is often sown in combination with barley or gram, forming the mixture locally known as *gojai*. Of this combination that of wheat and gram is more popular.

Fields for wheat cultivation are manured with compost at the end of the summer. During the dry intervals they are ploughed a number of times and finally sown around October, the Mexican varieties being sown even in December. The first watering is done after a month when the plants have attained a height between 3 cm. and 4 cm. In years of good winter rains, only two or three more waterings are sufficient for an average harvest, otherwise the fields have to be irrigated at least five or six times. Harvesting commences in the latter half of March and continues throughout April, in some areas even into May. Of late, following the successful introduction of Mexican varieties, a number of improved and high-yielding varieties of wheat evolved at the Pantnagar agricultural university and at other research centres, the cultivators are adopting them in place of the indigenous kinds. Wheat occupied 80,162 ha. in 1961-62. In 1971-72 it was sown in an area of 1,40,123 ha. when the total wheat production in the district amounted to 2,12,487 tonnes.

Barley—Barley is confined to the light soils which are mostly unirrigated. The area under this crop has decreased of late and this indicates the replacement of inferior grains by the more valuable staples. In the year 1961-62 it was sown in 60,573 ha. By the year 1971-72 the area under it had shrunk to 42,637 ha.

Gram—The remaining *rabi* area is taken up for the most part by gram which is sown in every kind of soil, with or without irrigation and commonly follows some *kharif* staple as a second crop. It is generally sown mixed with wheat or barley and sometimes with both. In 1971-72 it covered 11,025 ha. in the district, the total production being 7,872 tonnes.

Pea—Peas are grown in a small area and like gram thrive in all kinds of soils but it is more susceptible to frost. In 1961-62, the area covered by pea was 35,740 ha. and in 1971-72 it occupied 28,031 ha., the total production being 17,691 tonnes.

Pulses—Of the *rabi* pulses only *arhar* and *masur* are important. An interesting feature about *arhar* is that it is sown with the main *kharif* crops and is harvested after most of the *rabi* crops have been reaped. Perhaps this is why it is hardly ever sown as a single crop, being usually combined with jowar or *bajra* which are harvested by November-December, leaving it standing alone in the fields. In 1961-62 *arhar* covered 7,966 ha. but it went down to 5,176 ha. in 1971-72, the production being 3,407 tonnes in that year.

Masur was sown in 7,257 ha. in 1961-62 and in 3,688 ha. in 1971-72, the total production being 2,074 tonnes.

The following statement indicates the irrigated area and the average yield per ha. in quintals of the main *kharif* and *rabi* cereals in the district in the year 1971-72:

Cereal	Irrigated area (in ha.)	Average yield in district (in quintals)
Kharif		
Paddy	460	6.83 (in the form of Rice)
Jowar	—	1.78
Bajra	—	4.00
Maize	—	0.88
Urd	—	3.45
Moong	18	1.92
Moth	85	3.05
Rabi		
Wheat	1,22,976	10.80
Barley	27,973	7.65
Gram	7,690	7.14
Pea	2,936	6.31
Arhar	—	6.58
Masur	162	5.62

Non-food Crops

The main non-food crops of the district are sugar-cane, cotton, oil-seed, ground-nut, potato, other vegetables and fruits, sunn-hemp and tobacco.

Sugar-cane is one of the most important non-food *kharif* cash crops of the district. In 1961-62 it was sown in an area of 85,240 ha. and 66,014 ha. in 1971-72. In recent years a number of high-yielding varieties have been introduced into the district, the total production in 1971-72 amounting to 21,50,445 tonnes.

Of the oil-seeds, ground-nut was sown in an area of 269 ha. in 1971-72. Mustard covered 2,166 ha., *til* 249 ha. and linseed 398 ha. Sunn-hemp is sown both for its fibre and as a green crop. It occupies

an area of 362 ha. Tobacco was sown in 17 ha. in the district in 1971-72.

Vegetables occupy a small area, being cultivated in the vicinity of large villages or towns whose number and population is insignificant in the district. The area covered in 1971-72 was 3,077 ha. The statement below states the irrigated area and the figures of average yield per ha. in quintals of the important non-food crops in the district in 1971-72:

Crops	Irrigated area (in ha.)	Average yield per ha. (in quintals)
Sugar-cane	21,610	325.76
Ground-nut	—	5.59
Mustard	417	4.05
<i>Til</i>	—	1.30
Linseed	40	1.39
Tobacco	12	10.59
Sunn-hemp	—	14.84
Cotton	—	—

Improvement of Agriculture

The rapidly increasing demand for food-grains necessitated far-reaching improvements in the pattern and technique of agriculture which were adopted after Independence. The development of agriculture gained an important place in all the Five-year Plans. Improved and scientific methods of growing wheat, sugar-cane and paddy have been popularised among the cultivators of the district and include proper tillage, sufficient and timely manuring, sowing of seeds of improved and high-yielding varieties, proper and timely irrigation and protection of crops against pests and diseases. The sixties of this century saw the ushering in of the 'green revolution' in the country under which schemes of intensive cultivation by sowing of high-yielding seeds of wheat, barley, maize, jowar, *bajra*, sugar-cane and other crops and the use of better implements and chemical fertilisers have been implemented. The government agricultural farms in the district and various other agencies of the Central and State governments, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, agricultural colleges and universities and research centres carry out demonstrations in less accessible areas and set up exhibitions in central places.

Modern techniques and cultivation practices, better and improved implements, high-yielding varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizers, scientific methods of cultivation for higher production and plant-protection services developed by such institutions and organisations are made available through the development blocks to the agriculturists of the district. Farmers are trained in improved agricultural techniques and *rabi* and *kharif* campaigns are organised every year through which experts of the agriculture department and development blocks help the cultivators to solve their problems.

The agriculture department gives *taqavi* and the co-operative department advances loans to the cultivators for purchasing better seeds, chemical fertilizers, agricultural implements, pesticides and bullocks and to carry out private minor irrigation works like installation of pumping sets and Persian wheels and construction and boring of pakka wells, etc. The agriculture department provided the following amounts of money as *taqavi* to the farmers during the period from 1970-71 to 1974-75:

Year	Amount distributed (in Rs)
1970-71	79,87,490
1971-72	77,57,232
1972-73	76,00,006
1973-74	3,19,183
1974-75	10,47,704

The co-operative institutions in the districts including four Rajya Sahkari Bhumi Vikas Bank, also disbursed loans. By the year 1973-74 they provided a sum of about Rs 3,99,30,000 and about Rs 54,00,000 in the shape of medium—and long-term loans to the cultivators of the district.

Seed Supply

Seeds of cereals are supplied by the government through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture department and co-operative seed stores which are under the supervision of the co-operative department. The former advance seeds on cash payment or as *taqavi* and the latter on a *sawai* basis (that is, repayable at 25 per cent in excess of the quantity advanced). There were 91 such seed stores in the district in 1973-74 of which 58 were under the agriculture department, the remaining 33 being managed as co-operative institutions.

The seed stores meet only a small fraction of the total demand of the farmers for seeds, the bulk being supplied by the local dealers.

The following statement states the quantity (in quintals) of improved seeds of various *rabi* and *kharif* cereal distributed on *sawai* in 1972-73 and 1973-74:

Seeds	1972-73	1973-74
Paddy	946	713
Wheat	737	521
Barley	41	44
Gram	30	24
Pea	29	21

The government agriculture farms also produce improved varieties of seeds of various cereals to meet the requirements of the farmers. The production of cereals at these farms in 1973-74 amounted to 1,388 tonnes.

Government Agriculture Farms

In 1973-74, there were four government agriculture farms in the district one each at Gaziapur, Hata, Rampur and Dhorahi, some details about them being given below:

Name of farm	Year of opening	Total area of farm (in ha.)	Cultivated area (in ha.)
Gaziapur	1958-59	23.88	21.85
Hata	1958-59	23.88	20.83
Rampur	1960-61	13.35	12.34
Dhorahi	1968-69	19.22	17.53

Soil Nutrients

The traditional manures are cattle dung, farm refuse and stable litter. The importance of green manure crops such as *urd*, *dhaincha*, *senai* and *moong*, which provide the soil with nitrogenous ingredients and increase its fertility is being increasingly realised by the cultivators. The increased popularity of employing green manure is

gauged by the fact that in the year 1973-74 an average area of 2,700 ha. was sown with such crops. Till the present decade the use of chemical fertilizers has been low because of insufficient production in the country.

The seed stores of the co-operative and agriculture departments in the district are able to meet only a fraction of the total requirements of green manure crops, seeds and chemical fertilizers. The cultivators have usually to make their own arrangements, purchasing them from private dealers sometimes at exorbitant rates to be able to use them just at the time when they are required.

The government seeds stores and the co-operative institutions and retail agencies of the U. P. agro-industrial corporation in the district distributed 11,993 tonnes of nitrogenous, 4,304 tonnes of phosphatic and 2,137 tonnes of potassic chemical fertilizers in the year 1972-73.

Agricultural Implements and Machines

The pace of replacement of old and traditional agricultural implements such as the spade, sickle, wooden plough, etc., by improved and modern implements of agriculture has been slow in this district as compared to other districts of the State. According to the live-stock census of 1972, there were in the district 2,57,764 ploughs, 5,972 other improved agricultural implements like harrows, cultivators, sowing machines and threshers, 243 machines for spraying insecticides and pesticides, 35,537 bullock carts, 14,555 sugar-cane crushers, 569 tractors, 4,219 *ghanis* (oil-seed crushers) 8,429 oil-engines and electric pumping sets for irrigation and 373 Persian wheels (*rahas*). There are several private concerns for manufacturing agricultural implements and tools in the district. The district has an agriculture workshop located at Baitalpur which undertakes the manufacture of agricultural implements and tools.

Rotation of Crops and Fallowing

The farmers of the district have been growing different crops by rotation in the same field for centuries but in the past their knowledge about the advantages of the practice of growing crops in rotation was empirical rather than scientific. The agriculture department now makes the results of the latest researches regarding the rotation of crops available to the cultivators to enlighten them and to encourage them to adopt newer rotations of crops. Different rotations of crops in the district depend upon soil types and availability of irrigation. Generally two crops, mostly wheat and paddy, are grown in the district. Sugar-cane is an important crop and there are fourteen sugar

factories in the district. The common rotations of *kharif* and *rabi* followed by the farmers in the district are as under :

Kharif	Rabi
Early paddy or maize	Potato/wheat
Maize	Potato/wheat/tomato
Ladies finger	wheat/mustard/pea
Sunn-hemp	Wheat/gram/barley
Ladies finger, taro	Wheat/barley

In the past when there was an abundance of land for cultivation, the farmers used to leave their fields fallow for at least one season as this practice enabled the fields to recuperate their fertility. But this practice is gradually being given up as the object is achieved by rotation of crops and mixed cropping which means intensive cultivation, resulting in an increase in the total yield.

Mixed Cultivation

The practice of simultaneously growing more than one crop in a single field more or less in a single season gives an additional harvest and increases the overall yield. It also serves as a security against adverse weather conditions and pests and insects as there are always chances of saving at least one crop in the field because pests and diseases and adverse weather conditions do not usually affect all the crops in the field with the same severity. The sowing of leguminous crops like *moong*, *urd* and *jowar* with cereals provides the soil with nitrogenous ingredients in the most perfect natural state. Accordingly, almost always, *arhar* is sown mixed with *jowar*, *urd*, *til* or ground-nut; *bajra* with *urd*, *arhar* or ground-nut; wheat with gram, pea or mustard; barley with gram or pea; maize with *urd*; ground-nut with *jowar*; and cotton with *urd*. Potato is generally sown mixed with *methi* (*fenugreek*) or onion; sugar-cane with *moong*; and rainy season vegetables and late paddy and coriander (*dhaniya*) or *methi*.

Agricultural Co-operatives and Joint Farming

Among the farmers of the district, the practice of cultivating the land jointly (*sajha*) is very old. Forests and pasture lands are still used in common. Cultivators often pool their implements, bullocks and labour for a season or two for growing crops. Costly implements and machines are also sometimes owned or hired jointly and used in rotation.

In recent times co-operative societies have been formed in the villages for farming, distribution of seeds, loans, fertilizers and implements, cattle breeding, supply of milk to big towns and marketing of the agriculture produce of the cultivators.

In 1973, the district had 33 co-operative seed stores, their main function being to arrange for credit and seeds to the cultivators and 20 co-operative farming societies producing agricultural commodities worth Rs 2,02,928.

There are also three co-operative marketing societies, one each at Salempur, Padrauna and Barhaj which were established in 1961, 1964 and 1972 respectively.

Horticulture

In 1900 the total grove area was 2.32 per cent of the entire district, since when there has been some decrease, owing partly to the destruction of old groves and the conversion of the land to agricultural purposes and partly to the incentive to sell trees as the cost of fuel has gone up considerably. A further decrease may be halted as new plantations are being developed, particularly in the *kachhar* tract in which groves do exceedingly well and form an asset. In most cases the groves consist of mango trees, though occasionally other species are to be seen, such as the guavac, which is planted extensively in the district. The district also abounds in *mahua* trees but these are for the most part of spontaneous growth and are to be seen principally on land reclaimed from the forest or not yet brought under cultivation. The area covered by these trees is included in culturable waste and the crop is of great value. Other grove trees include the tamarind, *shisham*, *tun*, (*cedrella toona*) *jamun*, *siras*, *gular* and neem, all of which are to be found in and around the villages. Several varieties of cultivated fruit trees are also grown among which are *kathal* (jack-fruit) mulberry and *bel*.

The district has only one nursery (in an area of two ha.) which is maintained by the horticulture department. It supplies fruit plants and seeds and seedlings of vegetables to orchardists and cultivators in and outside the district. The statement below gives some details of the horticultural development in the district in 1972-73.

Horticulture activity	Progress made in 1973-74
(a) Total no. of fruit plants and seedlings distributed through agriculture department	15,860
(b) Total no. of fruit plants and seedlings distributed by other sources	46,818
(c) Vegetable seeds distributed by agriculture department (in kg.)	1,510
(d) Vegetable seeds distributed by other sources (in kg.)	4,410

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

There are three main enemies of crops in the district—animals, birds and insects. Plant diseases, fungi and weeds also cause considerable damage to plants of food-grains, vegetables and fruits. Monkeys, rats, squirrels, wild animals, bats, parrots and some other birds damage the crops badly. The usual methods of protection normally provided by the cultivators are fencing, keeping watch and destruction of the animals and birds. Leaf-mosaic, rust, smut and termite attack the wheat, barley and pea crops. The paddy crop is generally damaged by leaf-mosaic, blight and the *gundhi* pest. Potatoes and other vegetables are mostly affected by blight, leaf-mosaic and pink ball-worm. Canker and wither-tip take heavy toll of citrus fruits. Mango and guava orchards are the worst sufferers from die-back, black-tip of mango, damping of seedlings and wither-tip. There are various insecticides and pesticides like aldrin, BHC and others which are sprayed or dusted on the crops to control plant pests and diseases. To save the crops from seed-borne diseases, the seeds are dried in the sun and also treated with certain chemicals before storage and before sowing. There are also numerous other leafy growths and weeds which are harmful to the crops. These are usually overcome by systematic and timely weeding, interculture and the deep ploughing of the fields. The plant protection staff in the district gives free advice to the cultivators on matters about raising healthy crops of fruits, vegetables and cereals and employing timely measures for the protection of plants from diseases, pests, etc. They also provide insecticides spraying and dusting machines and the services of a trained staff at moderate charges. The statement below indicates the total area under various cereal, vegetable and fruit crops in the district which were sprayed or dusted with insecticides and pesticides during the five years ended 1970-71:

Year	Area covered (in ha.)
1966-67	90,000
1967-68	1,40,000
1968-69	1,33,000
1969-70	1,46,000
1970-71	1,64,000

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

The cattle of the district are of an inferior variety. In a letter written to the board of revenue in 1824-25, the collector complains of the extreme difficulty of getting any cattle sufficiently strong to drag the government treasure carts. Since then cattle have improved in quality but the breed produced is still inferior to those of certain parts of the State. No systematic large-scale breeding has been attempted but the purchase of cattle from neighbouring districts and the practice of bringing large herds to graze in the terai areas of the district has done something to improve the stock. Since the closing of the government breeding stud at Ghazipur under British rule, stud-bred horses have rarely appeared for sale in the district. The ordinary pony is the only steed for which a demand exists and it is sometimes a very serviceable beast. Camels are rarely used in the district being unsuited to the climate.

The use of mechanised means of transportation and communication and the high cost of maintaining domestic animals in the district, has tended to reduce the number of draught animals such as horses, elephants, ponies and donkeys which were used for travel, taking out processions, in different ways at festivals and fairs in other ways. The erstwhile zamindars of the district also kept horses and elephants but the abolition of zamindari has led to a big decrease in the number of these animals.

For a large part of the year the cattle of the district live on the by-products of agriculture and on green fodder crops. Sheep and goats are numerous but there is no specially good breed. They are gradually decreasing in number because of the recent extension of cultivation, which has reduced the area available for grazing. Cattle are brought from great distances to graze here. The grazier is sometimes a servant paid at the rate of about Rs 5 per animal per month by different owners; sometimes the cattle owners pasture their cattle in towns and sometimes, but very rarely, the herdsman is paid by having a share in the calves born while the herd is under his charge. According to the census of 1972, the live-stock population of the district was as follows :

Live-stock	1972
Cows (including young stock)	1,71,251
Female buffaloes (including young stock)	1,53,329
Goats	2,90,508
Sheep	32,785
Pigs	27,548

Development of Live-stock

In 1866-67 proposals were made to import some bulls from Hissar in order to improve the breed of cattle but the animals were found to be too large for the small cows of the district and the experiment failed. Some rams were also introduced into the district but they died within a year of their arrival. The experiment was repeated in 1869 with some long-woolled sheep but again without success.

Considerable progress has been made in the last few decades in improving the breed of cattle through selective breeding, culling undesirable animals and upgrading indigenous cattle with improved bulls of well-known and tried Indian breeds and distribution of seeds of improved varieties of fodder and feed at moderate prices. Artificial insemination for bettering the breed of cows and buffaloes was started in the district in the First Five-year Plan period and there were 31 centres for this purpose in 1973-74. Government supplies bulls of the Murrah and Haryana breeds at concessional rates, especially in areas which are not covered by artificial insemination centres. Loans are also provided to the cultivators for the purchase of cows and buffaloes of improved breeds. In the period from 1969-70 to 1973-74, a sum of Rs 18,000 was distributed in the district through the animal husbandry department.

For improving the breed of sheep and goats, stud rams and bucks of the Barbari and Jamunapari breeds are stationed at all the veterinary hospitals in the district. A government goat breeding farm exists at village Laxmipur. A sheep and wool extension centre at village Dudhari and a stud ram centre at Kasia were in operation in the district in 1974.

Steps have also been taken to encourage piggeries in the district. A piggery development centre was established at the Deoria development block in 1962-63, which was raised to the level of an intensive piggery development block in 1964-65. Yorkshire pig ewes are being distributed on contribution to improve the local breed and 12 were supplied in the period from 1969-70 to 1973-74.

Poultry Development

Poultry farming is rapidly gaining ground with the increasing demand for poultry products. According to the live-stock census of 1966, there were 44,814 poultry birds in the district, of which 43,956 were hens and cocks, 517 ducks and drakes and 341 other birds. To encourage poultry farming as a subsidiary industry for the benefit

of the cultivators, the department distributed 7,845 birds of improved breed at subsidized rates in 1973-74. The department is training villagers in poultry farming. In addition to two government poultry farms with a production of approximately 55,000 eggs per year, there are numerous private poultry farms in and around the towns of Deoria and Kasia which obtain improved fowls from the government poultry farms in the district and also from other places.

Cattle Diseases and Treatment

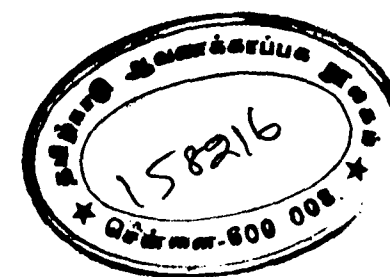
The most common cattle diseases in the district are foot and mouth (*mokhur*) which is the least deadly, rinderpest, anthrax (*tilsuj*) and, in the low lying areas, *haemorrhagic septicaemia* or malignant sore throat, which is common. Occasionally rinderpest assumes an epidemic form during or immediately after the rains. It bears the name *mata* as does human smallpox, to which the villagers deem it analogous. It is highly contagious and often fatal.

Old superstitions, practices and taboos are still rife among the villagers and they do not always take recourse to modern medicines and methods of treatment for the prevention and cure of animal diseases but with the opening of a number of veterinary hospitals and stockman centres in the district and as a result of the practical demonstrations and publicity carried out by the animal husbandry department, the villagers are becoming more aware of the efficaciousness of scientific and modern methods of treatment of cattle diseases. There is a live-stock officer who is in charge of the animal husbandry department in the district. To help him there is an artificial insemination officer who looks after the schemes related to improving the breed of live-stock through artificial insemination. The veterinary hospitals, which numbered 31 in 1974 and most of which had artificial insemination centres attached, and the stockman centres numbering 48, provided treatment, breeding facilities and other advice regarding the health of cattle, etc., to the cultivators. The statement below gives the number of animals treated, vaccinated and castrated and also the number of cows and buffaloes which were provided with artificial insemination service in the period from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

Year	Treated	Vaccinated	Castrated	Artificially inseminated
1969-70	1,64,235	1,81,767	3,625	31,132
1970-71	1,02,061	1,95,607	17,155	34,275
1971-72	1,77,477	1,29,613	40,350	36,548
1972-73	1,66,083	1,47,248	30,069	43,326
1973-74	2,12,372	3,56,952	23,909	43,972

Housing and Feeding—Generally speaking, the domestic animals of the district are housed in thatched kutcha cattle sheds, pakka and well-ventilated byres with roofs of iron or asbestos sheets being seen only in the government farms and in big cultivators' farms. Although the government provides monetary help for constructing community cattle sheds in the villages, the progress achieved in this field is negligible.

Many cattle are grazed in the government reserves and the utility of the forests and pastures which support much larger numbers is incalculable. It is therefore of importance that these grazing grounds should be strictly preserved for this purpose. In 1973-74 the total area covered by culturable waste land, pastures, grazing grounds, forests and fallow land was 45,360 ha. when barren and unculturable land measured 9,655 ha. The crops which provide fodder to the cattle are *jowar*, *bajra* and *barsen*. The husk and dried and crushed stalks of wheat, barley, *arhar*, *urd*, *moong*, pea, gram and paddy are also used by the cultivators to feed the cattle. The seed stores of the agriculture and co-operative departments provide seeds of nutritious fodder crops to the cultivators.



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destruction of fry especially as no "closed" season is observed. Fishing is done by Mallahs, Kahars, Pasis and many other groups though few of these depend on fishing as their sole means of support. Fish finds a ready sale at all times as an article of diet by almost all classes in these parts. In Deoria the price of good fish is ordinarily Rs 10 a kg. in the cold season. People of the poorest classes eat turtles which are very common and are caught by means of barbed spears with which fishermen probe the bottom of the river as the boat moves slowly downstream.

Piscicultural activities have been undertaken by the fisheries department in the district since 1961-62 when 1,00,000 fingerlings were distributed at subsidized rates of Rs 10 and Rs 18 per thousand and were placed in tanks covering an area of 20 ha. Under the applied nutrition programme, fingerlings are supplied at the rate of Rs 10 per thousand to *gaon sabhas* and co-operative societies on the condition that 20 per cent of the produce is distributed to children and pregnant women. The following statement gives the number of fingerlings supplied by the government to private breeders in the district from 1962-63 to 1973-74.

FORESTRY

The forests of the district are of great economic value, though they are far less extensive now than formerly. The total area of land covered by all kinds of forests and jungles in the district was 1,338 ha. in 1972-73. In the areas adjoining the forests, people find employment in a number of small industries connected with forest products like timber and wood-cutting and sawing wood for furniture, fuel and buildings. Grass is used for making ropes, strings and thatching material. Other minor forest products are gum, honey and herbs.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

There are no reliable records regarding the onslaught of natural calamities in the district prior to British times though there is reason to believe that relief measures were taken by ancient and mediaeval rulers. It is possible that the area covered by the present district was affected by the famines of 1345, 1471 and 1631 which afflicted the district of Gorakhpur. Tradition says that twice severe drought caused serious scarcity in these parts, once during the reign of Aurangzeb when no rain fell for two years and the Rapti ran almost dry. The raja of Satasi nearly died of starvation; and then in 1769 when famine conditions prevailed and a large number of persons perished.

Drought caused some scarcity in 1803, 1809 and 1814. At the time of the general famine of 1837-38, the area covered by the present district escaped lightly. The effects of the drought of 1873-74 were aggravated by a rise in prices due to the export of a great deal of grain to Bengal and relief works had to be opened. In 1896 the rains ceased prematurely and the crop suffered. Advances were given for seed and for the construction of wells. Relief works were opened in 1897 and workers were employed on roads and tanks. The *khari* in 1903 and 1905 suffered greatly from floods and the *rabi* of 1905 was severely damaged by frost and the heavy floods in 1906, following on a series of indifferent harvests, also caused much distress. Prices were already very high when incessant rains for 25 days in 1906 ruined the *khari*. The distress was greatest in the valleys of the Rapti and Gandak. Excessive rains during the monsoons of 1922, 1925, 1931 and 1938 caused heavy floods and damaged the lowlying *kachhar* tracts and washed away a number of villages on the banks of the rivers. The relief arranged was merely nominal on these occasions.

No major natural calamity has visited these parts after 1946. Floods, which are a normal phenomenon in these parts, take some toll of life and material every year. The floods of 1956 caused extensive

damage to the crops in the district, the first wave appearing at the end of August, which affected 554 villages and the onslaught of the second wave on September 10, affecting 1,740 villages. The Little Gandak, which flows through the middle of the district, created havoc on a much wider scale and many villages were damaged. The Ghaghra and Rapti also crossed their danger levels and caused enormous damage to the standing crops. About 40,000 houses were completely damaged, 13 persons were buried under the debris and died and 11 persons were drowned in the flooded pools and rivers. Food-grain, salt, kerosene oil and match-boxes worth Rs 87,000 were distributed free of cost to the destitute. A sum of Rs 25,000 was spent on rescue and relief works including the hiring of boats and Rs 40,000 was given for reconstruction and repair of houses to those rendered homeless. Nearly 150 wagons of hay were obtained from district Banda and distributed free of cost for relieving the fodder scarcity. Cloth and garments provided by local philanthropists were distributed. In addition to the normal *tagavi* of Rs 3,15,000, Rs 7,00,000 was advanced to the cultivators as distress relief for buying seeds, bullocks, etc. Test works were started in September when the rains and waterlogging abated. The following statement shows the extent of damage on account of floods, waterlogging and fire and the amount of relief provided by the government from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

CH. IV—AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Year	No. of villages affected	Area (in ha.)	No. of persons affected	Houses damaged	Total loss (in Rs)	Lives lost		Test works Help to (in Rs) fire victims		Gratuitous relief (in Rs)		House subsidy fees remitted (in Rs)	Land revenue	
						Persons	Animals	(in Rs)	(in Rs)	(in Rs)	(in Rs)		Student	House
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1969-70	1,677	1,15,028	5,39,352	6,730	2,09,78,135	2	1	1,00,000	15,000	74,000	2,18,000	2,00,000	—	—
1970-71	644	99,221	3,40,416	8,574	1,72,14,915	—	—	10,55,542	41,000	1,33,000	4,10,000	1,85,000	—	3,42,024
1971-72	2,754	2,15,653	11,77,973	38,354	7,85,47,625	—	250	—	4,000	7,93,911	16,05,000	13,66,177	—	1,18,562
1972-73	87	6,85,175	27,64,859	—	9,69,25,140	—	—	7,64,549	1,01,998	6,000	—	—	—	—
1973-74	2,558	4,28,124	26,24,535	63,602	2,27,02,11,724	37	34	21,98,077	28,300	13,50,268	38,16,150	16,00,000	—	—

Calamities owing to floods might be lessened by taking up general protective schemes for training the rivers. With the construction of large embankments and bunds along the Gandak at Ahrauli, Pipraghat and Chhitauri in the last two decades, the north-eastern area of the district has been protected against floods in this river. Nevertheless large areas are still inundated by flood waters of small hill streams in the northern tracts and by the rivers Ghagra and Rapti.

Precautionary measures are taken by the officer in charge (floods) before the advent of the monsoon. Twenty-two flood reporting centres and seventy-four flood posts at strategic points have been set up with a flood control room at the district headquarters. Detailed arrangements for posting of officers at vulnerable points and for carrying food-grains and other necessities of life are made well in advance. Similar arrangements are made for the prevention of epidemics. Boats are placed at critical points and flood shelters are erected at suitable places and are provided with food-grains, salt, kerosene oil, etc. For the rehabilitation of affected persons land as needed is acquired by the government.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

Old-time Industries

Industrially the district has been one of the backward districts of the State. There do not seem to be any chronicles which would throw light on the industrial history of the district but it is said that during the Mughal period, cottage industries, specially the handmade cloth and utensil industries, received encouragement from the rulers and they prospered. The small industries of the district were limited to the production of the simple necessities of rural life. Fine weaving was not done, the weavers producing only coarse *garha* and *tat* for local consumption. A kind of coarse woollen blanket was woven at Deoria from sheep's wool, its sale being local. Padrauna had some local recognition for its vessels of the alloy known as *phul* (bell metal), a mixture of brass, copper and zinc and the vessels were sent to Ballia. *Phul* was more expensive than ordinary brass and so its sale was restricted. Wickerware and basketwork goods were turned out in considerable quantities but were not exported.

The manufacture of *gur* and *khandsari* (sugar) is the oldest industry of the district. This industry was scattered throughout the district, the main concentrations being at Rampur, Barhaj and Sindhuajobna. It is said that Rampur alone had more than 500 production units and that Barhaj was famous for exporting the product. For manufacturing sugar, sugar-cane juice was boiled to make *gur* which was made into small, round *bhelis*, each a quarter of a *ser* in weight or into the thinner *rab* when required for the manufacture of white, refined sugar. The establishment of big sugar mills gave a blow to this small industry. Another old-time industry was that of preparing indigo (dye) from the indigo plant. After the First World War, Synthetic dyes at a lower cost started being imported from foreign countries resulting in the extinction of the industry.

Another old-time industry was soap making which was well established at Lar (in tahsil Salempur). This soap was made from a grey saline earth called Khari Mitti which was imported, the amount delivered at the Lar railway station in 1906-07 being 2,369 maunds and 2,150 maunds of soap were despatched from here. The bulk of the product was exported to Nepal. Saltpetre and *sajji* were also manufactured from *lona* and *reh* but this industry declined because better chemical substitutes began to be used and now there is only

one unit in the district for their manufacture. Pottery of a plain type was made throughout the district but Bhagalpur was famous for its pottery industry. The potters adopted the old technique of using the wheel for throwing the ware.

The manufacture of refined saltpetre is also an old-time industry of the district, which was located near Tarkulwa, Barhaj and Savrahi. The workers engaged in this industry only for part of the time, their main occupation being agriculture.

The main cause of the decay of these old-time industries was the lack of markets for the articles produced and the lack of governmental or other assistance and because they could not compete with mill-made goods.

Power

The growth of industry and agriculture now depends on a cheap and uninterrupted supply of electric power, which also ensures the establishment of small-scale and large-scale industrial undertakings in the district. Power was first given to villages for industrial purposes in limited quantity in 1950, though the villages were first electrified in 1960. In 1960, the workshops and factories of the rural and urban areas, which accounted for 55.1 and 48.5 per cent respectively, were without power. Those run by animal or water power were 27.1 and 12.4 per cent respectively. The former, 11.0 per cent and the latter 17.2 per cent, used liquid fuel and 5.8 per cent of the rural and 13.7 per cent of the urban workshops used solid fuel. Of 1,643 rural and 233 urban workshops and factories, 16 and 19 workshops and factories used electricity respectively. The total power now available in the district is 22 mw. There are about 1,058 industrial units in the district and their total load is about 15,795 h. p

The following statement gives an idea of the power supplied to different types of industrial units in the district in 1972-73 :

Industry	Number of units	Sanctioned load (in k. w.)	Units consumed
Small-scale	1,027	7,816.215	47,64,339
Medium-scale	8	261.846	5,30,408
Large-scale	16	3,382.296	62,04,670
Mixed	7	2,044.000	10,25,380
Total	1,058	13,504.357	1,25,24,797

Large-scale Industries

There are 15 registered large-scale units in the district, 14 manufacturing sugar and one making alcohol. These industries provided seasonal employment to 9,588 persons in 1973, the total investment amounting Rs 1,669 lakhs and the value of the products to Rs 2,505 lakhs.

Sugar—District Deoria has one-fifth of the total number of sugar factories in the State, the largest number in any of the districts of the State. The sugar industry was first started in this area in 1903. Sugar-cane is available in the district in good quantity and the units produce sugar of good quality which is exported to other districts of the Country. Bagasse and molasses, the by products, are used for the manufacture of fuel and alcohol respectively. The total investment of these units amounted to Rs 1,629 lakhs with a turnover of Rs 2,471 lakhs during 1973, employment being provided to 9,462 persons. As all these factories were established round about 1930 and little or no effort was made to modernise them, most of them are not prospering and the industry is facing many problems. The cost of production has gone up due to many factors such as the low yield of cane juice, a short crushing season, coarse content and outdated machinery. Consequently these units find it difficult to compete with those which are more prosperous in other parts of the State. The sugar produced meets local needs and is also exported.

Further details about the location, year of establishment, total investment, production and number of persons employed in these large-scale sugar works are given in the Statement appended at the end of the chapter. The Captain Ganj Distillery, Captainganj, was established in 1945 and is engaged in producing liquor and rectified spirits. Molasses is used as raw material which is supplied by the local sugar-mills. In 1973, the investment was Rs 39.35 lakhs with a total output of Rs 33.92 lakhs, the unit employing 126 persons. The quantity produced in 1973 was about 37 alcoholic lakh litres. The produce has a local market and is also sold in neighbouring districts.

Small Industries

Small-scale industries employing less than five persons have 930 units in the district. Their total investment in 1973 was Rs 83.87 lakhs and they employed 2,219 persons. The labourers in these industries are mostly artisans and traditional workers. These units have been categorised as follows :

Category based on	No. of units	Total investment (in lakhs of Rs)	No. of persons employed
Agriculture	447	59.50	920
Forest products	200	8.77	424
Chemicals	9	0.13	22
Minerals	1	0.20	3
Electrical industries	16	0.25	27
Engineering and allied industries	117	6.45	248
Miscellaneous industries	119	8.27	575
Total	930	83.87	2,219

Small-scale Industries (Medium)

There are 315 small-scale industrial units in the district, both registered and unregistered, each employing five persons or more. Their total investment was Rs 329.52 lakhs and the gross production was worth Rs 836.54 lakhs. Some details regarding these units are as follows :

Category based on	No. of units	Total investment (in lakhs of Rs)	No. of persons employed
Agriculture	21	69.90	290
Forest products	20	5.76	145
Live-stock-resources	6	7.80	119
Minerals	115	144.0	5,000
Electrical industries	1	1.04	42
Engineering and allied industries	60	69.75	572
Chemicals	9	25.09	74
Miscellaneous	7	7.18	64

These units have been further classified into 17 categories which are described below :

Brick-kilns—Bricks are manufactured in 173 units scattered throughout the district and manned by 7,000 persons. The total investment in this industry amounted Rs 219 lakhs in 1973 when bricks worth Rs 260 lakhs were produced. The products have only a local market.

Agricultural Implements and General Engineering—Ploughs and machines used by farmers in the fields and for irrigation purposes are manufactured in 65 units of which 37 are at Deoria, 17 at Padrauna, 4 at Barhaj, 3 each at Khadda, Kasia and Seorahi, 2 at Rudrapur and one each at Rampur Karkhana, Captainganj, Fazilnagar, Baitalpur, Bhatpar Rani and Salempur. In 1973 agricultural implements worth Rs 81.38 lakhs were produced, the investment of these units being Rs 77.38 lakhs. The industry employed 619 persons.

Saw-mills, Almirahs, Packing Cases, Doors and Windows—There are 20 units comprising saw-mills and units for the manufacture of wooden frames for door, windows, beds, almirahs and packing cases. Of these units, 9 are located at Deoria, 4 at Padrauna, 3 at Ramkola and one each at Barhaj, Bhatni and Rudrapur. Rs 5,765 lakhs was invested in the industry in 1973, when goods worth Rs 4.09 lakhs were produced, giving employment to 145 persons.

Oil, Dal, Flour and Rice Mills—There are 13 units in the district located at Deoria, Salempur, Barhaj, Gauri Bazar, Padrauna and Tamkuhi which produce oil, dal, flour and rice. Rs 18.54 lakhs was invested in this industry and goods worth Rs 19.26 lakhs were produced in 1973 when 82 persons were employed.

Confectionary and Bakeries—There are six units in the district, all at Deoria, for making bread, biscuits, toffee, etc. A sum of Rs 1.91 lakhs was invested in the industry and goods worth Rs 2.17 lakhs were produced in 1973, engaging 46 persons.

Cold Storage—Cold storage facilities for the preservation of food, particularly vegetables, fruits and onions, etc., are provided at 6 units in the district and are located at Deoria, Barhaj, Salempur and Kasia. These units had a total investment of Rs 22.27 lakhs and did a business of Rs 3.90 lakhs in 1973 and 56 persons got employment in them.

Brush Making—There are 6 brush making units, all at Barhaj, which manufacture brushes of various types for different purposes. Pig bristles, wirenail and *chapra* are the raw materials used in the industry which are available in the district. The industry had an investment of Rs 8.20 lakhs, produced articles worth Rs 6.50 lakhs and employed 101 persons in 1973.

Printing Presses—There are 6 printing presses working at Deoria with a total investment of Rs 6.61 lakhs. Business amounting to Rs 3.63 lakhs and employing 35 persons was done in 1973.

Paints and Varnishes—With a total investment of Rs 1.15 lakhs, four units are engaged in manufacturing paints, varnish, sticks of chalk, ink and water colours. These units produced goods worth Rs 53,000 and employed 26 persons in 1973. This industry has only a local market.

Plastic Goods—Toys, dolls and other plastic articles are manufactured by three units at Deoria. A sum of Rs 5.66 lakhs was invested in these units which produced articles worth Rs 2.72 lakhs and employed 27 persons in 1973.

Fertilizers—The district has two fertilizer units at Deoria for the manufacture of fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides. These units have expanded rapidly due to the heavy demand for their products. In 1973 they had a total investment of Rs 8.75 lakhs, the output amounted to Rs 10.25 lakhs and 23 persons were employed in them.

Khandsari—There are 2 units, one each at Mahen and Rudrapur, manufacturing *khandsari* and *gur*. In 1973 the total investment of these units was Rs 25.09 lakhs, the turnover was worth Rs 18.40 lakhs and seasonal employment was given to 160 persons.

Rubber Goods—A unit at Deoria is engaged in the manufacture of cycle tyres and tubes. In 1973 the investment was Rs 15.52 lakhs, the total production Rs 16 lakhs and the number of persons engaged 15.

Bone Crushing—One unit at Gauri Bazar is engaged in crushing bones for the production of fertilizers. Carcasses of animals (used as raw material) are available in the district. In 1973 this unit had an investment of Rs 1.35 lakhs, the turnover was Rs 3.13 lakhs and 30 persons were engaged in it.

Electrical Goods—Electrical goods such as table lamps, switches, etc., are manufactured in a unit at Deoria. Goods worth Rs 25,000 were produced by this unit in 1973, with a total investment of Rs 4.04 lakhs, the number of persons employed being 42.

Cement Jali—One unit at Deoria is engaged in the production of cement *jalis*. A sum of Rs 90,000 was invested in the industry and *jalis* worth Rs 1.40 lakhs were produced in 1973, the industry being manned by 10 persons.

Grease, Candle and Soap—There are 3 units in the district for the manufacture of these articles, which are located at Deoria and Bhagalpur. In 1973 the total investment in the industry was Rs 0.47 lakhs, material worth Rs 0.45 lakhs was produced and 2 workers were employed in it.

Cottage Industries

There are a number of old and flourishing cottage industries in the district, mostly in the rural areas. These industries have been flourishing for long, some having switched over to modern techniques of production. These industries are assisted by various organisations, the main being the khadi and village industries board, and are organised on an individual as well as on co-operative basis. The main items of production are oil crushers, hand-pounded rice, *khandsari*, things made of cane and bamboo, soap, fibre, matches, leather and articles made of leather and carpentry and smithery articles. These industries, which are assisted by the khadi and village industries board, had an investment of Rs 8.63 lakhs, their gross total production was worth Rs 34.17 lakhs and they gave employment to 1,845 persons in 1972-73. Some details about these industries are given in the following statement :

Name of industry	No. of societies	Investment (in lakhs of Rs)		Assistance given (in lakhs of Rs)		Gross annual production (in lakhs of Rs)	No. of persons employed
		Fixed	Total	Loan	Grant		
Village oil <i>ghani</i>	20	0.26	1.26	1.42	0.23	0.49	89
Hand pounding of rice	10	0.09	0.73	0.99	0.06	3.32	68
Soap making	3	0.26	0.64	0.03	—	0.06	5
Leather making	21	0.49	1.04	0.40	0.04	1.02	56
Carpentry and black-smithery	18	0.80	3.00	0.24	0.11	2.68	101
<i>Gur</i> and <i>khandsari</i>	7	0.20	0.55	0.25	0.06	12.75	1,225
Match making	4	0.40	0.80	0.22	0.06	—	—
Pottery	2	0.03	0.23	0.56	0.02	1.76	154
<i>Resha</i>	1	—	0.07	0.09	0.06	1.31	14
Blanket	5	—	0.31	0.27	0.025	0.78	133
Total	91	2.58	8.63	4.47	0.665	24.17	1,845

Sericulture—The climate of the northern region of the district in tahsils Padrauna and Hata has been found suitable for sericulture but this area had no mulberry trees for feeding silkworms. The industries department introduced in these tahsils a scheme of the plantation of mulberry trees and distribution of silkworms and imparted training by practical demonstrations in the rearing of silkworms. A farm centre was established at Tamkuhi Raj by posting a trained staff for the plantation of mulberry trees in an area of 8 ha.: Tamkuhi Raj covering 1 ha., Gazia 4.8 ha., Bhanpatia 1 ha., Dudhi 0.8 ha. and Gurwalia 0.4 ha. Eggs of the silkworm are imported from the sericulture farm at Dehra Dun and seeds are distributed free of cost to the rearers. They are also supplied with mulberry leaves for feeding the worms. When the worms become cocoons (within a period of about 3 weeks) they are purchased from the rearers by the sericulture co-operative union. Dehra Dun, where the making of silk reels is done in the factory. In 1968 about 43 kg. of cocoons were produced. The production gradually increased to 1,618 kg. by 1973 as shown below:

Year	Production (in kg.)
1968	42.65
1969	119.0
1970	269.0
1971	277.0
1972	500.0
1973	1,618.0

In 1974 the selling price of cocoons was Rs 15 per kg. and under this scheme the silk rearers earned Rs 24,270.

Handloom Cloth—The making of handloom cloth is an old and significant industry of the district and is flourishing mainly at Jhingunsari, Dasanradiya, Chhitauni, Barupar, Naunceyapatti, Punchrukiya, Sikra, Barhara and some other places spread all over the district. In January, 1974, there were 3,218 registered handlooms in the district, of which 2,223 were in the co-operative sector. The number of handlooms using cotton yarn was 2,106 and of those using staple yarn, 35. The number of weavers in the district was 2,198 of which

1,466 have been brought into the co-operative sector. There are 27 handloom co-operative societies (5 having become defunct) in the district

For the development of this scheme, individual weavers as well as societies have been getting financial assistance from the industries department and also from banks. In 1973, the total investment of these co-operative societies was Rs 407 lakhs, the gross value of production was Rs 20.30 lakhs and loans received from the government amounted to Rs 0.59 lakhs and from the banks to Rs 1.32 lakhs. The items manufactured were saris, dhotis and lungis.

Industrial Co-operative (Non-textile)

There are 11 non-textile co-operative societies in the district, engaged in the manufacture of utensils, ornaments, carpets and plastic toys, etc. They have been given financial assistance in the shape of share capital, loans and grants and have an investment of more than a crore of rupees.

Industrial Estates

In order to provide modern factory accommodation for small units, the State Government established two industrial estates, one at Deoria city known as the backward industrial estate and the other at Salempur known as the rural industrial estate. The former covers an area of 6.3 ha. and the latter, 2 ha. Both comprise 29 industrial units which produced agricultural implements, pesticides, insecticides, plastic toys, grease, varnish, bulbs and sticks of chalk and also carry out printing work. The total value of production was Rs 44,19,812 in 1973.

Aid to Industries

Assistance is given to various industries in the district by the government and the credit guarantee scheme of the State Bank of India but as there is a dearth of enterprise in the district, these facilities are not being utilised fully.

Deoria is one of the industrially backward districts selected by the planning commission for the grant of concessional credit from financial institutions for small and medium-scale industries.

The U. P. financial corporation advances loans at comparatively lower rates of interest—between 8 and 7.5 per cent—with a rebate of 1 to 1.5 per cent for prompt payment, gives a longer grace period (up to 4 years), a longer repayment period (up to 15 years) and 50 per cent reduced guarantee commission to small-scale units,

The Central financial institutions—the Industrial Development Bank of India and the industrial finance corporation of India—advance loans for projects up to Rs 1 crore to entrepreneurs at an interest rate lower by one per cent than the normal rate.

The U. P. financial corporation has four schemes on the basis of which it has advanced loans in the district.

It provides assistance to industrial concerns both directly by way of loans and indirectly by issuing deferred payment guarantees on behalf of industrial purchases of indigenous machinery and by guaranteeing loans raised by industrial concerns from other sources. Under the liberalised loan scheme, the corporation acts as an agent of the State Government for disposal of loan applications received from the directorate of industries, U. P., for small-scale industrial units. Under the ordinary loan scheme the corporation advances loans for creation of fixed assets. In special cases, working capital facilities to the extent of 33.3 per cent of the total loans are also provided. The assistance rendered through these schemes to the district is indicated in the following statement :

Scheme	No. of units assisted	Amount disbursed till 1973-74 (in lakhs of Rs)
Corporation loan scheme	8	16.93
Liberalised loan scheme	13	6.20
Ordinary loan scheme	12	1.18
Gold storage loan scheme	1	1.50

The other institutions which have rendered assistance in the industrial uplift of the district are the U. P. small-scale industries corporation, Kanpur, and the national small industries corporation. The State Government also helps through various schemes such as the handloom industry, khadi development, *gur* development, intensive development, credit and grant and the industrial co-operative society schemes.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

There is scope in the district in the small sector for developing and establishing the iron scrap smelting and rerolling industry.

Iron casting, manufacture of steel goods, *khandsari*, bone meal and soap and furniture making have also scope for further growth. The bristle industry can be developed as also the development of its processing. There is also scope for developing the saltpetre industry.

Spices, especially *haldi* (turmeric), are grown in large quantities in the district and are exported. Accordingly an industry for processing *haldi* and other spices has a fair scope.

There is also scope for establishing and developing demand-based industries like the building materials, hardware, hinge, bolt, door-handle, tower bolt, stayhook, socket, latch and door-locking accessory industries. The metal industry for making knives, improved agricultural implements and tin containers can also be started profitably in small-scale units.

A modern wood-seasoning plant and a plywood factory for which there is a growing demand and for which raw materials are also in good supply in the district, could well be established. Small units for manufacturing low-priced, simple, ready-made handloom and khadi garments, can be set up in the smaller towns to generate employment and utilise the products of handlooms and powerlooms. Similarly the manufacture of leather *chappals*, suit-cases and travel equipment can be started as there is a good demand for hand-made articles of this kind all over the district.

Techno-economic surveys of the district were conducted by the small-scales service institute, Kanpur, in 1967, the national council of applied economic research in 1973, the zonal industries officer in 1973 and the deputy director of industries in 1973-74. On the basis of the survey reports there seems to be fair scope for setting up the industries categorised below:

Category	No. of units
Resources based	
Agricultural	45
Forest	6
Live-stock	1
Demand based	
Hosiery	2
Ready-made garments	1
Dressings and bandages	1
Chemicals	15
Engineering and allied industries	39
Others	7

Labour Organisation

There were 44 trade unions in the district in 1973 with a total membership of 13,894 workers. Among the objects and requirements of these bodies are the payment of fair wages, good living and working conditions, proper medical and educational facilities for labourers and their general welfare. They also help in creating a healthy relationship between employers and employees. The district has two labour welfare centres one each at Ramkola and Padrauna. The centres provide medical, educational, cultural, recreational and sports facilities for the members of the trade unions.

Labour Welfare—The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Employment of Children Act, 1936, the U. P. Maternity Benefit Act, 1938, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Employers State Insurance Act, 1948, the U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, are applicable in the district (as elsewhere). In 1973, there were 3 labour inspectors in the district to ensure the enforcement of labour laws, the advancement of labour welfare schemes and to maintain liaison between employees and employers.

STATEMENT

Name and location of sugar works	Year of establishment	Total investment (in lakhs of Rs)	Production in 1973		No. of persons employed
			Value (in lakhs of Rs)	Sugar produced (in quintals)	
Pratappuri Sugar Works, Pratappur	1903	172.82	156.94	1,10,803	896
U. P. State Sugar Corporation, Ltd., Scorahi	1913	106.63	161.09	94,500	770
Sita Ram Sugar Mill, Baitalpur	1928	56.16	156.94	80,669	890
Shankar Sugar Mill, Ltd., Captain Ganj	1931	242.17	271.70	1,37,251	539
Deoria Sugar Mill, Deoria	1932	108.16	147.30	88,977	2,018
Ganga Sugar Ltd., Ramkola	1932	218.05	422.00	2,11,353	794
U. P. State Sugar Corporation, Ltd., Khadda	1932	40.40	85.57	62,024	436
Maheshwari Khetan Sugar Mill, Ramkola	1932	69.81	139.54	81,978	493
Kanpur Sugar Works, Gauri Bazar	1933	84.85	138.61	91,926	307
Kanpur Sugar Works Padrauna	1934	248.01	210.45	1,33,420	799
U. P. State Sugar Corporation, Bhatni	1934	73.64	190.64	89,055	924
Laxmi Devi Sugar Mill, Chhitoni	1934	42.01	122.94	79,770	440
Kanpur Sugar Works, Kathkaina	1934	145.40	138.69	86,541	476
Ishwari Khetan Sugar Mill, Laxmiganj	1934	112.54	118.76	95,276	394

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

History of Banking

It is difficult to trace the history of indigenous banking in the area now comprising the district but from very early times people seem to have been accustomed to the use of credit instruments called *hundis* (which is a type of bill of exchange) and *rakkas*. Muslim historians speak of the existence of Multanis, who financed internal trade and commerce and also worked as bankers for the ruling dynasties. Indigenous bankers financed foreign as well as internal trade. The business by these bankers was prosperous and to some extent could be compared with contemporary private banking houses of other countries. These bankers concerned themselves with the granting of credit to traders, agriculturists and artisans.

About the beginning of the century, in many villages of the district, specially in tahsil Hata, there was a pestilential type of money-lenders who were known as the 'Harihara-log' and were mostly Gosains or Brahmanas (probably Belwar or Naik) from Saran and neighbouring districts. Their method was known as 'pachania' or 'chiyania' and the lowest interest they collected was 5 or 6 annas (31 to 37 paise) in the rupee in the season. Their *modus operandi* was to give small loans at the time the seed was sown, to return at the time of harvest with a posse of retainers, live at their client's cost for a few days while the first debts were being collected and then to go on to another village for the same purpose and return after completing their rounds. This process continued for some months and as the debts became harder to collect, they lengthened the period of their free board and residence. They seldom contracted bad debts and rarely had recourse to the law courts. This curse was widespread and the method required a peculiar combination of tact and terrorism on the part of the money-lender.

The rate of interest varied widely according to the type of transaction. It was much higher in the case of small advances running for short periods than for large loans of longer durations.

Towards the closing years of the last and in the beginning of the present century, the prevailing rates of interest were the same as those in all the rural tracts of the State. Petty cash loans for short periods ordinarily carried interest at the exorbitant rate of 75

per cent per annum. When larger amounts were advanced under the same conditions, the rate fell to 24 per cent, whereas if jewellery or valuables were given in pledge the interest was 18 3/4 per cent for the year. The interest on a simple mortgage given by a money-lender ranged from 16 to 24 per cent. In the villages the bulk of transactions consisted of advances of grain for seed and these were repaid at the common rate of *sawai* or 25 per cent, though sometimes the old *deorhi* rate or 50 per cent was exacted when the risk was usually great. The raja of Padrauna maintained an agricultural bank and gave loans to his tenants at a comparatively lower rate of interest.

General Credit Facilities

The history of modern banking started with the opening of a central co-operative bank at Kasia in 1902, which was started as the Kasia Agricultural Bank and became the Kasia Central Bank, Ltd, in 1906, when the working capital was raised by the sale of 6 per cent debentures. Loans were given to the cultivators at the rate of 18.75 per cent per annum (one pice per rupee per month). The bank lent money only to members of affiliated village societies, consisting of not less than ten persons in each case who were jointly and separately considered responsible for all loans contracted by the members of the society. There were about 156 affiliated societies in the district in 1906-07. The bank is now no more in existence. The Central Bank of India established a branch at Padrauna and one at Deoria in 1904 and 1941 respectively, the Hindustan Commercial Bank one at Padrauna in 1943, the Punjab National Bank also one at Padrauna in 1946, the District Co-operative Bank one at Deoria in 1954 and the State Bank of India a branch each at Deoria and Padrauna in 1955 and 1960 respectively. In 1973 there were in the district 18 branches of different banks.

Rural and Urban Indebtedness

The main occupation of the people of the region covered by the present district has been agriculture and the land tenure system had a direct bearing on their economic condition. Frequent visitations of natural calamities have affected the agriculturists adversely. During the First and Second World Wars, the cultivators benefited by the rise in the prices of agricultural produce but the gains were neutralised by the high prices which had to be paid by them for items like clothes, live-stock, implements and other necessities of life.

The situation has not changed appreciably even after Independence, the financial difficulties of the cultivators remaining much the same.

No survey has been made to assess the incidence of indebtedness in the district but it appears that it is a general feature in the economy of an average family. People take loans at the time of sowing the seed and to meet social obligations and for religious and social functions such as marriage, death, *mundan*, *upnayana* (sacred thread ceremony), etc.

Debt-relief Legislation

To regulate the terms and conditions of money-lending, certain legislative measures have been adopted since the first quarter of this century.

Under the Usurious Loans Act, 1918, the courts were authorised to examine transactions in which they had reason to believe that the interest charged was 'excessive' and the transactions between the parties were 'unfair'. This aimed at relieving the debtor of all liability in respect of any 'excessive' interest. Through an amendment made in 1926, the Act was made applicable to all the parties seeking relief from mortgage but it did not provide exact definitions of the terms 'excessive' and 'unfair', which created a difficulty for the courts in determining which transaction was 'unfair' and in which case the interest charged was 'excessive'. An amendment was again made in 1934 by which the Act was made applicable to all debtors and it provided the definite limits of 12 per cent and 24 per cent on secured and unsecured loans beyond which the rate of interest was declared to be 'excessive'.

Several legislative measures were enacted from time to time for scaling down debts and their adjustment. The United Provinces Agriculturists Relief Act, 1934, gave some relief to agriculturists as *inter alia* it provided for payment of debts in instalments at a low rate of interest. The Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, provided for the unconditional stay of proceedings for the execution of decrees against tenants and those proprietors whose land revenue did not exceed Rs 1,000 a year. The United Provinces Debt Redemption Act, 1940, provided for the accounting of interest at low rates and protected the person and property of debtors from being proceeded against. In actual practice, in the district (as elsewhere), only the rich and educated borrowers were benefited by these measures.

Government Loans

It has been the practice of the government to extend monetary help to the agriculturists in times of distress, flood, famine and other calamities and this practice has extended to the district as well.

The Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 (Act XII of 1883) and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884 (Act XIX of 1884) were passed on the recommendations of the famine commission. Both these Acts empowered the State Government to frame rules governing the grant and disbursement of loans to agriculturists. The policy of keeping up the morale of agriculturists in distress by suitable provision of funds and material is being followed in the district by the government with greater vigour since Independence.

Loans under these Acts are advanced generally against the security of immovable property. The amounts of loans distributed in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-1975 are mentioned below:

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1970-71	79,87,490.12
1971-72	77,57,232.22
1972-73	76,00,006.12
1973-74	3,19,183.48
1974-75	1,04,748.60

Co-operative Movement

In order to alleviate the conditions of the masses suffering at the hands of indigenous bankers, co-operative credit societies were organised in the district in 1904. They were followed by co-operative cane societies, as the district was mainly a cane-growing area.

By 1920 the number of such societies had reached a hundred with a membership of 163. By 1930 the number had risen to 253 and the membership to 326. In the next decade more societies were formed and there were 369 societies with 459 members in existence in 1940. In 1950, their number went up to 662 with 761 members and in 1960 to 2,353 with a membership of 2,929. After 1961 these societies were reorganized and bigger multi-purpose societies were constituted, the number coming down to 1,001 with 1,117 members in 1970-71 when they provided loans amounting to Rs 3,43,26,883. In 1972-73 the number of such societies was 1,013 with 1,052 members when an amount of Rs 5,88,68,230 was advanced as loans, the rate of interest charged by these societies varying between 7.5 per cent and 9 per cent per annum.

Co-operative Bank—The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, Deoria, was established in 1906. It has 23 branches in the district. The main function of this bank and its branches is to make short-term and medium-term loans available to the members of the co-operative societies. In addition the bank also accepts deposits and collects inward bills. On June 30, 1973, it advanced loans to its member societies amounting to Rs 6,12,42,564.

The U. P. State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Deoria—This bank has four branches, one each at the tahsil headquarters (Deoria, Salempur, Hata and Padrauna). It provides long-term credit for the improvement of land, purchase of implements for land improvement, plantation of orchards and minor irrigation works. Loans are advanced against the security of land and interest is charged at the rate of 8 1/4 per cent per annum.

The District Co-operative Federation—This federation was established on June 11, 1948, to link the various local co-operative marketing institutions with the Uttar Pradesh co-operative federation, Lucknow. The main functions of the federation are to make arrangements for the supply of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, etc. The working capital of the federation was Rs 10,52,951 in 1972-73. The federation does not advance credit but renders only services and supplies. In addition to these co-operative institutions, there were two district consumers stores, 33 salary earners societies, 5 housing societies and 33 co-operative seed stores in the district in that year.

Commercial Banks

There were 16 branches of different commercial banks in the district in 1972. They charged interest ranging from 7 to 13 per cent on advances and allowed interest at rates varying from 4 per cent to 10 per cent per annum on deposits made with them.

These commercial banks have started a drive to increase deposits by opening new branches in the district. There were 11 branches in 1969 when the banks were nationalized.

The Central Bank of India has 5 branches at Deoria; one each at Padrauna, Ramkola, Kasia, Bhatpar Rani and Lar. The State Bank of India has a branch each at Deoria, Hata, Padrauna and Salempur; the Punjab National Bank one each at Padrauna and Tamkuhi Road; the Allahabad Bank one each at Deoria and Barhaji; the Hindustan Commercial Bank at Padrauna; and the Union Bank of India one at Rudrapur. There has been a steady growth in the volume of deposits after the nationalization of banks. The commercial banks have geared up the urban economy to meet the ever growing needs of agriculture,

trade and industry both in the rural and the urban areas. The following statement gives the figures of the total deposits and advances given by commercial banks in the district.

Year	Total deposits (in lakhs) (in Rs)	Total advances (in lakhs) (in Rs)
1967	334	193
1969	427	278
1972	558	352

National Savings Organization

The post-office savings bank scheme has been operating in the district for a long time to tap savings, to inculcate the habit of thrift in the people and to make funds available to the government for investment in national reconstruction through the Five-year Plan schemes. The schemes of defence deposits and national defence certificates have also been introduced to raise funds for the defence of the Country, especially since the Chinese Aggression of 1962.

The following statement indicates the amount invested in different saving schemes and the accounts opened in the district in 1973-74.

Security	No. of accounts	Value in rupees
Post-office five-year recurring deposits	2,708	4,62,224
Post-office time deposits	1,025	41,90,392
Cumulative time deposits	519	7,28,628
Post-office savings bank accounts	7,110	2,27,04,887
National savings certificates	—	9,11,420

Life Insurance

The entire life insurance business was nationalised in September, 1956, and brought within the fold of the life insurance corporation of India. A subbranch was opened at Deoria in 1959, with a branch manager in charge of the work. The progress of life insurance business in the district in 1960-61, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 is indicated below:

Year	No. of lives assured	Total business procured (in Rs)
1960-61	3,301	1,58,61,700
1970-71	3,276	2,77,32,500
1971-72	3,195	2,85,60,750
1972-73	4,461	4,00,10,000

Currency and Coinage

The use of the Gorakhpuri *paisa* which was minted at Butwal in Nepal was in extensive use in the district before British times and remained so till about 1930. This coin was in fact a token coin, cut from narrow flat bars of copper and without any inscription. During the famine of 1875 it was found necessary to import these coins from Butwal. They were so popular that the explicit orders of a district officer in the closing years of the nineteenth century to popularise government coins met with a total failure. Two Gorakhpuri *paise* were equivalent in value to one government *paisa* which was therefore known as *dabal* (double) *paisa*.

The British issued their own rupee which comprised 16 annas, an anna being subdivided into 12 pies or 4 *paise*. The decimal system of coinage was introduced into the district on October 1, 1948. The rupee is now made up of 100 *paise*. The coins in circulation are these of 1 *paisa*, 2 *paise*, 3 *paise*, 5 *paise*, 10 *paise*, 20 *paise*, 25 *paise* and 50 *paise*. The old coin of 8 annas and 4 annas are still in use in the district and are equivalent to 50 (new) *paise* and 25 (new) *paise* respectively.

The currency of India consists of one rupee notes and coins issued by the Government of India and bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India. The distribution of one rupee notes and coins is undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India as the agent of the Central Government. In October, 1969, a restricted number of ten rupee Mahatma Gandhi centenary silver coins were also issued.

The Reserve Bank of India issued notes of the denominations of Rs two, five, ten, twenty, one hundred, one thousand, five thousand and ten thousand. Currency notes and coins are made available to the district through the four branches of the State Bank of India in the district (located at Deoria, Hata, Padrauna and Salempur) which are fed by the branch of the Reserve Bank of India at Kanpur.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

In the past trade was limited as the district was predominantly agricultural. The important items of export were *gur* and *khandsari*. Rampur Karkhana and Barhaj served as exporting centres for such commodities. Important local manufactures were blankets, handloom cloth and utensils of *phul*. Another speciality of manufacture was a variety of the local soap prepared from a grey earth called *khari mitti*, which was exported mainly to Nepal. Among the articles imported were foreign cloth, salt, iron and other articles required by the people of the district. Trade was mainly by road and the chief markets of the district were those at Padrauna, Barhaj, Rampur Karkhana, Kasia and Deoria. The introduction of the railways favourably affected the district's trade, especially at Padrauna and Deoria.

In the field of industrial development, the only industry which gives cash returns to agriculturists is sugar. Of the food-grains the main products are wheat, paddy, pulses and oil-seeds which are put to sale in the *mandis* of Deoria, Tamkuhi, Padraun, Tarkulwa, Barhaj, Hata, Kasia, Ramkola, Gauri Bazar, Salempur and Lar. The collection centres for hides and skins are Salempur, Lar, Khadda and Gaptain Ganj, Rudrapur and Tamkuhi are known for sunn-hemp fabrics. Jack fruits, chillies and timber are exported from Tamkuhi Road and Padrauna. The district is well linked with the surrounding districts by road and rail.

Exports and Imports

There has been some increase in the exports and imports of the district.

In 1973 the export of commodities was as follows:

Commodity	Quantity (in tonnes)	Value (in lakhs) (in Rs)
1	2	3
Sugar	91,861.5	1,850.00
Rice	5,094.5	102.00
Food-grains	2,005.2	32.00
Molasses	1,062.5	0.00
Pulses	3,214.7	6.50
Iron scrap	548.00	5.00
Jute	106.6	2.10

[Continued]

1	2	3
Bone	1,009.2	2.50
Oil-seed	41.8	1.60
Spirit	3,191.7	55.00
Timber	3,407.6	17.50
Firewood	532.5	0.50
Tar	80.2	2.40
Hides	2.2	0.10
Chillies	51.4	0.92

The figures of imports during 1973 are given below :

Commodity	Quantity (in tonnes)	Value (in lakhs) (in Rs)
Chemical-manure	13,409.6	184.00
Lime-stone	16,325.6	41.00
Rice	4,462.2	90.00
Acid	0.2	0.015
Cement	74,479.1	180.30
Coal	44,179.00	66.00
Food-grains	24,460.2	390.00
Kerosene oil	208.1	1.50
Lubricants	233.4	0.70
Tar	999.60	0.40
Oil-cake	2,329.5	14.00
Soda ash	93.8	0.95
Lime	240.00	2.40
Sulphur	72.7	3.60
Medicines	1.0	10.00

Trade Centre

The district has many trade centres for distributing goods, whether imported or locally produced, which are spread over each tahsil where markets are held once or twice a week. There are three types of *mandis* (markets) : primary, secondary and terminal. The primary markets function mostly as produce-assembling markets and a large part of the produce comes from neighbouring villages. The secondary markets are regular whole-sale markets which mostly assemble produce from primary markets or distribute it among them or perform both these functions. The terminal markets function mostly as produce-distributing markets, a large part of the produce coming from the secondary markets.

Deoria is a secondary market, consuming as well as assembling certain commodities. The shifting of the tahsil headquarters from Salempur to Deoria in 1853 was responsible for the development of this market and in 1885 the *mandi* in Deoria was linked with other trade centres. This *mandi* is connected by metalled roads with Barhaj, Padrauna, Hata, Kasia, Gauri Bazar, Rampur Karkhana, Siswa Bazar and Lar. Padrauna has a *mandi* for rice, *gur*, sugar, turmeric and timber. It is linked with Captain Ganj, Kasia and Tamkuhi. Salempur is also a good market for hides, oil-seeds and food-grains. It is linked with Siwan (in Bihar), Gorakhpur and Ballia. Hata is famous as a market for rice, turmeric and *gur* and Lar is famous for hides, turmeric and food-grains. Parari bazaar and Bhingari bazaar are important markets for food-grains, oil-seeds, turmeric and maize.

Many village *hats* are held in the district on fixed days of the week for the supply of goods of every day use to the rural population, their number being 275. Cattle are also bought and sold in some of these markets. For details the appendix may be seen.

Price Control and Rationing

To alleviate the hardship caused to the people when the prices of nearly all commodities rose during the Second World War (1939-1945) and prices of a large number of commodities were controlled and the supply of many was rationed in order to check a further rise. The important commodities so controlled or rationed were food-grains, cloth, sugar, firewood, kerosene oil and cement. Dealers of such commodities had to obtain licences from the government. Various schemes for the rationing of food-grains, mainly wheat and wheat-products, gram, rice and sugar, were adopted during the war. The need for the continuance of a regulated supply of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene oil has continued and now there are

687 fair-price shops in the district where these commodities can be bought at lower rates than in the open market.

The inflationary trends of recent years have led to the introduction of several schemes in the district (as elsewhere) like compulsory levy, food-grain procurement, State trading in food-grains (mainly wheat and rice) and the opening of purchase and procurement branches of the State trading corporation as also those of the State warehousing corporation for storage on behalf of the State and to prevent hoarding and profiteering by well-to-do producers and middlemen.

Fair

Several fairs are held in the district, the Sohanag, Bansi, Dhanushyagya, Kulkula Asthan, Kubernath, Rama Navami and Buddha Purnima being the important religious ones. Smaller local fairs and gatherings are held in nearly all the towns and villages of the district, particularly on the occasion of the religious festivals of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists (like Holi, Dipavali, Dasahra, Id-ul-Fitr, Guru Nanak's birthday, Budh Purnima and others) and a brisk trade is carried on these occasions.

A number of places in the district, like Doodhnath Bankata, Chaumukha and Mahua-Bari are famous for their cattle fairs and a large number of cattle from areas in and around the district are brought here for being bought and sold.

Weights and Measures

In the first decade of the present century, varying weights and measures were in use in different parts of the district, a number of local standards of weights and measures being generally used, the standard government *ser* seldom being adopted except at railway stations, the octroi posts and the jail. The local *ser* consisted of different number of *gandas*, which varied from village to village. There were other measures of weight like the *sei* and *ratiya*, the former being a real measure of weight the latter a measure of capacity used only for weighing grain.

The main land measure used in the district before the introduction of the metric system was the bigha which consisted of 20 *lathas*. The people used the term bigha for '*jarib*' and it varied from 40 to 50 yards in different parts of the district.

The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the district from October 1, 1960, and now only metric weights and measures (the milligram, gram, kilogram, quintal, tonne, millimetre, centimetre, metre, kilometre, etc.) have to be used by law.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

Trade Routes and Highways

In ancient days there were no recognised highways through the district, although in the Buddhist period and the times of Ashoka, several learned and royal personages visited the Buddhist shrines in this region. Even during Muslim times none of the imperial routes from Delhi or Avadh to the east passed through the tract north of the Ghaghra which forms the southern boundary of the district. At the time of the cession of this area to the British in 1801, the local roads were in a deplorable state. In the north, in the tahsils of Hata and Padrauna, the absence of bridges on the streams and rivers caused complete suspension of vehicular traffic during the rains. In 1865 the settlement officer remarked about the northern portion of the district that during the monsoon wheeled traffic was impracticable and that in the beginning of November almost every road was covered with green turf. The tahsil headquarters of Padrauna, Hata and Deoria were connected with Gorakhpur by unmetalled roads. The road from Kasia to Deoria and Barhaj was metalled between 1880 and 1910. By 1921 the roads from Gorakhpur to Kasia and from Kasia to Padrauna had also been metalled. The roads from Captainganj to Gorakhpur and Bhatpar to Majhauri were metalled between 1921-25. After that practically no improvement took place in respect of the condition of the roads in this region till the formation of the district of Deoria in 1946.

In 1947 the district had 173 km. of metalled roads, of which 80 km. were under the public works department and 93 km. under the erstwhile district board, now the Zila Parishad.

During the period from 1947 to 1963, the construction of 320 km. of new metalled roads, 93 km. of cement concrete roads and the reconstruction of 66 km. of local metalled roads was completed by the public works department and the construction of 104 km. of new metalled roads by other departments was undertaken. About 47 km. of metalled roads, constructed by voluntary labour, were also taken over by the public works department for maintenance.

The district now has national highways, State highways, major district roads and roads belonging to the local bodies. The State public works department maintains the national, State and

district highways and the district board roads transferred to it for the purpose. The local bodies and other departments maintain the remaining roads lying within their jurisdiction.

There are in the district 73.6 km. of national highways, 395.69 km. of State highways, 317 km. of other district roads and 36.5 km. of unmetalled roads under the public works department besides 186 km. of metalled and 332 km. of unmetalled roads of the Zila Parishad.

MODES OF CONVEYANCE

No authentic account is available of the conveyances used in the district in ancient times but palanquins, horses, ponies, elephants, camels, and carts and carriages generally drawn by bullocks or horses were probably used as vehicles (as in other parts of the north of the Country). Till the end of the 16th century, wheeled traffic might have been used in level tracts but rivers were formidable obstacles and the bulk of goods and heavy traffic moved by means of pack animals while carting was used mainly for the movement of valuable goods. Ekkas and two wheeled carriages appear to have been used in this region since Akbar's time. In their day the rich zamindars kept their own modes of conveyance such as carts, elephants, two-wheeled carriages and other wheeled carriages generally drawn by one or two horses. Ekkas were used by the common people who paid a nominal fare for their use. Two and four-wheeled carriages generally drawn by one or two horses were owned by affluent landowners. *Dolis* (litters) or *palkis* (palanquins) appear to have been in use since the remote past. People in the villages were largely dependant on bullock carts.

Ekkas and tongas have now been replaced almost entirely by cycle-rickshaws in urban areas. As an economical and easy means of transport, bicycles are popular specially with students, small traders, hawkers, washermen and workers and employees. *Dolis* and *palkis* are confined chiefly for the use of marriage parties in the villages, their use in the urban areas being rare.

In the rural areas the bullock cart is still a multipurpose vehicle. It is employed for different agricultural purposes like carrying manure and fodder from one place to another and for carrying building material such as timber cement beams, lime, sand, etc., as also for the conveyance of people during ailments or pilgrimages of short distances and to fairs and festivals. They are well suited for use on village roads which damage mechanised transport. An improved modification in recent years has been the replacement of the traditional wooden wheels of the bullock cart by rubber tyres,

Cycle-rickshaws have made their appearance in the rural areas also and the number of ekkas is rapidly decreasing with the improvement in the conditions of the roads. Bicycles are now a common sight in the villages. Tractots are usually used for agricultural purposes but are often found to be employed for transport of people in the rural areas (in spite of the law that they should not be used on public roads). Boats are used for crossing rivers and for carrying passengers, cattle and goods.

In the urban areas vehicles have to be registered with the local bodies which lay down standard rates of fares, though in practice the fare is settled mutually between the two parties and is usually higher than the standard rate.

Till the formation of the district in 1946, there were very few motor vehicles on the roads and these were mostly lorries and trucks. With the development of roads in the last two decades, the number of such vehicles has increased considerably and now they run during the day and night on all the main routes of this and the adjoining districts. Consumer goods, agricultural produce, building material, luggage, etc., are now transported in trucks. The freight is usually settled by the parties concerned and varies from one to two rupees per km. An average size truck carries 74 quintals of weight. Taxis and buses are also available for the transport of passengers. The following statement gives the numbers of vehicles on the road in 1973 :

Type of vehicle	Number	
	Registered	Plying
Motor cycle	116	1,244
Private car	8	270
Jeep	30	212
Station wagon	—	11
Taxi	8	158
Truck	5	155
Bus	2	27
Tractor	109	515
Trailer	44	200
Pick-up	1	2

U. P. State Road Transport Corporation—The U. P. government roadways organisation, which has been converted into the U.P. State road transport corporation with effect from June 1, 1972, started running passenger buses in this district in 1948 and their number has gradually been increasing as bus travel is found to be more convenient because buses stop at many places to take on and drop off passengers in the course of the journey.

With the development and improvement of roads and the increasing passenger traffic, bus services have been expanded and by 1973 covered 21 routes in addition to the city bus service.

Railways

The district was originally served by sections of the Bengal and North Western Railway (B. N. W. R.). The construction of the line was sanctioned in May, 1882, and was opened to traffic on January 15, 1885. After the grouping of railways from May 14, 1952, the line was included in the North Eastern Railway with headquarters at Gorakhpur. The Gorakhpur-Sonpur trunk line enters this district from Gorakhpur just after crossing the Majhnan river and runs south-eastward through tahsils Deoria and Salempur to Sonpur (in Bihar). There are nine railway stations in this district—those at Gauri Bazar, Baitalpur, Deoria Sadar, Ahilyapur, Nunkhar, Bhatni Junction, Nonapar, Bhatpar Rani and Bankata.

The Bhatni-Aurihar-Allahabad main line covers a small distance of about 27 km. in this district with stations at Peokol, Salempur, Lar Road and Turtipar. The Bhatni-Barhaj branch line, some 20 km. in length, was opened to traffic on December 1, 1897. The stations on this line are Satraon and Barhaj Bazar. The Gorakhpur-Chhitauni Ghat branch line which was opened to traffic in 1907, enters this district from district Gorakhpur and traverses the central part of tahsil Hata. The stations on this line are Bodarwar, Captainganj, Khadda, Chhitauni and Chhitauni Ghat. At Captainganj it turns northward and runs through district Gorakhpur keeping to the west of the Little Gandak after crossing which it traverses the tahsil again. A line known as the Gorakhpur-Siwan loop runs through tahsils Hata and Padrauna. This line was opened to traffic on April 26, 1913, and its total length in the district is about 74 km. The stations on this line are Lakshmiganj, Ramkola, Baraharaganj, Padrauna, Kath Kuiyan, Dudahi, Tamkuhi Road and Taria Sujan.

TRAVEL FACILITIES

Before the introduction of locomotives and mechanised transport, journeys in the district, as elsewhere, were beset with dangers and difficulties, people generally travelling in groups. Serais or inns served to provide food and shelter for travellers as well as resting places for their animals, specially during the Mughal period. A few of them existed under private management on some of the main roads of this district till the beginning of the present century but they are no more in existence.

Dharmshalas—Dharmshalas in the district also provided shelter for travellers and pilgrims. There are two dharmshalas at Barhaj in tahsil Salempur, two at Deoria proper, one at Gauri Bazar and four at Rudrapur.

Dak Bungalows and Inspection Houses—The district has a number of dak bungalows and inspection houses. There are four inspection houses at Deoria, one each of the public works and irrigation departments and two of the Zila Parishad. The irrigation department has its own inspection houses in tahsil Deoria at Gauri Bazar and Sirsa Parti Hussain; in tahsil Hata at Captainganj, Ramkola and Khadda; Salempur in tahsil Salempur; and in tahsil Padrauna at Fazilnagar, Padrauna, Kasia, Seorahi and Tamkuhi. There is one inspection house of the Zila Parishad each at Baraipur, Barhaj and Captainganj. The public works department has its own inspection house at Barhaj in tahsil Salempur and at Padrauna and Kasia in tahsil Padrauna. There is a dak bungalow of the North Eastern Railway at Bhatni. There is also an inspection house belonging to the Central Government at Kasia.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

The head post and telegraph office of the district was previously a subpost-office of the head post-office at Gorakhpur but after the formation of the district in 1946 it was raised to the status of head post-office in 1951. Previously it functioned in a rented building but since 1967 it is in a departmental building. It is classified as a second class post-office administratively controlled by the Gorakhpur division of the posts and telegraphs department.

There are 41 subpost-offices, two extra departmental subpost-offices and 318 branch post-offices under the jurisdiction of the Deoria head post-office. The number of branch post-offices also includes nine post-offices transferred on June 1, 1974, from the Garga subpost-office of the Gorakhpur head post-office to the Rudrapur subpost-office in this district.

The average population served by each post-office is about 8,500 and the area served is 15.75 sq. km., the average radial distance between two post-offices being about 3.5 km. There are 54 urban and 341 rural letter boxes in the district. Of 3,559 inhabited villages in the district, 2,682 are provided with a daily mail service.

The dak meant for places connected by rail is conveyed by mail guards. The mails to the places on the government bus routes are conveyed by the U. P. State road transport corporation buses and those to the interior branch post-offices by foot runners.

The head telegraph office has in its jurisdiction 33 telegraph offices of which 29 are attached to the subpost-offices and the remaining to the branch post-offices.

Telephone Service—In 1973 there were nine telephone exchange offices in the district, the number of public call offices being 30.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Miscellaneous occupations here connote all jobs which engage workers other than cultivators and agricultural labourers. Of the total population of 23,75,075 persons in the district in 1961, the total number of workers was 9,66,693 which included 88,593 workers employed in miscellaneous occupations, the break up of which in 17 different categories is as follows:

Occupation	No. of persons employed
1. Industry	35,571
2. Trade and commerce	13,744
3. Horticulture, live-stock development, forestry, fishing and hunting	5,128
4. Personal services	7,072
5. Public services in administrative departments and offices of the Central Government, State Government, quasi-governmental organisations and local bodies	6,086
6. Educational and scientific services	3,975
7. Transport, storage and communications services	3,634
8. Construction	1,902
9. Medical and health services	1,011
10. Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	785
11. Community services and trade and labour associations	554
12. Religious and welfare services	527
13. Legal services	408
14. Business services	194
15. Recreational services	180
16. Mining and quarrying	96
17. Services not elsewhere classified	7,726

Of the total population of 28,12,350 in the district in 1971, the number of persons engaged in miscellaneous occupations was 1,31,114. The classification of workers in 1971 under various categories of economic activity has been described in detail in the next chapter (Economic Trends).

PUBLIC SERVICES

Employment opportunities, under the State and Central Governments and semi-government establishments at different levels, have increased considerably with the growing assumption of responsibility by the government towards the planned economic and social development of the Country, some idea of which may be had from the following statement:

Type of establishment	No. of establishments		No. of employees	
	1961	1972	1961	1972
State Government	36	90	5,972	10,392
Quasi-government (Central)	2	11	46	276
Quasi-government (State)	—	2	—	90
Local bodies	9	16	4,076	8,570

Persons serving in the above-mentioned categories of establishments fall under the group of fixed-income earners and they are hard hit by the ever-rising cost of living. Dearness allowance is paid to all classes of such employees at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. The benefits of provident fund and medical treatment facilities are available to government employees as well as to the employees of the local bodies and quasi-government establishments. The leave rules were revised by the State Government on April 1, 1973, according to which it became permissible to surrender 30 day's earned leave, once in a financial year, in exchange for the average salary for this period. Other benefits include granting of advances for the purchase of a conveyance and construction, purchase or repairs of a house. Residential accommodation at moderate rent is made available in government sectors and suitable house rent allowance is also paid to certain government employees who are not provided with government accommodation. Non-practising allowance is sanctioned for the medical staff holding posts prohibiting private practice such as medical officers of police hospitals and employees of state insurance dispensaries and hospitals.

Employees are permitted to form associations or unions under the Societies Registration Act, Act XXI of 1860, for their welfare and for the protection and improvement of their service conditions. The government employees of the district are members of their departmental associations at the district level which in most cases are affiliated to their parent bodies at their headquarters. In most cases the associations of the State Government employees are either attached to the State employees joint council or to the ministerial employees association at the State level. The employees of the local bodies and the U. P. State road transport corporation are likewise members of the local authorities employees association and employees road transport corporation joint council respectively. These are affiliated to the apex organisations at the State level.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Education

Amongst the different learned professions, teaching continues to be regarded as an important and honourable profession in the district as elsewhere. Many avenues of employment lie in the field of education as a result of the policy of the government to propagate literacy, education and technical education and various types of training courses for the masses. Till the mediaeval period, education was associated with classes of persons whose hereditary profession was teaching children in private *pathshalas* (schools) or *madrassas*. Teaching was considered to be an act of philanthropy and no tuition fee was charged. With the introduction of the modern system of education, after the advent of British rule, the traditional private teachers like pundits and *maulvis* have been replaced by regular salaried teachers in the district as elsewhere.

In 1961 the district had 3,795 teachers, including 268 women. Of these 17 (men) were in colleges imparting higher education; 924, including 38 women, in high schools and intermediate colleges; 2,389, including 208 women, in middle and primary schools; and the remaining 465, including 22 women, in institutions not classified above. In 1973 the number of teachers rose to about 55 in degree colleges, 2,479, including 88 women, in higher secondary schools and 7,569, including 1,024 women, in primary and junior high schools.

The triple benefit scheme was introduced in 1964 in the district in State-aided institutions run by local bodies or private management. Accordingly teachers have been provided with the advantages of contributing to provident fund, compulsory life insurance, pension and family pension. The pension facilities have

been made applicable retrospectively to those teachers who had retired even before October, 1964. Since 1971, the payment of salaries of teachers of those institutions which are on the grants-in-aid list of the State Government are paid through cheques signed by the manager of the institution concerned and a nominee of the district inspector of schools, usually the associate inspector of schools.

Teachers' wards are entitled to free tuition up to the intermediate standard. Needy or disabled teachers can get financial assistance from the national foundation for the teachers' welfare fund. Those suffering from tuberculosis can get admission to the Bhowali sanatorium where a certain number of beds is reserved for them. The teachers of the district belong to the following organisations: an association of the teachers of the university of Gorakhpur, the Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh of higher secondary school teachers; and the Prathmik Shikshak Sangh of primary and junior high school teachers.

Medicine

In 1961, there were 441 medical practitioners, private and government, of the allopathic, Ayurvedic and homoeopathic systems, including a few dentists, 47 nurses and 40 midwives and health visitors. In 1973, the State Government alone had 59 allopathic doctors, 15 Ayurvedic doctors, 3 homoeopaths, 17 nurses, 24 midwives, 17 women health visitors, 145 women welfare workers, 112 family planning health assistants, 29 family planning extension educators, 60 health inspectors and 60 vaccinators.

Private practitioners, who do not charge consulting fees, generally include this amount in the cost of medicines which usually have to be bought from them. Their earnings depend on their reputation and efficiency. In 1973 there were 12 allopathic doctors and 320 hakims registered with the Indian medical association. Many quacks also carried on their profession in the district.

Law

Next to the teaching profession the profession of law is one of the leading professions in the towns of Deoria and Kasia and lawyers occupy a high status in the political and social life of the district, providing active leadership in almost all spheres of public life and activity. The profession is somewhat crowded. Some government employees, who once occupied high positions, have also taken up this profession after retirement.

Lawyers also practise in the offices or courts of the sales tax officer, rent control and eviction officer, consolidation officer, income-tax officer and in the courts of the district and other judges, *munsifs* and magistrates.

In 1961 there were 221 legal practitioners and advisers in the district and by 1973 their number had risen to 382. The bar association, Deoria, maintains a library, a reading room and a club with facilities for outdoor and indoor games for the members of the association. It has its own building which is also let out to the members for private use on payment.

Engineering

The departments of public works, irrigation and local self-government engineering constitute the engineering services in the district. In 1973 there were about 60 engineers and 110 junior engineers in the district. The municipal boards of Deoria, Padrauna and Barhaj employ one engineer each and the Zila Parishad two. Some private industrial establishments of the district also employ qualified engineers and diploma holders. There are also private architects, engineers and surveyors who work independently. In 1961 the total number of architects, draughtsmen, engineers, junior engineers, etc., was 232 in the district.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Domestic Servants

Domestic servants are unskilled workers and get comparatively low wages. They serve whole time or part time. Whole time domestic servants are generally employed only by well-to-do persons generally belonging to the business community or of the official class. Part-time domestic servants are commonly engaged by middle class families for various jobs like sweeping, dusting, washing clothes and utensils, etc. They are paid by the month in cash and sometimes in cash and kind. There is nothing binding on either side in such arrangements. In 1961 there were in the district 1,550, domestic servants including waiters, butlers and bearers; 511 cooks and cook bearers; 84 ayahs, and 1,119 cleaners, sweepers and watermen.

Barbers

In the past barbers (*nais*) went from house to house to their customers for shaving them and cutting the hair. With the passage of time this practice has almost disappeared in the urban areas where a large number of barbers' shops and saloons have come into

existence. In the towns these shops are often run by more than one worker, the owner usually employing another paid worker to assist him. The saloons have a heavy rush of customers particularly on holidays. The well-furnished ones also keep newspapers and periodicals for those who have to wait their turn.

Petty barbers do their business on the roadside with only a chair, stool or piece of matting for their clients to sit on. The old practice of periodical visits to customers and of getting payment in kind at the time of the harvest continues in the rural areas.

Barbers also perform traditional duties in rituals and sacraments like birth, *mundan*, marriage, death, etc., and are assisted by their womenfolk as well who visit their patrons' houses weekly to render personal services like massage, etc., to the women of the house but now such personal services are disappearing in urban areas. In 1961 there were in the district 1,048 barbers, hair-dressers and related workers of whom 842 were men.

Washermen

The practice of dhobis (or their family members) of collecting clothes for washing from the houses of their customers continues but in urban areas, where their progeny have started adopting other occupations, many laundries and dry cleaning units have been established where people take their garments for service. In the towns, where the use of detergents and synthetic fabrics has made washing and ironing easy, many people wash most of their clothes at home. Conditions obtaining in the rural areas have not undergone any substantial change where people usually wash their clothes themselves. In 1961, there were 3,047 washermen including launderers, dry cleaners and pressers in the district.

Tailors

Tailoring is considered to be a skilled job requiring specialised training. Reputed tailors in urban areas use the scissors themselves but for stitching and sundry items of work employ paid workers. Big tailoring establishments are found only in the city of Deoria. Many tailors also do machine embroidery. Those tailors who work independently charge comparatively less. Tailors are spread all over the town and other parts of the district. They do their work themselves on their own sewing machines. The chief garments tailored are *kurtas*, shirts for men and women, pyjamas, coats, trousers, etc. In 1961, the total number of tailors, cutters, furriers, embroiderers, darners and other related workers was 2,636 of which 332 were women.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS

Among those who pursued certain other occupations in the district in 1961 were 5,092 millers, pounders, huskers, parchers and other workers in related food stuffs; 3,784 oil-seed crushers and pressers; 3,065 spinners, weavers, knitters, dyers and related workers; 2,437 load carriers (labourers); 2,243 basket weavers and related workers; 2,186 jewellers and goldsmiths; 1,957 tool makers, machinists, plumbers, welders and platers; 1,826 potters, kilnmen and others working in glass and clay; 1,588 bakers, confectioners and *halvais*; 1,501 blacksmiths and forgers; 1,427 salesmen and shop assistants; 1,386 *khandsari* sugar and *gur* makers; 1,377 hawkers, pedlars and street vendors; 1,319 carpenters and related workers; 1,042 masons; 908 cart drivers; 370 butchers; 288 cutters, carvers and dressers of stone; 282 cycle-rickshaw pullers; 232 shoemakers and shoe repairers; 160 electricians; 128 money-lenders and pawn brokers; 97 tobacco makers; and 91 moulders. During that year there were 127 artists and writers, 3 editors and journalists, 1 sculptor, 25 musicians and 48 dancers and related workers.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Workers and Non-workers

In 1961 the ratio of workers and non-workers in the district was 40.7 and 59.3, the corresponding ratio for the State being 39.1 and 60.9. The slight increase in the ratio of workers is due to the existence of a number of sugar-mills in the district. Of the total workers in the district, cultivators and agricultural labourers comprised 90.9 per cent, workers in household industry and other manufacturing concerns 4.2 per cent, those employed in other services 2.9 per cent and those in trade in commerce 1.4 per cent. In other categories the percentage was very small. Female participation was significant as the percentage among total workers was 30.0 as against 6.7 per cent in the State. The extent of female participation in agricultural was higher than in non-agricultural activities, accounting for 93.4 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively.

The total rural population (23,17,498) of the district in 1961 comprised 40.9 per cent workers and the remaining 59.1 per cent non-workers. The corresponding percentages for the urban area were 31.7 and 68.3 respectively, the proportion of workers being lower in the towns than in the villages. Of the total number of workers, 9,49,245, in the rural areas in 1961, cultivators and agricultural labourers were 92.4 per cent and those engaged in non-agricultural activities 7.6 per cent. There was a preponderance of non-agricultural workers in the urban areas, the percentage being 86.4.

The comparative position of the data of 1961 with those of 1971 is as follows:

Year	Total population	Total no. of workers	Percentage of workers of total population			
			No. of agricultural workers	No. of non-agricultural workers	Total workers	
					District	Uttar Pradesh
1961	23,75,075	9,66,693	36.9	3.8	40.7	39.1
1971	28,12,350	8,48,661	26.9	3.3	30.8	30.9

The statement, which shows an alarming decrease in the working population, indicates unemployment even among the already employed persons of 1961 but this anomaly is due to the change made in the 1971 census in the definition of "worker". In 1961 as little as one hour's work in a day entitled a person to be treated as a worker. Accordingly a woman whose time was utilised basically in household duties was classified as a worker even if she took food to the fields for the workers there or simply tended the cattle. In the census of 1971, a person (man or woman) engaged primarily in household duties such as cooking for one's own household and helping in the family's economic achievement as a part-time worker only, was not treated as a worker and was placed in the category of non-workers. This is the reason for the significant decrease in the number of total workers in 1971 in spite of an increase in the population by about 20 per cent over that of the population of 1961.

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

Occupation	No. of males	No. of females	Total	Percent- age of total workers	Percent- age of total population
I. Cultivator	4,67,305	22,282	4,89,627	57.7	17.4
II. Agricultural labourer	1,90,879	77,041	2,67,920	31.6	9.5
III. Live-stock development, fishing, hunting, develop- ment of plantations, or- chards and allied activities	1,599	122	1,721	0.2	0.1
IV. Mining and quarrying	223	3	226	—	—
V. Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs					
(a) Household industry	12,697	2,281	14,978	1.8	0.5
(b) Other than household industry	12,753	412	13,165	1.6	0.5
VI. Construction	2,583	162	2,745	0.3	0.1
VII. Trade and commerce	15,696	379	16,075	1.9	0.6
VIII. Transport, storage and communications	3,600	18	3,618	0.4	0.1
IX. Other services	35,932	3,654	38,586	4.5	1.4
Total workers	7,43,307	1,05,354	8,48,661	100.0	30.2
Non-workers	6,92,816	12,70,873	19,63,689	—	—
Total population	14,36,123	13,76,227	28,12,350	—	100.0

As will be observed, all the non-workers have been grouped together in one single class though they have been classified in the census as follows :

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

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

Prices

No records of prices are traceable prior to 1912 for the region now covered by the district of Deoria, which was carved out of district Gorakhpur in 1946. The following statement gives an idea of the prices prevailing in the region of district Gorakhpur including the tract now included in district Deoria :

Year/period	Average rates per rupee in seers			
	Wheat	Rice	Gram	Arhar (dal)
1854	28.00	26.60	40.70	—
1861-65	25.93	26.19	28.61	83.95
1866-75	17.89	18.93	22.28	18.55
1885	18.18	17.5	24.52	19.15
1886-95	13.92	14.67	20.43	19.70
1896-1905	13.93	13.02	16.90	13.37
1911	13.06	10.37	21.56	12.75

NOTE : From 1861 to 1885 the rise was 18%

From 1861 to 1905 it was 46%

Starting with the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, a series of changes in prices, including a considerable rise in the cost of food-grains, was witnessed in the succeeding years. In 1916 the price level in the region now covered by the district of Deoria was higher by 47 per cent and in 1928 by 100 per cent over the rates prevailing in 1911. The average rates for the two quinquennial periods of 1912-16 and 1925-29 in respect of certain food-grains were as follows :

Quinquennial period	Average rates in seers per rupee			
	Wheat	Rice	Gram	Arhar (dal)
1912-16	10.25	9.09	12.5	2.19
1925-29	6.55	6.63	8.43	5.88

The severe worldwide economic depression started in 1930 which continued in the years that followed. Consequently in 1930-31 the rates per rupee went down to 10.52 seers for wheat, 7.27 seers for rice, 12.30 seers for gram and 9.25 seers for arhar. The price level in 1934 went down by about 38 per cent and 15 per cent as compared with those of 1928 and 1916 respectively. Prices remained low till the end of the first half of 1936 when they began to become stabilized and became steady in 1937 at a level higher than that of 1936. By 1936 they registered a rise of nearly 25 per cent over that prevalent in 1934.

After the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, there was a steep rise in prices, largely due to speculation and profiteering. Other factors, like the holding back of stocks in anticipation of further shortages, contributed in no small measure to maintain and even to advance the high level reached. At the beginning of 1940 price control measures, which had been put into operation on the outbreak of the war, were enforced vigorously by the district authorities of Gorakhpur (which included Deoria). These measures included the fixation of prices as modified from time to time, the institution of prosecutions to check profiteering and the licensing of food-grain dealers. Nevertheless the prices continued to go up and it was experienced that an effective control of prices was not possible without control over supplies. To ease the situation, a partial rationing scheme was introduced in December, 1943, for the poorer sections of the people, the markets being allowed to function normally. In march, 1944, partial rationing was converted into

a hundred per cent rationing under which everyone was allowed the facility of buying rationed food-grains at subsidised rates from government shops without disturbing the normal sale of food-grains in the markets. By leaving a free market open simultaneously, the possibility of a breakdown in supplies was avoided. The availability of certain food-grains at cheaper rates than those in the government shops induced the dealers to reduce their own prices and to bring out their hoarded stocks. But as these measures failed to ease appreciably the market position, total rationing was enforced a little later and the sale of rationed commodities was banned in the market.

It was expected that with the end of the war and the enforcement of price control measures by the government, the general food situation would ease but it did not. The prices stood higher than those of 1911 by 344 per cent and those of 1939 by about 184 per cent. The period between 1944 and July, 1952, was that of rationing and controls when prices attained a new height, the rates of food-grains per rupee in 1950-51 being 1.5 seers for wheat, 1 seer for rice and 2 seers for gram. From August, 1952, markets were allowed to function normally and restrictions on movements and prices of food-grains were also withdrawn. Food-grains to ration card holders continued to be supplied from ration shops under an informal rationing scheme in order to arrest any rising trend.

Expectations of an immediate fall in the prices of food-grains and the easing of the food situation as a result of the relaxation of controls did not materialise. On the contrary, prices of nearly all food-grains kept on rising. Towards the end of 1953, prices tended to come down a little. The normal forces of demand and supply once again started to operate. Neither was the cultivator sure of getting a fixed minimum price for his grain nor was the trader assured of his commission on the grain supplied by him. The nervousness of both led to a further decline in prices. As a result the downward trend, which had started in 1953, could not be arrested and by 1955 prices fell by about 9.0 per cent for wheat, 32.4 per cent for rice and 25.0 per cent for gram compared to those prevailing in 1950-51. This was a Statewide trend, which required to be checked in the interest of economy, particularly for the cultivator, who needed to be assured of a minimum price, so that he could continue to till his land. The government, therefore, took measures in 1953-54 to support the lower trend in the prices which had started showing a gradual upward trend. The quinquennial average retail prices from 1950 are given below:

Year	Prices (in Rs per kg.)		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1950	0.44	0.32	0.68
1955	0.40	0.24	0.46
1960	0.46	0.35	0.57
1965	0.98	0.82	1.13
1970	0.99	1.15	1.41
1973	1.41	1.62	1.76

The average retail prices prevailing in 1973 of certain other essential commodities were as follows:

Commodity	Prices (in Rs per kg.)
Arhar	2.20
Ghee	15.20
Jaggery	1.66
Firewood	0.12
Mustard Oil	7.17
Sugar	3.67

Wages

At the beginning of the twentieth century the wages that ruled throughout this region were much lower than those prevailing in the western districts of the State. The general average daily wage till 1908 was 10 to 15 'Gorakhpur pice', which in government currency was equivalent to about eight to twelve pice. Wages varied in various localities according to the kind of work performed. The rates for skilled labour varied from Rs 6.0 to Rs 9.0 per month.

A wage census was first carried out in the State in 1906. According to the wage census, the wages for skilled and unskilled labour prevailing in the Deoria region between 1906 and 1944 were as follows:

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1906	0.09	0.21
1911	0.09	0.25
1916	0.10	0.36
1928	0.14	0.53
1934	0.10	0.33
1939	0.14	0.33
1944	0.31	1.00

After the First World War a marked all round rise in wages occurred as revealed in the census of 1928. The year 1930 was one of worldwide economic depression which was reflected in the census of 1934, after which wages began to rise. The steep rise in 1944 was attributed to the outbreak in 1939 of the Second World War. The wage trend moved for an adjustment but there was no coming down and it continued to move upwards as shown in the following statement :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1950	0.25	0.50
1955	0.40	0.80
1960	0.80	1.20
1965	1.00	2.00
1973	2.50	4.50

In 1974 wages for various agricultural jobs such as weeding, reaping, transplanting and ploughing ranged from Rs 2.00 to Rs 3.00 per day, for eight working hours. The wages prevailing in 1974 in the town of Deoria are mentioned below in respect of the main occupations:

Worker	Unit of quotation	Wages in Rs)
Gardener	(a) per month (whole-time)	100.00
"	(b) per month (part-time)	30.00
Chowkidar	Per month	100.00
Wood-cutter	Per 40 kg. of wood turned into fuel	0.50
Herdsmen	Per cow/buffalo per month	10.00
Porter	Per 40 kg. of load carried for a km.	3.00
Casual labourer	Per day	3.5
Domestic servant	(a) per month, without food	100.00
	(b) per month, with food	50.00
Carpenter	Per day	6.81
Blacksmith	Per day	6.81
Tailor	(a) per cotton shirt, long sleeves, for men	4.00
"	(b) per cotton shirt, short sleeves, for women	1.50
	(c) per woollen suit	90.00
Midwife	(a) for delivery of a boy	10.00
	(b) for delivery of a girl	5.00
Barber	(a) per shave	0.30
	(b) per hair-cut	0.75
Scavenger	Per month for a house with one lavatory for one cleaning per day	5.00
Motor driver	Per month	300.00
Truck driver	Per month	475.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment Trends

As the statement given below shows, during the years 1969-73 there was a considerable increase in the number of persons employed in the private sector though in the public sector the increase was insignificant. The data relate only to a few selected establishments

which were the subject of an enquiry by the employment exchange authorities :

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1969	117	94	211	17,732	17,813	35,545
1970	137	103	240	19,011	18,409	37,420
1971	173	111	284	20,421	18,269	38,690
1972	179	122	301	21,128	19,328	40,456
1973	181	124	305	20,409	19,704	40,113

The number of employees shown for 1972 and 1973 in the foregoing statement was further divided according to the work done was as indicated below :

Nature of activity	No. of reporting establishments		No. of employees					
			1972			1973		
	1972	1973	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
Agriculture, live-stock development, hunting and fishing	5	5	—	1,894	1,894	—	1,958	1,958
Manufacturing	28	29	13,860	64	13,924	12,935	69	13,004
Construction	14	11	108	2,203	2,311	85	2,153	2,238
Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	1	1	—	54	54	—	64	64
Trade and commerce	20	20	330	276	606	327	295	622
Services (public, legal, medical, etc.)	253	239	6,830	14,837	21,667	7,062	15,165	22,227
Total	301	305	21,128	19,328	40,456	20,409	19,704	40,113

Employment of Women

The extent of the employment of women workers is indicated by the following statement showing their number in the private and public sectors during the year ended December, 1973 :

	No. in December, 1973
No. of reporting establishments	305
No. of employees in public sector	1,558
No. of employees in private sector	155
Total	1,713
Percentage of women of total employees in private sector	0.8
Percentage of women of total employees in public sector	7.9

The proportion of women workers in different spheres in the quarter ended December, 1973, was as follows :

Sphere	Percentage
Education	62.8
Medical and public health	18.8
Manufacturing	1.6
Trade and commerce	0.2
Services	16.6

Unemployment Trends

The educational standards of men and women who registered for employment during the year ended December, 1973, were as follows :

Educational standard	Men	Women	Total
Post-graduate	127	8	135
Graduate	1,206	11	1,217
Higher secondary and intermediate	4,211	8	4,219
Matriculate	4,455	67	4,522
Below matriculate (including illiterate)	3,404	288	3,692

During the quarter ended December, 1973, the employment exchange was asked to recommend candidates for 272 post, the State Government needing 30 candidates, local-bodies 214 and the private sector 19.

The district experienced a shortage of trained compounders, teachers for Sanskrit and Arabic, stenographers, trained science graduates (with mathematics) and matrons, while there was a surplus of persons having no previous experience and no technical training.

Employment Exchange

The employment exchange of Deoria was established in December, 1960. Prior to that, assistance to the unemployed and the employers of the district in finding suitable jobs and suitable candidates for jobs respectively, was provided by the employment exchange at Gorakhpur. The following statement gives the output of the Deoria employment exchange from 1969 to 1973 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	No. on 'live register'	No. of persons provided with employment			
				Teaching	Technical jobs	Government service	Other spheres
1969	703	9,604	6,115	11	23	424	2
1970	757	10,208	5,773	3	15	488	6
1971	917	12,151	7,242	5	13	500	9
1972	1,097	14,447	11,342	3	9	824	8
1973	1,195	13,065	13,785	3	8	844	7

The exchange introduced the employment market information scheme in the district in June, 1964. Under this an intensive study was carried out to ascertain the number of persons employed, the posts vacant to be filled up and the type of jobs for which qualified candidates were not available, in all the establishments in the public and those in some selected private sectors.

The vocational guidance and employment counselling programme is also being carried out by the exchange since September, 1969. Under this project, material assistance is provided to seeking candidates to enable them to formulate their plans in conformity with their qualifications and aptitudes and the realities of the employ-

ment market. In 1973, about 10,046 candidates sought individual guidance and 1,721 persons participated in group discussions.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The subject of national planning and rural development received little attention in British times and efforts made in this direction were merely the outcome of political expediency and were confined to activities such as sanitation, expansion of agriculture and providing of irrigational facilities. When the Congress government first came into office in 1937, a scheme for rural development was adopted in certain villages of the district (then forming part of Gorakhpur). The scope of the scheme was later expanded and a rural development association was formed at the district level. The functions of the association, which had a non-official chairman and a subdivisional magistrate as secretary, were more or less advisory in nature. They largely covered rural hygiene, construction of roads, establishment of libraries, construction of panchayat *ghars*, holding of night schools for adults and allied developmental activities. With the Congress government going out of office in 1939, the rural development programme also lost its importance. In 1946, the rural development department was merged in the co-operative department, the rural development association with a non-official as chairman and the district co-operative officer as secretary. The district of Deoria also came into being at this time.

The first planned effort to improve the living conditions of the rural people followed the setting up of the Planning Commission of India in 1950. In the First Five-year Plan (1951-56) period stress was laid on improving agricultural practices and developing the village community through national extension service schemes and the people's participation in different activities. Building of earthworks and village roads, drains and brick pavements, digging of soakage pits, etc., was done by voluntary labour (*shramdan*). Improved methods of agriculture and use of compost manures were also introduced. Tube-wells and other facilities for irrigation were augmented. The district planning committee, with the district magistrate as chairman and the district planning officer as secretary, replaced the district development association.

It had a number of subcommittees for the preparation and execution of Plan programmes but its role continued to be merely advisory. The development block was the unit of operation into which each subdivision of the district was divided for implementation of the Plan programmes of each department. Kasia, the first community development block of the district, was opened on October 2, 1952, followed by Salempur on August 15, 1953.

The scope of the Second Five-year Plan (1956-61) was enlarged to include industrialisation and aimed at increasing the national income by 25 per cent and reducing unemployment. In the field of agriculture, schemes relating to the Japanese method of paddy cultivation, the U. P. method of wheat cultivation, expansion and training in the use of improved agricultural implements and the use of chemical and green manures were implemented. The whole district was divided into development blocks for the implementation of the Plan schemes. In 1958 the Antarim Zila Prishad, which was the precursor of the present Zila Parishad, was formed by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. For the co-ordinated execution of the different Plan schemes the resources of agriculture, co-operatives, animal husbandry, panchayat raj and some other departments like health, plant protection etc. (called the Plan departments) were pooled and put under the control of the district planning officer. During the Third Plan period (1961-66) a three-tier structure of rural self-governing bodies was created with effect from December 1, 1963, to provide people's participation and for the successful implementation of the planning and development programmes. Now the village panchayats function at the village level, the *kshetra samitis* at the block level and the Zila Parishad at the district level.

The district has 29 development blocks, some details regarding which are given below:

Tahsil	Name of block	Date of inauguration	Stage	No. of		Population (1971)
				Gan sabhas	Nyaya panchayats	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Deoria	Desai Deoria	2.10.56	Post Stage II	75	8	68,074
"	Rudrapur	1.7.57	"	103	13	1,02,237
"	Pathar Deva	2.10.59	"	91	9	81,406
"	Baitalpur	1.4.50	"	101	11	94,268
"	Gauri Bazar	1.4.60	"	95	12	1,04,940
"	Rampur Karkhana	1.4.61	"	89	9	76,171
"	Deoria	2.10.61	"	117	12	1,02,476
Hata	Captain Ganj	2.10.53	"	83	11	89,002
"	Hata	2.10.56	"	95	14	92,935
"	Sukrauli	1.4.62	"	94	11	90,464

Continued

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hata	Ramkola	2.6.62	Post stage	58	9	1,04,185
"	• Khada	2.10.62	II	73	10	1,01,418
"	Moti Chak (headquarters Mathouli)	2.10.62	"	76	10	88,095
"	Naurangia	2.10.62	"	79	10	85,544
Padrauna	Kasia	2.10.52	"	89	9	96,353
"	Sevahi (headquarters Tamkuhi Road)	1.7.56	"	89	9	1,00,443
"	Padrauna	1.1.57	"	130	15	1,64,445
"	Tamkuhi	1.4.57	"	111	11	1,06,170
"	Bishunpara	1.4.58	"	81	8	91,135
"	Fazil Nagar	2.10.62	"	99	10	90,624
"	Dudahi	1.10.68	"	63	7	1,03,228
Salempur	Salempur	15.8.53	"	129	16	1,09,385
"	Bhatuani	2.10.56	"	106	14	91,342
"	Lar	2.10.56	"	80	12	97,264
"	Bhatpar Rani	1.12.56	"	84	10	81,172
"	Barhaj	1.4.60	"	67	11	85,594
"	Bankatia	2.10.62	"	90	11	77,216
"	Bhagulpur	2.10.62	"	81	12	71,137
"	Bhatni	2.10.62	"	85	13	89,076

The Third Five-year Plan was conceived as the 'first stage of a decade or more of intensive development leading to a self-reliant and self generating economy'. It sought to ensure a minimum level of living to every family while narrowing economic and social disparities. Some special programmes, such as provision of improved variety of seeds, particularly those of the dwarf variety, intensive method of wheat and paddy cultivation and crop-protection measures were taken in hand. The three years from April, 1966 to March, 1969, did not form part of the next Plan period, instead yearly Plans for these three years were formulated with the following broad objectives:

- (i) A growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector and 8 to 10 per cent in industry
- (ii) An annual growth rate of 6.9 per cent in the production of food-grains to achieve self-sufficiency
- (iii) To increase employment opportunities
- (iv) To redress imbalances arising from a high rate of population growth and inadequate expansion in agricultural production by reducing the fertility rate to 25 per thousand in the shortest possible time.

During the Fourth Plan period (1969-74) many new small industrial units were established in the district and increased facilities for education, transport and health services provided with special emphasis on the improvement of the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes and the grant of subsidies to them for starting various crafts on a small scale.

The implementation of these development Plan schemes has helped to some extent in raising the standard of living, providing better wages and living conditions and helping the general economic growth of the district. The growing industrialisation, side by side with increased agricultural production, holds the promise of ushering in an era of increased prosperity and better economic conditions for the people of the district.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Originally a tahsil of Gorakhpur, the district of Deoria was carved out of it as a separate district in 1946. It now forms one of the four districts of Gorakhpur Division, with headquarters at Gorakhpur.

Commissioner

This officer functions as a vital link between the districts under him and the government. Backed by a substantial amount of administrative experience, he supervises all administrative and development activities in his division. He controls, guides and advises district and regional level officers, solves interdepartmental problems and assesses the work of the officers of the various departments. On the appellate side, his jurisdiction extends to hearing appeals and revisions under the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, and allied enactments, like the Arms Act, 1959, etc. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority and has extensive powers of supervising and superseding the Zila Parishad, municipal boards, notified areas and town area committees.

District Officer

The district officer, who is designated collector and district magistrate, is the highest executive authority in the district and the pivot of the entire general administrative machinery in the district. He represents the government in the district in practically all spheres of activity. As head of the revenue administration, his main duties are recovery of land revenue and other government dues and to see that the land records maintained by the staff are correct and up-to-date. The district treasury is also in his overall charge. He also supervises the work of consolidation of holdings. He is expected to tour for about 90 days in the interior of his district every year. He visits each tahsil during the rainy season for tahsil and thana inspections and in winter to acquaint himself with the condition of the agriculturists and to watch the implementation of development schemes. On the visitation of natural calamities such as floods, excessive rains, fire, hailstorms, locusts, droughts, etc., the duties of the district officer are traditionally very onerous. Not only has he to ensure that sufficient advance action is taken to minimise losses and distress but also that adequate relief and necessary provisions are rushed to the victims promptly so that no avoidable

loss of human or cattle life occurs. He also sanctions gratuitous relief, loans and subsidies to enable the sufferers to tide over the abnormal times and to rehabilitate themselves. When such calamities like famine and scarcity cause widespread distress, the district officer organises test works for the relief of the victims. It is also his responsibility to recommend the suspension and remission of land revenue whenever he considers it necessary.

The district police being subordinate to him, he is the highest authority responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. To combat riots or disturbances he orders magisterial postings during festivals and promulgates prohibitory orders to prevent any untoward happenings. He has to maintain a close watch on the investigations and prosecution of criminal cases and the upkeep of prisoners, of prisoners under trial and of those in the district jail. He is responsible for the enforcement of the Press Act, 1867, Stamp Act, 1899, and also of the Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. The issue of certificates to deserving and political sufferers, payment of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, in case of accidents causing disability (total or partial) dealing with strikes and other labour problems, extension of visas, management of estates owned by the government and *nazul*, supervision of the conduct of civil suits in which the State is a party, etc., are also some of his duties. The district officer also acts as the chief protocol officer in the district. He has also to ensure equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities through fair-price shops with the help of the district supply officer. He is, ex officio, the district election officer and ex officio president of the district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board. He is expected to guide the Zila Parishad and to keep a watch on the progress of its work.

The multifarious role of the district officer entails on him the responsibility of taking up projects and assignments which are introduced by the government from time to time and relate to general welfare, planning and development, census activities, Van Mahotsava, wild life preservation, securing investments in small savings, raising of loans for the State Government and the sale of State lottery tickets.

For the co-ordination of the different development departments functioning in the district, he is assisted by a district planning officer at the district level and block development officers at the block level.

The district officer has under him 4 subdivisional officers, who perform various duties—revenue, executive and magisterial

similar to those of the district officer though confined to their own subdivisions. Two of these officers have their headquarters at the district town, the other two officers, those of Hata and Padrauna, being stationed at Kasia.

For the convenience of revenue administration, each of the four tahsils—Hata, Padrauna, Deoria, Salempur—is in the immediate charge of a resident tahsildar who acts as a magistrate in addition to being an assistant collector (first class) and presides at his tahsil office and court. His main duties are the collection of land revenue and other government dues, maintenance of land records and law and order and to try cases—both revenue and criminal. He is also called out for calamity relief duties when necessary. He has also to see that the land records are maintained correctly and prepares and maintains *jamabandi* and other accounts. Each tahsildar is also the subtreasury officer in charge of the tahsil subtreasury. The tahsildars are assisted in their work by 18 *naib* tahsildars, 4 registrar *kanungos*, 19 *kanungos* and 468 *lekhpals*.

The police organisation, which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district, is headed by the superintendent of police who is directly subordinate to the collector and second to him in status. He is in overall charge of the police force and is responsible for its efficiency, discipline and proper performance of duties. He is assisted by three deputy superintendents and a large number of subordinate officers.

The judicial organisation of the district is headed by the district and sessions judge, under the jurisdiction of the high court, with headquarters at Deoria. He is the highest authority for the administration of justice in civil and criminal matters for the district.

Other District Level Officers of State Government

The designations of other district level officers in the district working under the administrative control of their departmental heads are as follows:

Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies

Basic Siksha Adhikari

Bhoomi Sanrakshan Adhikari

Chief Medical Officer of Health

Consolidation Officer, Settlement

District Agriculture Officer
 District Cane Officer
 District Election Officer
 District Employment Officer
 District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer
 District Industries Officer
 District Inspector of Schools
 District Live-stock Officer
 District Supply Officer
 Sales Tax Officer
 Superintendent, District Jail

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Ministry of Finance

Income-tax Department—For purpose of income-tax, Deoria comes under the administrative control of the inspecting assistant commissioner of income-tax, Gorakhpur. The appellate jurisdiction rests with the appellate assistant commissioner of income-tax, Gorakhpur. For purpose of the assessment and collection of income-tax, the district is divided into four wards.

Central Excise—For the purpose of excise administration the district has been placed under the charge of a superintendent of central excise, with headquarters at Deoria. He has five ranges manned by one inspector each who assesses and collects excise duties on unmanufactured tobacco, copper and copper alloys and gold in his jurisdiction.

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Indian Post and Telegraph Department—Deoria is the divisional headquarters only of the Deoria postal division which comprises the Deoria district and consists of the Deoria, Salempur and Padrauna subdivisions. It is administered by the superintendent of post-offices. He is assisted by an assistant superintendent and a complaint inspector. There are 41 subpost-offices and 318 branch post-offices in the district of which 39 provide telegraphic service in English and Hindi and 30 serve as public call offices.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal History

Details regarding the land system in ancient times are not available which precludes the possibility of giving an account of the set up of the fiscal administration in the region covered by the present district of Deoria before Mauryan rule. On the basis of literary and epigraphical evidence, it may be surmised that free holdings, created by the earlier rulers and respected by subsequent kings, existed then. Some proof of the king's ownership of land in the Vedic period is available but it was a sort of gradation of ownership, the rights of the ruling authority being superimposed on those of the people without undue hindrance to their right to till, sow, reap and inherit or partition their land. This tract, forming a part of the kingdom of the Kosala, Maurya and Bhar kings was, in all probability, subjected to the usual system of revenue administration prescribed by the *Dharma Sutra* which enjoined that the duty of the peasant was to raise the crop and to pay a share of the produce directly to the king without any intermediary, this taxation being justified in return for the protection afforded by the king to his subjects. According to the *Smritis*, the ruler's share varied from one-third to one-sixth of the produce. The *Arthashastra* of Kautilya prescribed one-quarter or even one-third for fertile lands which were in the proximity of the towns. One-quarter was the share mostly levied in the reign of Ashoka, the payment being made in kind.

Possibly the system obtaining in the rest of the Country also prevailed in this area, the land being surveyed and the tax fixed in advance on the basis of the estimated yield of land. Remissions were granted for crop failure. The land was regarded as sacred being only heritable and not negotiable and not even the king had exclusive proprietary rights over it.

It is difficult to ascertain when the Muslims applied their system of revenue administration in this tract. Muslim rule (at Delhi) dates from A. D. 1206 with Qutb-ud-din Aibak styling himself 'sultan' and ascending the throne but it is doubtful if the ruler had any sway over the present territory of Deoria. The fiscal administration obtaining during the Hindu period continued during the Muslim regime but the names and designations of some institutions or

posts were changed to Arabic or Persian. In the Hindu period the village was the unit of life. The village headman was called *gram-adhipati*. His position continued under the Muslims and a bigger unit called a *pargana* was introduced which comprised a group of villages, the *pargana* headman being called the *chaudhri* and the village accountant the *patwari*. Later, the village headman was renamed *muqaddam* or *mukhiya* and the *pargana* accountant became the *kanungo*.

The Mughal emperor, Akbar (1556-1605), was the first Muslim king known to have brought this part directly under his government to include it in the *sirkar* of Gorakhpur. He introduced the *Fasli* year (lasting from July to the next June) which is still in use in these parts. The land was measured and the revenue was fixed at one-third of the produce. The revenue demand of each *pargana* during Akbar's reign was as follows :

Akbari pargana	Cultivated area in bighas	Revenue demand (in dams)
Dewapara	16,194	7,17,849
Haveli, Gorakhpur	12,696	5,67,385

The Mughal influence in this tract was shaken off in the early part of the 17th century and it was not till the days of Aurangzeb (1657-1707) that the imperial power was really imposed here. In 1680 Muazzam (afterwards the emperor, Bahadur Shah), visited these parts and a new division was created and named Muazzamabad after him, which included the area of the present district.

Aurangzeb's death in 1707 was followed by a period of anarchy and lawlessness. The district was under the nawabs of Avadh and in 1722, when Saadat Khan (who had been viceroy of Avadh) assumed independence from the throne of Delhi, a considerable change came over this tract. He enforced a regular system under which a graded series of officers was appointed to collect land revenue from persons in actual possession of the land. An officer called the *chakladar* was appointed in charge of a *chakla* (area larger than a modern district). Officers called *amils*, who held a smaller area about the size of a *tahsil*, were appointed under him. Below them were the *kanungos* to keep the accounts of a tract about the size of a *pargana* and to supply the information necessary for the realization of revenue from the cultivators. There was a semi-military officer called *nazim* to coerce habitual defaulters and to protect the government treasure.

Under the new system the revenue began to be collected regularly but collection was difficult in areas inaccessible by forests and rivers and some of the local chiefs easily lapsed into arrears. It also failed where local rulers were powerful enough to ignore the *kanungos* or the *amils* or to contravene the power of the *chakladar*. The *amils* bargained with the local rajas for absolute non-interference. This system was very soon changed by the nawabs of Avadh and big farms were established which were leased to the local rajas for one to three years on payment of a premium—the latter having rights of transfer by sale or repurchase without having to pay any more to the nawab. A written undertaking (*qabuliyat* or the counterpart of a *patta*) for the sum to be paid, as well as a large amount in advance, was handed over to the nawab. The position occupied by the Hindu rajas was that of tributaries rather than subjects. In consequence, when the nawab's power dwindled after the battle of Buxar in 1764, the local rajas became independent.

Not long after this battle, a British officer of the Lucknow government was placed in civil and military charge of this and other districts. A regular land tax was imposed and rigidly collected through contractors, who rack-rented and coerced the people. Internecine quarrels between the local rulers and the incursions of the Banjaras rendered agriculture a very precarious means of subsistence. Most of the land was thrown out of cultivation and many villages were deserted. The unstable conditions prevailing in these parts left little scope for the application of any method in the revenue administration. Only a few powerful landholders of the district felt safe in respect of person or property. With such a feeling of insecurity it was impossible for the area to flourish. The British saw the chance of acquiring the area covered by the present district of Deoria (with some other districts) and it was ceded to the East India Company in 1801.

Revenue Settlements

After a long period of uncertainty, misrule and violence, the British turned their mind to recording the rights of tenants and fixing the revenue. The first attempts, in the form of the triennial settlements of 1803-4, 1805-6 and 1810-11 and the five-year settlement of 1819-20, were far from successful. The main aim having been to ensure the recovery of sums for British adventurers, there was no record of tenants' rights. Engagements were made with the rajas and the demands enhanced with each settlement, the purpose being to collect two-thirds of the total revenue. The fifth settlement (of 1820-21) could not be completed due to the enforcement of Regulation VII of 1822, which instituted surveys and enquiries into the

conditions of the parganas. Assessment was to be made according to the capabilities of the soil. The periods of these settlements were too short to produce good effects.

The First Regular Settlement—Conducted under the first commissioner of Gorakhpur, under the provisions of Regulation IX of 1833, it was for the first time in 1833-34 that engagements were made direct with the subproprietarys, the rajas being left with a *malikana* allowance. The system of assessment adopted was based on carefully prepared statistics, accompanied by the compilation of a full record of rights. The demand of each village was determined by the classification and evaluation of both soil and crops, fixing two-thirds as the government's share. As the work involved extensive time and labour, the settlement could not be completed till 1841-42 and was fixed for twenty years. Opposition came from the rajas who resented the system of combined assessment with their inferiors and dependents. Disputes which formerly were settled by riots or coercion, found their way into the courts. The total demand of the district (of Gorakhpur) was oppressive, being as much as Rs 10,88,577, including the figures for this tract.

The Second Regular Settlement—Operations began in 1856 but they were interrupted by the disturbances of 1857. The collector of Gorakhpur was entrusted with the work but owing to his pre-occupation with other things and the immensely large area of the district, which at that time included Deoria and Basti, he was not able to accomplish much. The work was entrusted to a number of assistants who had complete discretion regarding the method to be adopted. The last pargana was assessed in 1867 and the final sanction was accorded by the end of 1873. The assessment, calculated at two-thirds of the gross assets, came to Rs 15,53,607 in 1856 and had risen progressively to Rs 16,75,789 at the termination of the period of 30 years for which the settlement had been sanctioned.

The Third Regular Settlement—The third settlement was ordered in 1883 and work began at once. Instructions given to the settlement officer laid down that the revenue of each village should be based, as far as possible, on the actual rent-roll. The gross total of the final demand amounted to Rs 25,03,777 but as the amount pertaining to the area which now covers the present district of Deoria was included in this figure, it is not possible to determine it separately. The settlement was sanctioned for a period of thirty years from 1889 and expired on June 30, 1919.

The Fourth Regular Settlement—Under this settlement, the major parts of tahsils Padrauna, Hata and Deoria of the district were

settled. The first year's revenue amounted to Rs 34,94,247. The final demand, including the demand from the area of the present district, reached Rs 37,17,780. With a few exceptions the settlement worked well and remained in force till June 30, 1950, when the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act came into force by which time Deoria had become a separate district. The Act became applicable to it in July, 1952.

Relation between Landlord and Tenant

The land system in ancient India was simple and conducive to agricultural production and did not pose any serious problem as far as relations between the landlord and the tenant went. Territorial aggrandisement in this area by the Muslims, followed by their attempt to settle down and consolidate their power, gave rise to a plethora of problems regarding the holding of land, assessment, settlements and the rights of the cultivating communities. Rulers like Ala-ud-din, Sher Shah and Akbar adopted measures to lay down a sound policy of land management but frequent spells of misrule following their reigns brought more misery than relief to the peasantry.

Under the Mughals the zamindars were functionaries of the State administration in as much as they were agents for the collection of land revenue. Initially their office was neither proprietary nor hereditary but after the fall of the Mughal empire and with the rise of the British power in India, they usurped both these rights.

On acquiring the territory of the present district, the East India Company followed the existing system. It expected the zamindars to be benevolent, kind and helpful to the cultivators and instrumental in bringing more areas under the plough, enriching the soil, improving agriculture and augmenting the material wealth of the tract. But these aims could not be fulfilled because their main objective was to get as high a revenue as possible which had to be paid with unfailing punctuality without any claim for remission on account of drought, inundation or other calamities. In the circumstances the zamindars were compelled to transfer their sufferings to the tenants who, in their turn, received oppressive and tyrannical treatment at the hands of the landlords mostly in collusion with the *patwaris* and *kanungos* who acted under the influence of the zamindars. The government always came to the rescue of the zamindars wherever they were in trouble for the security of its income, not by reducing the revenue but by strengthening the powers to effect recovery. No definite principles of tenants' rights or tenancy laws existed till the national upsurge of 1857.

Act X of 1859 followed by Act XVIII of 1873 declared the rights of the tenants to occupy the land. The Land Improvement Act of 1883 and the Agricultural Loans Act of 1884, provided further relief to indigent cultivators who had fallen a prey to the avarice of the money-lender. Then came the Agra Tenancy Act of 1926 (U.P. Act No. III of 1926) which further ameliorated somewhat the miserable condition of the farmers. The tenancy legislation in the province of Agra was different and separate from the laws obtaining in Avadh. It was only in 1939 that a further and an important step was taken and a uniform tenancy legislation was undertaken both for Agra and for Avadh. The U.P. Tenancy Act, 1939, was more favourable to the tenants, the law in respect of devolution being made more elaborate and restrictions being imposed on ejection. Tenants of *sir* were given a certain tenure for five years during which they could not be ejected except for non-payment of rent. Some other tenants were given the right to make improvements in their land and the consent of the landlord was not necessary. They could also build houses on their land for their residence and sheds for their cattle. The tenant's rights also became heritable and all tenants, except tenants of *sir* and subtenants, became hereditary tenants with rights of succession from father to son. The fear of enhancement, except at the time of the settlement, was removed. This Act was only a halfway house because the tenancies were not transferable in the absence of ownership. The tenants could not benefit materially till the whole structure of the tenure system was changed and the system of intermediaries interposed between the State and cultivators was eliminated, a measure that came into being with the passing of the U.P. Agricultural Tenants (Acquisition of Privileges) Act, 1949, followed by the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (U.P. Act No. 1 of 1951).

LAND REFORMS

Abolition of Zamindari

The U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, which was enforced in the district on July 1, 1952, brought to an end the system of intermediaries between the government and the peasantry and once again established direct relationship between the tiller and the State. The rights of zamindars in *abadi* land (inhabited sites), *parti* (fallow land), *banjar* (barren land), etc., were abolished and the rights of the actual tillers established. The Act reduced the multiplicity of tenures and secured the cultivator's ownership of the land thus providing an incentive for the improvement and development of the land. Compensation was to be paid to the zamindars and ten times of the annual rent was charged from

the tenants in order to give them *bhumidhari* rights over their holdings. Those who did not pay the amount did not get transferable proprietary rights over their lands but they could only till and inherit the land. Subletting, except in cases of disability as defined under the Act, was prohibited.

Three types of cultivators were created *bhumidhars*, *sirdars* and *asamis*. The *bhumidhars* have full proprietary rights. A *sirdar* can also acquire *bhumidhari* rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum equal to twenty times his annual rent. The village land vests in the *gaon samaj* and its committee is known as the Bhumi Prabandhak Samiti (the land management committee). It lets out land on temporary leases for agriculture or horticulture or other purposes. The tenants are known as *asamis* of the *gaon samaj*. The Act guaranteed compensation to all ex-zamindars and rehabilitation grants to those whose land revenue did not exceed Rs 10,000. Till March 31, 1974, the total amount of compensation payable to the zamindars of the district amounted to Rs 1,24,51,480 out of which a sum of Rs 1,21,09,965 had been paid in cash and bonds by March, 1974. Those with comparatively smaller holdings were entitled to receive a rehabilitation grant as well. Up to March 31, 1974, a sum of Rs 1,03,76,100 in cash and bonds had been paid to the intermediaries against the assessed amount of Rs 1,03,76,753 by way of rehabilitation grant.

In 1973-74 the tahsilwise holdings under different tenures in the district were as follows :

Kind of tenure	Name of tahsil and area (in ha.)			
	Deoria Area	Hata Area	Padrauna Area	Salempur Area
<i>Bhumidhar</i>	52,643	48,754	48,490	53,734
<i>Sirdar</i>	61,597	73,870	75,817	56,547
<i>Asami</i>	398	1,170	668	567

Collection of Land Revenue—After the abolition of zamindari, the system of direct collection by government from *bhumidhars*, *sirdars* and *asamis* was introduced through the agency of the collection *amins* whose work is supervised by *naib* tahsildars, tahsildars and subdivisional officers. The ultimate responsibility for the collection of main dues is that of the collector. Commencing from 1952, for a certain period, the government also appointed a district

collection officer for doing this work exclusively but he was withdrawn in 1958.

On the eve of the abolition of zamindari in 1951-52 in the district, the demand of land revenue was Rs 21,13,605. The district demand of main dues in 1974 recovered as arrears of land revenue was as follows:

Main dues	Total demand (in Rs)
Land Revenue	24,22,624
Vikas Kar	19,59,657
Irrigation	44,09,287
Takavi XII	46,89,540
Takavi XIX	1,58,002

Bhoodan—The Bhoodan movement of (Acharya) Vinoba Bhave was initiated in Uttar Pradesh in 1951 with the object of obtaining land for the landless. By March 31, 1974, an area of 17.4 ha. was received in the district as gifts for the landless. The movement has done little good, the only achievement being to bring about a psychological change.

Consolidation of Holdings

The U.P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953, came into force in 1954 to prevent fragmentation of holdings and consequent loss to agricultural production. The object was also to consolidate a person's holdings and to replan the village. Suitable places were reserved for works of public utility and *chak* roads were laid out to provide approaches to the holdings in the village. Consolidation operations were started in 299 villages of tahsil Deoria on November 14, 1964. The scheme was enforced in tahsil Sakampur on September 11, 1965, with operations in 239 villages and in tahsil Hata on August 4, 1973, in 248 villages.

The total tahsilwise area under consolidation up to March, 1974, was as under:

Tahsil	Total number of villages	Area consolidated (in ha.)
Deoria	665	43,116
Hata	248	3,449
Sakampur	1,157	96,319

Urban—Abolition of zamindari in respect of agricultural lands in the urban areas of the district was done after the enactment of the U.P. Urban Areas Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1956 (U.P. Act IX of 1957) which affected 4,772 persons. Up to March, 1975, a sum of Rs 2,20,539 was assessed as compensation of which Rs 1,62,438 has been paid.

Imposition of Ceilings on Land Holdings

To effect a more even distribution of land, the U.P. Imposition of Ceilings on Land Holdings Act, 1960, (Act I of 1961), was enforced in the district on January 3, 1961. By a later amendment brought into force on June 8, 1973, the maximum size of the holding of a tenant was fixed at 7.30 ha. of irrigated land with an additional 2 ha. per member if the number in the family exceeded five, subject to a maximum of six ha., all the land declared surplus to vest in the State Government. Compensation was to be paid to the landholder concerned for the land given up by him. The Act has affected 702 landholders, an area of 2,068 ha. of land being declared surplus of which 1,128 ha. were settled up to March, 1974. An amount of Rs 2,01,922 was assessed as compensation of which Rs 46,018 was paid up to March 31, 1974.

ADMINISTRATION OF TAXES OTHER THAN LAND REVENUE

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, sources of revenue include certain Central and State taxes.

Central Taxes

The important Central taxes are central excise, income-tax and estate duty.

Central Excise—An assistant collector of the central excise department and his team, with headquarters at Gorakhpur, exercises jurisdiction over the district. The excise revenue collected in the district from 1968-69 to 1972-73 was as under:

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1968-69	1,66,01,040
1969-70	2,50,43,709
1970-71	2,82,63,959
1971-72	4,41,32,968
1972-73	3,40,75,378

The revenue realised from certain commodities in 1972-73 is mentioned below :

Commodity	Revenue (in Rs)
Sugar	3,28,06,327
<i>Khandsar</i> sugar	7,473
Safety matches	14,389
Copper and copper alloys	19,072
Tobacco	12,28,117

Income-tax

The district is under the charge of the income-tax officer in charge of district Gorakhpur for purposes of income-tax collection and also attends to the collection of wealth tax and gift tax. The following table states the amount collected in the district in the five years ended 1973-74 :

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)
1969-70	959	13,89,270	23	12,307	7	2,379
1970-71	1,207	13,80,707	63	11,326	10	5,850
1971-72	1,567	8,33,410	98	18,292	11	17,535
1972-73	2,109	14,53,992	68	44,933	18	13,127
1973-74	2,099	14,43,822	21	67,830	10	7,065

Estate Duty—As required by the Estate Duty Act, 1953, this duty is levied on the property left by a deceased person. The district falls under the jurisdiction of the assistant controller, estate duty, Allahabad. The following amounts were assessed as estate duty in the district between 1968-69 and 1972-73 :

Year	No. of assesses	Amount (in Rs)
1968-69	3	33,628
1969-70	8	3,95,108
1970-71	2	1,115
1971-72	7	15,646
1972-73	8	55,659

State Taxes

Excise, sales tax, stamps and registration and taxes on motor vehicles, entertainments, etc., are other sources of revenue to the State :

Excise

Excise has been one of the most important sources of State revenue in the district since the beginning of British rule. It is chiefly realised from the sale of liquor. The administration of excise duty in Deoria is in the charge of the collector and district magistrate assisted by the district excise officer. The district is divided into three excise circles, each in charge of an excise inspector.

Liquor—The number of liquor shops in the district in 1973 was 43 for retail sale. There are two licensed dealers for Indian-made foreign liquor. The consumption of country liquor in the two years ended 1972-73 was 1,88,240 A. L. gallons in 1971-72 and 1,89,485 A. L. gallons in 1972-73.

Hemp Drugs—Ganja and bhang constituted important items of excise revenue in the past. The use of charas has been given up and licences for the retail sale of bhang are granted by the collector and district magistrate by annual auction. There are 40 bhang and 3 ganja shops in the district. The amount of consumption of bhang and ganja in the five years ended 1972-73 was as follows :

Year	Bhang (in kg.)	Ganja (in kg.)
1968-69	582	0.50
1969-70	764	0.50
1970-71	644	0.50
1971-72	707	0.50
1972-73	602	Not available

Sales Tax—Sales tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1948, and the Central Sales Tax Act, 1957. For the purpose of the assessment and collection of this tax, the district is under a sales tax officer. The amount realised in respect of commodities like *kirana*, bricks, food-grain, kerosene oil, oil-seeds, timber, etc., during the two years ended 1970-71 was as follows :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1969-70	1,39,002
1970-71	1,63,458

Stamps and Registration

Stamp duty was originally introduced by the British to discourage the unusually large number of law suits in the courts and for earning revenue from civil litigants, affixation of stamps being required in legal proceedings and in courts of law only. Later on the affixation of stamps was made obligatory for business transactions such as receipts, hand notes, bills of exchange, bonds, etc. Similarly legal documents and sale deeds for the transfer of property also had to be written on stamp paper.

Under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial, the former being used to pay court fees and the latter having to be affixed on bills of exchange in token of having defrayed duty on documents and receipts, etc. The income from stamps includes fines and penalties imposed under the Indian Stamp Act of 1899. The receipts during the five years ended 1972-73 were as follows :

Year	Receipts (in Rs) from stamps	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1968-69	7,75,984	10,29,243
1969-70	7,92,799	13,42,471
1970-71	7,89,565	14,99,459
1971-72	8,90,914	17,56,155
1972-73	7,51,378	14,64,129

For purposes of registration of documents the district officer is helped by an additional district magistrate (finance and revenue). There are four subregstrars in the district, one at each tahsil. The income from registration between 1969 and 1973 is specified below :

Year	Income (in Rs)
1969	9,84,523
1970	11,48,994
1971	11,26,144
1972	11,04,444
1973	16,03,464

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

All motor vehicles are liable to taxation under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1935, and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. For this purpose the regional transport officer, Gorakhpur, is in charge of the district. The collections made under passenger tax, goods tax and road tax in the region for the years from 1970-71 to 1973-74 were as mentioned below :

Year	Passenger tax	Goods tax	Roud tax
1970-71	10,24,245	10,30,396	36,28,577
1971-72	10,35,403	9,13,083	35,52,064
1972-73	11,11,842	9,95,212	39,92,463
1973-74	9,03,113	10,49,190	40,76,940

Entertainment and Betting Tax

This tax is imposed on all paid public entertainment and betting and its biggest incidence is on cinema houses. The following statement mentions the amount collected between 1969-70 and 1973-74:

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1969-70	3,21,202
1970-71	3,91,301
1971-72	5,01,195
1972-73	5,54,498
1973-74	8,10,673

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CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

After the cession of the district of Gorakhpur by the nawab of Avadh to the East India Company at the end 1801, the tract now covered by the district of Deoria presented many problems concerning law and order because of bad communications and a long period of misrule. Drunkenness was prevalent in the region and was so bad that, from April 1, 1802, the manufacture and sale of liquor without a licence was prohibited. About this time the police had to deal with the criminal tribes of Doms, Badhaks, Dusadhs and the armed gangs of dacoits from the Nepalese border. Due to the thieving and wandering habits of the Doms, orders were issued in 1884 to register them and compel them to reside in quarters, called the Domarkhanas, specially built for them. These were established in various parts of the district, close to a police-station which checked their attendance every night. All attempts to make them take up agricultural work and settle down failed. They generally worked with conservancy staff in municipalities and towns. The Badhaks had taken to cultivation by 1900, leading to the easing of the law and order problems on account of these two tribes.

But the Dusadhs, with their drunken habits and criminal instincts and the bad characters from across the Nepalese border, continued to indulge in organised dacoity mostly in the northern tracts of Deoria. Even after the coming of Independence, the law and order problem in the district recorded a considerable increase. The checking of crimes by intensive patrolling, close surveillance of bad characters and recourse to preventive measures bringing more offenders to book, has increased. Elections to the local bodies and the general elections and visits of dignitaries, specially of foreigners and pilgrims to Kushinagar also occupy the time and attention of the authorities.

The country-wide agitation on the Official Languages Bill, in 1967-68, gathered momentum in this district also. The agitation caused considerable damage and loss to railway property at the Deoria and Padrauna stations.

The statistics of serious offences committed in the district between 1969 and 1973 are given in the following statement :

Offence	No. of persons convicted in				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Against public tranquillity	—	—	—	—	—
Affecting life	7	7	18	10	2
Grievous hurt	4	6	7	3	13
Rape	2	1	4	3	1
Cattle theft	10	12	13	7	9
Criminal force and assault	21	32	22	53	41
Theft	48	66	64	57	123
Robbery and dacoity	7	9	15	8	5
Receiving stolen property	12	16	11	13	15
Criminal trespass	38	42	38	38	39

Organisation of Police

Initially during the British rule the tahsildar had to maintain an adequate police force for law and order purposes but he was not able to do justice to this part of his duty as the rajas and the landlords were strongly opposed to any form of police administration. As a police officer he was under the district magistrate and as revenue officer under the collector. This arrangement often led to controversies and disputes, the last one being in 1808. Therefore, in 1809, a special *barkandaz* force was set up in the tahsils and a few important places mainly to protect government treasuries and escort consignments of treasure. This was the beginning of the police-stations. A strong contingent of mounted police was detailed to patrol the Avadh frontier to prevent intrusions of any type. This force was further strengthened in 1818 and the number of police-stations was also increased. In 1861 an armed unit, named the constabulary, was formed which functioned under British officers taken from the Indian army and was constituted mainly of discharged soldiers. In 1866, the armed and civil police were separated. In 1903, the mounted police was reorganised and was stationed at Gorakhpur. The police force in those days was comparatively small and the number of thanas was only 14—Deoria, Barhaj, Salempur, Khampar, Musela, Kasia, Hata, Qazipur, Bishanpura, Tariasujan, Tarkulwa, Mansurganj, Ramkola and Padrauna. In 1907, the municipal police was converted into a regular constabulary. In addition there were other

forces like the town police (maintained in the towns and notified areas) road patrols on the State highways, chowkidars and *gorais* or watchmen. The last were a residue of the old system when the village watchmen was the landlord's employee who was granted a piece of land in lieu of his services.

In 1946, the district was divided into 12 police-stations for the purposes of law and order. The district is under the charge of the deputy inspector general of police, Gorakhpur range. He directs and controls the work of the superintendent of police, Deoria, and co-ordinates police activities in his range. The district police is divided into the civil and the armed police.

Civil Police—This force is under the control of a superintendent of police assisted by three deputy superintendents. The district had two inspectors, 55 subinspectors, 55 head constables and 590 constables in 1973-74. It was divided into 23 police-stations comprising three circles—Sadar, Salempur and Kasia, each under a deputy superintendent of police as circle officer.

The following statement indicates the composition of the three circles :

Police circle	Police-station	Police out-post
Sadar	Kotwali	Deoria
	Rudrapur	Rudrapur
		Ekauna
	Rampur Karkhana	
Salempur	Tarkulwa	
	Gauri Bazar	
	Hata	
	Khukhunda	Bhulwani
	Salempur	
	Lar	Lar
	Barhaj	Gaura
Kasia	Bhatni	
	Bankata	
	Khampar	
	Kasia	Kushinagar
	Bishanpura	
	Tarayasuajan	Tarayasuajan
	Khadda	
	Turkpatti	
	Ramkola	Ramkola
	Captain Ganj	Captain Ganj
	Padrauna	Padrauna
	Nibua Naurangia	
	Patherwa	

The Kotwali police-station, at the district headquarters, is manned by an inspector, four subinspectors, one head constable and 18 constables, while Padrauna has an inspector, two subinspectors, one head constable and 17 constables. The remaining 21 police-stations are staffed by two subinspectors, one head constable and 14 to 16 constables. The inspector in charge of a police-station is called the station officer.

Armed Police—The district armed police consists of an inspector (designated reserve inspector) and two subinspectors, 37 head constables and 155 constables. The services of the armed police are utilised for escorting prisoners, guarding government property and treasure, patrolling, etc.

Prosecution Staff—The prosecution staff working under the control of the district magistrate comprises a public prosecutor and nine assistant public prosecutors. The main function of the prosecution unit is to prepare and represent the State in criminal cases in the law courts of the district.

Village Police—The institution of the village chowkidar, who forms the lowest link in the police organisation, can be traced back to the period when every village had a chowkidar to assist the village headman in maintaining law and order and guarding crops and property. He was then the servant of the village community and was remunerated with a share of the produce by the cultivators and the grant of a piece of land for cultivation. During the Mughal period he was made an employee of the zamindar and placed under his control, his duties being the same as before. The North-Western Provinces Village and Road Police Act, 1873, was passed in British times and the district magistrate was made the appointing and dismissing authority in respect of the village chowkidar who actually functioned under the control and supervision of the district superintendent of police attached to the concerned police-station. This arrangement still continues. His main duty now is the reporting of crime and other incidents in his village. He also works as process server for the *nyaya* panchayat for which he is paid separately by that body. There were 1,863 village chowkidars in the district in 1973.

PRADESHIK VIKAS DAL

This voluntary organisation was originally set up in the district after Independence. The main function of this organisation is to mobilise the youth of the villages to assist the police and other institutions and to bring about a sense of self-dependence in respect of security and discipline among the people.

Initially a paid staff of the Prantiya Rakshak Dal was provisionally selected in the district on November 20 and December 17, 1947. Of it approved candidates received training at Lucknow and Kanpur after which they organised camps to recruit and impart training to group and section leaders and 120 men were selected and trained at the headquarters of each tahsil except at the Salempur camp which was organised at Lar. Villagers resisted dacoits on 12 occasions in which six villagers lost their lives and 64 received injuries. In 1973 there were 3,381 village defence societies in the district which helped the police in eliminating a number of gangs of dacoits.

Government Railway Police

This is also a branch of the U.P. Police and is under a deputy inspector general of police with headquarters at Allahabad. The district railway police-station is at Bhatni with an out-post at Deoria. The Bhatni police-station is under the charge of a sub-inspector assisted by an assistant subinspector, two head constables and 17 constables who work under the direct control of a superintendent of police (designated section officer) with headquarters at Gorakhpur. The G.R.P. out-post at Deoria is manned by a sub-inspector, a head constable and seven constables.

The main duties of the staff are to maintain law and order, control crime and protect life and property at the railway stations and in running and stationary trains. They examine empty carriages and enquire into accidents on railways and offences committed within their areas. Occasionally they also regulate the traffic within the station premises.

Jail and Lock-ups

District Jail—The institution of the district jail was introduced by the British. There was a small jail at Kasia, in which under trial prisoners and those sentenced to short-term imprisonment were confined but since 1906 it has ceased to be a jail and serves only as a lock-up. It has accommodation for 100 prisoners, their monthly average number being 250. The lock-up is under the charge of a subinspector of police with a staff to assist him. There is a lock-up at each police-station as well. After the formation of the district of Deoria, the need for a district jail was realised and one was established in 1954, under the charge of the chief medical officer of the district as superintendent. He is assisted by a jailor, a deputy jailor and an assistant jailor. The jail hospital is looked after by a part-time doctor called the deputy chief medical officer.

The inspector general of prisons, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, is the administrative head of the department.

The district jail has provision for 299 prisoners, the number of inmates from 1969 to 1973 being given in the following statement:

Year	Daily average-number	
	No. of convicts	No. of under trial prisoners
1969	74	259
1970	60	225
1971	60	231
1972	66	229
1973	62	308

Welfare of Prisoners—There are two classes of prisoners, superior and ordinary; usually prisoners are placed in the second category, superior status being allotted in special cases by the district magistrate on the basis of the prisoner's status in public life and the type of offence, etc.

Many amenities have now been provided for the prisoners in recent years such as listening into radio broadcasts and reading of newspapers, books and periodicals. They are allowed facilities for recreation, such as taking part in indoor and out-door games, dramatic and musical performances, religious discourses, training in crafts, etc.

Revising Board—For the periodical review of cases of all the convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment of three years or more, the district jail is governed by the revising board at Varanasi which examines the cases deserving premature release and release on parole.

Official Visitors—The ex officio visitors of the jail are the director of medical and health services, U. P., the commissioner of the Gorakhpur division and the district and sessions judge, Deoria.

Non-official Visitors—The State Government also appoints non-official visitors for the jail from among prominent citizens of the district who are authorised to write inspection notes in their own hand. Their term of office is usually two years.

All the local members of the Central and State legislatures ; members of the standing committee of the State legislature on jails; chairman of the central committee of the U. P. Apradh Nirodhak Samiti ; the secretary of the district unit ; chairman, municipal board; and the *adhyaksh*, *zila parishad* are ex officio, non-official visitors of the jail. They constitute the board of visitors which visits the jail twice a year.

Probation—The probation scheme was introduced in the district in 1961 under the U. P. First Offenders Probation Act, 1938, with the posting of a district probation officer. He functions under the district magistrate in his day to day work, the general administrative control being of the *nideshak*, Harijan and Samaj Kalyan Vibhag, U. P. The district probation officer supervises the activities and conduct of the offenders released on probation, tries to ensure their observance of the conditions of the bonds executed by them, makes periodical reports to the courts concerned about their conduct and progress and in general befriends them and assists them in their rehabilitation. The Act provides for the release on probation of first offenders who are below 24 years of age. During 1973, the number of juvenile offenders dealt with under the Act was 37 among whom 11 completed their period successfully. The number of domiciliary visits paid by the probation officer was 102 and the number of visits received by him from probationers was 146.

The U. P. Prisoners' Release on Probation Act, 1938, was enforced in the district in 1961. Two types of prisoners are eligible for release—those who agree to pass the remainder of their sentence under the supervision of their guardians and those who execute a bond with one or more sureties for good behaviour and for the observance of such conditions as the State Government may impose. A convict who has served a third of his sentence of imprisonment or a total period of five years with remissions, whichever is less, is eligible for release under the Act.

JUSTICE

Prior to 1946, the judiciary of Deoria (both civil and criminal) was included in that of Gorakhpur. There was one permanent *munsif* and one additional *munsif* having territorial jurisdiction in the entire area covered by the present district of Deoria. Both enjoyed concurrent powers, with pecuniary jurisdiction extending up to Rs 5,000. All civil cases upto the valuation of Rs 5,000 were instituted in the permanent court of the *munsif*, Deoria. The additional *munsif* exercised jurisdiction only over cases that were transferred to him under section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Appeal against their judgements lay to the court of the district judge, Gorakhpur. The judiciary of the district of Deoria

continued to be under the jurisdiction of the district judge, Gorakhpur, till September 12, 1964, when Deoria came under a separate judgeship. The courts of the civil judge and the civil and sessions judge functioned at Deoria.

The civil judiciary consists of the permanent courts of the district judge, additional district judge, civil judge and *munsif*. There are also the temporary courts of two additional district judges and two additional *munsifs*. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the district judge, the additional district judges and the civil judge is unlimited on the regular civil side and extends to the whole district and, as amended by the Uttar Pradesh Civil Laws Amendment Act, 1972 (U. P. Act No. 37 of 1972), the high court has conferred upon all the district and additional district judges the jurisdiction of a judge of a court of small causes for the trial of all suits, irrespective of their value.

The position of the civil case work in the district in 1973 was as under :

Cases	No. of suits
Pending at beginning of year	3,820
Instituted during year	2,712
Disposed of during year	2,406
Pending at end of year	4,126

In that year the numbers of suits instituted involving immovable property were 1,080, those relating to money and movable property were 229 and those concerning matrimony were six.

The number of suits instituted in 1973, according to valuation, was as follows :

Valuation	No. of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	6
Exceeding Rs 100 but not Rs 1,000	30
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not Rs 5,000	1,201
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not Rs 10,000	56
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not Rs 20,000	Nil
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not Rs 5,00,000	8
Exceeding Rs 5,00,000	8

The details of the modes of disposal of the suits in 1973 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	No. of suits
Disposed of after trial	262
Dismissed in default	489
Otherwise decided without trial	1,205
Decreed <i>ex parte</i>	155
On admission of claims	12
Settled by compromise	281
On reference to arbitration	2
Total	2,406

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of in 1973 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil appeals	182	285
Miscellaneous civil appeals	149	171

Criminal Justice

At the beginning of the twentieth century the administration of criminal justice in the Deoria region was entrusted to the district magistrate, Gorakhpur, who was assisted by two covenanted assistants and six deputy collectors having magisterial powers, in addition to six tahsildars. In practice this staff was found insufficient for the administration of the criminal justice of so large an area. In order to relieve the pressure caused by the constantly increasing volume of criminal work, an assistant or joint magistrate was posted at Kasia. He was invested with the powers of a first class magistrate throughout the Kasia tahsil.

The Deoria tahsil was constituted in 1905 and was placed under the charge of an assistant or joint magistrate, assisted by a deputy collector in charge of tahsil Hata, both officers having magis-

terial powers and being resident at Deoria. There were also three honorary magistrates with third class magisterial powers one each at Padrauna, Kasia and Salempur. There were then no sessions courts at Deoria, it being located at Gorakhpur and exercising jurisdiction over all criminal cases relating to the entire area of district Deoria till 1964 when a temporary post of district and sessions judge was created for the Deoria district. It was made permanent in March, 1974.

The district and sessions judge constitutes the head of the chief criminal court of the district. He is assisted in sessions trials by three additional sessions judges. His court is a court of appeal, reference and revision under Chapters 29 and 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure against the judgements of all the magistrates and the assistant sessions judge. He also acts as a special judge under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1949. The assistant sessions judge can award a sentence of imprisonment up to ten years and his court acts as a court of appeal against the judgements of magistrates having second class magisterial powers. There are also the courts of the chief judicial magistrate and the judicial magistrates, Deoria and Padrauna (at Kasia). The four *munsifs* (magistrates) posted in the district can award a sentence of imprisonment up to three years.

Some details of the criminal cases relating to the years 1971, 1972 and 1973 are given below :

Cases Committed to Sessions

Nature of offence	No. of cases		
	1971	1972	1973
Affecting life	46	43	43
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	—	—	1
Hurt	4	—	—
Rape	1	—	—
Robbery and dacoity	2	1	8
Others	79	7	6

Persons Tried and Sentenced

Tried/sentence awarded	1971	1972	1973
Tried	371	232	333
Rigorous imprisonment	3	1	16
Fined	8	4	—
Other punishment	30	50	121

The district magistrate exercises first class magisterial powers and is the executive head of the district. For magisterial work he has under his control four subdivisional magistrates and an extra magistrate, all vested with first class magisterial powers and four tahsildars having second class magisterial powers.

The statistics of cases in these courts and the number of persons involved in the years 1972 and 1973 are as follows :

Nature of cases	1972		1973	
	No. of cases	No. of persons involved and tried	No. of cases	No. of persons involved and tried
Under Cr. P. C.	589	3,411	562	3,600
Under special and local Acts	2,235	2,699	2,057	3,394

The position of cognizable offences under the Indian Penal Code in the years 1972 and 1973 was as follows :

Position of cases	1972	1973
Reported to police	3,272	1,213
Investigated	4,680	3,618
Sent to courts	2,175	3,618
Pending in courts at beginning of year	2,252	2,931
Disposed of		
Convicted	170	233
Discharged or acquitted	270	285
Compounded	115	169

The number and result of cases relating to crimes like murder, dacoity, robbery, etc., in the years 1972 and 1973 were as given in the following statement :

Crime	1972	1973
Murder		
Reported	46	70
Convicted	10	2
Acquitted	27	15
Dacoity		
Reported	56	154
Convicted	3	50
Acquitted	19	24
Robbery		
Reported	159	161
Convicted	5	1
Acquitted	8	21
Riot		
Reported	377	426
Convicted	53	41
Acquitted	40	24
Theft		
Reported	1,670	1,585
Convicted	57	123
Acquitted	63	109
House breaking		
Reported	745	119
Convicted	38	39
Acquitted	51	41
Kidnapping		
Reported	9	31
Convicted	1	1
Acquitted	—	16
Rape and unnatural offences		
Reported	13	8
Convicted	1	2
Acquitted	1	1

The administration of criminal justice is carried on according to the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1898, as amended from time to time. Far-reaching amendments have been made in the Code, taking effect from April 1, 1974. This has introduced some major changes in the magisterial set up, giving more facilities to the accused and making the trial simpler and quicker. The complete separation of the judiciary and the executive was also effected in 1974.

Separation of Executive from Judiciary

The partial separation of the executive from the judiciary was enforced in the district in October, 1967, when judicial magistrates were placed under the administrative control of the district and sessions judge, Deoria. A few of these judicial magistrates were lent to the government for doing revenue work. The rest did only criminal work under the Indian Penal Code. The services of judicial magistrates were to be utilised for law and order duties by the district magistrate only in an emergency and with the consent of the district and sessions judge. On occasions when law and order has to be maintained all executive officers posted in the district exercise first class magisterial powers and all *naib tahsildars* have second class powers. The process has found its logical culmination in the recent amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure in 1973, which ensure an absolute separation of these two wings. The executive magistrates have been entirely relieved of their judicial functions both under the Indian Penal Code and other enactments and perform only executive duties related to the maintenance of public peace, law and order. The criminal work is entrusted exclusively to the judicial magistrates who include both *munsifs* invested with magisterial powers and officers of the judicial service.

Nyaya Panchayats

Panchayati *dalais*, now called *nyaya* panchayats, were established in the district in 1949 under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, to enable the village people to adjudicate locally petty offences and minor civil disputes. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over an area of five to ten *gaon sabhas* depending on the population of the constituent villages. In 1949 as many as 314 *nyaya* panchayats were established in the district of which 74 were in tahsil Deoria, 99 in tahsil Salempur, 74 in tahsil Hata and 67 in tahsil Padrauna. In 1974, the number of *nyaya* panchayats remained the same in tahsils Deoria and Salempur but in tahsils Hata and Padrauna it went up to 75 and 68 respectively.

The *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated from amongst the elected *panchs* of the *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate with the assistance of an advisory body. These *panchs* elect from amongst themselves the *sarpanch*, who is the presiding officer and a *sahayak sarpanch*, who presides in his absence. In 1974 there were 317 *sarpanchs*, an equal number of *sahayak sarpanchs* and 5,176 *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats in the district.

The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years. Their term can be extended by the State Government. The cases are heard and disposed of by benches each consisting of five *panchs* and constituted by the *sarpanch* annually. The presence of at least three *panchs* and a *sarpanch* is essential at each hearing.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try the following types of cases :

(a) All cases under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947

(b) The following Sections of the Indian Penal Code

140	283	341	411*	504
160	285	352	426	506
172	289	357	428	509
174	290	358	430	510
179	294	374	431	
269	323	379*	447	
277	334	403*	448	

(c) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871

(d) Subsection 1 of section 10 of the U. P. District Board Primary Education Act, 1926, and

(e) Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13 of the Public Gambling Act, 1867.

The *nyaya* panchayats also have original jurisdiction to try civil suits up to a valuation of Rs 500. In criminal matters they can impose fines only up to Rs 100 but they are not authorised to award a sentence of imprisonment. Revision applications against their decisions in criminal and civil cases lie to the subdivisional magistrate and the *munsif* concerned respectively. The number of

*Involving property not exceeding Rs 50 in value

cases instituted in the *nyaya* panchayats and disposed of by them during the years 1969-70 and 1973-74 was as follows :

Year	Cases pending at beginning of year	Cases instituted during year	Cases disposed of
1969-70	153	497	529
1970-71	121	563	567
1971-72	117	403	465
1972-73	55	24	19
1973-74 (up to December 31, 1973)	60	15	7

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The departments of the State Government dealing with general administration, revenue administration and law and order and justice, have already been dealt with in Chapters X, XI and XII respectively. The organisational set up of the departments of agriculture, horticulture, soil conservation, animal husbandry, co-operatives, education, forest, industries, irrigation, public works and the State electricity board at the district level, are briefly described below:

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Agriculture

The main function of this department is to increase agricultural produce by persuading cultivators to adopt modern and scientific methods suited to local conditions and by providing them with improved varieties of seeds, fertilizers and chemicals for destroying insects and pests which destroy the crops, etc. For agricultural purposes the district comes under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture (with headquarters at Gorakhpur). Locally the district agriculture officer is in charge of the work assisted by the additional district agriculture officer dealing with the subject of oil-seeds, seeds, the supply of various agricultural commodities and certain mechanised sections. These officers look after the entire agricultural programme of the district including formulation and implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes, promotion of all agricultural activities (such as horticulture, plant protection, growing of oil-seeds, extension work in jute development, cotton development and the like).

The activities of this department at the block level are supervised by the block development officer under whom there is an assistant development officer (agriculture) and another assistant development officer (compost) who is responsible for agricultural development programmes like intensive cultivation by using improved seeds and manures, providing technical support to various programmes, supervising of seed stores, distributing fertilizers and the recovering of dues, etc.

There are 56 seed stores in the district. Which are manned by 112 *kamdars*, each store being under the supervision of an assistant

agriculture inspector. These assistant agriculture inspectors meet the input requirements of the block and are also responsible for the agricultural development activities of ten villages adjoining the seed stores.

Under the technical control and administration of the district agricultural officer there are specialists known as additional district agricultural officers. One of them is responsible for an intensive oil-seed development programme (mustard, ground-nut and other oil-seeds). He is assisted by two supervisors and three agriculture inspectors. Jute development in the district is confined to the selected blocks of Khaddha, Tamkuhi, Dudhai, Barhaj, Kasia and Padrauna. There are six jute centres located at Dudhai, Scorahi Barhaj, Kushinagar, Padrauna and Chitauni. These centres work under the supervision of a jute development inspector, each being manned by one assistant jute development inspector and one *kamdar*. The department also maintains four agriculture demonstration and multiplication farms located at Rampur, Dhorahi, Hata and Gaziapur, each under the charge of a farm superintendent.

Horticulture

The senior horticulture inspector who works under the superintendent, government gardens, Gorakhpur, is responsible for the implementation of the various horticulture schemes in the district. He is assisted by two district horticulture inspectors and an assistant horticulture inspector. The district horticulture inspectors are responsible for the lay-out of orchards, supply of plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings and related work. The assistant horticulture inspector maintains the store.

Soil Conservation

The district has a soil conservation officer who supervises the activities pertaining to soil conservation. He is assisted by five soil conservation inspectors, 25 assistant soil conservation inspectors, a technical assistant and two overseers. Every year new areas are selected by the soil conservation officer for the purposes of soil conservation. He prepares estimates of the income and expenditure of the new areas, the details of works to be undertaken and familiarises the cultivators with the programme. The five soil conservation inspectors supervise and execute planning, budgeting, evaluation and measurement programmes in their own subunits, the assistant soil conservation inspectors assisting the masonry work within their jurisdiction. Various duties under the soil conservation scheme, such as the construction of contour bunds and check dams,

escapes, afforestation and minor irrigation works, are carried out by this department.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

This district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry (posted at Gorakhpur). The district live-stock officer is in charge of this department at the district level, being responsible for improvements in breeds of cattle and poultry, prevention and treatment of their diseases, controlling possible outbreaks of epidemics among animals, implementation of plan schemes of the department, helping in the execution of applied nutrition programmes and arranging for loans for poultry farming. He is assisted by an artificial insemination officer who looks after the artificial insemination work in the district, a senior poultry officer, a fodder inspector and an officer in charge of the semen collection station.

The district has been responding to artificial insemination work and the achievements in the last five years have been almost cent per cent.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

This department deals with the organization, registration, supervision and working of various co-operative societies in the district and also attends to administrative and statutory functions like the supervision and control over the departmental staff and the inspection of co-operative establishments.

The deputy registrar, co-operative societies, Gorakhpur, is the regional head of the department. The assistant registrar, at the district level, exercises supervision and control over the co-operative staff and institutions and supervises all activities pertaining to co-operative undertakings in the district. He is assisted by five inspectors (group I) and 36 inspectors (group II).

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education and the regional inspectress of girls' schools, both having their headquarters at Gorakhpur. The latter is in overall charge at the regional level of girls' education and is assisted by a deputy inspectress of girls' schools who is in charge of girls' education up to the junior high school stage. In addition, there are 6 subdeputy inspectresses of girls' schools who help in inspection work.

The district inspector of schools is responsible for the supervision, control and inspection of educational institutions up to the higher secondary level. He is assisted by an associate district inspector of schools and the work of the office and the inspection of institutions is divided between these two officers. A Zila Basic Shiksha Adhikari (Deoria) has been working in the district since 1972 and supervises all primary junior high schools and nursery schools. He also controls the staff of these institutions excluding the teachers serving under the municipal boards. He is assisted by a deputy inspector of schools and an additional inspector of schools. Their duty is to inspect the primary and junior high schools of the district with the help of 31 subdeputy inspectors of schools.

The Sanskrit *pathshalas* and the Urdu medium primary schools are under the overall charge of the assistant inspector, Sanskrit *pathshalas* and the deputy inspector, Urdu medium schools, Gorakhpur region, respectively, both having their headquarters at Gorakhpur.

In addition to imparting education, the department endeavours to emphasize the need for building up a sound moral character and good physique among students. Games, physical education, training in scouting, the national discipline scheme, etc., have been enforced in the educational institutions of the district with this end in view.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

The district falls in the Tinkonia range of the Gorakhpur forest division, eastern circle, U. P., which is under the control of a divisional forest officer and a conservator of forests, eastern circle, with headquarters at Gorakhpur, their duties being to exercise administrative control over the circles and divisions. A section of the range at Kasia, comprising two beats, one each at Kasia and Padrauna, also falls in the district.

The department has been working towards the afforestation of waste land and the replacement of inferior trees in forests by fast growing and industrially important species. It also undertakes the construction of forest roads and the preservation of wild life.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Previously there was only a district engineer of the rank of assistant engineer in the district who looked after the entire construction work of roads and buildings. In October, 1962, the office was converted into a divisional office and was named

'temporary division, public works department'. In March, 1973, Deoria was converted into a permanent division (known as the provincial division) under the charge of an executive engineer stationed at Deoria and assisted by 9 assistant engineers whose duties include the construction and maintenance of national and State highways and other link roads, bridges and buildings within their own jurisdictions.

Due to the increased load of work in building and road construction, building work is being attended to by the 40th circle, the public works department, Gorakhpur, and the road construction work by the 6th circle, public works department, Gorakhpur. The chief engineer, public works department, is the head of the department at the State level.

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

Deoria forms part of the Gorakhpur zone, which at the zonal level, is under the administrative control of the joint director of industries. At the district level the department is headed by the deputy director of industries, who is in charge of all the industrial activities in the district. The district has been included in the rural industries programme launched by the development commissioner, small-scale industries, New Delhi, and for this scheme the deputy director is assisted by a planning-cum-survey officer, four technical officers, four economic investigators and an industrial inspector. This post has been created under the rural industries programme. Prior to this the charge of the district was under the district industries officer whose office has also been merged in the office of the deputy director.

Handloom and sericulture activities were so far under the directorate of industries and were looked after by the district industries officer. As a separate directorate for handloom products and textiles has been created at the State level at Kanpur, the activities of these industries are now supervised by an assistant director of industries (handloom) and an assistant director of industries (sericulture) both having their headquarters at Gorakhpur. The former is assisted by a textile inspector (at Deoria) and two industrial supervisors (one each at Deoria and Padrauna) the latter being assisted by an inspector (at Tamkuhi) two overseers (one each at Dudahi and Gazia) and four gardeners (one each at Tamkuhi, Dudahi, Gazia and Bharpatia).

The activities in connection with the khadi and village industries are looked after by the khadi and village industries board,

Kanpur. Under this scheme the staff posted in the districts consists of the district village industries officer at Deoria, an assistant village industries officer, two co-operative supervisors, a leather instructor, an assistant leather instructor, two *gur* demonstrators and a khadi supervisor (sales).

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

Canals

The office of the executive engineer, Gandak canal construction division I, with headquarters at Deoria, is under the control of the chief engineer, irrigation department, U. P., with headquarters at Lucknow, at the State level. The jurisdiction of the executive engineer of this division covers a part of each of the two tahsils of Salempur and Maharajganj, his duties covering general administration and the supervision and regulation of canals. He is assisted by a subdivisional officer and six overseers in Captainganj, subdivision I, a subdivisional officer and two overseers at Deoria in subdivision II, a subdivisional officer at Deoria and five overseers in subdivision III and a subdivisional officer and six overseers in subdivision IV. Other officers who have under their charge the State canals, drains and bunds, are four superintending engineers, all at Gorakhpur, three of whom head the construction circles of the Gandak canal and the remaining one the irrigation and planning circle. There are 12 executive engineers, six of whom are posted at Deoria at construction divisions I, III, V and VI, the chaf branch and the Khajuria branch. The remaining are at Gorakhpur with the head construction divisions II, VIII and X, the Madhubani branch, Naraini canal branch and drainage division. Their duties include the supervision and execution of canal works including bridges and the maintenance of canals within their own jurisdictions.

The department is responsible for the utilization of the water resources of the State including irrigation through canals, tube-wells and other sources, planning and construction and maintenance of all irrigation works, including dams, drains, embankments, tube-wells, river training works and pumping schemes, navigation, development of water power, famine relief, flood control and the assessment of irrigation revenue.

Tube-wells

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the irrigation works circle, Gorakhpur, headed by a superintending engineer with headquarters at Gorakhpur and in irrigation division II under an

executive engineer stationed at Deoria who looks after all the State tube-wells in the district who is assisted by five assistant engineers, each having a subdivision under his charge. The assistant engineers are responsible to the divisional officer (executive engineer) for the management of his subdivision. They are also responsible for maintaining in proper order all tube-wells and works in their own subdivisions. The district has 488 tube-wells and a scheme to construct five more by 1974-75 was taken up, of which three have been constructed. Though the scheme is not very paying due to the low rates for irrigation in the district and high electrical energy charges, it may help the district in achieving self-sufficiency in food.

Minor Irrigation

The minor irrigation works of the district, which relate to boring, pumping sets, *rehats*, masonry wells and private tube-wells, are looked after by two junior engineers at the district level. The technical side of the work is supervised by an assistant engineer who works under an executive engineer, both having their headquarters at Gorakhpur. In the day to day administration, the junior engineer work under the district planning officer.

STATE CORPORATIONS

Of the numerous corporations established for the welfare of the people and the proper management of different undertakings, the important ones are the U. P. State road transport corporation (dealt with in Chapter VII), life insurance corporation of India (dealt with in Chapter V), U. P. State electricity board and the Poorvanchal Vikas Nigam. The last two are dealt with below.

U. P. State Electricity Board

There are three divisions of the State electricity board which cover the district, the electricity maintenance division, the rural electrification division and the transmission construction division, each headed by an executive engineer at the district level, the last two having their headquarters at Gorakhpur. These divisions are under the control of the State electricity board headed by a chairman at the State level and under the superintending engineer, electricity maintenance and rural electrification circle, Gorakhpur, at the regional level.

The executive engineers of these divisions are responsible for the generation and supply of electricity for industrial purposes, State tube-wells and private consumers, in addition to the main-

tenance of lines. The district has been divided into five sections, each under the charge of a subdivisional officer (assistant engineer) who supervises the maintenance work of lines within his own subdivision and attends to the complaints of consumers. These engineers are also responsible for the submission of annual estimates for the maintenance of lines and new power houses and line constructions. In addition there are four junior engineers who are in charge of the sections of the subdivisions.

The two executive engineers, rural electrification and transmission construction divisions (with headquarters at Gorakhpur) are responsible for supplying electricity to the rural areas, transmission and constructions of new lines and energising tube-wells in the district.

Poorvanchal Vikas Nigam

With its shares wholly subscribed by the State Government, this corporation (with headquarters at Faizabad) was established in 1971-72, with a limited liability, to undertake the development of industries in the entire eastern region of the State, which has been underdeveloped. Deoria is one of the districts adopted by this corporation for industrial advancement and within two years a sugar factory at Rudrapur and three brick kilns were started by it to implement the effort for progress.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

It is a historical fact that Deoria was ruled successively by the Kosalas, the Mallas, the Nandas, the Mauryas, the Guptas, the Maukharis and other Hindu rulers before it came under the sway of the Muslims. These Hindu kings endeavoured to give considerable autonomy to local institutions like panchayats and functionaries like the *gramika* (village headman) and *gramyavadin* existed under their rule. It may then be reasonable to believe that viable units of self-government existed and functioned in the villages and towns for a long time till under Muslim rule they became obscure for want of State patronage. In the absence of any records it is not possible to delineate the rise and fall of these institutions in the district in those times. Local bodies as they more or less function today, came into being after the British occupation of this region in 1801.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS

The earliest municipal administration in urban areas under British rule was initiated for the purpose of making watch and ward arrangements through the ward committees which were empowered under Regulation XVI of 1814, to levy and collect tax on houses and lands for defraying various expenses. Act XV of 1837 empowered these committees to utilize savings from the Chaukidari tax for the improvements of the towns.

From the forties of the last century the attention of the government was increasingly focussed on the gradual growth and strengthening of urban local self-governing bodies. A number of statutes were passed and more and more financial and other powers were delegated to these bodies and they were made more broad based and more representative. Of these the North Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883, and the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, are the most important ones.

The U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, as amended from time to time, has gradually but systematically reduced and finally abolished the number of official and nominated members in the municipal boards and introduced important changes in their constitution, composition, powers and functions which were brought about after the achievement of Independence in 1947 by an amendment in the Act in 1949.

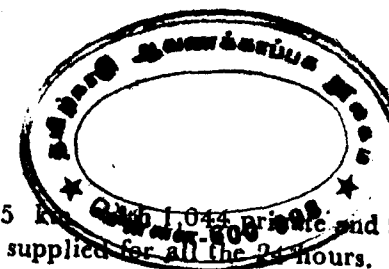
Communal representation in the municipal elections was abolished leaving only two categories of seats, general and for the Scheduled Castes, the method of election being thus democratised. Universal adult franchise was introduced and the system of the nomination of members was abolished. Another amendment in 1953, changed the nomenclature of 'chairman' of the board to 'president' and provided for direct elections to this office on an experimental basis. Later indirect elections were reintroduced, the municipal area being divided into wards from which members were elected who in their turn elected the president. The term of office of the members and the president is normally 5 years but it can be abridged or extended in special cases by the government. Members have the power to oust the president through a vote of no confidence and to elect a new president. The main functions of the board are construction, maintenance and cleaning of public streets and roads and drains, water-supply, lighting of streets and roads, supervision of its educational institutions and upkeep of certain public health and medical services. The main sources of income are octroi on imports, tax on houses and lands, water tax, sale of refuse and compost, licence fees, revenue derived from municipal property and grants and contributions from government. The expenditure is mainly incurred on general administration, water-supply, public health and sanitation, maintenance of public streets and drains, education and lighting.

Deoria

This town was brought under the operation of Act XX of 1856 in 1892 but in 1907 it was made a notified area under Act I of 1900. In 1949 it was upgraded as a municipality under the U. P. Municipalities Act of 1916. According to the census of 1971, the population was 37,823 and the area 6.3 sq. km. in 1971, at the time of the last municipal elections, 17 members were elected to the board.

Finance—The income of the municipal board is derived mainly from sources like government grants and contributions, local rates and taxes, octroi, funds and fees imposed under special Acts, revenue from municipal property and licence fees on vehicles and slaughter houses. This income is utilised after defraying the collection charges, office expenses, street lighting, water-supply, public health and sanitation and education. The total income of the board was Rs 14,95,165 and the expenditure Rs 20,00,181 in the year 1972-73. The receipts and expenditure of the board from 1963-64 to 1972-73 are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme of the municipal board was completed in the town in 1956. The total length of pipelines



laid in the town was 11.55 km. There were 1,044 private and 98 public water connections. Water is supplied for all the 24 hours.

Street Lighting—Electricity was made available in the town in 1956. The board makes arrangements for the lighting of roads, streets and other public places in the town. There were 815 electric street lamps in the year 1973-74 when a sum of Rs 29,041 was spent by the board under this head.

Education—The municipality runs Montessori schools and provides grants to 9 schools. A sum of Rs 49,532 was spent under this head in 1973-74.

Public Health and Medical Services The public health department of the board is looked after by the municipal officer of health. The board has two vaccinators and 10,968 persons were vaccinated in the year 1973-74. The board maintains a maternity centre and a hospital where medicines are distributed free of cost. It also gives aid to an eye hospital and the Baba Raghav Das Kushtha Seva Ashram. The expenditure on public health and medical services was Rs 5,19,124 during the year 1973-74.

Special Achievements—A library containing 1,160 books on different subjects is maintained by the board. There are four public parks and a market in the town which belong to the board and are maintained by it.

Padrauna

The three divisions of the town, Padrauna proper, Sahibganj and Chhaoni, were administered as a single town from 1871 onwards under Act XX of 1856 but in 1950 the town was given the status of a municipality, under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916.

According to the census of 1971, the population of the town was 19,448 and its area 6.89 sq. km. At the time of the last municipal elections, 16 members were elected to the committee.

Finance—The total income of the board during the year 1972-73 was Rs 6,81,423 and the expenditure Rs 5,79,151. The receipts and expenditure of the board from 1963-64 to 1972-73 are given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

Water-supply—The municipal board completed its water-supply scheme for the town in 1956. There were 30 public and 509 private water taps in the city in 1973-74, the total length of pipelines laid in the town being 5,972 km. A sum of Rs 43,531 was spent on this account.

Street Lighting—Electricity was made available in the town in the year 1962. The board has installed 30 electric and 38 kerosene oil lamps for lighting the roads and streets. The expenditure incurred on this account during the year 1973-74 was Rs 13,907.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board employs one vaccinator and some other staff for public health work. During the year 1973-74, Rs 91,982 were spent under this head by the board, the number of persons vaccinated during the year being 6,452.

Gaura Barhaj

Gaura, a suburb of Barhaj, was administered separately under Act XX of 1856 from 1867 to 1908, when it was amalgamated with Barhaj to form a single notified area under Act I of 1900. The place is administered as a municipality under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916. The municipal limits cover an area of 5.10 sq. km., the population of the town being 17,943 (according to the census of 1971). At the time of the last municipal elections 16 members were elected to the municipal committee.

Finance—The receipts and expenditure of the board from 1963-64 to 1967-68 are given in Statement III at the end of the chapter.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme of the board was completed in 1966. There were 68 private and 226 public taps, the total length of pipelines laid in the town being 9,750 m. Nearly 27 litres of water per head per day were supplied in the year 1973-74, a sum of Rs 43,531 being spent on this account in that year.

Street Lighting—The town was electrified in the year 1960 and by 1973 it had 150 electric street lamps installed in the thoroughfares and roads for lighting purposes, a sum of Rs 13,907 being spent under this head in that year.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board maintains dispensaries in the town—seven allopathic, three homoeopathic, one Ayurvedic and one Unani.

TOWN AREAS

The Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856, was enacted to make better provision for the watch and ward "of cities, towns and stations, suburbs and bazaars of the Presidency of Fort William". In the seventies of the last century this Act was extended to the province of Agra and Oudh. The places to which the provisions of this Act

were applied were called Act XX towns, Lar being the first town in the district to come under the operation of this Act in 1871 followed by Rampur Karkhana in 1874. After determining the amount of money needed in each town to maintain chaukidari for watch and ward duties, the residents were required to pay a kind of tax on the basis of circumstance and property. The district magistrate appointed a committee of three to five members for a term of one year for each town from among its citizens. Funds permitting, the committee could also take up the work of sanitation and the general improvement of the town. In 1914, Act XX of 1856 was superseded by the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914, and the towns previously administered as Act XX towns came to be known as 'town areas'. Captainganj was the first town to come under the operation of this Act in the year 1916. Another change made by this Act was to relieve the town area committee of watch and ward duties and to make arrangements for such basic civic services as water-supply, construction and maintenance of roads, street lighting and sanitation.

There are eight town areas in the district administered under the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914. Each town has a committee consisting of a chairman and a number of members, all directly elected by the citizens for a term of 4 years through franchise. The government has power to extend or curtail this term for the purpose of holding fresh elections or in other special circumstances. A member or a chairman may also be removed by the government before the completion of his term, for dereliction of duty or abuse of power. The town area committees are empowered to levy taxes on houses, property and agricultural land situated within the limits of the town area. The main sources of income are grants from the government, the sale proceeds of manure, money obtained from *nazul* property where it exists and contributions from the Zila Parishad.

Some details regarding the town areas in the district appear in the following statement :

Town area and date of creation	Area (in ha.)	Population (census of 1971)	Year of electrification	Year of beginning of water-supply	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)
Bhatpar Rani (1971)	74	6,031	Not available	—	25,103	25,399
Captainganj (1916)	1,176	99,503	1964	Not available	54,264	32,645
Kasia (1971)	182	4,136	1972	—	41,644	39,609
Lar (1871)	1,134	96,170	1958	—	51,929	36,859
Rampur Karkhana (1874)	174	4,612	Not available	1974	12,158	12,678
Ramkola (1958)	711	7,057	1964	1958	54,393	78,000
Rudrapur (1967)	543	12,681	1958	—	22,311	49,679
Scorahi (1971)	191	8,005	Not available	—	37,974	22,991

The income and expenditure of the town areas from 1963-64 to 1972-73 are given in Statement IV to XI at the end of the chapter.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

In ancient times the village panchayat, which was an assembly of the village elders, had administrative and judicial powers and exercised full control over the village. During British rule these panchayats lost all their powers and prestige though they continued to survive and to control the social life of the village community. The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was passed after Independence. It revived and reorganized the ancient system on the modern pattern of elected *gaon* panchayats and delegated to them adequate powers for the administration of villages. Members of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated by the district magistrate from among the *panchs* elected to the *gaon* panchayat and the former elect a *sarpanch* and a *sahayak sarpanch* from amongst themselves. The *sarpanch*, as the name denotes, is the chairman of the *nyaya* panchayat. Cases are heard by benches of three to five *panchs* each. The term of office of these benches is a year.

With the community development block scheme, which was initiated in 1952 with the launching of the planning and development programme, block development committees were set up but they were only advisory bodies meant to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks for the successful and speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes. The government reorganized the local self-governing system at the rural and district levels and enacted the U. P. Zila Parishads Act, 1958, under which Antarim Zila Parishads were established in 1958 replacing the old district boards which had been set up in British times under the U. P. District Boards Act, 1922. Subsequently, by the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961, these committees were given wider executive and financial powers. With the passing of this Act a three-tier organization—the *gaon* panchayats at the base, the Kshettra Samitis in the middle and the Zila Parishads at the apex was introduced.

Zila Parishad

The district boards came into existence on February 1, 1923, and were established in accordance with the United Provinces District Boards Act of 1922. For municipal purposes Deoria was a subboard of the Gorakhpur district board till 1948, the district board then consisted of 40 members headed by the president, with 11 reserved seats,

5 for Muslims and 6 for the Scheduled Castes. The Act of 1922, together with a number of amendments made from time to time, governed the working of the district boards but every district board was dissolved on April 29, 1958, and in its place an interim body, the Antarim Zila Parishad, came into being. The district magistrate became the Adhyaksha (president) and all the district-level officers became its members. The arrangement lasted till June, 1963, when the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961, was enacted and the Zila Parishad was formed.

The Parishad consists of 103 members. The term of the members and the Adhyaksha is 5 years, which may be extended by the State Government in special circumstances. Pending a review of the constitution and functions of the Zila Parishad, the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads (Alpakalik Vyavastha Adhyadesh), 1970, was promulgated on March, 23, 1970, under which the powers and functions of the Zila Parishad were vested in the district magistrate for a period of two years.

The functions of the Zila Parishad include all those of the old district board such as the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, etc., and the additional ones of the co-ordination of the activities of the *vikas khand*s (development blocks), implementation of interblock schemes, utilization of funds allotted by the government for purposes of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, co-operation, village industries, public health and the education and welfare of children, the youth and women. The major sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical and public health, public works and fairs, etc.

Education—Institutions up to the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of the Zila Parishad till June 24, 1972, when they were taken over by the State Government. The junior Basic schools, both for boys and girls, maintained by the Zila Parishad, numbered 1,958 and the senior Basic stage schools 186. The number of students studying in these institutions was 36,878 in 1973-74.

Medical and Public Health—There were nine Ayurvedic, seven allopathic, one homeopathic and three Unani dispensaries maintained by the Parishad in the year 1973-74 and nearly 1,35,705 patients were treated in them. The expenditure incurred by the Parishad on medical and public health activities amounted to Rs 2,67,419.

Public Works—The Parishad constructed 411.45 km. of metalled and 332.40 km. of unmetalled roads and in addition 346 culverts, seven ghats and one bridge.

The statement below shows the major heads of income and expenditure of the Parishad in 1973-74 :

Income	Amount (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	Amount (in Rs)
Opening balance	84,13,056	Block building	40,000
Block building	40,000	Public works	9,00,967
Public works	21,481	Public health	64,273
Licence fees	16,928	Education	78,39,994
Education	49,40,172	Medicine	2,03,146
Fairs and exhibitions	1,362	Animal husbandry	36,593
Medicine	1,050	Horticulture	3,417
Local rates	3,34,169	Administration	1,15,606
Other sources	33,17,532	Other items	37,69,345
Total	1,73,01,173	Total	1,29,73,343

The details of income and expenditure of Zila Parishad from 1963-64 to 1972-73 are given in Statement XII (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

Kshettra Samitis

The membership of a Kshettra Samiti consists of all *pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas*, chairmen of the town area and notified area committees within the block, five representatives of the co-operative societies of the block and all members of the Central and State legislatures representing or residing in any part of the block. The *samiti* also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The Kshettra Samiti is headed by a *pramukh* and two *uppramukhs* elected by the members. The normal tenure of the *samiti* is five years which may be shortened or extended by the government in special circumstances. Every *samiti* constitutes a *karya karini* (executive) and *utpadan* (production) and *kalyan* (welfare) *samiti* headed by the *pramukh* and two *uppramukhs* respectively. Since 1964 the services of the officers and other staff posted at the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of the Kshettra Samiti. The *kshettra vikas adhikari* (block development officer) functions as the executive officer of the *kshettra samiti* and is

responsible for the implementation of the plans and programmes of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, minor irrigation works, public health, maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village and cottage industries and co-operative institutions. The *samiti* acts as a co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within its jurisdiction in the implementation of schemes and programmes. On the basis of the elections to the village panchayat in 1972, the 29 *kshettra samitis* were reconstituted after the elections of their *pramukhs* and *uppramukhs* and other elected members.

Gaon Panchayats

The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, brought four institutions into existence in each village—the *gaon sabha* (legislative wing), *gaon panchayat* (executive wing), the *naya panchayat* (judicial arm) and the *bhumi prabandhak samiti* (land management committee).

A *gaon sabha* consists of all adults ordinarily residing within the jurisdiction of the *sabha* with a minimum population of 250 persons. It passes its own budget and is responsible for the construction and repairs village roads, the maintenance of birth and death registers, provision for water-supply, prevention of epidemics, regulation of markets and the welfare of children, the youth and women.

The number of *gaon sabhas* was initially 1,361 the figure going up to 2,626 by 1971. The *pradhan* (president) and the *uppradhan* (vice-president) are elected by the members of the *gaon panchayat* from amongst themselves, each for a term of five years. They are *ex-officio pradhans* and *uppradhans* of the *gaon panchayats* also and have a right to take part in the proceedings of the panchayat. The *pradhan* is not deemed to be a member of the *gaon panchayat* and is not entitled to vote except in case of a tie, when the *pradhan* has the casting vote.

The functions of the *gaon panchayat* include the construction, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of sanitation, prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, land or other property belonging to the *sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provision for drinking water and the welfare of women and children.

Financially, for the achievement of these objectives, the *gaon panchayats* depend largely on voluntary contributions and to some extent on government grants.

The powers to levy taxes, rates and fees to augment their resources to fulfil their role as effective instruments of social change and rural reconstruction, have been authorised by an ordinance promulgated in November, 1972, which empowers the *gaon sabhas* to borrow money from the State Government, any financial corporation, or scheduled bank, the Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Bank or the District Co-operative Bank to carry out their programmes and activities of rural reconstruction.

The income and expenditure of the *gaon* panchayats in the district during the year 1973-74 was as follows :

Income	Amount (in Rs)	Expenditure	Amount (in Rs)
Tax	5,66,114	Construction	4,73,569
Land management	1,10,971	Office administration	84,108
Grants-in-aid	19,275	Other items	75,994
Other sources	1,12,082		
Total	8,09,142	Total	6,33,671

Some of the main achievements of the *gaon* panchayats of the district during the five years ended 1973-74 are mentioned below :

Achievements	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
Roads constructed (kutchra)	4 km.	1.62 km.	41 km.	134 km.	88 km.
Roads repaired	1,125 km.	399 km.	62 km.	42 km.	123 km.
Culverts constructed (total length)	13 km.	14 km.	6 km.	44 km.	46 km.
Kharanjis (brick-laid construction)	47 sq. km.	250 sq. km.	184 sq. km.	15,210 sq. km.	1,965 sq. km.
Wells constructed	16	7	—	204	57
Wells repaired	56	100	95	26	192
Nullahs constructed (length)	409 km.	73 km.	77 km.	120 km.	61 km.

STATEMENT I (A)

Receipts (in Rs); Municipal Board, Deoria

Reference Page No. 200

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property etc. apart from taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	4,79,222	2,055	—	1,14,056	29,863	—	6,25,196
1964-65	4,91,274	—	1,33,582	1,50,022	49,734	—	8,24,612
1965-66	5,45,220	—	1,71,034	2,77,665	33,711	—	10,27,630
1966-67	6,09,983	—	1,29,790	1,80,585	35,627	—	9,55,985
1967-68	6,72,886	—	2,08,029	1,81,063	45,489	—	11,07,467
1968-69	8,71,503	2,582	2,37,646	2,57,069	3,212	—	13,71,952
1969-70	9,63,407	7,891	2,00,330	3,30,777	—	—	15,02,405
1970-71	7,43,662	1,832	1,98,959	2,78,231	79,229	—	13,01,913
1971-72	7,03,199	1,600	2,03,363	3,22,286	1,51,633	—	13,82,101
1972-73	7,71,729	499	2,79,913	2,84,104	1,58,920	—	14,95,165

Expenditure (in Rs), Municipal Board, Deoria

Reference Page No. 200

Year	General administra- tion and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and con- venience	Public instruc- tions	Contribu- tions	Miscellaneous	Other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1963-64	1,27,488	48,017	3,64,587	—	5,275	64,535	94,222	7,04,124
1964-65	1,30,938	36,241	4,93,326	—	—	65,351	57,126	7,83,002
1965-66	1,29,775	33,776	5,77,286	—	—	66,863	71,003	8,78,703
1966-67	1,34,851	35,834	8,03,212	—	—	45,543	88,078	11,07,518
1967-68	1,67,882	41,214	8,31,505	—	—	20,242	80,055	11,40,898
1968-69	1,73,472	53,398	10,88,367	—	9,030	2,23,953	56,451	16,04,671
1969-70	1,67,340	47,490	9,03,750	—	5,250	30,479	2,65,365	14,19,674
1870-71	1,63,215	1,34,424	8,48,866	—	7,200	76,833	1,84,233	14,14,771
1971-72	2,21,215	26,905	8,14,094	—	8,700	1,02,020	57,763	12,30,697
1972-73	3,00,330	51,961	9,51,139	—	2,500	43,055	6,51,196	20,00,181

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT II (A)

CH. XIV. LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

Receipts (in Rs), Municipal Board, Padrauna

Reference Page No. 201

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property etc. apart from taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	—	—	1,76,698	37,316	22,546	1,37,923	3,74,483
1964-65	—	—	2,24,551	1,46,215	8,849	2,61,599	6,41,214
1965-66	—	—	2,33,389	88,902	8,962	3,45,311	6,76,564
1966-67	—	—	4,69,689	62,589	28,680	53,787	6,14,745
1967-68	—	—	2,52,694	1,01,393	79,222	3,31,134	7,64,443
1968-69	—	30	3,11,711	1,12,487	67,186	2,83,898	7,75,312
1969-70	—	84	3,09,703	80,764	1,73,348	3,22,194	8,86,093
1970-71	—	22	3,10,220	90,808	12,402	2,43,767	6,57,219
1971-72	—	22	3,44,521	90,559	18,749	1,62,274	6,16,125
1972-73	—	12	4,03,308	54,104	90,390	1,33,609	6,81,423

STATEMENT II (B)
Expenditure (in Rs), Municipal Board, Padarna

Reference Page No. 201

Year	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public in- structions	Contribu- tions	Miscellaneous	Other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1963-64	74,757	11,734	1,12,641	47,151	249	28,257	20,521	2,95,410
1964-65	60,012	12,649	3,54,570	33,642	—	21,553	25,621	5,08,048
1965-66	64,380	14,894	3,25,200	29,905	—	29,475	80,596	5,44,450
1966-67	67,157	19,798	2,59,830	48,330	—	23,066	95,546	5,14,227
1967-68	79,437	15,644	3,81,383	63,192	3,900	26,168	1,03,019	6,72,743
1968-69	82,318	13,892	3,11,144	28,959	1,611	32,373	12,109	4,82,406
1969-70	79,918	24,612	1,36,069	40,447	3,022	43,897	2,55,489	5,83,454
1970-71	84,257	60,054	2,23,507	42,929	1,501	41,926	91,889	5,45,463
1971-72	93,253	41,932	1,97,654	49,375	5,000	56,206	86,981	5,30,401
1972-73	1,11,629	44,548	2,05,046	36,689	—	49,258	81,981	5,79,151

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT III (A)
Receipts (in Rs), Municipal Board, Gaura Barhaj

Reference Page No. 202

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property etc. apart from taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscella- neous	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	49,323	2,104	4,427	32,085	4,883	2,02,804	2,95,626
1964-65	44,767	2,416	8,159	86,443	3,693	1,85,020	3,30,498
1965-66	78,000	2,900	11,100	1,00,600	6,700	2,250	2,01,550
1966-67	22,029	2,447	2,467	10,268	943	200	47,354
1967-68	68,066	3,344	20,184	56,077	1,862	300	1,49,833

STATEMENT III (B)
Expenditure (in Rs), Municipal Board, Gaura Barhaj

Reference Page No. 202

Year	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public ins- tructions	Contribu- tions	Miscella- neous	Other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1963-64	30,761	9,566	2,01,313	43,003	32,512	8,171	4,121	3,29,447
1964-65	25,252	10,083	1,86,326	2,41,826	6,353	1,516	—	4,71,356
1965-66	39,594	9,120	15,445	82,659	15,250	5,926	—	1,67,994
1966-67	17,869	5,057	1,511	28,716	3,890	3,121	—	60,164
1967-68	27,734	15,708	21,329	94,577	22,687	5,283	3,517	1,91,338

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT IV
Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Bhatpar Rani*

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)			Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1963-64									
1964-65									
1965-66									
1966-67									
1967-68									
1968-69									
1969-70									
1970-71									
1971-72	6,000	6,787	14,010	26,797	—	—	—	—	—
1972-73	10,000	1,785	15,103	26,888	1,049	2,168	6,845	14,167	24,229

Not available

* Bhatpar Rani was raised to the status of Town Area in 1971-72

STATEMENT V

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Caplainganj

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)			Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1963-64	4,097	4,140	2,878	11,115	1,573	1,625	1,667	4,333	9,198
1964-65	6,746	2,221	3,187	12,154	2,059	1,492	1,852	3,368	8,771
1965-66	2,411	1,331	2,305	6,047	369	1,296	—	4,006	5,671
1966-67	—	—	75	75	—	—	—	765	765
1967-68	1,953	600	2,075	4,628	1,377	1,055	—	2,918	5,350
1968-69	1,382	600	7,302	9,284	987	2,031	3,402	3,657	10,077
1969-70	27,250	600	9,614	37,464	2,634	5,004	—	4,819	12,457
1970-71	19,115	3,717	10,793	33,625	4,869	3,192	21,480	8,925	38,466
1971-72	70,281	976	12,425	83,682	960	3,067	19,257	28,667	51,951
1972-73	4,083	4,929	24,433	33,445	1,774	5,540	24,467	36,658	68,439

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT VI

*Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Kasia**

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)			Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other Receipts	Total Receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1963-64									
1964-65									
1965-66									
1966-67									
1967-68									
1968-69									
1969-70									
1970-71									
1971-72	26,000	4,354	293	30,647	—	—	—	929	929
1972-73	19,200	15,069	7,377	41,646	600	—	20,000	19,009	39,609

*Kasia was raised to the status of Town Area in 1971-72

STATEMENT VII

218

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Lar

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)				Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1963-64	—	5,865	26,539	32,404	825	4,105	3,233	4,979	19,142	
1964-65	20,000	4,307	10,178	34,485	812	3,341	2,411	4,657	11,221	
1965-66	5,000	6,251	9,179	20,440	1,039	4,529	10,343	7,280	29,191	
1966-67	—	6,370	7,948	14,318	909	5,175	13,559	5,593	25,236	
1967-68	—	5,277	6,450	11,727	946	5,358	10,888	3,293	20,485	
1968-69	1,500	9,468	6,661	31,129	1,301	6,420	30	5,769	13,520	
1969-70	26,000	5,899	6,815	38,714	1,272	5,698	21,929	5,174	34,073	
1970-71	17,000	8,831	9,007	35,338	1,408	7,222	24,590	6,200	39,420	
1971-72	21,000	8,333	13,801	45,134	1,264	7,104	14,236	9,457	32,061	
1972-73	18,000	13,658	14,969	46,627	2,010	9,078	38,494	44,078	93,660	

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT VIII

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Rampur Karkhana

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)				Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other receipts	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1963-64	—	3,882	800	4,682	—	—	—	—	—	
1964-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1965-66	55,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1966-67	5,000	3,548	5,057	13,605	—	—	—	—	14,121	
1967-68	5,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1968-69	—	6,713	5,540	12,253	708	559	44,656	740	46,663	
1969-70	5,000	5,975	2,401	13,376	708	900	3,230	7,747	12,585	
1970-71	—	—	—	9,703	—	—	—	—	6,721	
1971-72	Not available									
1972-73										

CH. XIV—LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

219

STATEMENT IX

220

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Ramkola

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)				Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1963-64	2,000	19,774	5,308	27,082	991	3,964	6,049	9,635	20,639	
1964-65	5,000	17,912	6,200	29,112	1,297	4,767	13,346	8,988	27,798	
1965-66	30,000	19,214	19,147	68,361	1,457	5,867	3,803	22,408	33,545	
1966-67	5,000	11,872	35,976	52,848	1,673	4,989	7,288	39,874	53,824	
1967-68	—	14,510	4,128	18,738	1,927	5,382	27,260	8,924	43,493	
1968-69	—	17,249	8,094	25,343	2,809	6,079	15,063	13,222	37,173	
1969-70	36,000	20,090	22,176	78,266	1,563	7,879	7,532	17,097	34,071	
1970-71	17,500	17,806	19,582	54,828	2,745	9,038	41,546	14,849	68,178	
1971-72	51,000	13,191	25,300	89,491	1,674	7,530	25,619	20,135	54,958	
1972-73	10,000	18,681	25,713	54,394	3,960	12,603	25,215	61,598	1,03,176	

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT X

CH. XIV—LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Rudrapur

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)					Expenditure (in Rs)				
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1963-64	3,000	6,578	7,283	16,869	1,159	3,512	8,614	5,696	18,981	
1964-65	20,000	7,488	6,287	33,775	1,454	3,982	2,032	5,563	13,031	
1965-66	5,000	3,170	6,575	14,745	1,195	3,823	4,618	5,506	15,142	
1966-67	25,000	2,545	7,963	35,508	1,417	3,863	9,338	4,743	19,361	
1967-68	5,000	2,839	20,027	27,866	1,534	6,263	13,482	6,519	27,798	
1968-69	—	7,377	13,190	20,567	1,479	6,489	25,129	7,692	40,789	
1969-70	—	5,760	9,715	15,475	724	6,899	477	22,338	30,438	
1970-71	—	19,634	8,829	28,463	851	8,747	—	8,675	18,273	
1271-72	15,000	5,940	43,223	64,163	643	13,075	4,862	4,854	23,434	
1972-73	10,000	1,125	11,186	22,311	1,079	15,403	22,253	11,040	49,775	

221

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Seorahi*

Reference Page No. 204

Year	Receipts (in Rs)			Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1963-64									
1964-65									
1965-66									
1966-67									
1967-68									
1968-69									
1969-70									
1970-71									
1971-72	6,000	—	22,004	28,004	535	—	—	4,138	4,673
1972-73	10,000	—	39,175	49,175	2,125	—	—	21,867	23,992

* Seorahi was raised to the status of Town Area in 1971-72

Not available

STATEMENT XII (A)

Receipts (in Rs), Zila Parishad, Deoria

Reference Page No. 206

Year	Government grants	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Fairs and exhibitions	Miscellaneous	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	38,92,498	3,03,973	1,286	15,740	319	1,49,839	43,63,655
1964-65	50,26,891	3,23,628	808	13,349	643	2,27,240	55,92,559
1965-66	70,40,173	3,19,375	1,052	21,523	640	1,97,767	75,80,530
1966-67	78,36,251	3,23,638	6,223	13,767	705	2,17,960	83,98,544
1967-68	78,94,969	2,84,947	2,454	8,652	1,400	2,91,082	84,83,504
1968-69	92,17,386	3,07,468	2,196	18,388	3,673	3,42,418	98,91,529
1969-70	1,13,91,289	3,92,418	4,619	19,981	3,686	2,25,875	1,20,37,868
1970-71	1,15,53,503	5,29,292	4,673	22,960	1,731	5,14,192	1,24,26,351
1971-72	1,78,51,440	3,55,268	4,056	27,051	2,141	5,11,263	1,87,51,219
1972-73	66,68,810	1,84,438	4,380	15,346	3,938	20,11,205	88,88,117

STATEMENT XII (B)
Expenditure (in Rs), Zila Parishad, Deoria

Reference Page No. 206

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Public works	Fairs and exhibitions	Miscellaneous	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	77,852	34,09,659	20,328	1,34,470	—	94,428	37,36,737
1964-65	86,393	44,53,526	2,01,728	2,20,230	—	1,49,407	51,11,284
1965-66	94,839	57,29,761	2,04,837	5,56,241	—	1,10,593	66,96,271
1966-67	1,04,574	70,68,646	2,01,847	14,83,905	—	1,41,637	90,00,609
1967-68	89,480	75,61,722	2,23,260	13,55,124	—	1,31,171	93,60,757
1968-69	1,05,108	79,58,227	2,27,973	10,20,123	—	48,763	93,55,194
1969-70	1,12,976	1,01,99,228	2,67,785	6,18,651	—	23,372	1,12,27,012
1970-71	1,02,985	96,54,924	2,44,449	3,10,982	—	31,267	1,03,44,607
1971-72	1,03,365	1,13,55,217	2,41,854	12,32,624	—	14,67,507	1,54,00,567
1972-73	1,07,449	78,48,151	3,04,017	36,32,123	—	1,08,595	1,20,00,345

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Historical Background

In ancient times education was imparted by sages and gurus in their *ashramas* (forest hermitages) to young boys. The association of the sages Vasishtha and Parasurama with the district confirms that the importance of education was recognised in this region very early. Such sages and gurus usually had a large number of pupils in their *ashramas*. Good education was regarded as the most important factor in moulding the life of the child and it was considered a necessary prelude to a refined, mature and strong human character.¹ The Hindu *Sastras* enjoined a life of celibacy and studies up to the age of 25 for all those who could afford the time. Education began at home and continued in the *gurukulas* and *ashramas* under the personal care and guidance of gurus.²

The advent of the great religious reformers like Mahavira and Buddha in the 6th century B. C. brought about an upheaval in the spiritual and academic spheres in and around the region which now comprises the district. Consequently a number of religious establishments in which provision for imparting education was also made, came into existence as confirmed by the inscriptions found during the course of excavations at different places in the district. The remains of the Buddhist monasteries at Kushinagar, Sonnag, Sahiya, Padrauna, etc., are silent witnesses of their past academic eminence. The Buddhist system of education concentrated mainly on the cultivation of a sense of collective and community life and universal brotherhood among the pupils. Fazilnagar, the original Pavapuri, flourished as a Jain centre of learning.

The destruction of these ancient educational centres during Muslim rule caused irreparable damage to the academic legacies of this region but in course of time smaller institutions of learning arose which taught elementary Sanskrit, grammar, astrology and mathematics and trained the pupils for the priesthood as well. When the Muslims came to settle in this area they opened *maktabs* which generally emphasised the study of Arabic through recitation of the *Koran*.

1. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, p. 588
2. Altekar, A. S. : *Education in Ancient India*, p. 264

When the British took this area over, education was in a bad and backward condition, as the old institutions had suffered greatly due to frequent changes of rulers and ravages by notorious tribes like the Banjaras. In many parts of the Gorakhpur district, in which the area of Deoria lay, there was not a single school and except for the children of the highest families or those born in literate families,¹ others hardly had any education. There were some indigenous schools of an elementary type which taught Hindi, Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic. The Kaithi script was in use by pupils and arithmetic (stressing the multiplication tables) and keeping accounts was taught to the boys of the trading classes. Artisans trained their sons at home in their own profession such as carpentry, smithy, sewing, etc. Girls' education was not in vogue to any great extent during the mediæval period, there being only a few schools for girls who usually learnt the household skills at home. The Christian missionaries were the first to undertake the cause of education in the area covered by the district but no headway was made till 1856 when *tahsili* schools were started in Salempur and Pipraich. The work was interrupted because of the upheaval of 1857 but was recommenced in 1859. The courses of study in these schools were reading and writing Hindi and Urdu, keeping accounts, mensuration of land according to the Indian system, geography, history, etc. Anglo-vernacular schools were established at Deoria, Rudrapur, Padrauna, Barhaji, Tamkuhi and Salempur in 1867-68 and a *tahsili* school at Ramkola. In the beginning of the 20th century there were about 55 upper primary and 88 lower primary schools which were established in different years in the district. Except for the opening of these schools, education made no appreciable progress for a long time. Enough money was not forthcoming for educational purposes and public interest also took a long time to awaken. In 1908 there was an anglo-vernacular school in Deoria and one private school in Tamkuhi which was maintained by the Tamkuhi estate. It was not till 1946, when the district came into existence as a separate entity, that an organised attempt was made to start schools in the area to meet the needs of the people.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

In 1951, male literacy was 13.2 per cent and female 1.7 per cent. The subsequent decade recorded an increase in both and in 1961, the percentage was 24.4 and 3.9 respectively, the percentage in respect of the total population of the district being 14.1 as against the State average of 17.7. The district ranked 40th in literacy in

1. Nevill, H. R. : *Gorakhpur—A Gazetteer, Vol. XXI of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh*, pp. 165, 166

the State. The following statement mentions the educational standards of literate population according to the census of 1961 :

Educational standard	No. of persons	Males	Females
Urban			
* Literate without educational level	13,911	9,344	4,567
Primary or junior Basic	4,832	3,778	1,054
Matriculation or higher secondary	3,357	3,132	225
Technical diploma not equal to degree	80	70	10
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	105	99	6
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	616	587	29
Engineering	3	3	—
Medicine	22	19	3
Agriculture	51	51	—
Technology	1	1	—
Teaching	71	54	17
Rural			
Literate without educational level	2,04,477	1,71,825	32,652
Primary or junior Basic	82,360	75,332	7,028
Matriculation and above	25,563	25,094	469

In 1971, the percentage of literacy rose to 29.38 for males and 6.03 for females.

General Education

General education now includes education from the pre-junior Basic or nursery to the university stage. In 1972-73 there were in the district a municipal pre-junior Basic school and a number of private pre-junior Basic schools commonly known as nursery schools. The number of junior Basic schools for boys was 1,708 and that for girls 317. Of the senior Basic schools, 265 were for boys and 40 for girls. There were 108 higher secondary schools including 10 for girls. There were 8 institutions providing education up to the degree and post-graduate levels.

The statement below gives the enrolment in various institutions during 1973-74 :

Institution	Number of schools	Number of students
Junior Basic	2,025	4,21,166
Senior Basic	305	56,065
Higher secondary (up to class X) for boys	35	17,514
Higher secondary (up to class X) for girls	8	2,500
Higher secondary (up to class XII) for boys	63	58,852
Higher secondary (up to class XII) for girls	2	1,530

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior education caters to children up to six years of age. A number of these institutions were managed by registered and un-registered private bodies in the district. The nagarpalika, Deoria, established a nursery school in 1953; its enrolment was 290 in 1973-74. The Seth Ghansyam Das Khetan Bal Vidya Mandir, Padrauna, was opened in 1964 and had 235 pupils in 1973-74. The Shishu Mandir, Kushinagar, established in 1969, had 158 pupils in that year. The Shishu Mandir, Barhaj, established in 1972, had 153 pupils in 1973-74. The Chacha Nehru nursery school, Deoria, started in 1972, registered 147 children in 1973-74.

Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Basic education, according to the Wardha scheme enunciated by Mahatma Gandhi, was adopted by the State education department in 1939 with certain modifications. In this district, as elsewhere in the State, Basic education consists of a course of education extending over eight years, the junior Basic school covering classes I to V and the senior Basic school constituting classes VI to VIII.

The Wardha scheme implied provision of free and compulsory education for eight years with the child's mother-tongue to be used as the medium of instruction. The process of education centered round some useful handicraft or occupation to enable the child to produce simultaneously with his learning from the moment he began his training and so that every school could be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency, Basic education was nationalised through the Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam

in July 25, 1972. The management of Basic schools was accordingly transferred from the local bodies to the board of Basic education headed by a State-level director. 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. In 1973-74, the number of municipal junior Basic schools was 17 for boys and 15 for girls with 9,680 boys and 7,881 girls on roll respectively. The number of junior Basic schools under the Zila Parishad was 1,373 for boys and 285 for girls with 2,23,406 boys and 1,45,473 girls respectively. There were 318 schools of this category recognised by the Parishad for boys with 21,964 students and 17 for girls with 12,763 students. In that year there were 7 senior Basic schools of the municipal board including 3 for girls with 1,090 boys and 110 girls on roll respectively and the number of Zila Parishad schools was 186 with 11,491 students including 33 for girls having 561 pupils. In addition there were 112 recognised schools with 43,374 students including 2 for girls. The junior Basic schools for boys had 6,224 teachers and the girls' 875. The number of teachers in the senior Basic schools for boys and girls was 1,462 and 188 respectively. The total expenditure on education was Rs 71,50,959 for the district in 1973-74.

Re-orientation Scheme

This scheme was introduced in the district in 1954 to impart training to students in agriculture and local crafts and to inculcate in them a sense of dignity for labour. Only teachers specially trained in agriculture, rural economics and veterinary science were employed and were paid by the State Government. This scheme is in force in 25 junior high schools and 62 higher secondary schools of the district. Nearly 158.21 ha. (391.54 acres) of land is attached to these institutions which yielded an income of Rs 61,722 in 1972-73.

Secondary Education

With the establishment of the board of high school and intermediate education, U. P., in 1921, the high school examination began to be held at the end of class X and the intermediate examination at the end of class XII. Secondary education in the district is supervised by a district inspector of schools and his staff.

The district had 53 higher secondary schools up to class XII for boys and 2 for girls. The number of higher secondary schools up to class X was 45 for boys and 8 for girls. Except for a few run by the government, these institutions are managed by private agencies with financial aid from the government. To encourage female edu-

cation, the State Government has made girls' education free up to the high school (class ten) since January 1, 1965.

Some details regarding the progress of general and higher secondary education in the district is given in Statement I & II at the end of the chapter.

EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

To impart education to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes, the State Government has provided many incentives like exemption from tuition fees, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for purchase of books and stationery, etc. Other facilities made available to them are free boarding and lodging and relaxation of the upper age limit for admission to certain educational institutions.

The number of such students receiving assistance in different categories of schools in 1972-73 is given in the following statement :

Schools	Scheduled Castes		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Junior Basic	271	73	—	61
Senior Basic	1,252	81	449	104
Higher secondary (up to class X)	1,456	55	213	65
Higher secondary (up to class XII)	1,004	12	85	6

Higher Education

The district had 8 degree and post-graduate colleges in 1972-73.

The Buddha post-graduate college, Kushinagar, established in 1954 by the efforts of Baba Raghav Das, is one of the oldest degree colleges of the district. It was previously affiliated to the Agra University for the degree of Bachelor of Arts. It also taught some Asian languages such as Chinese and Tibetan but this was dropped when the college was affiliated to the Gorakhpur university in 1957. It was raised to post-graduate status in 1972. In 1972-73 there were, 1,251 students with 1,240 boys and 11 girls on roll and 58 teachers including a woman.



Buddha Post-graduate College, Kushinagar

The Baba Raghav Das post-graduate college, Deoria, was founded by the Shiksha Parishad, Deoria, in 1954. It offers courses for the Bachelor's degree in arts, science, agriculture and education. The college was raised to post-graduate status in agriculture in 1971 becoming the first such institution in east U. P. It provides hostel facilities. In 1972-73 the number of students was 1,078 and that of the teachers 58.

The Swami Devanand degree college, Math Lar, was founded by Swami Chandra Shekhar Giri in 1964. It prepares students for the Bachelor's degree in arts and science. The number of students during 1972-73 was 339 with 328 boys and 11 girls, the number of teachers being 19.

The Madan Mohan degree college, Bhatpar Rani, was established by Purshottam Das Tandon in 1946 as an intermediate college, the degree courses of the Bachelor of Arts being introduced in 1963. In 1972-73 it had 263 students including 6 girls on roll and 40 teachers including 2 who were women.

The Sant Vinoba degree college, Deoria, was started in 1961 by Nand Kishore Tiwari. It prepares students for the Bachelor's degree in arts and law. In 1973-74 the total enrolment of the institution was 1,633 which included 90 girls. The strength of the teaching staff was 22.

The Ramji Sahai degree college, Rudrapur, was founded in 1970 by Ramji Sahai. It prepares students for the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1973-74 the number of students on roll was 156 which included 8 girls and the number of teachers 8.

The Udit Narain post-graduate college, Padrauna, was started as a junior high school in 1933. It was raised to degree status in 1962, adding studies for the B.Sc. degree in 1965 and for the M. A. in 1972. The college has a library containing 12,109 books. The number of students during 1973-74 was 674 which included 34 girls and that of the teachers was 81.

The Baba Raghav Das Bhagwan Das, degree college, Barhaj, was established in 1970 in memory of Paramhansa Baba Raghav Das (known as the Gandhi of Uttar Pradesh). In 1973-74 it had 213 students and 7 teachers.

Professional and Technical Education

Professional and technical education is provided by a few institutions in the district which are mostly for teachers.

232

DEORIA DISTRICT

The Government normal school, Padrauna, which was founded in 1948, awards the Basic teachers certificate, the period of training being one year. A junior high school is attached to it as a practising school. In 1973-74 the number of trainees was 97.

The Government normal school, Barhaj, was established in 1959, to train students for the Hindustani teachers certificate examination. It was converted into Basic normal school in 1967 and now it awards the Basic teachers certificate. The course is of one year's duration. The number of pupil teachers trained was 100.

The industrial training institute of Deoria was established in 1963 and has been functioning as a professional institute of technical education. The trades in which it gives training are those of electrician, fitter, carpenter, electronics, wireman, moulder, refrigeration, stenographer, etc. The trainees are awarded a national trade certificate on the successful completion of their training. In 1973-74 the number of trainees was 790.

The Rajkiya Sevayojana Prashikshan Kendra, Majhuli Raj, was established in 1964 with the object of training untrained teachers of the junior Basic schools. Arrangement exists with the Rajya Shiksha Sanshan, U. P. Allahabad, for the theory examination and a month's training is given in the institute for sitting for the practical examination. It awards the Basic teachers certificate. The number of pupil teachers in 1972-73 was 242 which included 84 girls.

Oriental Education

During 1973-74 there were 37 Sanskrit *pathshalas* in the district which were affiliated to the Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Varanasi. The details of these institutions are given in Statement III at the end of the chapter.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education in the district is organised under the state planning department. Provision has been made for running night schools in 500 villages. In addition a private organisation run by Literacy House, Lucknow, is also carrying out the programme of adult literacy and education in the district.

SOCIAL EDUCATION

The Bal Sadan, run by the Samaj Kalyan Vibhag of Uttar Pradesh, was established in Deoria in 1966. It aimed at providing

free education to orphans up to the intermediate standard. They are admitted at the age of five and given free boarding, lodging and clothes throughout their stay. A sum of Rs 500 is given to each student to give him a start in life after he completes his education. The number of students rehabilitated in 1974-75 was 110 which included 8 girls.

FINE ARTS

Art and Architecture

The ancient ruins of the district have yielded artistic remains in the form of stone images of Sankara, Parvati, Ganesa, Vishnu, some Jain *tirthankaras* and Buddha. One is a mutilated black stone image, about 3 m. high of the seated Buddha, locally known as Matha Kunwar, in the *bhumisparsha mudra* (earth-touching posture) under a *peepal* tree, which is ascribed to the reign of Kanishka. The most remarkable find is the colossal *parinirvana* image of Buddha at Kushinagar. It is a fine example of the Mathura style of sculpture of the Gupta period and measures about 7 m. in length. The figure is reclining on its right side with the right hand placed under the head and the left stretched on the thigh with one foot placed on the other. The other beautiful piece is the four-armed statue of Vishnu which was found in the vicinity of Rudrapur. A number of other pieces of sculpture testify to the glorious age to which they belonged. The ornamental bricks excavated in large numbers from the ruins of ancient buildings of different periods, indicate the artistic achievements of the people of Kushinagar. Local talent also found expression through terracotta sculpture. A massive female figure with a bird in its lap, representing the mother goddess, is a typical example of this art. Terracotta horses and elephants seen in heaps under *peepal* trees, are also an expression of the artistic leanings and skill of the common people of the district.

Folk Music and Dance

Common folk songs like Phaag, Chaiti, Kajri, Birha, Sorathi, Alha, etc., are sung in the Bhojpuri dialect in different seasons of the year by the people of this district. Sohar, a traditional song, is sung on the occasions of birth and marriage. Other folk songs peculiar to this district are Sashthi and Pidia which are sung in the months of Kartika and Margashirsh (October and November). The popular folk dances of this area are Hurva, Pari and Videsia.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS

The Nagarpalika Parishad library was opened in 1960. It had 1,165 books and subscribed for 25 newspapers and periodicals for its reading rooms. The number of visitors was 2,170 in 1973.

The Nagri Pracharini Sabha Pustakalaya, Deoria, was established in 1972. It propagates Hindi. It possesses its own building and also maintains a reading room. The total number of books maintained in 1973-74 was 11,700 and the number of visitors 36,500.

MEN OF LETTERS

Sanskrit

The Sanskrit scholar, Umapati Dwivedi (died 1972) wrote a long poetic work entitled *Parijat Haran*.

Hindi

Among the distinguished Hindi scholars of the 19th century was Karta Ram, a court poet of the Majhauji Raj. He is credited with the composition of the work entitled *Dan Lila*. Another eminent poet of the same century was Yuvaraj Khadag Bahadur known as '*Lal Kavi*'. Surya Pratap Singh, who flourished during the 20th century, composed a number of *tripadiyans* and *panch padiyans*. One of his works is *Ashta*, an anthology of poems. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi, who was a correspondent of a number of newspapers published in Deoria, also wrote a number of short poems. Raj Bali Pandey was another well-known literary figure of this district. He wrote mainly in Hindi on Indian history. Three of his famous works are *Gorakhpur Janpad Ka Itihas Aur Uski Ksetriya Jatiyan*, *Hindu Sanskar* and *Vikramaditya of Ujjaini*.

4 Urdu

Khair Baharavi was an Urdu journalist and a poet of the 20th century. His famous work is *Ghalib Aur Mir ka Album*, published both in Hindi and Urdu.

STATEMENT I

Higher-Secondary Institutions

Reference Page No. 230

Name of Institutions and Location	No. of teachers	No. of students	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)
1	2	3	4	5
K. E. government inter college, Deoria	30	712	1,65,700	1,65,700
Kasturba government girls inter college, Deoria	35	890	—	—
Acharya Narendra Deva inter college, Patherdewa, Deoria	41	1,263	1,58,466	1,58,466
Atiraji Devi inter college, Babhani, Deoria	23	919	1,04,194	1,04,194
Baba Raghavadas inter college, Deoria	32	922	1,65,296	1,65,296
Bharosaghar mission inter college, Bhagalpur, Deoria	25	704	1,22,174	1,22,174
Bapu Uchchayatar Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Salrapur	25	731	1,21,975	1,21,975
Balbhadra Narain inter college, Majhauji Raj	25	625	1,22,174	1,22,174
B.R.D. Krishak inter college, Bhatpar Rani	35	1,015	1,71,984	1,71,984
Buddha inter college, Kushinagar	58	1,830	4,39,421	4,39,421
Harsh Chandra inter college, Barhaj	42	1,206	2,32,590	2,32,590
Intermediate college, Pindi, Deoria	34	994	1,72,976	1,72,976
Intermediate college, Chhitauni	29	654	1,29,165	1,29,165
Intermediate college, Majhgawan	29	1,174	1,98,764	1,98,764
Intermediate college, Turapatti Mahuawa	30	974	1,67,985	1,67,985
Intermediate college, Ramkola	38	1,183	1,99,863	1,99,863
Intermediate college, Bankata	32	834	2,17,852	2,17,852
Intermediate college, Lakshmiganj	32	954	2,18,645	2,18,645
Mahara Agrasen inter college, Deoria	40	1,181	2,29,763	2,29,763
Lokmanya inter college, Janakinagar	36	1,358	2,18,542	2,18,542
Madan Mohan Malviya inter college Bhatpar Rani	51	1,213	2,29,538	2,29,538

[Continued]

1	2	3	4	5
Mahatma Gandhi inter college, Sakhwania	43	1,080	2,03,261	2,03,261
O.K.M. inter college, Lar	25	611	1,35,022	1,35,022
Pt. Jawahar Lal inter college, Mahuwa Bari	29	569	1,44,752	1,44,752
Pawanagar Mahabir inter college, Fazilnagar	52	1,764	2,18,540	2,18,540
Shaheed Ram Chandra inter college Basantpur Dhoosi	20	545	1,01,215	1,01,215
Shri Krishan inter college, Semra	26	1,136	1,29,819	1,29,819
Gandhi Kisan inter college, Khadda	14	412	69,875	69,875
S.S.B.S. inter-college, Deoria	51	1,651	2,16,543	2,16,543
Bahar Singh Shrinet inter college, Indupur	53	1,797	2,19,752	2,19,752
Satasi inter college, Rudrapur	29	799	1,45,720	1,45,720
Shree Krishan inter college, Barhaj	40	1,725	2,05,725	2,05,725
Swami Devanand inter college, Math Lar	31	1,290	2,19,638	2,19,638
Gandhi Smarak inter college, Hata	73	2,270	3,48,076	3,48,076
Shivaji inter college, Khukhundu	42	1,383	2,07,820	2,07,820
Udit Narayan Kasatriya inter college, Padrauna	49	1,742	2,15,312	2,15,312
Acharya Rochandra inter college, Saraon	25	609	1,33,415	1,33,415
Chandra Shekhar inter college, Deo Gaon	32	1,181	1,51,216	1,51,216
Deoraha Baba inter college, Deosia	22	561	1,09,876	1,09,876
Fale's Memorial inter college, Tamkuhi Raj	27	850	1,31,214	1,31,214
Subhas inter college, Bhatni	25	1,039	1,29,785	1,29,785
Intermediate college, Khorabari	31	949	1,48,607	1,48,607
Gangabaksh Karodia inter college, Captainganj	29	883	1,39,514	1,39,514
Dugdeshwarnath inter college, Rudrapur	32	959	1,68,437	1,68,437
Janata inter college, Sohasa	30	652	1,59,635	1,59,635
Nehru inter college, Taria Sujan	24	593	1,19,874	1,19,874
Maninath inter college, Nonapur	33	1,011	1,60,725	1,60,725
Sutawar inter college, Sutawar	22	479	1,07,864	1,07,864

(Continued)

1	2	3	4	5
Lakhanji inter college, Ahirauli Baghel	16	323	98,635	98,635
Intermediate college, Boderwar	39	1,320	1,98,963	1,98,963
Satya Prakash inter college, Musahari	27	723	1,37,625	1,37,625
Intermediate college, Rampur Awasthi	29	866	1,45,089	1,45,089
Krishak inter college, Baltikara	25	671	1,37,643	1,37,643
Kasturba girls inter college, Deoria	30	640	1,99,824	1,99,824
Anant high school, Ganiari	22	442	10,624	10,624
Anant higher secondary school, Satraon	25	612	1,27,809	1,27,809
Ashok higher secondary school, Rampur Karkhana	19	662	99,798	99,798
Gyan Prakash higher secondary school, Bhaluani	30	1,188	1,45,019	1,45,019
Janata higher secondary school, Madanpur	10	524	78,940	78,940
Janata higher secondary school, Pura'ni	19	283	98,875	98,875
Janata higher secondary school, Vijaipur	17	531	78,654	78,654
Navtappi higher secondary school, Rampur Garh	18	480	79,899	79,899
Nehru higher secondary school, Semri Shukrauli	26	815	1,34,251	1,34,251
Ram Janaki higher secondary school, Babu Bandi Nath	18	701	1,20,145	1,20,145
Gandhi higher secondary school, Reoli	9	211	45,976	45,976
Subhash higher secondary school, Bharauli	19	542	1,09,156	1,09,156
Tulasi higher secondary school, Padrauna	14	287	68,275	68,275
Hanuman Vidya Mandir higher secondary school, Baraon	9	211	56,864	56,864
Thapar higher secondary school, Baitalpur	23	837	1,10,215	1,10,215
Jeetendra Smarak higher secondary school, Narainpur Kothhi	15	306	1,20,981	1,20,981
Ashok higher secondary school, Naktaba Misra	16	34	1,32,832	1,32,832
Higher secondary school, Mansa Chhapra	17	400	1,25,634	1,25,634

(Continued)

1	2	3	4	5
Krishak higher secondary school, Malludik	9	165	58,762	58,762
Gautam higher secondary school, Pipra Ramdhar	27	579	1,25,893	1,25,893
Shiva Vijai Raghava higher secondary school, Jharnakutti	13	333	96,874	96,874
Bapu higher secondary school, Karsarwa Buzurg	15	331	98,215	98,215
Janata higher secondary school, Captainganj	23	674	1,20,123	1,20,123
Bakhra higher secondary school, Bakhra	22	722	1,10,189	1,10,189
Sarvodaya higher secondary school, Garha	18	594	1,05,123	1,05,123
Higher secondary school, Singaha	17	410	1,05,732	1,05,732
Higher secondary school, Bedupur	23	775	1,25,842	1,25,842
Higher secondary school, Sirala	16	565	96,987	96,987
Manas higher secondary school, Fatehpur	14	292	80,756	80,756
Higher secondary school, Bahiari Baghel	24	956	1,28,932	1,28,932
Nav Jeewan higher secondary school, Patherwa	13	307	95,058	95,058
Nehru higher secondary school, Patherwa	16	434	1,07,835	1,07,835
Higher secondary school, Kotwa Kalan	14	280	96,097	96,097
Gandhi higher secondary school, Khadda	15	550	9,49,335	9,49,335
Ashok higher secondary school, Barpar	15	348	9,50,123	9,50,123
Baba Gayadas higher secondary school Barhaj	16	522	9,68,725	9,68,725
Kisan higher secondary school, Sakhopar	22	707	1,20,125	1,20,125
National higher secondary school, Navalpur	14	358	80,573	80,573
Ashok higher secondary school, Rampur Karkhana	13	847	78,572	78,572
Higher secondary school, Jaura Bazar	12	181	65,893	65,893
Mahanth Triveni higher secondary school, Vishunpura Bazar	24	995	1,20,128	1,20,128

[Continued]

1	2	3	4	5
Higher secondary school, Pakri Bir Bhadra	15	296	98,125	98,125
Krishak higher secondary school, Kotwa Kalan	17	416	99,548	99,548
Higher secondary school, Malkauli	15	275	98,728	98,728
Janata higher secondary school, Sohmag	14	210	95,425	95,425
Maharaja Agrasen girls' higher secondary school, Deoria	28	1,300	1,01,512	1,01,512
Kasturba girls' higher secondary school, Sakhiwaria	9	107	50,098	50,098
Baba Raghavadas girls' higher secondary school, Bhatpar Rani	12	395	52,128	52,128
Rogers Tandon girls' higher secondary school, Bhatpar	8	130	50,175	50,175
Aisha Rashid girls' higher secondary school, Lar	9	141	54,298	54,298
Sarojini girls' higher secondary school, Padrauna	7	173	49,865	49,865
Government girls' higher secondary school, Padrauna	13	178	6,40,125	6,40,125
Syobai Tibdewal girls' higher secondary school, Padrauna	9	176	50,123	50,123

STATEMENT II

Reference Page No. 230

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	
		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
1962	1,296	1,42,877	40,788	170	20,992	1,455	59	29,949	781
1963	1,306	1,45,983	41,879	170	29,751	1,506	60	32,289	904
1964	1,482	1,81,008	95,987	200	29,805	5,807	68	37,252	2,413
1965	1,596	1,85,213	96,875	215	30,296	6,056	76	38,123	1,512
1966	1,629	1,86,319	1,06,190	219	31,398	6,287	80	38,956	2,715
1967	1,647	1,89,476	1,11,727	225	31,455	6,290	84	39,975	2,807
1968	1,662	2,01,125	1,19,616	230	33,774	6,297	90	43,954	3,005
1969	1,670	2,07,234	1,32,345	234	35,452	7,305	95	64,123	7,298
1970	1,672	2,09,125	1,35,240	240	38,532	7,530	100	65,182	7,582
1971	1,678	2,28,372	1,37,239	249	38,736	7,725	106	66,182	7,483
1972	1,785	2,30,234	1,40,781	289	51,165	7,601	108	71,672	7,487

DEORIA DISTRICT

STATEMENT III
Sanskrit Pathshalas

Reference Page No. 232

Name of institution	Year of establishment		Founder	No. of students	No. of teachers	Examinations conducted
	1	2				
Sanskrit Pathshala, Ravindranagar	—	—	Vasant Narain Singh	25	2	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Captainganj	—	—	Ram Sumer Das	86	3	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Sanjivini	1896	—	Nagar Panchayat	81	7	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Kuberanath	1903	—	Jagdanand Brahmachari	83	5	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Kishoreganj	1910	—	Kunj Behari Chaturvedi	85	7	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Barhaj	1916	—	Baba Raghav Das	67	6	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Mathlar	1918	—	Swami Devanandgiriji	30	3	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Deoria	1919	—	Ramakant Dwivedi	18	2	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Baitalpur	1920	—	Raghuvar Das	66	6	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Kasia	1922	—	Baba Raghav Das	71	4	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Ramkola	1922	—	Janki Prasad	47	3	Prathma
Sri Radha Krishna Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Deoria	1924	—	Nivas Mani Tripathi	97	5	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Hata	1928	—	Baba Raghav Das	66	4	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Sohmag	1928	—	"	59	4	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Deoria	1929	—	Phool Chandra Gupta	27	6	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Chitauni	1930	—	Bholi Ram	48	4	Madhyama

[Continued]

1	2	3	4	5	6
Sanskrit Pathshala, Hatva Bazar	1932	Kedar Das	78	4	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Agya	1932	Shayam Sundari	59	3	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Fariyaon Dih	1932	Vishwa Nath Pande	42	4	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Bhaurapakar	1933	Paripurnanand	28	3	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Dogari	1935	Shiv Ratna Misra	44	3	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Laxmiganj	1935	Surya Vir Vikram Bahadur Singh	20	5	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Raja Bazar	1938	Vishveshwar Lal	71	6	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Rampur	1944	Ram Vilas Tripathi	69	4	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Bhavani Chapar	1944	Vasudev Dwivedi	56	6	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Laxmipur	1945	—	67	5	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Varpar	1946	Ram Chandra Mani	22	2	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Katiyari	1947	—	56	5	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Teliya	1948	Ram Swarup	82	5	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Mathiya	1954	Thakur Prashad Singh	123	5	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Bhatpar Rani	1954	Keshav Chandra Misra	162	5	Shastri
Sanskrit Pathshala, Baikunthpur	1958	—	136	12	Acharya
Sanskrit Pathshala, Bagheuchghat	1962	Ram Rakshak Pande	60	5	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Jaura Bazar	1964	Sri Ram Pande	44	5	Prathma
Sanskrit Pathshala, Pandey Chak	1965	Vasudev Pande	34	5	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Kanholi	1966	—	16	3	Madhyama
Sanskrit Pathshala, Barhari	1968	Hari P. L. Dwivedi	88	6	Madhyama

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

No direct information is available regarding the medical facilities and systems of medicine prevailing in the district in ancient times. The physicians of ancient times practised the Ayurvedic system of medicine, one of the recognised Vedic studies. This system was very advanced but many quacks, who sometimes claimed magical powers, also flourished who sometimes worked wonders. Disease was often attributed to sin, crime, vice and disobedience of religious laws and the cure prescribed was often the offering of prayer, fasting, animal sacrifice and invocation to deities and supernatural powers.

The physicians of this system, known as *vaidyas*, specialized in diagnosing disease by observing the pulse and used herbal and other medicines. Affluent people of charitable disposition extended financial help to such physicians and looked after their material comforts out of piety and they in their turn treated poor people free of cost as a part of their pious duty. It is quite possible that this state of affairs also obtained in the area covered by the present district.

With the coming of the Muslims, the *Unani* (Greek) system of medicine, based on the Arabian system, was quite possibly introduced into this region. Practitioners of this system of medicine are called *hakims*. *Jarrahs* (barbers) also took to surgery and treated sores and other ailments.

The British brought with them the allopathic system of medicine but in spite of the unhealthy climate and the crying need for medical assistance in the outlying tracts, no allopathic dispensary was started till 1867. In 1868 the rani of Satasi built and for many years supported the dispensary at Rudrapur. A year later a dispensary was opened at Kasia which was enlarged in 1874. About 1900 the place was abandoned and a new building was erected by the raja of Salemgarh. The district committee started a dispensary at Barhalganj. This was followed by the establishment of dispensaries in 1887 at Tamkuhi by the raja of that place, in 1888 at Deoria by the district board and in 1894 at Barhaj by the Majhauji estate, the district board exercising general control over these dispensaries and the medical charge being vested in the civil surgeon through an assistant surgeon at Kasia. There was also a private charitable

dispensary at Padrauna, maintained entirely by the raja of that place. The allopathic system has become the most popular system in the region. After the creation of the district in 1946, the hospitals and dispensaries of the district were put under the charge of a civil surgeon (now known as chief medical officer).

Vital Statistics

An examination of the vital statistics of the district since its creation in 1946 reveals that the birth-rate has been higher than the death-rate. The figures are not very reliable, as large-scale omissions in the registration of births and deaths occur but they are indicative of the general trend.

The rate of mortality among children below one year of age was high in the past. In 1947 the number of deaths of infants was 762, the figure rising to 1,266 in 1950. In the fifties, infant mortality was highest in 1957 when 3,989 infants died, the lowest figure being 31 in 1958.

The following is a statement of the number of births, deaths and infant mortality between 1966 and 1973 :

Year	No. of births	No. of deaths	Infant mortality
1966	36,705	16,741	1,156
1967	37,692	16,612	1,181
1968	35,024	15,834	1,100
1969	1,796 (urban area)	206 (urban area)	7 (urban area)
1970	1,893 (urban area)	151 (urban area)	15 (" ")
1971	803 (urban area)	189 (urban area)	—
1972	936 (urban area)	259 (urban area)	4 (" ")
1973	857 (urban area)	264 (urban area)	—

Common Diseases

Formerly the diseases which commonly caused death were in the form of cholera, smallpox and plague epidemics or fever, bowel disorders and respiratory ailments. Epidemics have largely been controlled but fever still claims the highest percentage of the total number of deaths in the district.

Fever—The term 'fever' has wide connotations. It includes not only such diseases as malaria and typhoid but also covers many unidentified diseases of which fever is only a symptom and which are not in any specific category. The greatest curse of the district in early times was the prevalence of malarial fever. Some parts of the district, mainly the lowlying lands and the belt in the north, were the active breeding grounds for the malarial mosquito, the anopheles. In 1946, the number of deaths due to fever was 19,079. After this the death-rate started declining and it came down to 14,375 in 1950. The maximum number of deaths was 14,693 in 1951 and the minimum 7,494 in 1960. The following statement gives an idea of the number of deaths from fever between 1969 and 1972 :

Year	No. of deaths due to fever
1969	102 (urban area)
1970	167
1971	97 (urban area)
1972	155 (urban area)

Dysentery and Diarrhoea

These diseases occur in the form of bowel and stomach complaints. Although they are due to various causes, the incidence is attributed mostly to insanitary conditions and sometimes as a result of malarial fever. The number of deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea was 113 in 1946, coming down to 44 in 1950. In 1957 these diseases assumed the form of an epidemic taking toll of 1,152 lives but the incidence of deaths dropped to 321 in 1962. The number of deaths in the urban areas were 2 and 13 in 1969 and 1970 respectively and 2 in 1971.

Respiratory Diseases—These diseases generally lead to temporary or permanent infirmities and in a few cases even hasten death. The number of deaths from these diseases was 97 in 1946 but the number came down to 42 in 1950. During the fifties the highest

toll of lives from these diseases was 969 in 1957. The number of deaths has increased due to air pollution caused by smoke and dust, the natural affluents of heavy industries and steam-run rail and mechanised road transport, the fast speeds of the mechanised means of modern transport also proving hazardous for the lungs and, leading to a number of respiratory diseases. The number of deaths in the period between 1969 and 1972 for the urban area was 5 and 11 in 1969 and 1970 respectively and 6 and 2 in 1971 and 1972.

Epidemics

Smallpox, cholera and plague took a heavy toll of life in the district in the past and their ravages were frequent and violent.

Smallpox—Smallpox, which sometimes assumes the form of an epidemic, takes many lives during its visitation. It has been estimated that it was possibly prevalent for more than 1,500 years in Uttar Pradesh.¹ The mortality rate of district Deoria for the period 1877 to 1959 was 0.31 to 0.50 per cent. In 1946 the number of deaths was 110 and it rose to 601 in 1948 but came down to 386 in 1950. The disease visited the district in a violent form again in 1951 taking 4,707 lives and it revisited the district in 1958 when 2,239 deaths were reported. From 1959 the figure started declining and after 1968 no death has been reported on this account.

Cholera—Cholera is one of those formidable diseases which take a few lives every year and it sometimes assumes the form of an epidemic. The worst effect of cholera was felt in 1946 and 1947 when 1,312 and 908 deaths were reported respectively, the number going up to 976 in 1948. In 1949 the figures came down to 510, rising to 541 in 1950 and to 588 in 1951. From 1956 there was a declining tendency due to improved medical and health services and in 1960 the mortality figures were only 72. In 1966 only 9 deaths were reported and till 1973 no case came to light.

Plague—Plague first made its appearance in 1902, when in the district of Gorakhpur, of which the Deoria region was a part, 2,677 persons lost their lives through it. Since then it visited the district almost annually with varying intensity but left the north of Padrauna untouched. In 1946 it visited the district in an epidemic form and took 2,324 lives. The next year again saw its ravages when it broke out with greater fury and the mortality was 5,519 lives. In 1949 there were 100 deaths but in 1950 it took 1,426

lives. In order to ascertain the distribution of the disease within the districts of the eastern zone, a tentative study of the district of Deoria was undertaken and thanawise data were studied. The number of deaths in the police circles of Khanpur, Rudrapur, Khakhuran Lar, Deoria, Hata and Barhaj in over a period of twenty years (from 1930 to 1950) constituted more than 90 per cent of the total number of deaths from plague in the district, the maximum being 2,047 in 1947 in the Khanpur police circle. In 1951 the mortality came down to 831 and no case was reported from 1952 to 1973.

Other Diseases

Insanity, glaucoma, trachoma, deafness, leprosy, cancer, heart diseases and tuberculosis are some other diseases which have been prevalent in the district for long. Efforts were made by the government in the Five-year Plan periods to improve conditions and this resulted in a decrease of their incidence. The number of tuberculosis cases treated in the district in 1973 was 6,423 and that of leprosy 1,938.

Hydrocele and elephantiasis are forms of infirmities which are common throughout the district while goitre and cretinism are mostly confined to tahsil Padrauna. Both these diseases are now on the decline. A large majority of the people of the district suffers from goitre.

MEDICAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Because of its bad climate and the prevalence of dangerous diseases, the area now covered by the district was chosen in 1922 for an experiment with regard to a separate public health scheme, which was later introduced throughout the district. A health officer was stationed at Deoria and the scheme was given a trial for about one and a half years as a result of which the subjects of vaccination, epidemics, births and deaths and travelling dispensaries were transferred from the medical department to the control of the public health department. In 1925 Deoria was amalgamated with Gorakhpur for the purpose of this scheme and from 1927 on the posts of the district medical officer of health and his assistants were provincialised. Special attention was given to the antigaitre and cretinism campaign in tahsil Padrauna.

The medical and public health departments of the State were amalgamated in 1948 under a directorate to control the allopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani institutions and services. In July, 1961, a separate directorate was established at Lucknow for the development and effective supervision of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries

1. Murty, G. S. : *Report on the State of Health of Uttar Pradesh with particular reference to certain Diseases*—Page 53

but the local administration of these dispensaries remained in the charge of the deputy chief medical officer (health).

Formerly the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health in the district headed the medical and public health organizations respectively. In July, 1973, there was a general reorganisation of the medical and public health set up and a new post of chief medical officer was created, the incumbent heading the entire medical public health and family planning organisation in the district.

The chief medical officer is in charge of all medical, health and family planning activities in the district. He also works as an ex-officio secretary of the advisory committee which looks after the above mentioned activities. He is assisted by three deputy chief medical officers, one each looking after the medical, health and family planning programmes. The deputy chief medical officer (medical) supervises all district-level hospitals including the hospitals having more than 30 beds, the employees' State insurance dispensaries, the infectious diseases hospitals and the school health dispensaries. Similarly the deputy chief medical officer (health) exercises complete supervision over all health programmes, primary health centres, rural dispensaries and hospitals having less than 30 beds. He has also to gather intelligence about epidemics, to check food and drug adulteration and to provide necessary assistance during the visitation of a natural calamity. The deputy chief medical officer (family planning) is in charge of family planning, maternity welfare, including child health, and nutrition programmes. The chief sphere of his activities is mass education through different media including visual aids regarding various methods of birth control. Sanitary inspectors look after the environmental sanitation work and supervise work relating to the control and prevention of epidemics and impart health education to the people. An idea of some of the public health activities undertaken in the district between 1951 and 1961 can be had from the following statement :

Work	1951	1956	1961
Number of drinking-water wells constructed	556	556	954
Number of old wells repaired	115	1,766	2,116
Number of hand pumps installed	95	917	1,991

Hospitals

There are three State hospitals in the district, one for women and two for men : the Khetan women's hospital, Padrauna, the

district combined hospital Deoria and the men's and eye hospital, Padrauna, which were established in 1934, 1952 and 1957 respectively.

The first-named hospital (for women) has 29 beds, the second 78 for men and 56 for women and the last 29 for men and 4 for women. There are two eye hospitals, a jail hospital, a police hospital and two T. B. clinics.

The following statement gives some information about the patients treated in these hospitals and the staff employed :

Name of hospital	Staff		No. of patients treated	
	No. of doctors	Other staff	Indoor	Outdoor
District combined hospital, Deoria	10	38	14,443	1,00,528
Men's and eye hospital, Padrauna	1	12	241	10,920
Khetan women's hospital, Padrauna	1	14	1,876	9,949
Police hospital	1	5	210	3,956
Jail hospital	1	1	110	3,956

Dispensaries

Allopathic—The following statement gives some details about the allopathic dispensaries in the district in 1973 :

Name of dispensary	Staff		No. of beds		No. of patients treated	
	Doctor	Others	Male	Female	Indoor	Outdoor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maintained by the State Government						
Baitalpur	—	17	2	2	—	60,114
Pathar Deva	1	17	2	2	—	5,990
Desai Deoria	1	17	2	2	—	4,852
Rudrapur	1	17	4	2	236	6,965
Rampur Karkhana	1	17	2	2	—	6,664
Gauri Bazar	1	17	2	2	32	7,253
Majhgawan	1	17	2	2	—	5,836

[Continued]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bisunpura	1	17	2	2	—	5,573
Dudahi	1	17	2	2	3	11,627
Scorahi	1	17	2	2	—	9,087
Fazilnagar	2	17	2	2	28	16,379
Kubernath	1	17	2	2	—	5,361
Taraya Sujar	1	17	2	2	—	4,953
Hata	1	17	12	—	16	8,208
Ramkola	1	17	2	2	—	6,633
Nebua Naurangia	1	17	2	2	—	12,139
Khadda	1	17	2	2	—	5,783
Captainganj	1	17	2	2	152	10,793
Motichak	1	17	2	2	—	4,049
Sukrauli	1	17	2	2	—	13,058
Salempur	1	17	2	2	119	12,275
Lar	1	17	3	—	12	11,953
Bhatni	1	17	2	2	6	10,972
Bhajuani	1	17	6	2	24	11,909
Bankata	1	17	2	2	170	11,904
Bhagalpur	1	17	6	2	817	90,135
Bhatpar Rani	1	17	6	2	—	4,990
Mahen	1	17	2	2	—	12,253
Scorahi dispensary	1	—	—	—	—	9,087
Barhaj female dispensary	0	5	4	4	—	54,903
Chakia female dispensary	1	17	2	2	—	5,201
Scorahi female dispensary	1	3	Not available	—	—	5,201
Saraura	1	3	—	—	—	—
Dhaulapandit	—	3	—	—	—	—
Samaurbazar	1	3	—	—	—	—
Mehuesagram	—	3	—	—	—	—

[Continued]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chakia	1	3	—	—	—	—
Thegwaldube	1	3	—	—	—	—
Dispensaries Under Local Bodies						
Tamkuhi	1	6	—	—	223	5,443
Hata	1	4	—	—	80	8,208
Kasia	1	6	—	—	73	13,303
Lar	1	5	—	—	70	11,953
Barhaj	—	6	—	—	—	6,730
Rudrapur	1	6	—	—	6	8,690
Tarkulawa	—	4	—	—	—	1,283

Ayurvedic and Unani—There are eight Ayurvedic and three Unani dispensaries in the district, all maintained by the Zila Parishad, Deoria. Each Ayurvedic dispensary is in charge of a *vaid* and each Unani dispensary is manned by a hakim.

The following statement gives the location of and the number of patients treated at each dispensary in 1972-73:

Name of dispensary	Number of patients treated
Ayurvedic	
Deoria	3,813
Nagawa	4,137
Kanhoul	1,958
Indupur	3,645
Salempur	3,644
Sataraon	9,155
Pindi	3,657
Paikouli	1,597
Unani	
Madanpur	2,012
Khaira Banua	1,525
Sukrauli	4,835

Primary Health Centres

To extend medical facilities and to improve the health standards of the rural population, the government has established primary health centres in every development block and the number of such centres in the district was 29 in 1973. Each centre is manned by a medical officer, assisted by a para-medical and health staff consisting of pharmacists and family planning workers. Generally such centres have a four-bed ward for indoor patients. At the district level the deputy chief medical officer (health) controls the functioning of the centres. The following statement gives some details about these primary health centres :

Place of location of primary health centre	Development block in which situated
Bhatpar Rani	Bhatpar Rani
Bankata	Bankata
Bhatni	Bhatani
Mahen	Barhaj
Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur
Salempur	Salempur
Bhaluani	Bhaluani
Gauri Bazar	Gauri Bazar
Baitalpur	Baitalpur
Majhgawan	Manjhawan
Patherdeva	Patherdeva
Rampur Karkhana	Rampur Karkhana
Desahi Deoria	Desahi Deoria
Captainganj	Captainganj
Motichak	Motichak
Sukrauli	Sukrauli
Khadda	Khadda
Nebua Naurangia	Nebua Naurangia
Ram Kola	Ram Kola
Bhishunpur	Bhishunpur
Kubernath	Kubernath
Fazilnagar	Fazilnagar
Scorahi	Scorahi
Dudhia	Dudhia
Lar	Lar
Kasia	Kasia
Hata	Hata
Rudrapur	Rudrapur
Tamkahi	Tamkahi

Maternity and Child Welfare

Maternity and child welfare activities in the district (as elsewhere in the State) have come a long way since the days of the untrained *dai* and the sort of aid ailing children got from casual unskilled attention. Lack of facilities for ante-natal and post-natal care contributed largely to the high incidence of mortality among women and children till the late fifties of this century. In 1958 the government embarked upon a policy of establishing maternity and child welfare centres in the district, their number being 29 in 1973, which were attended by midwives and trained *dais*, subcentres are also attached to each such centre which are looked after by *dais*. A new scheme of prophylaxis for pregnant women and for children against nutritional anaemia and other common diseases was initiated in 1973.

These centres are equipped with aids and devices to educate women in planned parenthood. Family planning literature and contraceptives are also made available free of cost to married couples. The following statement gives the location of the maternity centres and the subcentres :

Maternity centres	Maternity subcentres
1	2
Majhgawan	Lahilpar, Baikunthpur, Hata
Rudrapur	Madanpur, Jagatmajha Hauli Ballia
Gauri Bazar	Kakua, Ramlacha, Harpur
Baitalpur	Kocikgadha, Usrabazar, Beltikra
Desahi Deoria	Haitampur, Jagnibazar, Mushari
Rampur Karkhana	Govindpur, Gaura, Sohni para
Patherdeva	Vaidhevghat, Bishanpura, Banjaria
Salempur	Mithrauli, Chakrava, Paderapandey
Bhatni	Ghanti, Barhachaura, Adaula
Bhatpar Rani	Shankerpur, Khampar, Tikampar
Bankata	Rampur, Parseya, Ballua
Lar	Pindi, Mishrauli, Larroad
Bhagalpur	Pipramishra, Taliya, Satrao
Mahen	Narhari, Mirzapur, Daedeha, Barhaj

[Continued]

1	2
Bhaluani	Baidaphulwariya, Beerpur, Fakri
Hata	Badrauli, Ahraulibazar, Naukachaper
Sukrauli	Scrseya, Rampur, Sauhrana Padri
Motichak	Motichak, Asna, Mudilaharpur
Captainganj	Soonapakdh, Bhaluhi, Sinduriya
Ramkola	Takuadar, Lakshmiganj, Kusumha
Nebua Naurangia	Bellva, Mandrabinduvalliya, Naurangia
Khadda	Chitauni, Susaigopal, Barvaratanpur
Kubernath	Khuvaniya, Padrauna, Kanthkueya
Tarya Sujan	Savarhi, Salemgarh, Bandupur
Tamkuhi	Padrava, Baghi, Turpatimahava
Kasia	Garhrampur, Chakdaiya, Premvalia
Fazilnagar	Naraiyanpur, Madhuriya, Laxmipur
Dudahi	Gurvaliya, Dudahi
Vishanpura	Dandupur, Padripeepatee, Chilgaur

The following statement gives the number of cases conducted by midwives and *dais* in these centres in 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73 :

Year	Cases conducted
1970-71	6,884
1971-72	10,547
1972-73	10,826

There is provision for the training of *dais* at each maternity centre. The period of training varies from six to nine months and each trainee is given a stipend of Rs 15 per month during the training period, there being no specific qualification for the entrants, except that they should be literate.

Vaccination

In early days the ravages of smallpox were very extensive and direct inoculation was the sole preventive measure. Those who desired it were vaccinated at the government dispensaries but it was not till 1805 that a regular vaccination staff was appointed. At first the measure failed to obtain general approval but the number of persons vaccinated kept on increasing every year. The Vaccination Act, 1880, which made primary vaccination compulsory for children in municipal areas, notified areas and in a number of town areas, was enforced in 1900 in the district of Gorakhpur in which the area covering the present district of Deoria lay. The deputy chief medical officer (health) is in charge of the work of vaccination in the district. He is assisted by an assistant superintendent (vaccination) and a team of vaccinators. Normally vaccination is carried out through basic health workers in the rural areas and through the vaccinators of the municipal boards concerned in the urban areas. At the time of an epidemic an epidemic officer and sanitary inspectors are deputed for vaccination work and to control the epidemic. The work of vaccination has been intensified since 1963 when the national smallpox eradication scheme was launched. Mothers are advised during the post-natal period to have the child vaccinated as early as possible after the child is two or three months old.

The following statement gives the number of persons vaccinated during the year 1971 to 1973 :

	No. of persons vaccinated	No. of primary vaccinations		No. of revaccinations	
		Successful	Unsuccessful	Successful	Unsuccessful
1971	4,65,569	1,99,947	—	2,06,600	60,022
1972	5,05,440	1,89,219	108	1,58,051	1,58,056
1973	2,50,791	1,31,964	85	59,676	59,176

Eye Relief

Cataract, glaucoma and trachoma are the eye diseases common in the district. A branch of the Sitapur eye hospital and the eye hospital of the Kusht Sewa Ashram are the two main eye hospitals at Deoria where operations are performed and treatment is provided for diseases of the eye. These hospitals have 80 and 60 beds

respectively. The following statement gives an idea of the work done by these hospitals :

Name of hospital	Year of establishment	Patients treated	
		Indoor	Outdoor
Eye hospital, Sitapur eye hospital branch, Deoria	1973	914	25,882
Eye hospital of Keshu Sawa Ashram, Deoria	1973	152	4,709

Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

The deputy chief medical officer (health) is the licensing authority for food establishments and drug stores in the district. He is required to ensure the due observance of the Indian Drug Act, 1940, and Drug Rules, 1945, by retailers and whole-sale dealers.

The following statement gives an idea of the measures undertaken to prevent adulteration of food stuffs :

Year	No. of food samples collected	No. of food samples found adulterated	No. of food cases prosecuted
1972	648	206	196
1973	739	203	195
1974	208	66	40

National Malaria Eradication Programme

The national malaria eradication programme was launched in the district in 1958-59. Each unit has to pass through four phases: preparatory, attack, consolidation and maintenance. As the national malaria control programme was already in operation in the district before 1958 the preparatory phase was not initiated. The next phase, that of spray operations, was carried out twice a year, from May to September, to cover all roofed structures. During the third year, 1960-61, or attack phase, surveillance was started in the district concurrently with spray operations. Under this scheme house visitors went to each house twice a month in search of fever cases,

the blood slides of cases detected were collected and a cautious presumptive treatment of giving four aminoquinolene tablets to each patient was started. In the event of any slide being found positive for malaria, radical treatment was given to the patient with other remedial measures. The district entered into the consolidation phase in 1962-63 and in 1964-65 the maintenance phase started with which the programme became part of the district health scheme under the overall charge of the chief medical officer. The deputy chief medical officer (health) assisted by the anti-malaria staff, looks after the programme of malaria eradication. The following statement gives an idea of the incidence of malaria in the district :

Year	Number of blood slides examined	Number of malaria cases detected
1969	84,194	3
1970	82,112	7
1971	83,660	10
1972	93,576	15
1973	88,637	7

The filaria control scheme was launched in September, 1972, the main activities of which are to check the birth of filarial mosquitoes with the use of larvicidal oil placed in drains and waterlogged places in the towns and suburbs.

Family Planning

The family planning scheme was introduced in the district in the fifties but a separate office under the district family planning officer, was established in 1965 when steps were taken to implement control on the growth of the population. The deputy chief medical officer (family planning) is in charge of all such activities in the district. The medical officers of the primary health centres perform vasectomy operations and contraceptives are also distributed by these centres.

An idea of the achievement made in family planning work in recent years may be had from the following statement :

Year	Number of vasectomies performed	Number of tubectomies performed	Number of loop insertion made
1970-71	2,447	71	2,218
1971-72	20,775	97	1,766
1972-73	10,965	77	913
1973-74	3,354	165	2,705
1974-75	548	320	2,838

Indian Red Cross Society

A district branch of the Indian red cross society functions in the district with the district magistrate as its president, the chief medical officer as the vice-president and the deputy chief medical officer (health) as the honorary secretary (all ex officio). The society is engaged in matters concerning public health and social welfare activities such as providing relief to people in times of natural calamities. Funds are raised by enrolling members and collecting subscriptions and donations. Such contributions amounted to Rs 2,109.48 in 1973.

Diet and Nutrition

The dietary habits of the people usually depend on the geographical situation of the area and their economic condition. The climate, the economy and the soil conditions of the district being conducive to the production mostly of sugar-cane, paddy and various food-grains and not many vegetables and fruits, the people of the district do not as a rule eat very nutritious food.

Wheat, rice, maize, *bajra*, barley, *kodon* and *sawan* are eaten by the people of the district and the daily consumption of cereal is about 600 gm. per capita, the consumption of pulses being 70 gm. per head per day. Among pulses gram, peas, *arhar* and lentils (*masoor*) are commonly used. Gram is eaten because it is produced in abundance locally. The common green leafy vegetables eaten are spinach (*palak*), *bathuwa*, *lahi* and amaranthus are the tubers radish and turnip, their per capita consumption being about 40 gm. per day per head. The quantity is very small considering the normal daily intake requirements of proteins, vitamins and aminoacids. Among the root vegetables, potato, onion, sweet potato and carrot are eaten, the other vegetables eaten by the people being ladies finger, brinjal, cucumber (*khira* and *kakari*), pumpkin, bitter gourd (*karela*), tomato, cabbage, bean and cauliflower. The average daily consumption of fats and oils is 30 gm. per capita and the cooking mediums generally used are vegetable oils, mustard oil and *mahuwa* oil. Butter and *desi* ghee for cooking purposes are used only by rich people. The fruits eaten are mangoes, papayas, guavas and bananas. The production of milk in the district is inadequate, the intake not being even half of the daily recommended quantity of 560 ml. of milk per head, even children below five years of age and expectant mothers not getting their due share. The average daily consumption of meat, fish and eggs is between 15 to 20 gm. per day, which is inadequate and below the national average.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

After the attainment of Independence, various schemes were taken up to provide welfare facilities for the working class. These labour welfare programmes aim at providing benefits to labour such as a guaranteed minimum wage, social security benefits, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated working hours, payment of bonus for incentive, payment of compensation in certain circumstances, regulated wages, a minimum standard of lighting, ventilation, safety, canteens, recreation, leave, holidays, housing, holiday homes, etc. Settlement of industrial disputes is done by the conciliation board functioning through its regional headquarters at Gorakhpur.

In 1945, a separate labour department was constituted at the headquarters of the State Government and in 1947 a regional conciliation officer was posted at Gorakhpur for the combined districts of Gorakhpur and Deoria. The labour administration in the district is controlled by an assistant labour commissioner who is assisted by an additional regional conciliation officer, an assistant trade union inspector and a chief investigator (all stationed at Gorakhpur), 2 labour inspectors at Deoria and one at Padrauna, the former having started functioning from August, 1955, and the latter from 1956. The work of labour welfare is looked after mainly by the three labour inspectors whose functions are to watch the proper enforcement of labour legislations, to carry out inspections, make enquiries into complaints, to make efforts to prevent strikes and lock outs and to prosecute defaulting employers found flouting the provisions of various labour legislations. The factories inspector also inspects factories under the Factories Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, etc., and takes necessary action against employers for failing to comply with the provisions of the law, the boiler inspector in the district performing similar duties in respect of his field of work which relates to 102 boilers in the district.

Primarily the regional conciliation officer's work is prevention and settlement of industrial disputes by negotiation and conciliation. He can also make recommendations in respect of a case being fit

for adjudication unless the parties agree to arbitration. He is the edifice of the structure of industrial relations in the district as well as in the whole region.

The assistant labour commissioner is the bulwark of the entire labour set up at the State Government level. He is also the prescribed authority under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, and as such he has to function as and to exercise the powers of a court in cases of claims due or delayed for payment. He is also the assistant housing commissioner under the U. P. Industrial Housing Act, 1955, and makes allotments and cancellations of quarters to industrial and other workers. He is also the workmen's compensation commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, and the constituting of the conciliation board, conducting conciliation proceedings and making recommendations and references under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are some of his other important functions. He also does the work of the realisation of the dues of workers by issuing recovery certificates to the collector. He is also the official president of the regional welfare committee which is an employers-workers union, an institution constituted to develop a sense of enthusiasm, co-operation and sportsmanship in the name of labour welfare.

There are in the district 24 registered industrial units employing about 7,800 persons, including 14 sugar factories and a distillery. Both the State and Central Governments have enacted a number of legislations for the benefit of labourers and their families and to protect their interests. Some of the more important labour Acts in operation since early times in the region now covered by the district are briefly dealt with below.

Labour Welfare Legislations

After the British had established themselves in this region (in 1801), a number of statutes were enacted for the amelioration of the conditions of the working classes, the first being the Apprentices Act, 1850, the objective of which was to enable children to learn trades and crafts for employment. The Fatal Accidents Act, 1853, was passed to provide compensation for workers in case of death when on duty.

Regarding industrial disputes, the earliest legislation was the Employers and Workmen (Disputes) Act, 1860, which aimed at speedy disposal of disputes. It was modified by the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, which also provided for the establishment of a court of enquiry and a conciliation board for examining and settling disputes.

In 1947, the Government of India enacted the Industrial Disputes Act, following which the State Government also passed the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Industrial disputes which are not resolved by persuasion, mediation or negotiation are referred to the industrial tribunal or the labour court, the decision of which is binding on the parties.

For improvement of the working conditions of industrial workers, various legislations were made. The first Indian Factories Act, 1881, was enacted after some labour unrest in 1877. It provided welfare measures for child labour and prohibited the employment of children below seven years of age and those between 7 and 12 were not permitted to work for more than 9 hours a day. The next Factory Act was passed in 1891, providing for labour welfare and the inspection of ventilation and sanitation for factories. The Factory Act of 1911, provided for limited hours of work, a period of rest, interval and safety and prohibited the night duty of women. On the recommendations of the royal commission for labour, the Factory Act, 1934, was enacted to provide additional facilities for workers and made the provincial governments responsible for the administration of the Act, a chief inspector of factories also being appointed under it.

The Factories Act of 1948, which replaced all the former factories Act, provided regulated working conditions including hours of work, leave with wages, safeguards against occupational diseases, health, hygiene and welfare measures like the maintenance of first-aid appliances, canteens, cool drinking water and the like near the place of work.

After the coming of Independence in 1947, the government took greater interest in promoting the welfare of labour, the bulk of legislations being enacted after 1947. By 1972 there were 14 labour legislations in operation in the district among which were seven Acts (passed before 1947): the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1947, operating as amended from time to time to suit changing conditions. The Acts enacted after 1947 were the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Uttar Pradesh Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, the U. P. Dookan Aur Vanijya Adhistan Adhiniyam, 1962, and Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

About 2,047 contraventions of these Acts were detected in 1973 and 225 prosecutions were made. The various Acts under which these were carried out are as follows :

Act	Number of contraven- tions	Number of prosecu- tions
U. P. Shops and Commercial Establish- ment Act, 1962	1,978	118
Industrial Employment (Standing Orders), Act, 1947	16	7
Factories Act, 1948	16	—
Payment of Wages Act, 1936	14	—
Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	12	—
U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961	9	—
Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961	2	—
Total	2,047	125

The amount of compensation paid in the five years ended 1973 to labourers or their dependents on being involved in accidents in the course of employment resulting in disablement or death is mentioned below :

Year	Total number of cases		Disablement cases	
	Number	Compensation paid (in Rs)	Number	Compensation paid (in Rs)
1969	16	1,28,111	3	8,058
1970	19	1,23,796	3	3,655
1971	10	17,876	11	22,583
1972	13	91,370	6	4,102
1973	17	1,20,399	1	1,000

Trade Unions

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, provides for the registration of trade unions. It empowers the registrar of trade unions

(whose headquarters is at Kanpur) to scrutinise the working of trade unions, obtain returns and to consider applications for registration or for cancellation of the unions. The trade union inspector and his subordinates guide trade unions, watch the interests of "protected workmen" (those office bearers of registered trade unions who are entitled to certain privileges in respect of service conditions, dismissal or discharge from service and other punishment).

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 living conditions of the labourers' lives and ensure the payment of fair wages, the maintaining of healthy living and working conditions and the provision of proper medical and educational facilities for their children.

Labour Welfare Centres

Two labour welfare centres were established in 1951 and 1957, one each at Ramkola and Padrauna respectively. A welfare superintendent is in charge of a centre and is responsible for its day to day activities. Each centre has an allopathic dispensary, a women's and children's section, a sewing class, indoor and out-door games, a gymnasium, wrestling pits, playgrounds, a reading room and library, a radio and some musical instruments.

Medical aid to all workers and their family members is rendered free of cost by a whole-time medical officer, assisted by two compounders. The women's and children's section provides maternity service for working-class women through two midwives and a *dai*. The midwives attend to ante-natal case in the centre and also visit labour colonies to inspect ante-natal and post-natal cases and to give necessary advice. They also conduct delivery cases free of charge at the residence of workers. Under the advice of the medical officer of the centre, fresh milk is also distributed free of cost to under nourished and expectant mothers and to needy children and patients.

The sewing section is looked after by a sewing instructor (woman) who teaches tailoring, lace making, knitting and embroidery, etc., to the working-class women. One or more sewing machines, cloth, thread and knitting wool or yarn, etc., are provided by the centre. Regular sewing classes are conducted at times and successful trainees are awarded certificates. Garments are also made by the trainees who are paid wages at prescribed rates.

Free open-air cinema shows are arranged by the labour department which has its own sound projector and cinema van.

Holiday Home

A holiday home was established at Mussoorie in 1962 out of the U. P. sugar and power, alcohol industries labour welfare and development fund. In the beginning the workers of only the sugar factories benefited from this home but the right was extended to workers employed in other factories also during the crushing season when sugar factories were working (from September 16 to November 15 every year). The workers of the sugar factories go to the home in their off seasons.

OLD-AGE PENSION

The old-age pension scheme was introduced into the district on December 1, 1957, to provide help to destitute persons, aged 70 years or more, having no means of subsistence whatever and who had no relatives bound by custom or usage to support them. Its scope was liberalised in February, 1962, when the definition of the term "destitute" was extended to include persons with a monthly income of Rs 10 and the age of eligibility was reduced to 65 years. In 1965, the limit of the monthly income was raised to Rs 15 and the age of eligibility in the case of widows, the crippled or the physically infirm or those totally incapable of earning a living, was reduced from 65 to 60 years, the amount of monthly pension also being increased from Rs 15 to Rs 20.

The scheme was further liberalised in January, 1972, and the rate of the monthly pension was raised to Rs 30. The benefits of this scheme are not available to beggars, mendicants and inmates of poor-houses.

The pension is sanctioned by the labour commissioner after verification of particulars and on the recommendations of the district officer. The tahsilwise number of beneficiaries under this scheme as in 1974 is given below :

Tahsil	Number of persons	Male	Female
Deoria	48	19	29
Hata	10	5	5
Padrauna	170	48	122
Salempur	82	23	59
Total	310	95	215

PROHIBITION

In pursuance of the State Government's policy to discourage the use of intoxicants by the people, a prohibition publicity and social uplift organization was set up in the district in 1947. Prohibition was scrapped in the State on December 1, 1962, in order to increase the State revenues and to discourage the illicit manufacture and sale of liquor. There is a prohibition and uplift committee in the district, with the district magistrate as its president. Members include all legislators of the district, the bar association, several officers who have wide public dealings and also some nominated members. The purpose of this committee is to determine ways and means of minimising the illicit use of liquor. A prohibition organiser and a *pracharak* have been posted in the district for this purpose. This committee tries to educate people about the hazards of the drink evil by organising meetings, distribution of pamphlets and visual publicity such as film shows, etc. In spite of these efforts, much headway does not seem to have been made.

The district has not been declared a dry area but there are no opium or ganja shops in the district due to the total prohibition of the production or sale of these commodities. As elsewhere, the liquor and bhang shops remain closed every Tuesday, Holi, Diwali, Independence Day, October 2 and January 30, the last 2 days being the day of Mahatma Gandhi's birth and that of his assassination respectively.

ADVANCEMENT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

The welfare programmes for the amelioration of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes and Other Backward Classes were undertaken by the Harijan Sahayak department in 1948. A district Harijan and social welfare officer was posted in the district in 1957. Prior to this, the activities relating to the social, economic and educational betterment of these classes in the district were looked after by the Harijan welfare supervisor under the guidance of the district planning officer.

There is a district Harijan and social welfare committee functioning in the district with the district officer as the president, the district Harijan and social welfare officer as the secretary and all the members of the Vidhan Sabha, Lok Sabha and Vidhan Parishad of the district and the district inspector of schools as members.

The members of the Scheduled Castes were considered to belong to the Depressed Classes during British times. Social workers strove to better their lot but that government took little interest in their welfare. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930 when a

scheme was formulated for the award of stipends to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes but it was only with the advent of Independence that concrete steps were taken for the amelioration of these groups and 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, has rendered the practice of untouchability an offence punishable under the Act and it repealed the corresponding State Act of 1947. The State Government also threw open all avenues of employment to members of the Scheduled Castes and major steps were taken for their adequate representation in government services and in the legislature. In 1944, the upper age limit for the recruitment of such candidates to civil posts was relaxed up to 3 years over the existing limits. In 1953, the reservation for Scheduled Castes in government services was further raised from 10 to 18 per cent. In 1955, the upper age limit for Scheduled Caste candidates was raised by 5 years for gazetted posts as already done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. Government keeps a watch on the progress of the recruitment of the Scheduled Caste candidates to various posts and have emphasised that the prescribed percentage for filling up the posts by such candidates must be achieved, the quota also having been fixed in regard to promotions. Such candidates are given concessions in respect of application and examination fees when applying for certain post.

The government also grants advances and loans to members of the Scheduled Castes for various purposes such as agriculture, industries, construction of houses, sinking or boring of wells for drinking purposes, etc.

The amount of financial help accorded by the State Government to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Tribes during the Five-year Plans periods is mentioned below :

Activities	2nd Five-year Plan		3rd Five-year Plan		4th Five-year Plan		1971-72 to 1973-74	
	No. of beneficiaries	Amount spent (in Rs)	No. of beneficiaries	Amount spent (in Rs)	No. of beneficiaries	Amount spent (in Rs)	No. of beneficiaries	Amount spent (in Rs)
State Government construction of houses	497	3,73,501	131	1,35,340	14	13,500	121	1,20,500
Development of cottage industries	92	45,906	281	1,40,935	122	61,000	240	80,216
Wells and hand-pumps	—	1,60,748	—	2,81,945	200	34,000	203	56,754
Agricultural development	198	88,750	267	1,33,025	43	22,300	116	57,750

The government also took an interest in improving the educational status of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes in connection with which the Central and State Governments awarded scholarships and stipends to them in 1973-74, some details of which are given below :

Caste	Number of Students benefited	Amount spent (in Rs)
Central Government		
Scheduled Castes	1,504	7,20,926
Other Backward Classes	91	28,047
State Government		
Scheduled Castes	3,114	2,50,785
Other Backward Classes	905	58,132
Total	5,614	10,57,890

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

Muslim Trusts

There are 3 Sunni *waqfs* (trusts) in the district registered with the U. P. Sunni central board of *waqfs*, some details regarding which are given in the following statement :

Waqf	Date of foundation	Founder	Annual income (in Rs)	Objectives
Masjid Padrauna	N. A.	N. A.	1,490	Partly Charitable
Anjuman Islamia Deoria	27.3.1918	Peer Muhammad	3,315	Charitable
Sheikh Mohd. Salar	16.3.1927	Sheikh Mohd. Salar	3,034	Charitable

WELFARE OF EX-SERVICEMEN

For the welfare of ex-servicemen there is district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board in the district which was established on

February 5, 1945. It works 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 a paid employee and an ex-serviceman. The board, as elsewhere, provides various facilities for ex-servicemen and their families and assists them in their rehabilitation. These facilities include pensions, scholarships, relief grants, employment, medical treatment, settlement of accounts, permits for purchasing controlled commodities and settlement of disputed cases, etc.

The assistance rendered to ex-servicemen was of three types : financial assistance, help towards children's education and employment, the number receiving such aid in the five years ended 1974 being given below :

Year	No. receiving help
1970	232
1971	342
1972	440
1973	450
1974	473

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Emergence of Public Life

The concept of public opinion, in its modern connotation, did not manifest itself in the region which covered the present district till the beginning of the present century, except for some enthusiastic responses to events like the struggle of 1857 and the establishment of the Indian National Congress in 1885. Political activities took a new turn with the emergence of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian political scene. His non-co-operation movement, which began in 1922, and the Chauri Chaura incident, which occurred in the neighbouring district of Gorakhpur, rocked the local populace to a high pitch of political consciousness. The political conference of 1924, the widespread hartals against the Simon Commission and the salt satyagraha put the people of the district almost at par with the more politically aware people of certain parts of the country. Public opinion grew stronger with every event of national importance whenever occurred and became articulate in 1924 with the beginning of the 'Quit India' movement. The placid political atmosphere of the district was shattered abruptly by this political upheaval, unprecedented in its magnitude and consequences. The inspiring leadership and courage which the people displayed during this period of turmoil gave proof of their growing consciousness about their political rights. Five years later, on August 15, 1947, the Union Jack was lowered and was replaced by the Indian tricolour.

REPRESENTATION OF DISTRICT IN LEGISLATURE

Retrospect - The Government of India Act, 1935, enforced on April 1, 1937, provided provincial autonomy for the first time. It was a step in the direction of establishing the parliamentary form of government. Under this Act, the general elections to the provincial legislative assembly were held in 1937 but there were no separate seats for this district as it was then a part of the Gorakhpur district. The ministry constituted in 1937 by the Indian National Congress resigned in 1939 on the issue of the granting of independence to India should the Country aid the British war effort against German aggression. The next general elections to the legislative assembly were held in 1945 and a Congress ministry was formed

again. The provincial legislature started functioning from April 1, 1946.

After the formation of the popular government at the Centre, the political and communal situation in the country deteriorated steadily and subsequently the British government announced its momentous decision to withdraw from India.

On the basis of the constitution of India, framed by the Constituent Assembly and enforced on January 26, 1950, the first general elections were held in 1952, both for the Lok Sabha and the State Vidhan Sabha.

State Legislature

Vidhan Sabha—In the general elections of 1952 to the Vidhan Sabha, this district was divided into 13 constituencies—Deoria (South), Salempur (West), Salempur (South), Salempur (East), Salempur (North), Hata (North), Hata (Central), Deoria (North-east), Padrauna (South-west)-cum-Deoria (South-east), Padrauna (North), Padrauna (East), Padrauna (West) and Deoria (South-west)-cum-Hata (South-west). The last two constituencies were double-member ones, with one seat reserved for a member of the Scheduled Castes. There were 10,85,700 electors and about 42 per cent votes were polled, of which 2.2 per cent were found to be invalid. The 15 seats allotted to this district were contested by 87 candidates, the majority being won by the Congress party and the remaining four by the Socialist Party. Details of the result are given in the table that follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	10	—	29,378	6.61	2,938
Communist Party	3	—	4,279	0.97	1,426
Hindu Maha Sabha	5	—	11,527	2.59	2,305
Indian National Congress	15	11	1,85,354	41.66	12,357
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	12	—	19,996	4.49	1,666
Ram Rajya Parishad	5	—	10,045	2.25	2,009
Socialist Party of India	15	4	1,29,496	29.11	8,633
Uttar Pradesh Revolutionary Socialist Party	3	—	4,892	1.09	1,631
Independents	19	—	49,942	11.29	2,628
Total	87	15	4,44,909	100.00	

For the general elections of 1957 to the Vidhan Sabha, the number of seats was reduced to 14 and the constituencies underwent certain changes. The newly-formed constituencies were the single-member ones of Salempur (East), Salempur (South), Salempur (West), Deoria (South), Deoria (North), Hata, Padrauna (North), Padrauna (West), Padrauna (East), Padrauna (South) and the two double-member constituencies of Silhat and Sidhuwa-Jobna, each having a reserved seat for a member of the Scheduled Castes. Out of the electorate of 11,61,361 voters, about 43.7 per cent exercised the right of franchise. The percentage of invalid votes was 1.2 per cent. In all 57 candidates contested the 14 seats. The Congress party maintained its hold on the electorate and captured 10 seats. The results of this general election were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	—	36,438	7.27	5,205
Communist Party	5	—	19,947	3.98	3,789
Indian National Congress	14	10	2,19,930	43.88	15,709
Praja Socialist Party	13	3	1,13,820	22.72	8,755
Ram Rajya Parishad	1	—	1,312	0.27	1,312
Independents	17	1	1,09,658	21.88	6,450
Total	57	14	5,01,105	100.00	

In the 1962 Vidhan Sabha general elections, the district was divided into 14 single-member constituencies, namely Ramkola, Hata, Padrauna (West), Padrauna (North), Padrauna (East), Deoria (North), Deoria (South), Rudrapur, Salempur (West), Salempur (East), Salempur (South), Sidhuwa-Jobna and Gauri Bazar, the last two constituencies being reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors was 12,10,908 and about 48 per cent participated in the voting. The invalid votes were 5.2 per cent. There were 72 candidates in the field for 14 seats. The results of this general election were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	10	—	73,589	13.31	7,359
Communist Party	8	—	17,079	3.08	2,135
Indian National Congress	14	6	2,19,101	39.64	15,651
Praja Socialist Party	13	5	1,28,033	23.16	9,849
Socialist Party	14	3	92,278	16.68	6,591
Swatantra Party	4	—	7,229	1.31	1,807
Independents	9	—	15,635	2.82	1,757
Total	72	14	5,52,944	100.00	

The number of constituencies was reduced to 13 for the 1967 Vidhan Sabha general elections. The newly-formed constituencies (all single member) were those of Ramkola, Hata, Padrauna, Seorahi, Fazil Nagar, Kushinagar, Gauri Bazar, Deoria, Bhatpar Rani, Salempur, Barhaj, Naurangia and Rudrapur. The last two constituencies were reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors was 13,48,080 and about 51 per cent of them cast their votes, the invalid votes being about 7 per cent. The number of contestants was 73 for 13 seats. The highest number of seats, 9, was won by the Congress party, the details of this general election being given in the following table :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	13	—	1,19,930	18.46	9,218
Communist Party of India	1	—	2,447	0.37	2,447
Indian National Congress	13	9	2,46,602	37.99	18,969
Praja Socialist Party	7	—	23,369	3.61	3,338
Republican Party	4	—	9,414	1.47	2,353
Sanyukta Socialist Party	13	3	1,40,968	21.72	10,844
Independents	22	1	1,06,357	16.38	4,834
Total	73	13	6,48,987	100.00	

The Vidhan Sabha constituted after the 1967 general elections was dissolved on February 25, 1968, due to defection by a number of members from the Congress legislature party in the Vidhan Sabha. The government had to resign and President's rule was imposed on the State. A mid-term poll was held after about a year (in 1969) in which the number of seats and the names of the constituencies remained unchanged. Out of 14,66,463 electors, 48.1 per cent participated in the voting. The percentage of invalid votes was 3.7. In this general election, for the first time, 94 candidates belonging to 12 different organisations, including the Independents, contested the 13 seats. The Bhartiya Kranti Dal, a newly formed political party, captured four seats. Other details were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sang	13	—	88,575	12.53	6,814
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	13	4	1,83,484	26.00	14,114
Communist Party of India	4	—	5,777	0.82	1,444
Hindu Maha Sabha	3	—	3,639	0.51	1,213
Indian National Congress	13	6	2,07,108	29.45	15,933
Mazdoor Parishad	2	—	3,769	0.52	1,384
Praja Socialist Party	5	—	13,191	1.86	2,638
Proutist Block of India	2	—	1,184	0.16	592
Republican Party	8	—	22,624	3.20	2,828
Sanyukta Socialist Party	12	3	1,16,812	16.56	9,736
Socialist Party	8	—	26,738	3.78	3,342
Independents	11	—	32,708	4.61	2,974
Total	94	13	7,05,609	100.00	

After the mid-term poll of 1969, the new Vidhan Sabha was constituted by a coalition government on February 26, 1969, but the story of 1967 was repeated and the ministry was again dissolved as a result of intro-party conflicts and defections. President's rule again came into force in the State for a short period (October 1—18, 1970). The next ministry was formed by the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal. This ministry also did not last for more than five months.

In the wake of large scale defections the Congress (R) managed to muster absolute majority in the State Assembly and formed the government in April 1971.

But in June, 1973 the Congress ministry resigned and the State was placed under President's rule once again, which was revoked in November, 1973 by the formation of ministry by the Congress.

For the general elections of 1974 to the Vidhan Sabha, the constituencies in the district remained unchanged, except that of Rudrapur, which was converted from a reserved into a general

constituency, Hata becoming a reserved constituency for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors was 16,41,656 of whom about 52 per cent cast their votes. The invalid votes were 3.5 per cent. There were 129 candidates in the contest for the 13 seats. More than half the seats were won by the Congress Party, the results being as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidates
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	12	1	1,00,954	12.06	8,413
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	13	4	1,85,139	22.11	14,241
Congress (Organisation)	12	—	45,397	5.42	8,783
Hindu Maha Sabha	4	—	7,760	0.92	1,440
Indian National Congress	13	7	2,59,923	31.09	19,994
Proutist Block of India	1	—	599	0.06	599
Ram Rajya Parishad	1	—	932	0.11	932
Rashtriya Lok Tantrik Dal	1	—	475	0.06	475
Republican Party	3	—	4,763	0.56	1,587
Socialist Party	13	1	1,48,116	17.68	11,333
Swatantra Party	10	—	8,030	0.95	803
Independents	46	—	75,242	8.98	1,636
Total	129	13	8,37,330	100.00	

Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

This district forms part of the Deoria-cum-Ballia Local Authorities, the Gorakhpur-cum-Faizabad Graduates and the Gorakhpur-cum-Faizabad Teachers constituencies of the Vidhan Parishad, four residents of the district being represented in the Council.

UNION LEGISLATURE

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

For the 1957 Lok Sabha general elections, the number of constituencies was three—Salempur, Deoria and Hata. Of 12,48,825 electors, about 39 per cent exercised their right of franchise. The invalid votes were 36. In all 13 candidates contested the 3 seats. Only the Congress and the Praja Socialist Parties put their candidates in the field in all the constituencies, while the Jan Sangh and the

Communist Party contested two seats and one respectively. The Independents numbered four. The Congress Party won two seats and secured 44.43 per cent votes. The Praja Socialist Party won one seat and secured 26.91 per cent votes. The percentage of votes secured by the Jan Sangh and the Communist Party was 5.86 and 3.24 per cent, respectively.

For the general elections of 1962 to the Lok Sabha, the names and the number of the constituencies remained unchanged. About 49 per cent of the 13,01,872 electors cast its vote. The number of invalid votes was 25,516. There were 14 candidates in the contest for the 3 seats. The Congress, the Praja Socialist and the Socialist Parties contested all the seats and the Jan Sangh and the Swatantra Party put up their candidates in two and one constituencies, respectively. The Congress Party captured all the three seats and secured 41.63 per cent votes. All others secured below 20 per cent votes.

In the 1967 Lok Sabha general elections, there were three constituencies : Padrauna, Deoria and Salempur. The number of electors rose to 15,34,052 and the percentage of polling was about 53. The invalid votes were 43,286 in number. The Congress Party won all the seats and secured 38.24 per cent votes. The Sanyukta Socialist Party and the Jan Sangh also contested all the seats and secured 22.97 and 19.65 per cent votes respectively. The Praja Socialist Party contested one seat and secured 2.47 per cent votes. There were also six Independent candidates, the combined percentage of their votes being 16.67.

Mid-term parliamentary elections were held in 1971 and the new Lok Sabha was constituted in March, 1971. In this poll there was no change in the number and the names of the constituencies but the polling was reduced to about 42 per cent. In all 17 candidates contested the 3 seats, the Congress winning all the seats and securing about 65 per cent votes. The Bhartiya Kranti Dal, a newly formed political party, also contested all the seats and secured 8.07 per cent votes.

Political Parties

The important political parties active in the district are mostly the local units of all-India political organizations. A few political parties organised on the State level also contested the different general elections. In course of time such political parties got merged in one or other political parties and assumed new names. The major political parties active in the district during the general elections

were the India National Congress, the Congress (Organisation), the Praja Socialist Party, the Jan Sangh, the Communist Party of India, the Socialist Party, the Sanyukta Socialist Party, the Bhartiya Kranti Dal, the Swatantra Party and the Republican Party. Among these only the Congress, the Jan Sangh and the Communist Parties contested all the general elections held in the district. After the general elections of 1974, five political parties—the Swatantra, the Loktantrik Dal, the Bhartiya Kranti Dal, the Republican and the Socialist—merged and formed a new political organisation of all-India status, known as the Bhartiya Lok Dal.

Each party has its own organisation at the district and regional levels. Its primary units are expected to propagate their aims and objectives and, during the elections, they become more active in order to influence the voters for electing their party candidates.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Local Publications

There were three printing presses at work in the district in 1951 and by 1961 their number had increased to 11. In 1976 about 12 printing presses were doing the work of printing in the district.

The publication of newspapers and periodicals in the district started in 1958, the first ones being *Gram Vikas* and *Gram Swarajya*. Eight weekly newspapers, all in Hindi, are being published from the district. Some particulars of the newspapers published in the district are given below :

Name of Newspaper	Language	Periodicity	Year of commencement	Number of copies in circulation
<i>Gram Swarajya</i>	Hindi	Weekly	1958	2,200
<i>Gram Vikas</i>	do	do	1958	1,200
<i>Dig Darshak</i>	do	do	1969	2,000
<i>Hindustan Ka Swaroop</i>	do	do	1971	5,500
<i>Purvi Vikas</i>	do	do	1972	1,100
<i>Akash Marg</i>	do	do	1972	5,500
<i>Ekata Hamari Parampara Hai</i>	do	do	1973	1,000
<i>Pawa Nagar Times</i>	do	do	1974	4,000

Purbanchal, a Hindi weekly, started its publication in 1967 but discontinued it in 1969. The educational institutions of the district also publish their own college magazines.

Other Newspapers and Periodicals

The English daily newspapers of an all-India or State level which are generally read in district are the *Times of India*, the *Indian Express*, the *Hindustan Times*, the *Statesman*, the *Pioneer* and the *National Herald*. Some of the English weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies which are popular in the district are *Blitz*, the *Illustrated Weekly of India*, *Filmfare*, *Life*, the *Reader's Digest*, *Picturepost* and *Careers and Courses*. They are all published outside the district.

The Hindi daily newspapers published outside the district but read by the people of the district are the *Hindustan*, the *Nav Bharat Times*, *Navjivan* and the *Swatantra Bharat*. Of the weeklies, fortnightlies and monthly periodicals and magazines usually read in the district are *Dharmyug*, *Saptahik Hindustan*, *Sarita*, *Navneet*, *Niharika*, *Kadam-bini*, *Manohar Kahania*, *Nandan*, *Chandamama*, *Parag*, *Madhuri*, *Urvashi* and *Sushma*.

* The Urdu dailies, weeklies and monthlies popular in the district are *Tej*, *Quami Awaz*, *Blitz*, *Shama*, *Biswin Sadi* and *Sarita*.

A number of free as well as priced publications of the Central and State Governments, the diplomatic missions, various cultural religious, spiritual, political and economic organizations (both national and international) and the various agencies of the United Nations Organization (UNO), are also mailed to some of the libraries and reading rooms in the district.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The Sitapur eye hospital opened a branch at Deoria in 1952 to cure eye ailments. The administration of this branch is being done by a committee consisting of 18 members. Its annual expenditure is about Rs 30,000. It received donations and grants from the Gaon Sabhas, Nagarpalika, Zila Parishad and the State Government.

For the eradication of leprosy from the district, a Kusth Sewa Ashram was established in 1953 at Deoria by the efforts of Baba Raghav Das, which has its headquarters at Deoria and its branches at Captain Ganj, Salempur, Tamkuhi and Kushinagar. This institu-

tion has also opened hospitals in each tahsil. It is managed by a board of 9 members and financed by donations and government grants.

The organizational set up of the Prantiya Vikas Dal in this district consists of 89,454 members. The scope of its activities is mainly confined to the rural areas, where special attention is paid to educate illiterate people. To inculcate the spirit of co-operation among the rural masses *Sharamdan*, sports, games and athletic meets are organised at times by this Dal. The district also has 354 Yuvak Mangal Dals and Mahila Mangal Dals in five development blocks of the district, which strive for the welfare of the women, the youth and the children of the areas they serve.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST*

Baitalpur (pargana Silhat, tahsil Deoria)

Baitalpur lies in Lat. 26°33' N. and Long. 83°44' E., on the Gorakhpur-Deoria metalled road, some 8 km. to the west of Deoria. It is also connected with Desahi Deoria on the north by a cement-concrete track and with Gorakhpur and Deoria by rail and forms a station on the Siwan-Gorakhpur railway line. The government roadways runs a regular bus service between it and neighbouring places.

Before the advent of British rule in this region, it was mostly uninhabited but with the beginning of the railways and other means of communication, followed by the establishment of sugar-mills and other development activities, the population rapidly grew in volume. It has a well developed and modernised daily market on both sides of a metalled road. Being only 8 km. distant from Deoria, it gets almost all such commodities from there as are not generally used by ordinary people. Besides dealing in articles of daily use, it has a sugar-mill and a number of repair workshops. It is electrified, has a primary health centre, an allopathic dispensary, a government-owned agricultural implement manufacturing plant and a utensil manufacturing factory. The population of the place is 958 and area 177.7 ha. It is also the headquarters of a development block spread over an area of 18,241 ha. which has a population of 94,268 and consists of 101 *gaon sabhas* and 11 *nyaya* panchayats. It has a police out-post, a higher secondary school, a family planning centre and a veterinary hospital. Tube-wells and wells constitute the main sources of irrigation and sugar-cane, wheat and paddy are the chief agricultural products.

Bankata (pargana Salempur Majhauhi, tahsil Salempur)

The village gives its name to the headquarters of a development block and stand in Lat. 26°15' N. Long. 84°05' E., some 45 km. to the south-east of the district headquarters and about 30 km. to the east of the tahsil headquarters, connected with the latter by a metalled road. It also forms a railway station of the North-Eastern Railway connecting it with the tahsil and district headquarters.

* The figures of population and area in this chapter pertain to the year 1971

For centuries in the past, this tract was almost entirely covered with thickly-wooded jungles inhabited by ferocious wild tribes who usually fed upon men and animals. In time the local inhabitants became panic stricken because of these cannibalistic activities and exhorted Babu Kanak Shahi (perhaps a tributary chief of the raja of Majhauili under whose authority this region fell) when he was on a hunting expedition, to clear the jungle and relieve them of the increasing terror in which they lived. Being himself unable to do so, he announced the conferrment of the entire tract covered by jungles as a reward to anyone who would wipe out the jungle tribe of the Banjaras. It is believed that an ascetic was requested to settle here and to use his superhuman powers to extirpate the Banjaras. He settled here, performed his *tapasya* (penance) and by virtue of his supreme austerity and self-confidence obtained a considerable following among the local people and his influence spread. As he found it difficult and hazardous to cut down the jungle, he ordered that it be put to fire. The land which once sheltered ferocious marauders thus became habitable and conducive to a peaceful life and assumed the name of Bankata meaning *ban*, forest and *kata*, cut, reflecting the way in which the jungle was destroyed. The population of the village is 1,337 spread over an area of 52 ha.

Since Independence, the place has been making strides toward progress and a certain self-sufficiency. In October, 1962, it was inaugurated as the headquarters of a development block and by 1971 had a population of 77,216, an area of 13,519 ha. with 90 *gaon sabhas* and 11 *nyaya* panchayats. It possesses an intermediate college, a primary health centre, an allopathic dispensary and a veterinary hospital. It also has a regular market dealing mainly in wheat, paddy, sugar-cane and pulses and articles of daily use. The cane-growers of the area surrounding Bankata are well-to-do as they sell their produce to the sugar factory at Pratappur (in Bihar) on the other side of the river.

Barhaj (pargana Salempur Majhauili, tahsil Salempur)

Barhaj, now known as Gaura Barhaj, stands in Lat. 26°16' N. and Long. 83°46' E., on the Gauri Bazar-Rudrapur-Gothani metalled road, some 24 km. south-west of the district headquarters and 28 km. west of the tahsil headquarters.

It is said that in former days, the confluence of the Ghaghra and the Rapti was some 6 km. west of the town but it continued the tendency to shift eastwards till in 1873 was opposite Gaura, about 13 km. west of Barhaj. Barhaj now stands on the Rapti. It is a railway station of the North-Eastern Railway which connects

it with the tahsil headquarters. A bus service is available for the neighbouring places.

Tradition derives the name of Barhaj from a Brahmana, a hermit named Barahan or Barahaji, who became a Muslim. His tomb is a place of great veneration for the local people. The town is supposed to have grown in importance with the foundation of a fort by a Rajput, presumably a Bisen, called Kumar Dhir Sahai but it came to be stormed and destroyed by the Muslim invaders much before the establishment of the modern town though the ruins of the old fort are still traceable. The present town of Barhaj owes its foundation in the 18th century to the ancestors of the raja of Majhauili. It started acquiring commercial importance about 1830 when its first sugar factory was established. Its very location at the mouth of two commercially important rivers, the Ghaghra and the Rapti, greatly helped its trade and commerce with the surrounding regions particularly in commodities like *khandsari* and food-grains.

The place came into sudden prominence in 1857 on account of skirmishes between the local militia and the British troops. Kunwar Singh, the valiant freedom fighter, also took shelter here and is stated to have dug a tunnel all the way from village Paina to Barhaj, the remains of which can still be seen. After the suppression of this historic attempt to shake off the alien yoke, the place relapsed into obscurity only to come back into prominence after the beginning of the present century. During the days of the Khilafat movement, which followed the tragedy of Jallianwala Bagh in 1919, the non-co-operation movement, the salt satyagraha and finally the civil disobedience and the quit India movements, the place figured prominently and the local leaders particularly, Baba Raghava Das, after whom a college here has been named, acted vigorously in the political struggle to overthrow the foreign government. A *shahid smarak* (martyr's memorial) established here still recalls the spirit of sacrifice and courage shown by the local people during the long years of struggle for freedom.

Gaura Barhaj has a population of 17,943 and an area of 5.10 sq. km.

It has a municipal board and is the headquarters of a development block, is electrified, has a dak bungalow maintained by the zila parishad, two dharmshalas, two intermediate colleges for boys and a higher secondary school for girls, two government dispensaries (one each for males and females) a maternity and child health centre, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and a branch of the Allahabad Bank. It also has a daily market, the chief arri-

vals being wheat, pulses, oil-seeds and sugar-cane. On the occasion of Kartiki Purnima a big fair is held here every year, which is attended by about a lakh of people. On the occasions of Dasahra and Dipavali, beautifully organised *jhankis* depicting Rama's exploits against Ravana and his triumphant return to Ayodhya, are taken out which large numbers of people from the neighbouring places throng to see.

Bhagalpur (pargana Salempur Majhau'i, tahsil Salempur)

Connected with the district and tahsil headquarters by metalled roads, this place lies in Lat. $26^{\circ}10'$ N. and Long. $83^{\circ}52'$ E., on the left bank of the river Ghaghra, some 43 km. south of the former and some 18 km. south-west of the latter. It is connected by bus with Salempur and Deoria.

Bhagalpur is believed to have been the site of an ancient city. Apparently the ruins on the Azamgarh bank of the river were once conterminous with Bhalgalpur and are believed to have been separated from it by a change in the course of the Ghaghra. Bhagalpur is said to be a corruption of Bhargiwapur or the village of the Bhargava Brahmanas who are believed to have been among the early settlers of the place. There can hardly be any doubt about its great antiquity, as old ruins of buildings still exist, spreading over a considerable expanse on either side of the Ghaghra. The principal monument, which still stands about 1 km. to the east of the town, is a 10th century pillar of rough grey sandstone with a mutilated inscription. It is about 5 m. in height with a circumference of about 1.5 m. It has a square base but the whole column is round surmounted by a plain cone. The date on the inscription is lost as much of the inscribed portion is injured and defaced but it appears to have been erected by a raja of Ayodhya of the solar race. Many persons call it the staff (*lath*) or club (*gada*) of Parasurama but others say that it belonged to Bhima (one of the five Pandava brothers) and call it *Bhima ki chhari* (stick of Bhima).

Owing to its position on the river it was once a flourishing trade centre but with the coming of modern means of communication it gradually relapsed into a state of insignificance till it became the headquarters of a development block in 1962 and fresh measures were taken to revive its old crafts. In 1971, the Bhagalpur development block had a population of 71,137, was spread over an area of 15,099 ha. and had 81 *gaon sabhas* and 12 *nyaya* panchayats. The place is known particularly for its earthen pots, articles made of wood and bamboo utensils.

The place is electrified, has an intermediate college, a primary health centre, a government allopathic dispensary and a veterinary hospital. It also has a daily market, dealing mainly in wheat, paddy, sugar-cane and the products of wood and bamboo. The place possesses a population of 3,047 and an area of 323.7 ha.

On the occasion of the bathing festival of Kartiki Purnima, a big fair is held here every year, which is attended by over 10,000 people.

Bhalwani (pargana Salempur Majhau'i, tahsil Sa'empur)

Bhalwani is situated in Lat. $26^{\circ}22'$ N. and Long. $83^{\circ}46'$ E., on the metalled road from Deoria to Barhaj at a distance about 27 km. south of the former and 13 km. west of the tahsil headquarters.

In olden days, this tract of land was a big jungle inhabited chiefly by wild bears and was known as Bhaluban or forest (*ban*) of bears (*bhalu*) and, Bhalwani, the present name of the village, seems to be a corruption of Bhaluban. The village has acquired some importance since 1956 when it became the headquarters of a development block of the same name. In 1971 it had a population of 85,394, was spread over an area of 16,095 ha. and consisted of 67 *gaon sabhas* and 11 *nyaya* panchayats.

Of historical remains it possesses only a pond and a Siva temple of considerable antiquity near which a well-attended fair is held every year on the occasion of Sivaratri. A daily market is held here and a fairly large number of traders in food-grains, spices, *gur* and vegetables operate in the market.

Bhalwani is electrified, possesses a branch of the Co-operative Bank, an intermediate college for boys and a college for girls, a primary health centre, a family planning centre and a veterinary hospital. The population of the place is 2,237 and area 293.4 ha.

Captainganj (pargana Haveli, tahsil Hata)

Captainganj lies in Lat. $26^{\circ}55'$ N. and Long. $83^{\circ}42'$ E., on the metalled road from Gorakhpur to Padrauna, about 17 km. north of Hata and 48 km. north of Deoria. From Captainganj a road runs north-eastward to Bijaipur. Two more metalled roads join it with Khartawa and Pipraich on the south and south-west respectively. It is also well connected by rail and road being itself a railway junction of the North-Eastern Railway. Government as well as private buses operate between Captainganj and Gorakhpur. The railway station lies about 1 km. to the west of the town.

The name Captainganj is said to have originated from the establishment here of a police post in the early days of British rule. It came directly under British rule after the struggle of 1857, when the former owners were divested of their estates on the charge of assisting the freedom fighters. Since that time the place seems to have begun its gradual march towards progress and material development. In 1917 it became a town area. The first sugar factory was started in the town in 1934 (near the railway station) which is still contributing considerably to its material prosperity. It reached its second landmark of progress in 1953, when in October of that year it became the headquarters of a development block which is running in the 2nd stage of development and consists of 83 *gaon sabhas*, 11 *nyaya* panchayats and has a population of 99,002 persons. The total area under cultivation in the development block is 15,191 ha. The chief sources of irrigation are tube-wells, pumpin: sets and masonry wells and the main agricultural products wheat, paddy and sugar-cane. It has a distillery which manufactures an inferior type of liquor and alcohol.

The town possesses a population of 10,450 and an area of 1,176.42 ha.

The town is electrified and has an intermediate collage, a police-station, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, a branch of the District Co-operative Bank and a cane co-operative society which caters to the requirements of the cane growers in the town. It has a well-provisioned market which is held twice a week and deals mainly in food-grains, sugar-cane and locally manufactured articles of wood and bamboo. Fairs are held on the occasions of Ram Navami and Sivaratri which attract a large number of people.

Deoria (pargana Salempur Majbauli, tahsil Deoria)

The town which gives the name to the district, lies in Lat. 26°30' N. and Long. 83°46' E., on the highway leading from Kasia to Salempur. It is well linked with the surrounding districts by metalled roads and rail. Within the district the metalled roads join it with important places like Kushinagar, Barhaj, Salempur and Rudrapur. The North-Eastern Railway, with its station in the town, known as Deoria Sadar, connects it with Gorakhpur and Lucknow in the west and Gauhati (in Assam) in the east. Private as well as government roadways buses provide a regular service from here to the neighbouring towns of Barhaj, Lar, Padrauna, Gauri Bazar and the city of Gorakhpur.

There are several villages with slight variations of the same name in the neighbourhood, such as Deoria Khas to the west, Deoria

Ramnath to the south-west and Bans Deoria to the south but the present town of Deoria grew up in the village of Bharauli situated between three Deorias. The name 'Deoria' is commonly applied to places which contain a temple and appears to have been derived from a ruined shrine of Siva located to the north on a mound near the Karna river. The town acquired prominence in 1853, when it was made the headquarters of a tahsil and became a commercial centre after 1885 when the first railway traversed the area. It became a town area in 1892 under Act XX of 1856 and in 1907 it was raised to the status of a notified area under Act I of 1900.

In 1946 it was made the headquarters of a separate district of the same name and three years later it became a municipality. Its population is 38,161 and area 16.2 sq. km. On October 2, 1949, the city was made the headquarters of a development block of the same name. It includes 117 *gaon sabhas* and 12 *nyaya* panchayats, covers an area of 17,998 ha. and has a population of 1,02,476 persons.

The town is electrified, has four dakhungalows, one each maintained by the public works department and the irrigation department and two by the Zila parishad. The place is also served by two dharmshalas and a branch each of the State Bank of India, the Central Bank of India, the Allahabad Bank and the District Co-operative Bank. It also possesses four parks, including a children's park, a public library, run by the municipal board, a post-graduate college and six intermediate colleges including two for girls. It has a market dealing mainly in food-grains, oil, sugar and other necessities of life.

The town has had a piped water supply since 1955. In addition to the collectorate and tahsil buildings, Deoria contains the courts of the district judge and munsif, a police-station, the hospitals of the police and the jail, a government dispensary and a veterinary hospital. It also has a T. B. clinic, a leprosy-control unit, a family planning centre, a primary health centre and a sugar factory. All official buildings are in one cluster making it convenient for people to conduct their business in government offices and in this respect is better than many other towns in the State.

Dudhai (pargana Sidhua Jobna, tahsil Padrauna)

The village of Dudhai lies in Lat. 26°47' N. and Long. 84°13' E., about 77 km. north-east of Deoria by road. It is about 24 km.

south-east of Padrauna by road and about 21 km. by rail. The railway-station of Dudhai has been named after the village. The place is well connected by road on which the U. P. road transport corporation plies its buses.

The village has a population of 2,909 and an area of 345 ha.

It is the headquarters of a block and has a post-office, an allopathic dispensary, a veterinary hospital and a primary health centre. Fridays and Saturdays are the weekly market days. The place is electrified.

Fazilnagar (Pava) (pargana Sidhua Jobna, tahsil Padrauna)

Fazilnagar lies in Lat. 26°41' N. and Long. 84°2' E., on the road from Gorakhpur to Salemgarh, about 52 km. to the north-east of Deoria and about 37 km. to the south-east of the tahsil headquarters. Its old name was Pava.

Fazilnagar has been identified with the ancient Pava, which is accredited by the Jain and Buddhist literatures to have been the place where Mahavira, the last Jain *tirthankara* laid down his mortal remains. It is also believed to have been the place where Buddha accepted the last meal of his life—the Sukaramaddava—from Chunda Kammara after which he proceeded to Kushinara (modern Kushinagar) where he attained *mahaparinirvana*. On the east one can still find a big mound of earth and bricks which is an invitation to archaeologists to unearth the historical wealth hidden beneath.

The population of the place is 1,781 and area 166.7 ha.

Fazilnagar is the headquarters of a development block of the same name, has a population of 90,624, is spread over an area of 15,446 ha. and consists of 99 *gaon sabhas* and 10 *nyaya* panchayats. It has a primary health centre, an allopathic dispensary, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a higher secondary school, a cattle pound and an inspection house. It is electrified and a bi-weekly market is held on Thursdays and Sundays. Bus service is also available.

Gauri Bazar (pargana Siehat, tahsil Deoria)

This place lies in Lat. 26°35' N. and Long. 83°40' E., at the junction of the Gorakhpur-Deoria and the Hata-Rudrapur metalled road, some 16 km. to the west of the district headquarters. The Gauri Bazar Barhaj road also passes through it connecting it with Lar and Gothani in the south. It is also a railway station connecting it with Gorakhpur on the west and lies on the Gorakhpur-



Buddha Mahaparinirvana Temple, Kushinagar

Siwan railway line. A private bus service is available from here for Gorakhpur and Deoria.

The place grew in importance due to its capacity to produce sugar-cane and the consequent manufacture of sugar. Being primarily an agricultural area from the earliest times, it still retains its old character concentrating mainly on agricultural products particularly, wheat, paddy, pulses, oil-seeds, sugar-cane and tobacco.

Before the advent of British rule, this tract was mostly under forest and sparsely inhabited. The population grew with the initiation of development activities, such as the setting up of a sugar factory, the opening of railways and the plying of government roadways transport. The place possesses a population of 954 and an area of 124.2 ha. It is the headquarters of a development block with 95 *gaon sabhas* and 12 *nyaya* panchayats and a population of 1,04,940 persons and is spread over an area of 19,039 ha. It is electrified and has a branch of the District Co-operative Bank, a family planning centre, a maternity and child health centre, a veterinary hospital and a primary health centre. It has made some headway in industry as well having two units which manufacture engineering goods, a number of rice mills and oil-mills and a bone-meal factory.

The Gauri Bazar market is fairly well developed having both wholesale and retail trade. The commodities usually traded in the market are wheat, paddy, oil-seeds, spices and gur as well as other things of daily use.

• **Hata (pargana Shahjahanpur, tahsil Hata)**

The headquarters of a tahsil (of the same name) Hata lies in Lat. 26°44' N. and Long. 83°45' E., on the metalled road between Gorakhpur and Salemgarh, 34 km. north of Deoria. A metalled road leads from here to Captainganj on the north, another goes to Gauri Bazar and Rudrapur in the south-west and a third leads southwards to Deoria. It is served by private and government bus services which connect it with neighbouring place.

• The population of Hata is 4,270 and the area 259 ha.

Hata was inaugurated as the headquarters of a development block in October, 1956, and occupies an area of 15,470 ha., the population being 92,935 people. It consists of 95 *gaon sabhas* and 14 *nyaya* panchayats and also has a court of the tahsil.

The place is not very significant historically but it participated actively in the freedom struggle which began with the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919.

The place is electrified, has an intermediate college, a primary health centre, a government dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a police-station and two inspection houses—one maintained by the canal department and the other by the Zila Parishad. It has a bi-weekly market occurring on Tuesdays and Fridays, wheat, paddy and sugar-cane being the chief articles of trade.

Kasia (pargana Sidhua Jobna, tahsil Padrauna)

Kasia lies in Lat. 26°45' N. and Long. 83°55' E., at the junction of the metalled road from Gorakhpur to Salemgarh and another metalled road from Deoria to Padrauna, some 33 km. north-east from Deoria and about 19 km. to the south of the tahsil headquarters. A metalled road leads north-west to Ramkola and another to Seorahi in the east.

This place has been identified (by archaeologists) with Kusinagara which acquired great historical importance with the discovery of rich archaeological remains of Buddha's time. Kushinagar is recognised as one of the greatest Buddhist pilgrim spots as it was here that the last act of Buddha's life, the attainment of *mahaparinirvana*, took place. Modern excavations have revealed that there was a Buddhist *vihara* (monastery) here which commemorated that great event, as well as the remains of a *stupa* containing a colossal image of the Buddha in the *mahaparinirvana* posture. Amongst these ruins, on a raised platform, there is a temple known as the Nirvana temple, in which there is 7 m. long massive and imposing statue of the Buddha in a recumbent position, carved out of one piece of red sand stone. Buddhists from all over the world, particularly from Nepal, Tibet, China, Burma and Sri Lanka visit this place. Fa-hien, the Chinese monk, who visited the Buddhist places of pilgrimage in India from A. D. 405 to 411, saw at Kusinagara many Buddhist *stupas* and monasteries.

A Chinese temple has also been built here which is looked after by a Chinese *bhikshu*. The Birla temple, which contains a marble statue of the great master, is no less important and around it is a dharamsala which accommodates a large number of devotees and visitors.

A few km. away from the Nirvana temple there is yet another site of great archaeological importance being distinguished by the



Rambhar Stupa, Kushinagar

discovery of an oblong mound crowned by a brick *stupa*, known as the Rambhar *stupa*, surrounded by the ruins of a shrine. It is surmised that the place marks the site of the Mukutbandhanchaitya where the Buddha was cremated and the *stupa* was erected as a memorial to the deceased master. More than 400 m. to the south-west of the Nirvana temple there is a colossal but mutilated statue of the Buddha (carved out of blue stone of the Gaya region, locally known as Matha Kanwar. The figure is seated under a *bodhi* tree symbolising the supreme moment in Buddha's life before he became the enlightened one. It is likely that the Chinese monk, Hiuen Tsang, who made a prolonged stay (of over 10 years) in India (leaving for China in A. D. 648) also paid a visit to Kushinagar where he saw the remains of monasteries and *stupas*, one of which might have been the Matha Kunwar.

Kasia was inaugurated as the headquarters of a development block of the same name in October, 1957, which has an area of 19,309 ha., a population of 96,358 people, 89 *gaon sabhas* and 9 *nyaya* panchayats. In October, 1971, it became a town area. The town possesses a population of 4,136 and an area of 182 ha. It has a regular water and electric supply and has three inspection houses, a tourist bungalow maintained by the government of India, a post-graduate college, an intermediate college, a primary health centre, an allopathic dispensary, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a veterinary hospital and an air strip. A fair is held annually at Kushinagar on the day of Vaisaka *purnima* in memory of the Buddha which lasts for several days and is attended by a large number of people not only from neighbouring districts but also from the neighbouring States of the country. A large number of foreign pilgrims also visits this place on this auspicious occasion. It has a good market which is held twice a week (on Sundays and Mondays) dealing in the necessities of life, particularly agricultural products. The chief articles of trade are earthenware, articles made of wood, toys and things of daily use. Being a place of great historical significance and a renowned Buddhist pilgrim spot, it invites a great rush of visitors and pilgrims every year, Kasia is provided with good motorable road transport facilities. Private as well as government buses and private taxis ply frequently between this place and almost all the significant places of the district such as Padrauna, Tamkuhi, Fazilnagar, Ramkola, Captainganj, Khadda and others. A bus service is also available to and from Gorakhpur.

Khadda (pargana Sidhwa Jobna, tahsil Hata)

Being the headquarters of the northern most development block of the district, Khadda lies in Lat. 27°10' N. and Long.

83°52' E., on the Gorakhpur-Chitauni loop line, about 72 km. north of Deoria and 74 km. north of the tahsil headquarters. Metalled roads also connect it with Padrauna and Captainganj.

The place possesses a population of 4,529 persons which is spread over an area of 390 ha.

The Khadda development block (in post-stage II) is flanked by the Gandak and the Little Gandak on the north and west respectively (which very often inundate it) and has a population of 1,01,418 persons, an area of 3,155 ha. and consists of 73 *gaon sabhas* and 10 *nyaya* panchayats.

A sugar-mill was established here in 1934. Khadda was inaugurated as the headquarters of a development block in October, 1962, is electrified, has a police-station, a sugar factory, the District Co-operative Bank, a government dispensary, a family planning centre, a veterinary hospital and an inspection house maintained by the irrigation department. Government as well as private bus services are available for the neighbouring places.

Lar (pargana Salempur Majhauri, tahsil Salempur)

Lar is situated in Lat. 26°12' N. and Long. 83°58' E., at the junction of the metalled road from Gorakhpur and Deoria to Chapra with that from Hata to Gothani via Rudrapur, at a distance of 40 km. south-east of the district headquarters and about 6.5 km. east of the railway line leading to Ballia, on which there is a railway station known as Lar Road. Government roadways buses ply from Lar to neighbouring places such as Deoria, Barhaj and Gorakhpur.

Tradition has it that a local saint, probably Vasishta, had a cow which was carried off by a tiger. The cow was rescued by following the trail of foam (*lar*) which had dropped from her mouth and so the place became known as Lar.

At one time it was said to look like "one of the most imposing towns in the district. It is surrounded by beautiful mango groves and fields in an unusually excellent cultivation. On a closer inspection it is found to contain no building of importance except the Imambara".¹ The Imambara and two or three mosques are ascribed to the strong Muslim fervour of the Iyaki Shaikhs who, in the beginning of this century, flourished here as the principal merchants of the town.

¹. Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, p. 248.

The town has a population of 13,228 and an area of 886 ha.

It is administered as a town area, is electrified and has an intermediate college for boys and a higher secondary school for girls, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, a branch of the Central Bank of India and the District Co-operative Bank. It also has both regular and bi-weekly markets which deal in agricultural products, such as wheat, paddy, sugar-cane and pulses and in other necessities of life. It became the headquarters of a development block of the same name in October, 1956, and in 1971 had a population of 97,204 spread over an area of 17,304 ha. and consisted of 80 *gaon sabhas* and 12 *nyaya* panchayats.

Padrauna (pargana Sidhua Jobna, tahsil Padrauna)

Padrauna, the headquarters of the north-eastern tahsil, known as Padrauna Chavani, is a cluster of five villages lying on the bank of the river Bansi. It lies in Lat. 26°54' N. and Long. 83°59' E., on the Partawal-Captainganj-Tamkuhi metalled road, about 65 km. north of Kasia and is connected with it and Captainganj by a metalled road. It is also connected by a metalled road with Nebua Naurangia, the headquarters of a development block in tahsil Hata. A railway station of the North-Eastern Railway connects it with Gorakhpur in the west and Seorahi in the south-east. It is also served by the U. P. government roadways bus service which plies a number of daily buses to different parts of Deoria. Private buses and taxis also provide more or less regular service.

Cunningham (the archaeologist) identified Padrauna with Pava which itself is now being identified with present-day Fazilnagar, a place 16 km. south-east of Kushinagar but according to one view this theory is not tenable in the light of modern research. One objection is that it does not lie on the direct route from Rajagriha to Kusinara, which the Buddha took on his last journey and there seems to be no reason why a traveller (in those days) should have taken an indirect and longer route when an easy and direct one existed. To the north of this town there still stands an old Jain temple containing fragments of sculpture. About 6.5 km. east of Padrauna is the tomb of one Burhan Shahid, a name which occurs among the companions of the legendary figure, Saiyid Salar Masaud. Padrauna is believed to have been ruled over by a Rajput adventurer, Madan Singh, in the 15th century who gave it to his family priest, Rasu. The progress and development of modern Padrauna is of recent origin, perhaps beginning after the establishment of the Kurmi principality in the beginning of 18th century. It gained some importance after the establishment of a sugar factory in 1984.

The population of Padrauna is 19,450 and its area 6.89 sq. km.

Padrauna became a municipality in 1950 under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, and seven years later, on January 1, 1957, it became the headquarters of a development block, with an area of 28,650 ha. a population of 1,64,445 people, 130 *gaon sabhas* and 15 *nyaya* panchayats. It is electrified and has a water supply (maintained by the municipal board) a degree college, a veterinary hospital, a dispensary for males and another for females, a T. B. clinic and a cattle pound. It has a branch each of the Hindustan Commercial Bank, the Punjab National Bank and the Land Development Bank. There are two inspection houses, one maintained by the public works department and the other by the irrigation department, two cinema houses and a market dealing in brassware and metalware. Melas are held on the occasions of Dasahra and Sivratri, which are attended by a large number of people.

Pathardeva (pargana Sidhwa Jobna, tahsil Deoria)

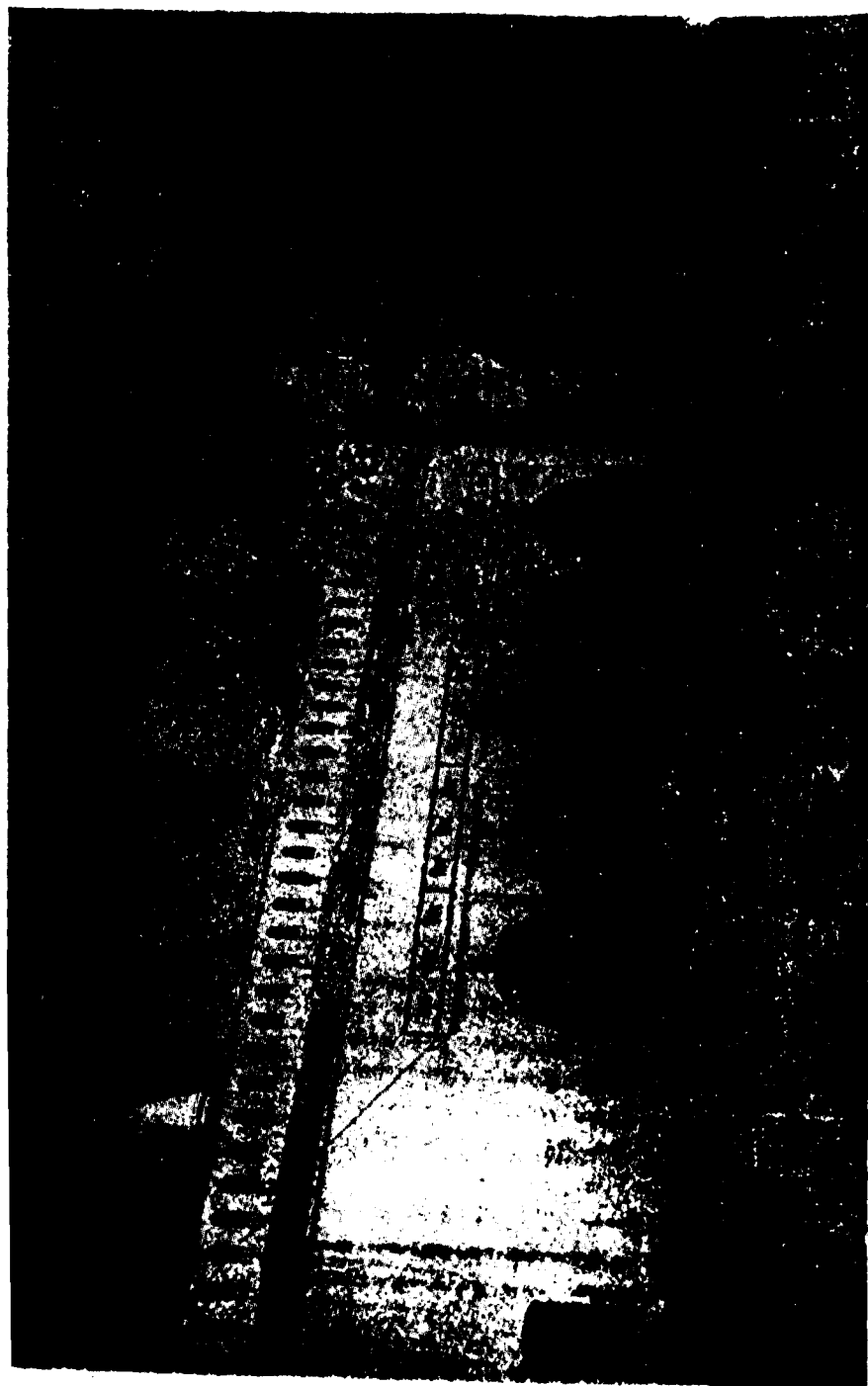
Situated in Lat. 26°34' N. and Long. 83°55' E., about 27 km. north-east of Deoria, this place became the headquarters of a development block of the same name on October 2, 1959, which in 1971 had a population of 81,406 spread over an area of 16,134 ha. and consisted of 91 *gaon sabhas* and 9 *nyaya* panchayats. It lies on the right side of the metalled road running from Kanchanpur to Kotwa. Unmetalled roads connect it with the neighbouring villages of Bhikampura on the south-west and Vishunpur on the south-east.

Pathardeva has a population of 2,746, spread over an area of 253 ha.

It is electrified and has an intermediate college, an allopathic dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a primary health centre and a branch of the Deoria-Kasia-Co-operative Bank. Markets are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, dealing mainly in agricultural products such as wheat, rice and pulses.

Ramkola (pargana Sidhwa Jobna, tahsil Hata)

Ramkola lies in Lat. 26°54' N. and Long. 83°50' E., on the Captainganj-Padrauna metalled road. A metalled road leading south-eastward goes to Kasia, another connects it with Singhapatti and a third goes to Harpur to the north-west. It is well connected by rail as well as road and has a railway station of the North-Eastern Railway on the Gorakhpur-Siwan loop line which joins it with Captainganj on the west and Padrauna on the east.



Dugdeshwar Nath Temple, Rudrapur

The place acquired some prominence after the erection of two sugar factories in the thirties of the present century. It became a town area in 1958 and the headquarters of a development block of the same name on June 2, 1962, and is in stage II of development. It has a population of 1,04,185, an area of 20,516 ha. and 58 *gaon sabhas* and 9 *gaon* panchayats.

The population of the town is 7,057 and its area 710.6 ha.

It is electrified, (power being supplied from its own power station) and possesses an intermediate college, a higher secondary school, a primary health centre, a government dispensary, a veterinary hospital and an inspection bungalow under the management of the public works department. It has a woodwork industry and two sugar factories, which, with another located in the neighbouring village of Laxmiganj, have a total investment of Rs 3 crores, a total capacity of producing 20,000 tonnes of sugar annually with an estimated value of Rs 4 crores and employ about 3,000 workers. It is also a flourishing trade centre of food-grains such as wheat, paddy, pulses, oil-seeds and sugar-cane in which trade is carried on daily. A big fair associated with Dasahra is held here on the 10th day of the bright half of Asvina Sudi and is attended by about 60,000 persons. Metal utensils, toys, bangles, earthenware and sweets are sold here on this occasion.

Rampur Karkhana (pargana Shahjahanpur, tahsil Deoria)

This place is administered as a town area and lies in Lat. 26°34' N. and Long. 83°42' E., at 7 km. north of the district headquarters on the Deoria-Kasia metalled road and at a distance of about 60 km. from Gorakhpur. A short metalled branch connects the town with the main road, which thus affords access to the railway station of Deoria. A small cement-concrete track of about 3 km. towards the north-west connects it with the Desahi Deoria-Baitalpur metalled road.

The town has a population of 4,612 persons and covers an area of 178.8 ha.

The place is one of the main centres of the sugar industry in the district and has nearly 500 such units. It is the headquarters of a development block, covers an area of 1,448 ha. has a population of 76,171 persons and 89 *gaon sabhas* and 19 *nyaya* panchayats. It is electrified, has two higher secondary schools, an allopathic dispensary, a primary health centre and a veterinary hospital. A weekly market is also held here on Thursdays.

Rudrapur (pargana Silhat, tahsil Deoria)

Rudrapur lies in Lat. 26°26' N. and Long. 83°36' E., at the junction of the Gauri Bazar-Barhaj and the Rudrapur-Deoria metalled roads, about 23 km. west of the district headquarters. Close to the town on the west flows the Majhna or Bathua river which is joined at a short distance to the south by the Karna.

The chief interest of the town lies in its historical and archaeological remains as it has been identified with a large village visited by the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang on his way from Kushinagar to Varanasi. The place has also been identified with Hansakshetra mentioned by him, local tradition stating that in the beginning of the 6th century B. C. a Rajput named Vasishta Singh came here from Ayodhya and founded a stronghold which was afterwards seized by the Bhars. Later it came to be occupied by the Srinet Rajputs of Satasi and the town derives its present name from one Raja Rudra Pratap Singh (a descendent of the Satasi rajas) who built a fort on the old site. The great Hindu stronghold of Sahankot, or Nathunagar, about half a km. to the north of the town, constitutes one of the chief antiquities of the place and is approximately 700 m. by 1,200 m. in area. It has been identified¹ as a possible site of a large Samgharama or monastery mentioned by Fa Hien and Hiuen Tsang, which appears to have been situated to the north-east of the city of the Moriyas. On the east of the fort lies an old temple of Siva, popularly known as the Dugdheswar Nath temple. It contains little of interest except a colossal statue of Vishnu and a small image of the last Jain *tirthankara*. Local tradition has it that a long time back some cows were grazing here when all of a sudden milk started pouring from their udders. When the place where the milk was falling was dug, a Siva *linga* was found there and to mark the site a temple was raised on it. A fair frequented by over one thousand persons is held here annually on the occasion of Sivaratri. The neighbourhood of this temple is full of mounds and ancient ruins, spread over an area of over 10 km. from east to west, indicating that once upon a time a big city existed here.

From the days of Raja Rudra Pratap Singh till the struggle of 1857, Rudrapur was the headquarters of the Satasi family. As a punitive measure for joining hands with the freedom fighters, the entire estate of the Satasi family was confiscated by the British, the title thus lapsing.

¹ Fuhrer, A : *The Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, pp. 249-250

The town is administered as a town area and is electrified. Its population is 12,681 and area 543 ha. It possesses a primary health centre, a family planning centre, a maternity and child health centre, a veterinary hospital, a degree college and two intermediate colleges. Markets are held on Tuesdays and Fridays dealing mainly in wheat, pulses and other cereals.

It is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name which was inaugurated on July 1, 1957, and comprises 103 *gaon sabhas* and 13 *nyaya* panchayats and has an area of 19,575 ha. and a population of 1,02,237. The block is served by private transport and also by government roadways buses which run a regular services from Deoria to Rudrapur via Gauri Bazar.

Salempur (pargana Salempur Majhauri, tahsil Salempur)

The town of Salempur forms the headquarters of a tahsil and a development block and lies in Lat. 26°17' N. and Long. 83°56' E., on the west bank of the Little Gandak some 29 km. south of the district headquarters on the Deoria-Lar metalled road. Metalled roads also connect it with the neighbouring places of Turtipar, Majhauri, Bhatpar and Sohanpur. The metalled road which joins it with Majhauri goes further northwards to the Bhatpar railway station on the main line. Being itself a station on the North-Eastern Railway and lying on the Bhatni-Aunrihar-Allahabad main line, it is directly connected by rail with the neighbouring places of Barhaj and Bhagalpur. Government buses ply regularly between Salempur and the neighbouring places of Deoria, Lar, etc. The population of the town is 17,943 and area 5.1 sq. km. The Salempur development block was inaugurated in August, 1953, and in 1971 had a population of 1,09,385 spread over an area of 15,998 ha., 129 *gaon sabhas* and 16 *nyaya* panchayats.

The history of Salempur is intimately connected with the big neighbouring village of Majhauri which is perhaps the more ancient of the two and rises on the north or the left bank of the Little Gandak. It had been the seat of the Majhauri rajas and tradition has it that Majhauri was founded by one Mayur, the ancestor of the Malla-Bisens whose first residence is said to have been at Kundilpur, some 3 km. away from it. There are various versions of his origin : one is that he came from Hastinapur and was the son of Ashvathama (the son of Dronacharya of the *Mahabharata*) and another that he was an emigrant from the Panchbati Maharashtradesa. With regard to the name of the town, popular accounts are equally varied. According to one a grant of land was made to Sheikh Salim Chishti, the famous saint of Fatehpur Sikri, by one of Akbar's officers, Fidai Khan, when he

invaded this region and the town which sprang up on this land became known as Salempur in his honour. Another story goes that Raja Bodh Mal, who became the ruler in 1564, was arrested and taken to the Mughal court for default of revenue where he was converted to Islam and named Mohammad Salim. On his return the rani refused to allow him into the Majhauuli castle. He therefore settled down in the town of Nagar, on the opposite bank of the Little Gandak, and named the town Salempur. His tomb is a poor structure of brick standing on the river bank between the two towns.

During the freedom struggle of 1857, Majhauuli was a scene of a fierce battle between the freedom fighters and the British army, spelling the defeat of the former and the virtual end of the struggle in the eastern part of the State.

The town is electrified, has a regular water supply, an intermediate college, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and a rest-house under the management of the irrigation department. It also possesses a branch of the State Bank of India, a branch of the District Co-operative Bank and a flourishing market is held twice a week (on Sundays and Thursdays) which deals mainly in food-grains, spices, gur and locally manufactured agricultural implements.

Seorahi (pargana Sidhua Jobna, tahsil Padrauna)

Seorahi is connected by road with Deoria and Padrauna. It lies in Lat. $26^{\circ}41' N.$ and Long. $84^{\circ}16' E.$, about 70 km. north-east of Deoria and the road connecting it passes through Kasia and Tamkuhi. It is on the south-east of Padrauna, distant about 32 km. by road. The metre-gauge railway line also connects the place with Padrauna. The place is served by government buses. After the establishment of a sugar factory in 1913, the village started growing gradually and it was raised to the status of a town area on August 1, 1971, under the U. P. Town Areas Act of 1914. The town has a population of 7,555 and an area of 0.73 sq. km.

It is a block headquarters, has an allopathic dispensary for males and another for females, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, a cattle pound, an inspection house of the irrigation department and a sugar factory. It is electrified. A fair is held here every year on the occasion of Dasahra.

Sohnag (pargana Salempur Majhauuli, tahsil Salempur)

The village of Sohnag lies in Lat. $26^{\circ}15' N.$ and Long. $83^{\circ}55' E.$, about 5 km. south-west of Salempur and about 2 km. west of

the road from that town to Bhagalpur. It derives its importance from its archaeological remains which contain the ruins of an ancient tank of an area of about 5 ha. and large remains of specimens of sculpture apparently dating back to the later Buddhist period. To the west of the tank and along its entire length rises a mound of large bricks, with an elevation of about 17 m., the width in the widest part being about 33 m. The highest part is probably a relic *stupa* and the lower portion, which shows traces of a quadrangular building, a Buddhist *vihara*. On the summit of the mound there is a small ruined brick enclosure containing a temple dedicated to Parashuram in which there are four Buddhist items of sculpture, locally known as Chaturbhuj Narayana. Outside the shrine there are the remains of cloisters and a small temple of Siva, locally known as Maharudranath. On the edge of the tank are the remains of an ancient stone ghat and under an adjoining *pipal* tree a small image known as Laukus. The name seems to have been compounded from those of Rama's two sons, Lava and Kusa. Almost all the historical remains, statues, temples, etc., which this place has so far yielded appear to be of Buddhist origin.

Tradition relates that the place was originally called Nagpur and that it was here that Parashuram remained during the period of his penance. Tradition further has it that the ruined temples were restored by a Nepalese king, Sohan, while he was on his way to Varanasi to be cured of his leprosy but he was miraculously cured here by taking a bath in this temple, from which event the place came to be called Sohnag after his name (Sohan). According to another account, Sohan was a Bisen Rajput and the Bisens of Majhauuli claim some sort of connection with this shrine.

The place is rich in archaeological remains. As popularly conjectured, it may have been one of a line of Buddhist cities extending from Bhagalpur ghat on the Ghaghra to Kushinagar, the intermediate stages being perhaps Kahaon, Sohnag, Khukhunda, Deoria and Tarkulwa.

The place still inspires great veneration in the local people and marks the site of a well-attended annual fair held in the month of Vaisakha. It has a higher secondary school, an allopathic dispensary and a small market. Sohnag possesses a population of 95 and an area of 16.6 ha.

Sukrauli (pargana Silhat, tahsil Hata)

Situated in Lat. $26^{\circ}44' N.$ and Long. $83^{\circ}39' E.$, on the metalled road from Gorakhpur to Kasia, about 8 km. to the west

of Hata and 42 km. north-west of Deoria, this village is the headquarters of a development block of the same name which was established in 1962. It has an area of 15,864 ha., a population of 90,464 persons, 94 *gaon sabhas* and 11 *nyaya* panchayats. Before it became the headquarters of a development block, it was a small and insignificant village subsisting mainly on the prosperity of the neighbouring places. It is electrified and has an intermediate college, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and a bi-weekly market held on Tuesdays and Fridays. It has two temples, known as Kali Mandir and Siva Mandir which have some claim to being historical and they are scenes of annual fairs on the occasions of Ram Navami and Sivratri.

The development block as well as the village are served mainly by private buses plying from Hata to Gorakhpur.

The village possesses a population of 1,572 and an area of 148 ha.

CONVERSION FACTORS

Money

- 1 pie = 0.52 paise
- 1 pice = 1.56 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 = 259 hectares
- 1 acre = 0.405 hectare

Cubic Measure

- 1 cubic foot = 0.028 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

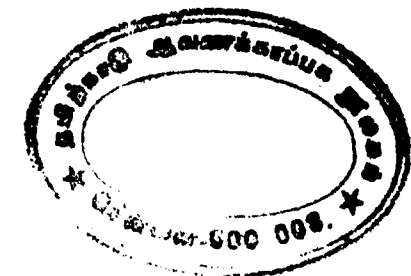
Thermometer Scales

- 1° Fahrenheit = $9/5$ ° centigrade + 32

* As defined in Indian Standards of Weight Act, 1939

GLOSSARY

<i>Aangan</i>	.. Courtyard
<i>Adalat</i>	.. Court of justice
<i>Aksharambha</i>	.. Commencement of reading and writing
<i>Amil</i>	.. Official who collected revenue under the Nawabs of Avadh
<i>Amin</i>	.. Petty revenue official
<i>Arhar</i>	.. Pigeon pea
<i>Ashram</i>	.. Hermitage
<i>Bahubhoj</i>	.. Feast given in the honour of bride at her in-laws place
<i>Barat</i>	.. Marriage procession
<i>Barkandaz</i>	.. A force recruited for maintenance of order
<i>Bathua</i>	.. Leafy vegetable
<i>Belpatra</i>	.. Leaf of <i>Bel</i> tree
<i>Bheli</i>	.. Ball of jaggery
<i>Bidi</i>	.. Indigenous cigarette made of <i>tendu</i> leaves and tobacco
<i>Chak</i>	.. A plot of land
<i>Chakla</i>	.. A subdivision
<i>Chakledar</i>	.. Collector of revenue under nawabs of Avadh
<i>Chapra</i>	.. A variety of lac
<i>Chaudhri</i>	.. The headman of a pargana
<i>Chiyania</i>	.. A method of loan advancement
<i>Dabal</i>	.. Double
<i>Dai</i>	.. Midwife without a diploma
<i>Dam</i>	.. Under Akbar, a copper coin worth about 1/40 rupee



<i>Dharma</i>	.. The Hindu sacred laws
<i>Dhenkli</i>	.. Contrivance for lifting water from wells or ponds
<i>Dholak</i>	.. A long cylendrical drum covered with parchment at both end
<i>Dhoti</i>	.. Sari
<i>Diggies</i>	.. Tank where water is stored
<i>Fasli</i>	.. Agriculture year beginning from July 1
<i>Fatiha</i>	.. Lamentation prayer
<i>Faujdar</i>	.. Subordinate military officer under Mughals
<i>Faujdari</i>	.. The charge of a <i>faujdar</i>
<i>Gandas</i>	.. A unit of weight measurement
<i>Gaon</i>	.. Village
<i>Gaon sabha</i>	.. Village assembly
<i>Ghani</i>	.. Indigenous oil extracting machine
<i>Ghar</i>	.. House
<i>Gherao</i>	.. Picketting
<i>Gramini</i>	.. Village headman
<i>Gur</i>	.. Jaggery
<i>Gurudwara</i>	.. Place of worship of Sikhs
<i>Gurukula</i>	.. Residential educational institution at Guru's own place
<i>Haldi</i>	.. Tumeric
<i>Havan</i>	.. Fire sacrifice
<i>Jali (s)</i>	.. Mesh
<i>Jarib</i>	.. A unit of land measurement
<i>Jhil</i>	.. Lake
<i>Kamdar</i>	.. Labourer
<i>Kanungo</i>	.. A petty revenue official
<i>Kathas</i>	.. Mythological stories

<i>Khadi</i>	.. Hand woven and hand spun cloth
<i>Khandsari</i>	.. Indigenous white sugar
<i>Kodun</i>	.. A coarse grain
<i>Kurta</i>	.. Long shirt
<i>Lahi</i>	.. An oil seed
<i>Latha</i>	.. A unit of land measurement
<i>Lungi</i>	.. A short <i>dhoti</i>
<i>Madarsa</i>	.. Junior school for Muslims usually attached to mosques
<i>Maktab</i>	.. Muslim primary school
<i>Manjha</i>	.. Thread used for flying kite
<i>Maulvi</i>	.. Muslim priest
<i>Meelad</i>	.. Religious meeting of Muslims
<i>Mehr</i>	.. Dower money
<i>Muli</i>	.. Radish
<i>Mundan</i>	.. First tonsure ceremony
<i>Mungni</i>	.. Engagement of marriage
<i>Munsif</i>	.. A puisne judge
<i>Muqaddam</i>	.. In 13-14 century, sometimes a leading or prominent man; sometimes specifically a village headman. From 16 century the latter use predominates
<i>Naib</i>	.. Assistant
<i>Nazim</i>	.. Head of district with revenue, executive and judicial power in pre British days
<i>Nazul</i>	.. The land belonging to government situated within municipal area but not belonging to any particular department
<i>Nigam</i>	.. Corporation
<i>Nyaya</i>	.. Justice
<i>Pachania</i>	.. A method of loan advancement

<i>Panch</i>	..	Member of village panchayat
<i>Panchpadiyana</i>	..	Quinplets
<i>Pathshala</i>	..	School
<i>Patwari</i>	..	A petty revenue official
<i>Payal</i>	..	Anklet
<i>Phag</i>	..	Folk song
<i>Phul</i>	..	An alloy
<i>Pracharak</i>	..	Propagator
<i>Pradhan</i>	..	Head of the village panchayat
<i>Pramukh</i>	..	Chairman
<i>Prasad</i>	..	Offering made before deity or God
<i>Rab</i>	..	Molasses
<i>Raj</i>	..	Dominion
<i>Raziya</i>	..	A standard weight
<i>Rehat</i>	..	Persian wheel
<i>Resha</i>	..	Fibre
<i>Rukka</i>	..	A bill of exchange
<i>Sahayak</i>	..	Assistant
<i>Sandhya</i>	..	Evening prayer
<i>Sangh</i>	..	Federation
<i>Sarpanch</i>	..	Head of the panchayat
<i>Sawan</i>	..	A coarse grain
<i>Sei</i>	..	A standard weight
<i>Savain</i>	..	Vermicelli
<i>Shramdan</i>	..	Voluntary labour
<i>Tapasya</i>	..	Penance
<i>Tazia</i>	..	An imitation of the tombs of Hasan and Husain, generally made of coloured paper and bamboo
<i>Thana</i>	..	Police-station

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Results of Mid-term General Elections to the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, (1969), (Allahabad, 1969)

INDEX

" A "

Abbasi : 55
 Adaula : 253
 Adinath : 24
 Afghans : 29
 Agariya : 54
 Agarwals : 53
 Agra : 160, 202
 Agra University : 230
 Ahilyapur : 134
 Ahirs : 53
 Ahrauli : 106
 Ahrauli Bazar : 254
 Alibak, Qutb-ud-din : 163
Ain-i-Akbari : 30
 Ajitmal : 34
Akash Marg : 276
 Akbar : 28, 29, 30, 132, 164, 166, 295,
 Ala-ud-din : 1671
 Ali Quli Khan Khan-i-Zaman : 28
 Allahabad : 134, 172, 180, 295
 Allahabad Bank : 124, 281, 285, 295
 Allan Octavian Hume : 38
 Amethia : 52
 Ami : 86
 Ananda : 21, 24
 Anarudhawa : 21
 Angulimal : 13
 Aniruddha : 21
 Ansari : 55
 Anupiya : 18
 Aonia : 30
 Arabi : 50
 Arabian : 243
 Arthashastra : 22, 163
 Arya Samaj : 55, 57
 Arya Samajis : 60
 Aryan : 17
 Asaf-ud-daula : 33
 Ashra : 62
 Asthanvikas : 63

Ashvathama : 295
 Asian : 230
 Asna : 254
 Asoka (Ashoka) : 22, 24, 163
 Assam : 284
 Assamese : 50
Astha : 234
 Aunrihar : 134, 295
 Aurangzeb : 30, 31, 103, 164
 Avadh : 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37,
 55, 131, 164, 165, 168, 176, 177
 Ayodhya : 18, 28, 282, 294
 Azamgarh : 1, 2, 5, 35, 36, 37, 282

" B "

Baba Raghav Das Bhagwandas Degree
 College, Barhaj : 231
 Baba Raghav Das Kustha Seva Ashram :
 201
 Baba Raghav Das Post-Graduate College,
 Deoria : 231
 Babus : 36
 Badawarghat : 10
 Badhaks : 176
 Badhik : 54
 Badrauli : 254
 Baghel : 52
 Baghi : 254
 Bahadur Khan : 28
 Bahadur Shah : 31, 164
 Baheliya : 54
 Bahlol (Bahlul) : 27
 Bahraich : 5
 Baldaphulwariya : 254
 Baikunthpur (Baikuntpur) : 7, 8, 40,
 61, 76, 253
 Bairauna Khas : 22
 Bais : 56
 Baisakhi Purnima : 62
 Baiswar : 54
 Baitalpur : 111, 134, 156, 249, 252, 253,
 279, 293

- Bal Sadan : 232
 Balai : 54
 Baliharana-Vana : 20
 Baliia : 1, 2, 129, 290
 Ballua : 253
 Balmiki : 54
 Bandupur : 254
 Bangash : 55
 Bangash, Payinda Mohammad : 29
 Bangra Bazar : 40
 Banjara (s) : 32, 33, 165, 226, 280
 Banjaria : 253
 Bank Khas : 8
 Bankata : 134, 178, 250, 252, 253, 279, 280
 Bankatia : 157
 Banri : 9
 Bans Deoria : 285
 Bansgaon : 8
 Bans : 9, 10, 37, 130
 Bansighat : 9, 10
 Bansphor : 54
 Barahaj : 381
 Barahan : 281
 Barahara : 114
 Baraharaganj : 134
 Barbak Shah : 27
 Barbari : 99
 Barhachaura : 253
 Barhai : 53
 Barhaj : 36, 40, 41, 96, 107, 108, 111, 112, 124, 126, 129, 134, 135, 141, 157, 177, 178, 192, 202, 243, 247, 250, 251, 253, 280, 281, 284, 286, 290, 294, 295
 Barhaj Bazar : 134
 Barhalganj : 243
 Barhari : 6
 Bari (s) : 6, 81
 Baripatti : 7
 Barpar : 61, 77
 Barsipar : 7
 Barupar : 114
 Barwaratanpur : 254
 Barwar : 54
 Basarh : 20
 Basi : 81
 Basot : 54
 Basti : 3, 31, 166
 Bathnagala : 81
 Bathua : 294
 Beerpur : 254
 Behana : 55
 Beldar : 54
 Beliva : 254
 Beltikra : 253
 Belwar : 120
 Benaras : 38, 41
 Bengal : 26, 29, 104, 134
 Bengal and North Western Railway (B.N.W.R.) : 134
 Bengali : 50
 Betiah : 1, 2, 3, 8
 Bhagalpur : 20, 77, 108, 157, 250, 252, 253, 282, 295, 297
 Bhagatiya : 53
 Bhagi Kutti : 61, 76
 Bhainsan : 76
 Bhalya Dwi : 60
 Bhalua : 7
 Bhaluan : 157, 250, 252, 254
 Bhaluban : 283
 Bhaluhi : 254
 Bhalwan : 178, 283
 Bhanpatia : 114
 Bhantu : 54
 Bhar (s) : 22, 24, 26, 163, 294
 Bhragava : 52, 282
 Bharpatia : 195
 Bhartiya Jan Sangh : 270, 271, 273, 274
 Bhartiya Kranti Dal : 273, 274, 275
 Bhartiya Lok Dal : 276
 Bhatni : 111, 119, 134, 136, 157, 178, 180, 250, 252, 253, 295
 Bhatpar : 131, 295
 Bhatpar Rani : 7, 111, 124, 134, 157, 203, 215, 250, 252, 253
 Bhaupar : 30
 Bha.e, Binoba (Acharya) : 179
 Bhima : 282
 Bhima ki Chhari : 282
 Bhimasena : 18
 Bhimasena Ki Lat : 18
 Bhingari : 129
 Bhishunpur : 252
 Bhoganagava : 18
 Bhoja : 25
 Bhoja Deva : 25

- Bhojpuri : 51
 Bhuinars : 52
 Bhuyiar : 54
 Bible : 58
 Bihar : 1, 3, 8, 12, 17, 20, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 34, 38, 49, 85, 129, 134, 280
 Bijapur : 283
 Bird : 37
 Birla Temple : 288
 Bisen : 26, 27, 29, 30, 34, 52, 53, 55, 281, 297
 Bishanpura : 177, 178, 253
 Bishunpur Bindwalia : 63, 76
 Bishunpura : 250
 Biswin Sadf : 277
 Blitz : 277
 Bodarwar : 134
 Bodh Mal Raja : 296
 Bradshaw (Major) : 35
 Brahma : 56
 Brahmana (s) : 52, 59, 120, 281
 British : 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 84, 94, 126, 139, 155, 165, 167, 179, 180, 204, 226, 243, 259, 270, 279, 281, 284, 287, 294, 296
 Buddha : 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 58, 59, 63, 225, 230, 233, 286, 288, 289, 291
 Buddha Post-Graduate College, Kushi-nagar : 230
 Buddhism : 22, 51
 Buddhist (s) : 23, 24, 25, 52, 56, 58, 63, 130, 131, 225, 286, 288, 297
 Burhan Shahid : 58, 62, 291
 Burke : 33
 Burma : 49, 288
 Butwal : 34, 35, 126
 " C "
- Captainganj : 6, 7, 10, 37, 42, 45, 111, 127, 129, 131, 134, 135, 156, 178, 196, 203, 216, 250, 252, 254, 277, 283, 284, 287, 289, 290, 291, 292
 Captainganj Distillery : 109
 Careers and Courses : 277
 Carlisle : 23
 Central Bank of India : 121, 124, 285, 291
 Chaff : 85
 Chakabwa Tal : 9
 Chakdalya : 254
 Chakhni Tal : 9
 Chakia : 251
 Chakrava : 253
 Chamars : 54
 Champaran : 26, 27
 Chanau : 53
 Chanda : 20
 Chandel : 52, 55
 Chandki-Devi-Ka-Asthan : 10
 Chandrasen : 28
 Chandragupta I : 23
 Chandragupta II : 23
 Chandragupta Maurya : 22
 Chandraketu : 18
 Chapra : 290
 Chaturbhuj Narayana : 297
 Chauhan : 52, 55
 Chaumukha : 130
 Chaumukhia : 77
 Chauri Chaura : 39, 269
 Chetianwa : 19
 Chhaoni : 201
 Chhitauni (Chitauni) : 8, 106, 114, 192, 254, 290
 Chhitauni Ghat : 134
 Chhigaur : 254
 Chhillupar : 30
 China : 24, 288, 289
 Chinese : 125, 230, 288, 289, 294
 Chippi : 53
 Christian (s) : 51, 52, 56, 58, 63, 66, 67, 226
 Christmas : 63
 Chunda Kammara : 286
 Communist Party : 270, 271, 273, 275, 276
 Congress : 39, 41, 42, 55, 155, 270, 273, 274, 275, 276
 Congress (Organisation) : 274, 276
 Congress (R) : 273
 " D "
- Dabgar : 54
 Daodeha : 253
 Dalip Nagar : 61
 Danda : 85
 Dandupur : 254

314

DEORIA DISTRICT

Dangar : 54
 Danila : 234
 Darzi : 53, 56
 Dasahra : 56, 60, 61, 130
 Dasanradiya : 114
 Dashalkshana : 63
 Dawait Puja : 60
 Dayanand : 60
 Dehra Dun : 114
 Delhi : 26, 27, 32, 49, 131, 163
 Deoria Dhus : 76
 Deoria Khas : 284
 Deoria Ram Nath : 284, 285
 Deoria Sadar : 134, 284
 Deoria Sugar Mill, Deoria : 119
 Desahi Deoria (Desai Deoria) : 7, 156, 249, 252, 253, 279, 293
 Dewanagri : 51
 Dewapara : 30
 Dhan Teras : 60
 Dhanuk : 54
 Dhanush Yagya : 61, 130
 Dhara : 9
 Dharkar : 54
 Dharma-Shastras : 64
 Dharma Sutra : 163
 Dharmyug : 277
 Dhelfhor : 53
 Dindhor : 53
 Dhobi (s) : 54, 56
 Dhorahi : 93, 192
 Dhuna (Behna) : 55
 Dhunia : 55
 Dhuriapar : 30, 83
 Dibni Banjarwa : 8
 Di-darsak : 276
 Dikhit : 55
 Dilazak : 55
 Dipavali : 57, 60, 68, 130, 265
 District Co-operative Bank : 121, 124, 208, 284, 285, 287, 290, 291, 296
 Dohapia : 42
 Dom (s) : 54, 176
 Domarkhanas : 176
 Domor : 54
 Dom-Katars : 28
 Domwars : 28
 Doodnath Bankata : 61, 76, 77, 120

Doodnath-Rudrapur : 61, 76
 Dionacharya : 21, 295
 Dule : 52
 Dudahi (Dudhai) : 114, 134, 157, 192, 195, 250, 254
 Dudhia : 252, 285, 286
 Dugdheswarnath : 57, 294
 Dumath : 9
 Dumrani Tal : 9
 Durga : 60
 Durga Navami : 60
 Dusadh (s) : 54, 176
 Dwivedi Umapati : 234

" E "

East India Company : 34, 35, 38, 165, 167, 176
 Ekata Hanari Parashura Hai : 276
 Ekauna : 178
 England : 43
 English : 38, 50, 162, 277
 European : 37

" F "

Fa-hien : 288, 294
 Faizabad : 38
 Faqir : 56
 Faruqi : 55
 Fatehpur Sikri : 295
 Fazilnagar : 19, 57, 58, 111, 135, 157, 225, 250, 252, 254, 286, 289, 291
 Filmfare : 277
 Firuz Tughlaq : 26
 Food and Agriculture Organisation : 91

" G "

Gagalwa : 8
 Gagha : 153
 Gahad-ala : 26
 Gandak : 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 15, 27, 79, 80, 88, 85, 86, 105, 196, 196, 290
 Gandhiji : 39, 40
 Ganesa : 17, 233
 Ganga : 8, 28
 Ganga Sagar Ltd., Ramkola : 119
 Garhampur : 254
 Gauhati : 284
 Gaur : 52

INDEX

Gaura : 6, 178, 202, 253, 280
 Gaura Barhaj : 2, 5, 10, 47, 60, 77, 213, 214, 280, 281
 Gaurakshini movement : 38
 Gauri Bazar : 42, 111, 112, 127, 129, 135, 156, 178, 149, 252, 253, 271, 280, 284, 286, 387, 294, 295
 Gautam Buddha : 58
 Gaya : 289
 Gazia : 114, 195
 Gaziapur : 93, 192
 German : 269
 Ghaghi : 7
 Ghaghra : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 28, 30, 36, 86, 104, 106, 280, 281, 282, 297, 298
 Ghagi : 9
 Ghalib Aur Mir Ka Album : 234
 Ghazipur : 98
 Ghuri, Shihab-ud-din : 26, 55
 Giri, Chandra Shekhar (swami) : 231
 Gita : 57
 Gonda : 5
 Good Friday : 63
 Gopalpur : 37
 Gopastami : 60
 Gorakhali : 50
 Gorakhpur : 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 21, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 81, 85, 103, 126, 129, 131, 134, 135, 140, 146, 147, 149, 154, 155, 158, 162, 164, 166, 172, 175, 176, 177, 178, 180, 182, 183, 164, 185, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 204, 226, 230, 246, 247, 255, 259, 269, 279, 283, 284, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 297, 298
 Gorakhpur Jaspad Ka Itihas Aur Uski Ksetriya Jatiyan : 234
 Gosains : 120
 Gothani : 280, 286, 290
 Govardhan : 60
 Government Normal School, Barhaj : 232
 Government Normal School, Padrauna : 232
 Govind Chandra : 25
 Govindpur : 253

Gram Swarajya : 276
 Gram Vikas : 276
 Granth : 58, 66
 Gual : 54
 Gujarati : 50
 Gunambodhideva : 25
 Gupta (s) : 24, 199
 Gurkha (s) : 34, 35, 36, 37, 38
 Guru Govind Singh : 62
 Guru Nanak : 62, 130
 Gurwalia : 114, 254
 Gwalbans : 58

" H "

Haitampur : 253
 Hajjam : 56
 Hannay : 33
 Hansakshetra : 294
 Hanuman : 56
 Har Kishan : 38
 Hari : 54
 Haribala : 23
 Hariha-Log : 120
 Harpur : 39, 253, 292
 Harsha : 24, 25
 Hartalika Teej : 56
 Haryana : 99
 Hastinapur : 295
 Hastings : 33, 35
 Hata : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 32, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 52, 54, 55, 61, 68, 75, 85, 93, 114, 124, 126, 127, 129, 131, 134, 135, 156, 161, 166, 170, 177, 178, 184, 188, 192, 247, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 264, 270, 271, 274, 283, 286, 287, 289, 290, 291, 292, 294, 297, 298
 Hauli Ballia : 283
 Havell : 283
 Hela : 54
 Hetimpur : 7
 Himalayas : 5, 8, 9, 17
 Hindi : 17, 50, 51, 162, 226, 233, 234, 276, 277
 Hindu (s) : 8, 14, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 63, 66, 67, 130, 163, 164, 199
 Hindu Mahasabha : 270, 273, 274

316

DEORIA DISTRICT

Hindu Sanskar : 234
Hindu Sastras : 225
 Hinduism : 51, 56, 57
Hindustan : 277
 Hindustan Commercial Bank : 121, 124, 292
Hindustan Ka Swaroop : 276
Hindustan Times : 277
 Hindustani : 232
 Hissar : 99
 Holi : 265
 Holika : 61
 Hulen Tsang (Hluen Tsang) : 13, 24, 289, 294
 Huna : 24
 Husain Shah : 27
 Huvishka : 23

" I "

Ibrahim : 62
 Id-ul-Fitr : 58, 62, 130
 Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid) : 58, 62
 Idgah : 58
 Ikshvaku : 19
Illustrated Weekly of India : 277
 Ilyas Shah, Haji : 26
 Imam Husain : 62
 India : 40, 43, 49, 85, 116, 125, 126, 197, 269, 270, 277, 288, 289
 Indian (s) : 36, 37, 38, 177, 226, 234, 258
Indian Express : 277
 Indian National Congress : 38, 39, 40, 269, 270, 271, 273, 274, 276
 Indra : 57
 Indupur : 41, 76, 251
 Industrial Development Bank of India : 116
 Ishwari Khetan Sugar Mill, Laxmiganj : 119
 Islam : 51, 55, 258, 296
 Islamic : 62

" J "

Jagatmajha : 253
 Jagmibazar : 253
 Jai Chandra : 26

Jain(s) : 17, 24, 56, 59, 62, 63, 66, 67, 130, 225, 233, 286, 291, 294
 Jainism : 51
 Jalwar : 53
 Jallianwala Bagh : 281, 288
 Jambugrama : 18
 Jamunapari : 99
 Jan Sangh : 274, 275, 276
 Janamastami : 56, 59
 Jang Bahadur : 36
 Jangal Sahlipur : 58, 62
 Jangal Singa Patti : 60, 61, 76
 Japanese : 156
 Jaunpur : 27, 29
 Jesus Christ : 58, 63
 Jharhi (Jharai) : 4, 81
 Jhingunsari : 114
 Jinas : 59
 Julaha : 55
 Jurihar : 53
 Jyaishta Dasahra : 57

" K "

Kadambini : 277
 Kadarjot : 7
 Kadphises : 23
 Kahar (s) : 53, 102
 Kahon : 18, 24, 297
 Kaithi : 226
 Kakar : 55
 Kakual : 253
 Kalachuri : 25
 Kali Mandir : 298
Kalpasutra : 19
 Kanaujia : 52, 53
 Kanchapur : 292
 Kandus : 52
 Kanhouli : 251
 Kaniashka : 23, 233
 Kanjar : 59
 Kannada : 50
 Kannauj : 25
 Kanpur : 116, 117, 126, 180, 195, 196, 263
 Kanpur Sugar Works, Gauri Bazar : 119
 Kanpur Sugar Works, Kathkaina : 119
 Kanpur Sugar Works, Padrauna : 119

INDEX

Kap : 7
 Karbala : 62
 Kariwania : 8
 Karmaha : 61, 76
 Karmkors : 53
 Karna (river) : 1, 6, 285, 294
 Karnataka : 27
 Karfa Ram : 234
 Kasaundhan : 52
 Kasi : 19
 Kasia : 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 18, 20, 25, 39, 42, 57, 58, 61, 63, 100, 111, 121, 124, 127, 129, 135, 140, 155, 157, 161, 177, 178, 180, 184, 185, 192, 194, 195, 203, 217, 243, 251, 252, 254, 284, 288, 289, 291, 292, 293, 266, 297
 Kasia Agricultural Bank : 121
 Kasia Central Bank : 121
 Kasturba : 40
 Kasiaura : 6
 Kath Kuiyan : 134
 Kathmandu : 36
 Katiya : 53
 Katna : 6
 Kaushik : 52
 Kautilya : 22, 163
 Khadag Bahadur, Yuvaraj : 234
 Khadda (Khadar, Khaddha) : 111, 119, 127, 134, 135, 157, 178, 192, 250, 252, 254, 289, 290
 Khair Baharavi : 234
 Khaira Banua : 251
 Khajuria : 85, 196
 Khalil-ul-Rahman, Qazi : 30
 Khaljis : 26
 Khampar : 177, 178, 253
 Khan-i-Zaman : 28, 29
 Khan, Abul Mansur, Safdar Jang : 32
 Khan, Afzal : 29, 30
 Khan, Chin Qulich : 31
 Khan, Daud : 29
 Khan, Fidai : 29, 295
 Khan, Himmat : 37
 Khan, Islam : 29
 Khan, Jahan Sarwar-ul- Mulk : 27
 Khan, Mubarak Nuhani : 27
 Khan, Saadat : 31, 32, 164
 Khan, Sikandar : 28
 Khanzadas : 55
 Khandauli : 6
 Khanpur : 247
 Khanua : 3, 4, 7, 9
 Khartawa : 283
 Kharwar : 54
 Khatik : 54
 Khetan Women's Hospital, Padrauna : 248
 Khilafat movement : 281
 Khorot : 54
 Khukhunda (Khakhundu) : 7, 17, 20, 178, 297
 Khurasan : 31
 Khuvaniya : 254
 Kidwai, Rafi Ahmad : 41
 Kirtipaladeva : 25
 Kisan Mardoor Praja Party : 270
 Koelgadha : 253
 Koeri : 53
 Koeripatti : 7
 Kohurwalla : 61, 76
 Kollar : 7
 Kol : 54
 Koliya : 19
 Kori : 225
 Kori : 53, 54
 Kosala : 17, 19, 22, 163, 199
 Kotla : 30
 Kotwa : 292
 Kriplani, J. B. : 40
 Krishna : 56, 59
 Krishna Lila : 59, 72
 Kshatriya (s) : 19, 22, 52
 Kuana : 85
 Khubernath : 61, 130, 250, 252, 254
 Kuchia : 7
 Kubana : 30
 Kulkula Asthan : 61, 130
 Kumaragupta : 23, 24
 Kumhar : 53
 Kummur : 20
 Kundua urf Dalip Nagar : 61, 76
 Kurmanala : 81
 Kurmi (s) : 53, 291
 Kusa : 18, 297
 Kusa Jataka : 19

Kusahri : 60, 76
 Kusehar Tal : 9
 Kushana : 23
 Kushavati : 17
 Kushigrama : 17
 Kushinagar : 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25,
 63, 76, 176, 192, 225, 230, 233, 277,
 284, 286, 288, 289, 291, 294, 297
 Kushinagri : 18
 Kushinara : 17, 19, 20, 21, 291
 Kusht Sewa Ashram : 255, 277
 Kusumha : 254

" L "

Lahilpar : 253
 Lakhua : 9
 Lakshmana : 18
 Lakshmi : 56, 60
 Lakshmiganj (Laxmiganj) : 61, 76, 134,
 254, 293
 Lal Kavi : 234
 Lalbegi : 54
 Lar : 17, 39, 45, 107, 124, 127, 129,
 134, 157, 178, 180, 203, 218, 247,
 250, 252, 253, 284, 286, 290, 295
 Lauku, : 97
 Lava : 297
 Laxmi Devi Sugar Mill, Chhotoni : 119
 Laxmipur : 254
 Lichchhavis : 19
 Life : 277
 Literacy House Lucknow : 232
 Little Gandak : 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 85,
 104, 134, 290, 295, 296
 Lodi : 27, 55
 Lodi, Qutb Khan : 27
 Lohar : 53
 Lohri : 62
 Lucknow : 124, 164, 180, 181, 247, 284

" M "

Madana Ratnapradipa : 27
 Madanmohan Degree College, Bhatpar
 Rani : 231
 Madanpur : 251, 253
 Madansinha Deva : 27
 Madhubani : 196
 Madhuri : 277

Madhuriya : 254
 Madhya Pradesh : 49
 Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh : 140
 Madra : 24
 Magadha : 17, 22, 51
 Maghnanala : 81
 Mahabharata : 8, 18, 295
 Mahakashyap : 25
 Mahali : 19
 Mahapadma : 22
 Mahaparinibbanasuttanta : 19
 Maharajganj : 3, 85
 Maharishi Dadbich : 57
 Maharudranath : 297
 Mahasudassana : 18
 Mahasudassanasuttanta : 18
 Mahatma Gandhi : 38, 39, 41, 43, 55,
 126, 228, 265, 269
 Mahauli : 30
 Mahavira : 19, 24, 57, 62, 225, 286
 Mahen : 112, 250, 252, 253
 Mahen Babu : 61, 77
 Maheshwari Khetan Sugar Mill, Ram-
 kola : 119
 Mahmud Shah : 27
 Mahua Bari : 77, 130
 Mahua Diha : 7
 Mahuecsagram : 250
 Majhauri : 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34,
 37, 38, 55, 131, 243, 280, 281, 295,
 296, 297
 Majhauri Bhagaura : 77
 Majhauri Raj : 234
 Majhgawan : 249, 252, 253
 Majhna : 294
 Majhnan : 6, 134
 Majhwar : 54
 Makutabandhana : 21, 25
 Mallikush-Sbarq : 26
 Malla (s) : 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24,
 199
 Malla-Bisens : 295
 Mallah (s) : 53, 102
 Mallarashtra : 19
 Malayalam : 50
 Mandrabinduvalliya : 254
 Manibar : 56
 Manohar Kahanja : 277

" N "

Mansurganj : 6, 32, 37, 177
 Marathi : 50
 Matha Kunwar : 23, 26, 233, 289
 Mathauli : 10
 Mathia : 85
 Mathura : 233
 Maukhari (s) : 24, 199
 Maun : 7
 Maurya (s) : 19, 21, 22, 163, 199
 Mauryan : 22
 Mayur : 53, 295
 Mecca : 57
 Mir Muiz-ul-Mulk : 28
 Mirzapur : 253
 Mishrauli : 253
 Mithrauli : 253
 Mohammad Salim : 29, 296
 Mohammadan : 63
 Moriyas : 294
 Morichak : 137, 250, 252, 254
 Muazzam : 31, 164
 Muazzamabad : 31, 164
 Mudilaharpur : 254
 Mughal (s) : 28, 30, 31, 107, 135, 164,
 167, 179, 296
 Muhammad : 57, 58, 62
 Muhammad Hasan : 37, 38
 Muharram : 62
 Muiz-ul-Mulk : 28
 Mukerji, Biswanath : 40
 Mukutbandhanobaita : 289
 Multanis : 120
 Mundera Bazar : 39
 Munim Khan : 28, 29
 Munim Khan Khan-i-Zaman : 29
 Murrah : 99
 Musahar : 54
 Musala : 177
 Mushari : 253
 Muslim (s) : 26, 29, 49, 52, 55, 56, 57,
 58, 62, 64, 67, 71, 120, 130, 131,
 163, 164, 167, 199, 204, 225, 243,
 281, 290
 Mussoorie : 264
 Muzaffarpur : 20
 " N "

Naga Panchami : 59
 Nagas : 59

Nagawa : 251
 Nagpur : 39, 297
 Nagpur Jhanda Satyagraha : 39, 40
 Nagri Pracharini Sabha Pustakalaya,-
 Deoria : 234
 Nai : 53
 Naik : 120
 Naipali : 53
 Nakta Nala : 6, 81
 Nandan : 277
 Nandas : 22, 199
 Naraini : 8, 81, 85, 196
 Narayanpur : 254
 Naraka Chaturdasi : 60
 Narayna : 8
 Narhari : 253
 Narharpur : 36
 Nat : 54
 Nathunagar : 294
 National Herald : 277
 Nauka-chapar : 254
 Naunceyapatti : 114
 Naurangia : 157
 Nav Bharat Times : 277
 Nav Durga : 56
 Nav Ratri : 60
 Navanit : 277
 Navjivan : 277
 Navapur : 25
 Nebua Naurangia : 178, 250, 252, 254,
 291
 Nehru, Jawaharlal : 39, 40, 41
 Neminath : 24
 Nepal : 6, 8, 32, 35, 36, 49, 79, 107,
 126, 127, 288
 Nepalese : 36, 176, 297
 Nepali : 50
 New Delhi : 195
 Newspaper : 29
 Niharika : 277
 Nishapur : 31
 Nizam-ud-din : 26
 Nonapar : 134
 North Eastern Railway : 135, 279, 280,
 283, 284, 291, 292, 295
 Nunkhar : 134

" O "

Okkaka : 19

Orh : 53
Oudh : 202

“ P ”

Paderapandey : 253
Padrauna : 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 20, 34, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 52, 54, 55, 58, 60, 61, 62, 68, 75, 79, 83, 85, 86, 96, 107, 111, 114, 118, 121, 124, 126, 127, 129, 131, 134, 135, 141, 157, 161, 162, 166, 176, 177, 178, 179, 185, 188, 192, 194, 195, 201, 211, 212, 225, 226, 244, 246, 247, 248, 254, 263, 264, 270, 271, 275, 283, 285, 286, 289, 291, 292, 296
Padrauna Chavani : 291
Padrauna : 254
Padripapepatee : 254
Pagra : 10
Pai Kauli (Paikouli) : 76, 251
Paina : 36, 281
Pakhar Bhinda : 76
Pakistan : 43, 49, 50, 51
Palpa : 34
Palwar : 52
Panchala : 17
Panchbati Maharastradesa : 295
Panchrukiya : 114
Pandava : 8, 282
Pande, Raj Bali : 234
Pandepur : 36
Pant, Govind Ballabh : 41
Pantnagar : 89
Panwar : 52, 55
Parag : 277
Paraina : 61
Parari : 129
Parasuram (a) : 17, 57, 61, 225, 282, 297
Parijatharan : 234
Parveya : 253
Parvanath : 24
Partawal : 291
Parvati : 17, 56, 233
Paryushan : 63
Parwars : 52
Pasi (a) (Tarmale) : 54, 102
Patanwars : 52

Patariba : 53
Patel : 80
Pathan (s) : 54, 55
Pathar Deoria : 156
Pathar Deva : 249, 252, 253, 292
Patherwa : 178
Patna : 29
Pava : 18, 19, 20, 57, 291
Pavapuri : 252
Pawa Nagar Times : 276
Peekol : 134
Persian : 50, 51, 84, 92, 94, 164, 226
Pharenda : 85
Picture Post : 277
Pindi : 251, 253
Pioneer : 277
Pippalivana : 21
Pipraghat : 106
Pipraich : 226, 283
Pipramishra : 253
Poorvanchal Vikas Nigan : 197
Praja Socialist Party : 271, 273, 274, 275, 276
Prakrit : 51
Pratappuri Sugar Works, Pratappur : 119
Prathamik Shikshak Sangh : 140
Prathivi Simbadeva : 27
Premvalia : 254
Proutist Block of India : 273, 274
Punjab : 49
Punjab National Bank : 121, 124, 292
Punjabi : 50
Puraina : 76
Purbanchal : 277
Purvi Bikas : 276
Pushpdanta : 17
Pushyamitra : 22

“ Q ”

Qasab : 56
Qasipur : 9, 177
Qitaman Tal : 9
Qumil Awar : 277
Quit India Movement : 41, 42, 269, 281
Qureshi : 55

“ R ”

Radhasoami : 57
Raghava Das, Baba (Parmhansa) : 40, 230, 231, 277, 281
Raghubansi : 55
Rajagariha : 291
Rajasthan : 49
Rajasthani : 50
Rajkiya Sevaayan Prashikshan Kendra, Majhauri Raj : 232
Rajput (s) : 13, 27, 28, 29, 31, 52, 53, 54, 281, 291
Rajya : 18
Rajya Sahkari Bhumi Vikas Bank : 92
Raksha Bandhan : 59
Ram Rajya Parishad : 270, 271, 274
Rama : 17, 18, 56, 59, 60, 61, 182
Rama Navami : 56, 59, 61, 130
Ramayana : 8, 18, 59, 61
Rambhar : 289
Rambhar Tal : 9
Ramcharitamans : 59
Ramji Sahai Degree College Rudrapur : 231
Ramkola : 39, 61, 111, 114, 124, 127, 134, 135, 156, 177, 178, 203, 220, 226, 254, 263, 271, 288, 289, 292
Ramlaaha : 253
Rampur : 6, 45, 93, 107, 102, 253, 254, 294
Rampur Karkhana : 111, 127, 129, 156, 178, 203, 219, 249, 252, 253, 293
Ramsay : 36
Rapti : 2, 4, 5, 6, 13, 21, 29, 79, 86, 103, 104, 105, 280, 281
Rastriya Lok Tantrik Dal : 274
Rastriya : 32
Ravana : 60, 282
Rawat : 54
Reader's Digest : 277
Renuka : 17
Republican Party : 273, 274, 276
Reserve Bank of India : 126
Rishikeshasaptak : 61
Roger Martin : 35
Rohilla : 55

Rohin : 79, 86
Rotary : 72
Rowcroft : 38
Rudarpur : 22, 41
Rudrapur : 6, 21, 24, 28, 31, 37, 40, 45, 57, 111, 112, 124, 127, 135, 156, 178, 198, 203, 221, 226, 233, 243, 247, 249, 131, 252, 253, 271, 273, 280, 284, 286, 287, 290, 294, 295
Russell : 15

“ S ”

Sab-e-barat : 62
Sadanira : 8, 19
Safdar Jang : 33
Sagauli : 35
Sahai, Kumar Dhir : 281
Sahai, Ramji : 231
Sahankot : 21, 22, 294
Saharya : 54
Sahibganj, 8, 201
Sabiya : 20, 225
Sainthwar : 53
Saiyid : 31
Saiyid Salar Masaud : 291
Sakaldipi : 52
Sahet-Chamath : 60
Sakrauli : 6, 156
Sakya : 19
Salempur : 243, 251, 254, 287, 288
Salempur : 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 25, 28, 29, 36, 37, 39, 42, 48, 47, 48, 52, 54, 57, 58, 60, 61, 68, 75, 77, 83, 85, 96, 107, 111, 115, 124, 126, 127, 129, 134, 135, 155, 157, 161, 162, 170, 177, 178, 180, 185, 188, 196, 226, 250, 252, 253, 264, 270, 271, 274, 275, 277, 279, 280, 282, 283, 284, 286, 290, 295, 296
Salempur Majhauri : 26, 279, 280, 283, 284, 290, 293, 296
Saligram : 8
Saligrami : 8
Samaurbazar : 250
Samgharama : 294
Samogar : 6
Samyukta Vidhayak Dal : 273

Sanskrit : 134, 194, 225, 226, 232, 233
 Sant Vinoba Degree College, Deoria : 231
 Santhagara : 20
 Sanyukta Socialist Party : 273, 275, 276
Saptahik Hindustan : 277
 Saran : 30, 31, 34, 38, 120
 Sarasvati : 60
 Sarauna : 250
Sarita : 277
 Sarju : 5
 Sarjuparis : 52
 Sarnet Rajputs : 52
 Sarwaria (s) : 51, 52
 Satal : 28, 29, 30, 36, 37, 243, 297
 Satraon : 134, 251, 253
 Satsangis : 57
 Sauhrana Padri : 254
 Saumya Sindu : 25
 Savrahi : 108
 Sawalakhi : 52
 Seorahi (Sevarhi) : 47, 111, 119, 135, 157, 178, 192, 203, 222, 250, 252, 254, 288, 291, 296
 Serseya : 254
 Seth Ghansyam Das Khetan Bai Vidya Mandir, Padrauna : 228
 Shahi, Babu Kanak : 280
 Shahjahanpur : 30, 287, 293
 Shakti : 56
 Shalvaha : 20
Shawa : 277
 Shankar Sugar Mill, Ltd., Captainganj : 59
 Shankerpur : 293
 Shantinath : 24
 Sharad Purnima : 60
Sharada : 278
 Sharqi : 27
 Shastri, Hiranand : 23
 Sheikh : 55, 290
 Sheikh Salim Chisti : 29, 295
 Sher Shah : 27, 167
 Shia (s) : 55, 62, 65
 Shilpkar : 54
 Shishu Mandir, Barhaj : 288
 Shishu Mandir, Kushinagar : 228
 Shitala : 59

Shitala Astami : 59
 Shiva : 1
 Shrivasti : 23
 Shuja-ud-daula : 33
Shushma : 277
 Siahi : 8
 Sidhua Jobna : 29, 30, 107, 271, 285, 286, 288, 291, 292, 296
 Sikandar : 28
 Sikh (s) : 50, 52, 56, 58, 63, 66, 67, 130
 Sikhim : 51, 58
 Sikra : 114
 Silhat : 6, 28, 31, 83, 271, 279, 286, 294, 297
 Simari : 6
 Simon Commission : 40, 269
 Sindhi : 50
 Sinduriya : 254
 Singh, Basant, Raja : 30
 Singh, Bisen : 25
 Singh, Kunwar : 281
 Singh, Madan : 291
 Singh, Pahalwan : 37
 Singh, Prithvi Pal : 34, 35
 Singh, Rudra Pratap, Raja : 294
 Singh, Surya Pratap : 234
 Singh, Udai : 26
 Singh, Vasista : 294
 Singha Patti : 292
 Sirsa Patti Hussain : 135
 Sirsiaghat : 10
 Sisai : 42
 Siwa Bazar : 129
 Sita : 36
 Sita Ram Sugar Mill, Baitalpur : 119
 Sitapur : 277
 Siva : 17, 56, 60, 61, 62, 283, 285, 294, 297
 Siva Mandir : 298
 Siwan : 1, 2, 7, 8, 129, 134, 279, 287, 292
 Skandagupta : 24
Smritis : 163
 Socialist Party : 274, 275
 Socialist Party of India : 270, 271, 273
 Sohan : 297

Sohanpur : 295
 Sohmag : 17, 20, 57, 61, 77, 130, 225, 296, 297
 Sohni para : 253
 Sohrauna : 6
 Sohsa : 76
 Sonar : 53
 Sonda : 7
 Sonepur : 8, 134
 Soonapakdh : 254
 Sota Gandak : 8
 Sri Nagar : 288
 Sri Prakash : 40
Srimad Bhagawata : 57
 Srinagar Tal : 85
 Srinet Rajputs : 294
 State Bank of India : 115, 121, 124, 296
Statesman : 277
 Subhadda : 20, 23, 24, 25
 Sukaramaddava : 286
 Sukrauli : 250, 251, 252, 254, 297
 Sukula : 52
 Suleman : 29
 Sundia : 7
 Sunga : 22
 Sunni (s) : 55, 267
 Surajbansi : 52, 55
 Susaigopal : 254
 Swami Dewanand Degree College, Math Lar : 231
Swatantra Bharat : 277
 Swatantra Party : 271, 274, 275, 276
 Syandika : 17

" T "

Tabaqat-r-Akbari : 26
 Tahilpur : 61, 77
 Takuadar : 254
 Taliya : 253
 Tamil : 50
 Tamkuhi : 8, 9, 34, 37, 38, 40, 76, 79, 111, 114, 124, 127, 129, 134, 135, 157, 192, 195, 226, 243, 251, 252, 254, 277, 289, 291, 296
 Tandon, Purushottam Das : 231
 Tarayasanjan : 134, 177, 178, 250, 254
Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi : 26
 Tarkaulia : 8

Tarkulwa : 9, 108, 127, 177, 178, 251, 297
 Tathagata : 20
Taj : 277
 Telugu : 50
 Tewar : 6
 The District Co-operative Federation : 124
 The U. P. State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Deoria : 124
 Thegwaldube : 251
 Tibet : 288
 Tibetan : 230
 Tikamdar : 253
 Tilak Sen : 32
 Tilakpur : 32
Times of India : 277
 Tinkonia : 194
 Tirhut : 27
 Tiwari : 52
 Tiwari, Nand Kishore : 231
 Todarmal : 28
 Tribeni-Ghat : 8
 Tripathi, Chandra Shekhar : 234
 Tughlaq : 26
 Turariha : 54
 Turpatimahava : 254
 Turtipar : 5, 134, 295

" U "

Ubhataka : 20
 Udit Narayan Post-Graduate College, Padrauna : 231
 Unais : 53
 Unchi : 7
 Union Bank of India : 124
 United Nations : 91, 277
 Upagupta : 22
 Urdu : 50, 51, 194, 226, 234, 277
 Uruolakoppa : 18
Urvashi : 277
 Usmani : 55
 Usrabasar : 253
 Uhan Ekadashi : 60
 Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Bank : 208
 Uttar Pradesh Revolutionary Socialist Party : 270

"V"

Vaidbhaghat : 253

Vaisali : 19, 20

Vaish (s) : 52, 53

Vajrapani : 24

Van Mahotsava : 160

Varanasiya Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya,

Varanasi : 38, 40, 41, 181, 232,
294, 297

Vasanta Panchami : 60

Vasishtha (Vasishtha) : 17, 19, 22, 225,
290

Verava Kshatriyas : 19

Vijaya : 60

Vikramaditya of Ujjaini : 234

Vima : 23

Vishanpura : 254

Vishnu : 17, 24, 56, 233, 294

Vishunpur : 292

"W"

Wardha : 228

Warren Hastings : 33

William : 202

Wroughton : 36, 37

Wynyard : 36, 37

"Y"

Yudhisthira : 18

Yusuf Mohammad : 29

Yusufzal : 55



9
V25233
N32