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GAZETTEER OF INDIA

PUNJAB

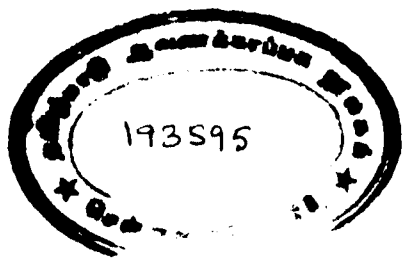
BATHINDA

PUNJAB DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



BATHINDA

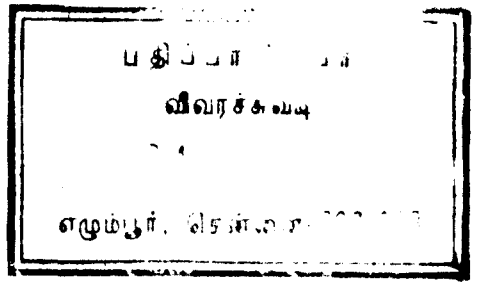
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CHANDIGARH



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FOREWORD

A district gazetteer presents a detailed and comprehensive study of the physical, historical, political, economic, social and cultural life of the people of the district. In addition, it contains information on the functioning of the district administration. As such, it constitutes an important reference book not only for administrators, but also for research scholars, journalists and people in general.

This volume is the first edition of the Bathinda District Gazetteer. The district of Bathinda came into existence with the formation of PEPSU in 1948 with its headquarters at Faridkot which were shifted to Bathinda in 1953. After the merger of PEPSU with Punjab in 1956, the district has made rapid strides in the fields of agriculture and industry. The establishment of Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant and National Fertilizers Limited at Bathinda are monuments of modern history of the district.

In the present volume, an attempt has been made to depict the significant changes and developments which have taken place in the district from time to time. Shri B.R. Sharma, State Editor, Gazetteers and his staff deserve appreciation for putting in hard work and labour in the compilation of this volume. I hope, this edition will prove of special interest both to research scholars and to general readers who may like to know more about this district.

CHANDIGARH
24 September 1991

HARDIAL SINGH
Financial Commissioner, Revenue,
Punjab.

PREFACE

This volume is the eleventh in the series of the Punjab District Gazetteers published under the scheme 'Revision of District Gazetters'. This is the first edition of the Bathinda District Gazetteer which came into existence with the formation of PEPSU on 20 August 1948. It then had 3 tahsils, viz. Faridkot, Bathinda and Mansa. Earlier, it was a tahsil of Barnala *Nizamat* of the Patiala Princely State. Though Bathinda became a district, its headquarters were at Faridkot which were shifted to Bathinda in 1953. In October 1954, Phul Sub-Tahsil which was a part of Barnala District was included in the Bathinda District. In August 1959, 37 villages of Nathana Sub-Tahsil of Firozpur District were added to this district. In 1971, Bathinda and Phul were made separate subdivisions. On 7 August 1972, the district underwent further territorial change with the creation of the new district of Faridkot and its Faridkot Tahsil was taken out and included in the newly created Faridkot District. On 12 April 1979, another subdivision, viz. Talwandi Sabo was created. Since then, the district comprises four subdivisions, namely, Bathinda, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo and Rampura Phul. Besides, there are three sub-tahsils, namely, Nathana in Bathinda, Sardulgarh and Budhlada in Mansa Tahsil.

Bathinda is the biggest railway junction of the Northern Railways. In the field of agriculture, the district occupies the first position in the production of cotton in the State. Bathinda is also one of the historical districts of Punjab. The important historical place in the district is Talwandi Sabo, popularly known as Damdama Sahib. It is one of the Five Takhts of the Sikhs. The old Fort at Bathinda is the principal place of historical interest which stands as a gigantic sentinal in the heart of the town. It is associated with Raziyya Sultana (AD 1236-40), the ruler of Slave Dynasty. There is also a historical gurudwara, known as Gurudwara Haji Rattan, which is associated with the visit of various Sikh Gurus.

After the attainment of Independence, vast developments have taken place in political, social, cultural and economic life of the people. The implementation of the successive Five-Year Plans have

also been instrumental in bringing about remarkable changes in various spheres of life. An attempt has been made to depict the impact of such developments and changes in the present volume of the Gazetteer. The reference year is 1988-89.

In the preparation of this volume, the Gazetteers Unit has benefited by the able guidance and encouragement given by the Financial Commissioners, Revenue and other officers of the Department from time to time.

I am highly grateful to Shri A.K. Mishra, IAS, for vetting the draft of the Gazetteer and making several useful suggestions for its overall improvement. His remarkable contribution in this respect merits commendation.

I am thankful to the staff of the Gazetteers Unit, especially to Sarvshri Jagmohan Singh Hans, Senior Editor, Rajinder Singh Gandhi, Editor, Ved Parkash Rampal and Mohinder Singh Sandhu, Compilers for preparing the draft of the Gazetteer. I am also thankful to Shri Shaminder Singh Bains, Ms Gurdip Kaur Khokhar, Compilers and Shri S.L. Sahi, Draftsman-cum-Artist (Retd.) for assisting me in the printing of this volume.

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

Above all, my thanks are due to the Controller, Printing and Stationery, U.T., Chandigarh, and his staff for extending full cooperation in the printing of this volume.

CHANDIGARH
16 September 1991

B.R. SHARMA
State Editor, Gazetteers

EDITOR'S NOTE

When the Gazetteer of Bathinda District was being printed, a new district of Mansa with head-quarters at Mansa was created,--*vide* Punjab Government Notification No. 2/2/92/RE-II(I)/4020, dated 8th April, 1992. Mansa, formerly a sub-division of Bathinda District, was excluded from the district and was created as a separate district. Budhlada and Jhunir were made tahsils/subdivisions of Mansa District. Sardulgarh has been made new tahsil/subdivision of Mansa District by abolishing Jhunir tahsil/subdivision,--*vide* Punjab Government Notification No. 8240, dated 13th September, 1993. Now the district comprises three tahsils/sub-divisions, viz. Mansa (78 villages), Budhlada (90 villages), and Sardulgarh (79 villages). The district has been included in the Firozpur Division.

Prior to the creation of Mansa District, Bathinda District comprised four tahsils/sub-divisions, viz. Bathinda, Talwandi Sabo, Rampura Phul and Mansa, and now, the district has been left with three tahsils/subdivisions. The information given in this Gazetteer pertains to entire district of Bathinda including the erstwhile Mansa Subdivision of the district. However, a separate Gazetteer of Mansa District will be prepared in due course.

Chandigarh
20 September 1993

B. R. SHARMA
State Editor, Gazetteers,
Punjab.

CONTENTS

	Pages
Foreword	i
Preface	i–ii
Contents	i–iv
List of Illustrations	i
CHAPTER I—**GENERAL** Introductory; Topography; River System and Water Resources; Geology; Flora; Fauna; Climate; Tables I--IV.	1
CHAPTER II—**HISTORY** Ancient Period; Medieval Period; The Struggle for Freedom; Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal Movement; Independence and its Aftermath.	34
CHAPTER III—**PEOPLE** Population; Languages; Religion and Caste; Social Life; Appendix.	64
CHAPTER IV—**AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION** Land Reclamation and Utilization; Irrigation; Agriculture and Horticulture; Animal Husbandry; Poultry and Fisheries; Forestry; Floods; Appendices I-II.	93
CHAPTER V—**INDUSTRIES** Old Time Industries and Industrial Development; State Aid to Industries; Industrial Training Institutes; Industrial Estates and Industrial Areas/Focal Points; Sources of Power; Growth and Development of Industries; Industries and Manufactures of the District; Role of Industrial Co-operatives; Labour and Employers' Organisations; Welfare of Industrial Labour; Appendix.	153

CHAPTER VI—**BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE** 185

Banking and Finance; History of Indigenous Banking; General Credit Facilities; Insurance and Small Savings; Currency and Coinage; Trade and Commerce; Course of Trade; Trade Centres; Co-operation in Trade; State Trading; Merchants' and Consumers' Associations and Organs for Dissemination of Trade News; Weights and Measures Storage and Warehousing; Appendices I-IV.

CHAPTER VII—**COMMUNICATIONS** 218

Old-time Roads and Highways and Modes of Conveyance; Road Transport; Railways; Waterways, Ferries and Bridges; Air Transport; Travel and Tourist Facilities; Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones; Organizations of Owners and Employees in the Field of Transport and Communications; Appendices I-VI.

CHAPTER VIII—**MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS** 268

Public Administration; Learned Professions; Personal and Domestic Services; Miscellaneous Services.

CHAPTER IX—**ECONOMIC TRENDS** 276

Livelihood Pattern; General Level of Prices and Wages and Standard of Living; Employment Situation; Planning and Rural Development; Appendices I-II.

CHAPTER X—**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION** 297

Historical Background and Divisions of the District; District Authorities; Development Organization; General Arrangement for Disposal of Business; District Committees; State and Central Government Officers.

CHAPTER XI—**REVENUE ADMINISTRATION** 319

Land Revenue Administration; Land Reforms; Other Sources of Revenue, State and Central.

CHAPTER XII—**LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE** 352

Incidence of Crime in the District; History and Organization of Police; Jails and Lock-ups; History and Organization of Civil and Criminal Courts, Bar Associations.

CHAPTER XIII—**OTHER DEPARTMENTS** 384

Public Works Department; Public Relations Department; Co-operative Department; Food and Supplies Department; Finance Department; Planning Department; Language Department; Soil Conservation and Engineering Department.

CHAPTER XIV—**LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT** 395

Evolution of Local Self-Government in the District; Organization and Structure; Town and Country Planning and Housing; Panchayati Raj, Appendix.

CHAPTER XV—**EDUCATION AND CULTURE** 417

Historical Background; Literacy and Educational Standards; General Education; Professional and Technical Education; Physical Education; Cultivation of Fine Arts; Adult Literacy; Social Measures for the Diffusion of Culture among the Masses; Cultural and Literary Societies; Periodicals and Libraries.

CHAPTER XVI—**MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES** 441

Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times; Vital Statistics; Diseases Common to the District; Medical and Public Health Services; Sanitation; Appendices I-IV.

CHAPTER XVII—**OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES** 464

Labour Welfare; Prohibition, Advancement of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Other Social Welfare Activities; Public Trusts, Charitable Endowments and Muslim Wakfs; Appendices I-II.

CHAPTER XVIII—**PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS** 495

Representation of the District in the State and Union Legislatures; Political Parties and Organizations; Newspapers and Periodicals; Voluntary Social Service Organizations.

CHAPTER XIX—**PLACES OF INTEREST** 534

Bathinda; Bareta Mandi; Bhopal; Budhlada; Daliawali; Goniana Mandi; Har Raipura (Bhokhri); Jassi Bagwali; Joga; Khiala Kalan; Maisar Khana; Mansa; Maur Mandi; Mehma Sarja; Patti Karam Chand (Mehraj); Phaphare Bhaike; Rampura Phul; Talwandi Sabo.

BIBLIOGRAPHY 551

INDEX 553

ILLUSTRATIONS

MAP

List of Illustrations

Serial No.	Particulars
1	Chart showing growth of Population in the Bathinda District, 1971--81
2	Chart showing Population at a Glance in the Bathinda District, 1981
3	Chart showing Classification of Area by land Use in the Bathinda District, 1988-89
4	Chart showing Number of Educational Institutions in the Bathinda District, as on 30 September 1988
5	Chart showing Birth Rate, Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate in the Bathinda District, 1977 to 1988
6	Fort, Bathinda
7	Rose Garden, Bathinda
8	Bir Talab Forest and Tourist Complex, Bathinda
9	Gurudwara Haji Rattan, Bathinda
10	Thermal Plant, Bathinda
11	Lake View, Bathinda
12	Tikana Bhai Jagtaji, Goniana Mandi
13	Gurudwara Jand Sahib, Har Raipura
14	Gurudwara Ber Sahib, Khiala Kalan
15	Devi Temple, Maisar Khanna
16	Gurudwara, Paphare Bhaike
17	Gurudwara Damdama Sahib, Talwandi Sabo
18	Gurudwara Manji Sahib, Talwandi Sabo
19	Gurudwara Likhan Sar, Talwandi Sabo
20	Gurudwara Sant Attar Singh, Talwandi Sabo
21	Hoe-ploughing by a Camel
22	Map of Bathinda District

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

(a) Introductory

(i) Origin of the Name of the District.--The district of Bathinda takes its name after its headquarters town Bathinda. There are different versions about the origin of the name of the town. According to Khalifa Mohammad Hassan's *History of Patiala,* its ancient name was Bikramgarh. Bathinda is said in the Hindu annals to have been Jaipal's capital and place of residence. Tabarhindu was in all probability, the old name of Bathinda[1]. According to another version, it is said to have been named after Binai Pal and his *Wazir* (minister) Thanda Ram, i.e. from Binai B + Thanda = Bathanda or Bathinda. It was also called Gobindgarh after the Gobind Fort, where Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of Sikhs stayed and a *gurudwara* was constructed by Maharaja Narinder Singh of Patiala State. Before the change effected by the Survey of India, the name of the district was Bhatinda.

(ii) Location, General Boundaries, Total Area and Population of the District.—Bathinda is one of the three districts of the Firozpur Division. It is one of the southern districts of the Punjab State and lies between north latitude 29° - 33' and 30° - 50' and between east longitude 74° - 28' and 75° -46'. It is bounded by the Faridkot District in the north and west, the Sangrur District in the east and the Hisar and Sirsa districts of Haryana State in the south.

Bathinda, the headquarters of the district administration, is a big railway junction of Northern Railway. It is also linked by road with Chandigarh (210 km), Ludhiana (136 km), Firozpur (103 km via Kot Kapura), Faridkot (63 km), Delhi (370 km), etc. All the municipal towns of the district have railway stations.

According to the Director of Land Records, Punjab, Jalandhar, the area of the Bathinda District in 1983-84 was 5,53,630 hectares. In terms of area, the district occupies third place in the State after the districts

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Phulkian States Gazetteer, 1904 (Lahore, 1909), pp 188-89

of Firozpur and Faridkot. The tahsilwise area of the district, according to the Director of Land Records, Punjab, Jalandhar is given below :

Tahsil	Area (hectares)
Bathinda	1,51,845
Mansa	2,19,225
Talwandi Sabo	95,044
Rampura Phul	87,516
Total	5,53,630

According to the 1981 Census, the population of the district was 13,04,606 persons (10,08,729 rural, 2,95,877 urban) comprising 6,99,815 males and 6,04,791 females.

(iii) History of the District as an Administrative Unit and the Changes in its Component Parts.—With the formation of the Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) on 5 May 1948, the district of Bathinda alongwith seven other districts came into existence on 20 August 1948 with 3 tahsils, viz. Faridkot, Bathinda and Mansa. Mansa and Faridkot were subdivisions. Earlier, it was a tahsil of the Barnala *Nizamat* of the Patiala State. It consisted of whole of the erstwhile Faridkot Princely State, two tahsils, i.e. Bathinda and Mansa of erstwhile Patiala Princely State and the area of Jaito of erstwhile Nabha Princely State. Though Bathinda became a district, its headquarters were at Faridkot which were shifted to Bathinda only in 1953. In October 1954, Phul Sub-Tahsil, which was a part of Barnala District was included in the Bathinda District. In August 1959, 37 villages of Nathana Sub-Tahsil of Firozpur District were added to the district. In 1971, Bathinda and Phul were made separate subdivisions. On 7 August 1972, the district underwent further territorial change with the creation of the new district of Faridkot. Faridkot Tahsil of the Bathinda District was taken out and included in the newly created Faridkot District. On 12 April 1979,

a fourth subdivision, Talwandi Sabo was created. Since then, the district comprises four subdivisions, namely, Bathinda, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo and Rampura Phul.

(iv) Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas.—According to the 1981 Census, the district comprised 527 villages (520 inhabited and 7 uninhabited) and 11 towns constituted into four tahsils, viz. Bathinda (116 villages), Mansa (242 villages), Rampura Phul (76 villages) and Talwandi Sabo (86 villages). All the tahsils have been converted into subdivisions.

The tahsilwise list of police stations and police posts in the district is given in Chapter XII 'Law and Order and Justice'.

(b) Topography

The district is situated within the Satluj-Ganga plain. The whole of it is a low-lying flat area. The only contour line running across the area is of 220 metres. It runs from the south-east of Sidhani village northward through Kahangarh (Mansa Tahsil) and then north-west to Bareta (Mansa Tahsil). From here, the line runs north-west and passes just west of Kishangarh (Mansa Tahsil). Then it moves just south-west of Gidrene (Sirsa District, Haryana) and goes westward through Daska. From here, the contour takes a south-west bend and goes towards Datewas (Mansa Tahsil), from where it takes a north-westerly direction and goes through Chak Niagaon and Gurney Kalan (Mansa Tahsil). The presence of only one contour indicates the flattish nature of the surface.

The slope of the area is from north-east to south-west as indicated by the direction of the flow of canals and spot heights. The highest point in the area is Ratta Khera (Hisar District, Haryana) in north-eastern part with a height of 228 metres. The lowest point is at a height of 205 metres just south-west of Giana village (Talwandi Sabo Tahsil). The elevation of the plain thus has a range of about 25 metres.

During rainy season, the area is flooded. To protect themselves from floods, many settlements, particularly the big ones, are situated on relatively higher ground.

*Material supplied by Prof A.B. Mukerji, Department of Geography, Punjab University, Chandigarh

Geomorphic Features.—Sand dunes and sand hills are very important geomorphic features of the area. These landform features differ in their shapes, size, and location. A long narrow ridge of sand is known as a sand dune. If it is much longer than its width, it is known a sand ridge. Some of the sand ridges are very long and roughly run in a line as parallel to one another. These may be termed as longitudinal dunes. Some of the sand dunes are circular or irregular in shape. These may be termed as sand mounds. A few sand dunes are crescent shaped and are called *barkhans*.

Although sand dunes and sand mounds are found scattered throughout the length and breadth of the district, on the basis of their concentration the area can be divided into four regions described below :

(i) A very important chain of sand ridges and dunes is found in the western part of the district running parallel to Sandoha Branch of the Sirhind Canal. These sand ridges start just south of Sandoha (Talwandi Sabo Tahsil) and go north-west along the left branch of the canal. As these move north-west, they gain height and length and become more prominent. A little west of village Ram Tirath Jagga (Talwandi Sabo Tahsil), there is a longitudinal sand dune more than 1½ km long and about 200 metres wide. In the north of this village, there is also a chain of sand ridges going northwards. The chain is broken in the middle where it is crossed by a road going to Bhagwanpura (Talwandi Sabo Tahsil). The direction of these ridges is roughly from north-east to south-west. To the east of village Sangat Khurd and Teona Pujarian (Talwandi Sabo Tahsil), there are few examples of crescent shaped sand dunes known as *barkhans*.

(ii) Another important area of sand dunes lies between Autanwali and village Peron (Mansa Tahsil). For a distance of more than 12 km, one finds chain of isolated sand ridges of all sizes running in north-east to south-west direction. The ridges are arranged in three rows parallel to one another. A few ridges may be about 1 km in length, like the one east of Banawala (Mansa Tahsil), but most of them are only few hundred metres long. Towards the south of Banawala village, a few ridges take a westerly direction and run from east to west towards Singho Branch of the Sirhind Canal. Further southward, the sand hills are scattered.

(iii) Another important area of the sand dunes lies between Uddat Branch and Boha distributary of the Sirhind Canal in the north-eastern part of the district. To the west of village Barah and east of village Tahlian (Mansa Tahsil), there are a large number of sand dunes. Most of these dunes range from 100 to 200 metres in length, although a few may be one kilometre long. These sand dunes run in different directions indicating shifts in the direction of winds. These are shifting sand dunes. As one goes westward from village Tahlian (Mansa Tahsil), the sand dunes become more scattered and generally disappear.

(iv) There is another important area of sand dunes in the western part of the district bordering Hisar District. There are a large number of sand mounds to the north of villages, Tibbi Hari Singh, Sardulewala, Mirpur Khurd, Mirpur Kalan, Adamke, and Baran (Mansa Tahsil). All these villages lie to the north of Ghaggar River. Some of the sand dunes are very big covering an area of more than three sq.km. and rising to a height of about 10 to 20 metres. Some of the mounds are quite small. A majority of mounds are irregular in shape. These mounds are an extension of those found in the northern part of Fatehabad Tahsil of Hisar District of Haryana.

(c) River System and Water Resources

Main Rivers Tributaries and Canals

The Ghaggar River.—Ghaggar is the only river flowing in the district. The river rises from the

Shiwalik Hills. After flowing through the districts of Ambala, Kurukshetra, Jind, and Hisar, it enters Bathinda District about one km north of Malwala village (Fatehabad Tahsil, Haryana), at village Heerke (Mansa Tahsil) and leaves near village Rorki. At this point, the river can be crossed by wading through its bed from November to June. During the rainy season, however, the river is full of water and ferries have to be used to cross it.

The Ghaggar virtually forms the boundary between the districts of Hisar and Bathinda for more than 12 kilometre. The river leaves the boundary about one kilometre east of village Hingna (Mansa Tahsil) and flows through the Bathinda District. Just to the south-east of village Hingna, a siphon is provided on the river. At this point, the old Dhodal Branch of Sirhind Canal crosses the river. The river flows through the southern part of the district and finally enters the Sirsa District of Haryana.

Water Resources.—Canals are the principal source of irrigation. A large number of major and minor distributaries taken out from Sirhind Canal traverse the area. The Bhakhra Main Canal also runs through the southern part of the district. Wells also appear to be an important source of irrigation, particularly in those areas which are slightly higher and where canal water could not reach easily. Wells also provide drinking water to the inhabitants of the villages. Every village has at least 2 or 3 wells.

Besides these, practically every village has a common pond where animals drink water and women folk wash their family clothes. Big ponds or tanks covering an area of 3 or 4 sq. km. are found especially in the eastern part of the district. Important ones are east of the settlements of Dharampura (Mansa Tahsil), north of Bareta (Mansa Tahsil) east of Juglan (Mansa Tahsil) and south of Khudal Kalan (Mansa Tahsil). Some small tanks are also seen near Sherkhanwala (Mansa Tahsil). All these big and small ponds lie mostly in the natural depressions.

(d) Geology *

(i) Geological Formation

The area forms a part of the Indo-Gangetic Alluvial

*Material supplied by the Director, Geological Survey of India, Punjab and Haryana Circle, Chandigarh

Plains. Though a number of remnants of sand dunes are present throughout the area, they are more conspicuous towards west of Mansa and on the south eastern part of the district. The alluvium is comprised of clay, sandy clay and sand with horizons of *kankar*. In the north eastern and western parts of the district, the sand horizons are persistent and thin clay beds are encountered in the form of lenses. But in the south-western part of the district, the sand is fine and occurs in the form of lenses of small magnitude. The clayey and sandy soils characterise the top layers of the surface whereas pure sand occurs either near the dune country or at a sub-surface level of around 8 metres and below. Sticky clay locally known as *pandoo* occurs in the vicinity of dry ponds and at a level of 1.5 metre below from the surface and are usually more than a metre thick. *Kankar* bearing soil zones are normally found over this *pandoo* zone, though sometimes *pandoo* also contains nodules of *kankar* towards the upper part.

(ii) Mineral Resources

Kankar.— *Kankar*, popularly known as *Rore* in the area occurs mainly in two different forms--(a) hard and compact sheet (hard pan deposit) and (b) nodular variety. The bedded form of the hard and compact sheet of *kankar* occurring usually over the nodular variety ranges in thickness from 0.10 metre to about a metre below an overburden ranging from 0.30 metre to about 1.50 metre from the surface whereas the soil zones containing nodular variety of *kankar* rage in thickness from 0.10 metre to 2.00 metre and contain *kankar* varying from as low as 2 per cent to as high as about 80 per cent by volume.

The pea size fragments are generally associated with the *pandoo* and other clay, small size-nodules with the clayey soils medium to big size fragments with the sandy soils and large size nodules with the pure sand horizons. It is noteworthy to note that as the size of the enclosing particles of soil containing *kankar* increases, size of the *kankar* nodules increases. However, the frequency factor of such nodules is inversely related to the permeability of the associated soil zones. Thus, though the sands contain normally large size nodules of *kankar*, these are

relatively sparsely distributed in the sand.

The occurrences of *kankar* in the area is controlled by the following factors :--

(a) It normally occurs above the *pandoo* zone of soil.

(b) It is mostly confined above the water table.

(c) The brownish black soil typical of bogy lands do not contain any nodules of *kankar*, but above it may be found the sheet and nodular variety of *kankar*.

(d) The sheet type *kankar* occurs practically always above the nodular variety, if present.

(e) The sheet type of *kankar* occurs normally at a shallower depth of less than a metre from surface.

(f) The alkaline soils are normally seen over the sheet type of *kankar* but not the *vice versa*.

(g) The size of nodular in the soil is directly proportional to the grain size of the enclosing particles of soil.

(h) The frequency of such nodules is inversely proportional to the permeability of the enclosing soil zones.

(i) The nodular variety of *kankar* seldom occurs over sheet of *kankar*.

(j) Occurrences of nodular *kankar* is very meagre in areas where water table is deep (more than 10 metres from surface).

Deviations from the above norms are also seen at times. Thus the *pandoo* may contain small amounts of *kankar* nodules of granular size towards the upper part of the zone. *Kankars* may be found to extend below the water table to some extent (but these may be explained due to the change in the water table since their formation) and at times seen at far greater depths of 39 meters and below water table is indicated by tubewell sections in the area (this may further be explained due to superimposition of different horizones of *kankars* in the past due to the change in

the water table and topography of the area).

At places, top soils measuring about a few mm in thickness are alkaline in nature. Prominent patches of such alkaline earths are located near Khiwa Khurd, Khiwa Kalan and Heron Kalan (Tahsil Mansa). It has also been observed that use of groundwater for irrigation purpose has at places rendered and the otherwise fertile area into barren lands on account of the excess of alkaline salts brought along with the groundwater.

Water table in the area shows a progressive decrease from east to west. In the eastern part, it varies from 2--4 metre whereas towards west it goes as deep as 10 metre and below. It is further noted that with the decrease in water table, presence of *kankar* has practically vanished in the area.

A total reserve of about 25 million tonnes of both bedded and nodular varieties of *kankar* has been estimated around Biroke, Guradi, Dhalewan, Hodla Kalan, Khiwa, Gurthari, Budhlada Mandi, Sangrehri, Jalbehra Gobindpura, Ahmadpur and Mansa (all in Mansa Tahsil). Unfortunately, the grade of the deposit is extremely poor with only about 23 per cent CaO, 2 per cent Mgo, and 46 per cent acid insolubles.

Though good quantity of *kankar* exists in the area, the chemical grade is extremely poor rendering it unsuitable for use as an alternative to limestone in any industry. It can be best used in the manufacture of lime, if needed, and as a road metal for which no other hard rocks in the area are available. The size factor is again an added advantage for its use in road industry.

The sheet type *kankar* contains even more silicious impurities and lesser amounts of CaO content than the nodular *kankar*. It is seen that with depth, the CaO content increases marginally, but never goes beyond 31 per cent. It is also found that CaO content is higher comparatively in smaller sizes of the nodular than that the bigger ones.

Alkaline Earth.—Alkaline soil occurs in patches in the entire area of about 1.6 sq km around Bareta, Kishangarh, Sangrehri, Juglan, Khiwa Khurd, Hiron Kalan, Khiwa Kalan, Dhaipai, Bhikhi and Bhalowan

(all in Mansa Tahsil). Out of these, Bareta, Kishangarh, Khiwa Khurd and Heron Kalan contain substantial deposits. A rough estimate indicates about 13,600 tonnes of alkaline soils in these areas.

Saltpetre.—Saltpetre occurrences have been located at Sangreri, Ghandu Khurd, Mandeli, Kullan, Biroke Kalan, Kishangarh, Bhikhi, Dhalewan and Barah (all in Mansa Tahsil).

(iii) Groundwater

In the area water bearing formations mainly include fine to medium grained sand or sand and *kankar* with admixture of little clay. At shallow depths, the groundwater occurs under water table conditions and in deeper aquifers occurs under confined conditions.

The shallow tube-wells are the cavity type and ranging in depth between 60--90 metres and yield 45,000 to 2,29,500 LPH. In the north and north-eastern part of the district, the water level is shallow and rests at a depth of 5 to 10 metres b.g.l. (below ground level). But it becomes deep in the south western part and occurs between 10 to 30 metres b.g.l. The water level is also shallow near the canals and distributaries. In south-western part, the shallow as well as deeper aquifers yield saline water. The general direction of groundwater movement is west and southwest.

The groundwater in the area is mildly alkaline in reaction with little Carbonate. Chloride content varies greatly. In north-eastern part of the district, the groundwater is marginally fit for irrigation. The conductivity ranges between 1000--2500 micro-mhos/cm at 25°C. The quality of ground water is good near the Ghaggar River. But in the south-western and western parts, the degree of mineralisation is quite high, rendering the groundwater unfit for both irrigation and drinking purposes.

(iv) Seismicity*

History of the past 200 years for which records are available and the data for the last 80 years show

*Material supplied by the Director General of Meterology, New Delhi

that Bathinda area has been subjected to earthquakes which have caused slight to moderate damages in the area in the past. A number of earthquakes originating in Hindukush, Kangra, Chamba and West Pakistan areas have been experienced there. The prominent among these are the Kangra earthquake of the 4 April 1905, Hindukush earthquake of the 14 November 1937, the Chamba earthquake of the 22 June 1945, Kashmir earthquake of 14 March 1949, Srinagar earthquake of 6 July 1962, and the Kinnaur earthquake of 19 January 1975. Sometimes, moderate earthquakes occurring in Aravali near Delhi are also reported to have been felt here. The maximum seismic intensity VII MM on the Modified Mercalli Scale-1931[1] was experienced during the Kangra earthquake of 4 April 1905. This view is further corroborated by Seismic Zoning Map prepared under the auspices of Indian Standards Institution, wherein Bathinda finds its place in Zone III according to which maximum seismic intensity of VII is expected.

Studies made in USA and other advanced countries reveal that seismic intensity VII MM corresponds to horizontal seismic ground acceleration range of 18-140 Cms/Sec/Sec or an average of 67 Cms/Sec/Sec. This wide range of acceleration is due to the fact that acceleration is several times more on soft filled up ground and much less on hard rock.

[1] Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale of 1931

Scale	Specifications
VII	Everybody runs outdoors. Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken. Noticed by persons driving motorcars.

(*Source*: Director General of Observataries, New Delhi)

(e) Flora (Botany)

Primarily, Bathinda District has the vegetation of a semi arid tract. With the increase of irrigation facilities, the soil conditions are fast changing and the flora is also showing variation from semi arid to semi moist type.

Originally the vegetation of the district was of erophytic character. It was of thorny deciducus type. *Shisham (Dalbergia sissoo), Kikar/babul (Acacia nilotica), Beri (Ziziphus Mauritain), Neem (Melia azedrach), Jand (Prosopis spicegera)* were the principal constituents of the original overwood vegetation. There was sprinkling of other species like *Pipal (Ficus religiosa Bohar (Ficus bengalensis), Van (Salvedora oleioides), Siris (Albizzia lebbak)* and *Reru (Acacia leucocephala)*.

The undergrowth consists of *Mallah (Zizyphus nummularia, Ak (Calotropis procera), Hins (Capparia sepiaria) Khair (Capparis aphylla). Ak* is a widely distributed weed in the district.

Due to the introduction of assured irrigation by canal system, some exotics were introduced by the Forest Department in the district. These exotics are Mysore gum *(Eucalyptus hybrid, Walaiti Jand (Prosopis juliflora)*. Recently, some more promising exotics have been introduced. There are *Sagwan (Tectonagrandis) Casuarina equisetifolia, Ailanthus exelsa Su-babul (laucenea leucocephalla)*.

Ground flora consists of considerably large number of grasses, herbs and sedges. The moist and low lying areas bear dense growth of *Kana (Erianthus munja)* and *Kahi (Saccbarum spontansum)*. On waterlogged sites Bater *(Typha elephantiana)* occurs densely. In unfavourable and moderately grazed areas, *Khabal (Cynodon doctylon)* is found growing. The other grasses met with are *Anjan (Canchrus Spp.)* on sandy places, *Dab (Demostachya bipnnata* dry places, *Ariztida* supp. on saline soil and *sariala (Heteropogon contortus)* on heavily grazed areas. *Cyperus* species is found in small patches in marshy areas.

(f) Fauna (Zoology)

Fauna is a gift of nature, and the different beasts and birds, forming part of wild life, need to be preserved.

The wild animals and birds help in protecting crops, by praying upon worms and insects, which might damage them. The Punjab Wild Life Preservation Act, 1959 and the rules framed thereunder, aim at the protection and preservation of wild life. The Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 (Government of India) is now applicable. In order to create interest about wild life, a deer park has been established in Bir Talab near Bathinda.

With the spread of agriculture, wild life has been eliminated to a great extent. Black buck and deer are not noticed anywhere and so far wild pigs. Herds of *Nilgai* are seen occasionally.

The different zoological[1] types found in the Bathinda District are given below :

(1) *Pisces* (Fishes).—The commercially important fishes of the district are *Notopterus notopterus* (Pallas). The *Parri, Labeo bata* (Hamilton) the *Bata, L. calbasu* (Hamilton) the kalabans, *L. rohita* (Hamilton) the *Rohu, Cirrhinus mrigala* (Hamilton) the *Mrigal, C.* reba (Hamilton) the *Safed mrigal* or *Mohri*, or *Mohri Catla Catla* (Hamilton) he *Katla* or *Theil, Ompok pebda* (Hamilton) the *Pabda, Wallago attu* (Schneider) the *Mullce* and *Mystus seenghala* (Sykes) the *Seenghara*.

The smaller and less important species of the district are *Escomus danricns* (Hamilton), *Puntius sophore* (Hamilton), *P. sarana* (Hamilton) and *P.Chola* (Hamilton) *Osteobrama cotio* (Hamilton). The *Chiddu* fishes, *Chela cachius* (Hamilton) and *Salmostoma baeaila* (Hamilton) the *Chela* fishes, *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Bloch) the *Singhi, Mystys vittatus* (Bloch) the *kanger, M. cavasius* (Hamilton) the *cheenger, Channa punctatus* (Bloch) the *Dolla, Glossogobius gutum* (Hamilton) and *Gobi Macrognathus aculeatus* (Bloch) and *Mastacembelus armatus* (Lacepede) the *Bam* fishes, etc.

These fishes are generally caught by using the cast nets and cross nets depending upon the collection site.

(2) *Amphibians* (Frogs and Toads).—The common frogs in ponds and diteles are *Rana figrina* Daudin the Bull frog, *R. Cimnocharis* weigmann the Paddyfield from

[1] Supplied by the Zoological Survey of India, Northern Regional Station, Dehra Dun

and *R. cyanophlyctis* Schneider the Skipping frog. The common toad of the area is *Bufo* melanostictus Schneider.

(3) *Reptiles*.--The poisonous snakes of the area are *Bungarus caerulus* (Schneider) the common Krait and *Naja naja* (Linnaeus), the Cobra. The nonpoisonous snakes are *Typhlopes nerrecfus* stoliczka the Blind snake and *Ery Johni* (Rossell), The John's sand Boa.

The common lizards *Himidactylus flaviviridis* (Rueppell), the House lizard, usually lives in the houses and Calofes versicolor (Daudin) the garden lizard, seen around bushes.

Geoclamys hamiltoni (Grey) is the common *Kachhua*.

(4) Mammals.—The mammals found in the district are given below :

I	Class	Mammalies
	Order	Insectivora
1.	*Hemiechinus auritus collaris* (Grey)	Long eared Hedgehog
2	*Suncus Murinus* (Linnaeus)	House shrew
II	Order	Chirotera
3	*Preropus gigantepus giganteus* (Briinich)	Indian Flying Fox
4	*Myotis formosus formosus* (Hodgson)	Hodgson's Bat
5	*Plecotus auritus homochrous* Hodgson	Longeared Bat
III	Order	Carnivora
6	*Vulpes bengalensis* (Shaw)	The Indian Fox
7	*Canis aureus* Linnaeus	The Asiatic Jackal
8	*Viverricula indica* (Dasmaerest)	The Small Indian Civet
9	*Herpestes edwardsi* (Geoffroy)	The Common Mongoose
IV	Order	Artiodactyle
10	*Sus scrofa*	Wild Boar
11	*Boselaphus tragocamelus*	Nilgai or Blue Bull
12	*Antiloga ceriscapra*	Black buck

V	Order	Lagomorpha
13	*Lepus nigricollis* Cuvier	The Indian Hare
VI	Order	Primates
14	*Macaca mulata mulata* (Zimmermanji)	The Rhesus macaque
VII	Order	Rodentia
15	*Funumbus Pennanti* Wroughton	The Northern Palm Squirrel
16	*Hystrix indica* Kerr	The Indian Crested Proscuine
17	*Rattus rattus* (Linnaeus)	The Common Indian Rat
18	*Mus musculus* Linnaeus	The House Mouse
19	*Tatero indica indica* (Hardwicke)	The Indian Garbille
20	*Mus booduga booduga* (Grey)	The Indian Field Mouse

Birds.—A list of birds found in the Bathinda district is as under :

	Order	Podicipediformes
	Family	Podicipedidat
1	Little Grebe *Podiceps ruficollis capensis* Salvadori	Resident
	Order	Pelecaniformes
	Family	Phalacrocoracidae
2	Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger* (Vieillot)	Resident with local movements
	Order	Ciconiiformes
	Family	Ardeidae
3	Little Green Heron *Butorides straitus Chloriceps* (Bonaparte)	Resident
4	Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii grayii* (Sykes)	Resident, Shifting locally
5	Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis coromandus* (Boddaert)	Resident
6	Eastern large Egret: *Egretta alba modesta* (Grey)	Resident and shifting locally
7	Little Egret *Egretta garzetta garzetta* (Linnaeus)	Resident, shifting locally

8 Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax nucticorax* (Linnaeus) Resident, and moving locally

9 Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus minutus* (Linnaeus) Resident and moving locally

Family Ciconiidae

10 Whitenecked Stork *Ciconia episcopus* episcopus (Boddaert) Found near water

11 White Stork *Ciconia ciconia ciconia* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

12 Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

Order Anseriformes

Family Anantidae

13 Lesser whistling Teal *Dendrocygna javanica* (Horsefield) Resident, moving locally

14 Large whistling Teal *Dendrocygna bicolor* (Viellot) Resident, moving locally

15 Brahminy Duck *Tadorna ferruginea* (Pallas) Winter visitor

16 Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

17 Pintail *Anas acuti* Linnaeus Winter visitor

18 Common Teal *Anas crecca crecca* Linnaeus Winter visitor

19 Spotbill Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha poecilorhyncha* Forster Resident and locally migratory

20 Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* Linnaeus Winter visitor

21 Bluewinged Test *Anas Querquedula* Linnaeus Winter visitor

22 Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

23 White-eyed Pochard *Aythya nyroca* (Gulden stadt) Winter visitor

24 *Cotton Teal Nettapus coromandelionus coromandelianus* (Gmelin) Resident

Order Falconiformes

Family Accipitridae

25 Crested Honeybuzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis* Lesson Resident with local movements

26 Pariah kite *Milvus migrans govinda* Sykes Resident

27 Brahminy kite *Haliastur indus indus*(Boddaert) Resident

28 Indian Shikra *Accipiter badius dussumieri* (Temminck) Resident

29 Longlegged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus rufinus* (Cretzschmar) Winter visitor

30 White-eyed buzzard Eagle *Butastus teesa* (Franklin) Resident

31 Bonelli Hawk-Eagle *Hieraaetus fasciatus fasciatus* (Viellot) Resident

32 King vulture *Torgos ealvus* (Scopoli) Resident

33 Cinereous vulture *Aegypius monachus* (Linnaeus) Resident

34 Indian whitebacked vulture *Gyps bengalensis* (Gmelin) Resident

35 Indian Scavenger Vulture *Neophron percnopterus ginginianus* Latham

36 Pale Harrier *Circus macrourus* (Gmelin) Common winter visitor

37 Short-teed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus gallicus* (Gmelin) Resident

Family Falconidae

38 Laggar Falcon *Falco biarmicus juggaro* (Grey) Resident

39 Shaheed Falcon *Falco peregrinus peregrinator* Sundevall

Order Falliformes

Family Phasianidae

40 North Indian Grey Partridge *Francolious Pondicerianus inter positus* Hartert Resident

41 Indian Black Partridge *Francolinus francolinus asiae* Bonaparte Resident

42 Punjab jungle Bush Quail *Perdicula asiatica punjaubi* Whistler Resident

Order Gryiformes

Family Gruidae

43 Eastern Common Crane *Grus grus Lilfordi* Sharpe Winter visitor

44 Indian Sarup Crane *Grus antinone antigone* (Linnaeus) Resident and moving according to conditions of drought and flood

45 Indian Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus indica* Blyth Resident and partly winter visitor

Order Charadriiformes

Family Charadriidae

46 Sociable Lapwing *Vonellus gregarious* (Pappas) Winter visitor

47 Redwaltled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus indicus* (Boddaert) Resident

48 Dusky Redshank *Tringa erythropus* (Pallas) Winter visitor

49 Little Green Rank *Tringa stagnatilis* (Bechstein) Winter visitor

50 Green shank *Tringa nebularia* (Gunnerus) Winter visitor

51 Spotted Saudpiper *Tringa glareola Linnaeus* Winter visitor

52 Common Saudpiper *Tringa hypoleucos* Linnaeus Winter visitor

Family Recurvirostridae

53 Indian Blackwinged Still *Himantopus himantopus himantopus* (Linnaeus) Resident

Family Laridae

54 Indian River Tern *Sterna aurantia* J.E. Grey Resident

55 Blackbellied Tern *Sterna acuticauda* Grey Resident

Order Columbiformes

Family Pteroclidiae

56 Blackbellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis orientalis* (Linnaeus) Resident

Family Columbidae

57 Blue Rock Pegion *Columba Livia* Gmelin Resident

58 Western turtle-dove *Streptopelia orientalis meena* (Sykes) Winter visitor

59 Indian Ring-dove *Streptopelia deacocto decaocto* (Frivaldszky) Resident

60 Indian Red Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica tranquebarica* (Hermann) Resident

61 Senegal Dove Streptopelia senegalensis cambayensis (Gmelin) Mainly resident

Order Psittaciformes

Family Psittacidae

62 Large Indian Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria nipa* lensis (Hodgson) Resident

63 Northern Roseringed Parakeet *(Psittacula krameri borealis* (Neumann)

Order Cuculiformes

Family Cuculidae

64 Pied Crested Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus serratus* (Sparrman) Monsoon visitor

65 Common Hawk Cuckoo *Cuculus varius varius* Vahl Resident

66 Indian Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea scolopacea* (Linnaeus) Resident

67 Common Crow Pheasant *Centropus sinensis sinensis* (Stephens) Resident

Order Strigiformes

Family Strigidae

68 Indian Barn owl *Tyto alba stertens* Hartert Resident

69 Indian Great Horned Qr. Eagle-Owl *Bubo bubo bengalensis* (Franklin) Resident

70 Northern Spotted Owlet *Atheno brama indica* (Franklin) Resident

Order — Caprimulgiformes

Family — Caprimulgidae

71 Indian Little Nightjar *Caprimulgus asiaticus asiaticus* Latham Resident

Order — Apodiformes

Family — Apodidae

72 Indian House Swift *Apus affinis affinis* (Grey) Resident

73 Palm Swaft *Cypsiurus parvus* (Lichtenstein) Resident

Order — Coraciiformes

Family — Alcedinidae

74 Indian Pied kingfisher *Ceryle rudis leucomelanura* Reichenbach Resident

75 Indian Small Blue Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis bengalensis* Gmelin Resident

76 Whitebreasted kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis smyrnensis* (Linnaeus) Resident

Family — Meropidae

77 Bluechecked bee-eater *Merops superciliosus persicus* Pallas Resident

78 Bluetailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus philippinus* Linnaeus Resident and locally migratory

79 Indian Small Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis orientalis* Latham Resident

80 Bluebeared Bee-eater *Nyctiornis athertoni athertoni* (Jaudine & Selby) Resident

Family — Coraciidae

81 Blue jay *Coracias benghalensis benghalensis* (Linnaeus) Resident

82 European Hoope *Upupa epops epops* Linnaeus Resident

83 Grey Hornobill *Tockus birostris* (Scopolia) Resident

Order — Piciformes

Family — Capitonidae

84 Northern Green Barbet *Megalaima Zeylonica Caniceps* Franklin Resident

85 Copper Smith *Megalaima haemacephala* (Muller) Resident

Family — Picidae

86 Northern Goldenbacked woodpecker *Dinopium benghalense* benghalense (Linnaeus)

87 Mahratta Woodpecker *Picoides mahrattensis mahrattensis* (Latham) Resident

Order — Passeriformes

Family — Alaudidae

88 Singing Bush Lark *Mirafra javanica contillans* Blyth Resident

89 Blackcrowned Finch-Lark *Eremopferix nigriceps affinis* (Blyth) Resident and locally migratory

90 Indian Crested Lark *Galerida cristata chendolla* (Franklin) Resident

Family — Hirundinidae

91 Indian Wiretailed Swallow *Hirundo Smith filifera* Stephens Winter visitor

92 Indian striated Swallow *Hirundo daurica erythropygia* Sykes Resident

Family — Laniidae

93 Indian Grey Shrika *Lanius excubitor lahtora* (Sykes) Resident with local movements

94 Indian Baybacked Shrika *Lanius vittatus vittatus* Valenciennes Resident with seasonal movements

Family — Oriolidae

95 Indian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus kundoo* Sykes Seasonal visitor

Family Dicruridae

96 Kingcrow *Dicrurus adsmilis albirictus* (Hodgson) Resident

Family Stornidas

97 Ros Paster *Stornus roseus* (Linnaeus) Two way passage migrant

98 Common Indian Starling *Stornus vulgaris paltara-tskhsi* Finsch Winter visitor

99 Brahminy Myna *Stornus pagodarum* (Gmelin) Resident

101 Bank Myna *Acridotheres ginginianus* (Latham) Resident

102 Northern Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus fuscus* (Wagler) Resident

Family Corvidae

103 North-Western Tree Pie *Dendrocitta vagabunda bristoli* Paynizer Resident

104 Indian House Crow *Corvus splendens splendens* Vieillot Resident

105 Indian Jungle Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos Culminatus* Sykes Resident

106 Punjab Raven *Corvus Cora subcorax* Severtzov Resident

Family Camphephagidae

107 Northern Small Minvet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus peregrinus* (Linnaeus) Resident

Family Irenidae

108 North-Western Irca *Aegithina tiphia septentrionali:* Koelz Resident

Family Pyenodntidae

109 Whitecheccked Bulbu *Pycnonotus leucogenys pleuco genys* (Grey) Resident

110 Renvented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer* Linnaeus Resident

Family Muscicapidae

111 Western Yellow Eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense hypoleucum* (Franklin) Resident

112 Common Babbler *Turdoidus Caudatus caudatus* (Dumont) Resident

113 Large Grey Babbler *Turdoides malcolmi* (Sykes) Resident

114 Northern Greyheaded Flycatcher *Culicicapa cellonensis calochrysea* Oberholser Winter visitor

115 Northern Whitebrowed Fantail Flycatcher *Rhipidura aureola aureola* Lesson Resident with movements in winter

116 Moustached Sedge Warbler *Lusciniola melanopogon mimica* Madararz Winter visitor partially migrant

117 Streaked Fantail Warbler *Cisticola juncidis cursitans* (Franklin) Resident subject to local movements

118 Rufousfronted Wren-Warbler *Prinia buchanani* Blyth Resident, subject to seasonal movements

119 Indian Streaked Wren-Warbler *Prinia gracilis lepida* Blyth Resident

120 Northwestern Plain Wren-Warbler *Prinia socialis terricolor* (Home) Resident with seasonal movements

121 Northern Ashy Wren-Warbler *Prinia socialis strwarti* Blyth Resident

122 Gangetic Jungle Wren-Warbler *Prinia sylvatica gangetic* (Blyth) Resident

123 Indian Tailor Bird *Orthotomus sutorius guzuratus* (Latham) Resident

124 Bristled Grass Warbler *Chaetornis striatus* (Jerdon) Resident subject to local movements

125 Straited Marsh Warbler *Megalurus palustris taklao* (Blyth) Resident

126 Northern Bluethroat *Erithacus svencicus svecicus* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

127 Indian Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis saularis* (Linnaeus) Resident

128 Brown Rock Chat *Corcomela fusca* (Blyth) Resident

129 Northern Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata bicolor* Sykes Partial migrant

130 Dark-Grey Bush chat *Saxicola ferra* Grey Resident

131 Pied Chat *Oenanthe picata* (Blyth) Winter visitor

132 Brownbacked Indian Robin *Saxicoloides fulicata Cambaiensis* (Latham) Resident

Family Motacillidae

133 European Tree Pipit *Apthus trivialis trivialis* (Linnaeus) Winter visitor

134 Northwestern Paddytield Pipit *Anthus novaeseeelandiae waitei* Whistler Resident-subject to local movements

135 Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris campestris* (Linnaeus) Passage migrant

136 Vinacqousbreasted Pipit *Anthus resoeatus* Blyth Winter visitor

137 Central Asiam Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta Coutellii* Andovin Winter visitor

138 Northern Yellowheaded Wagtail *Motacilla citreola citreola* Pallas Winter visitor

139 Western Yellowheaded Wagtail *Motacilla citreola weae* (Buturlin) Winter visitor

140 Blackbacked Yellowheaded Wagtail *Motacilla citreola calcarat.* Hodgson Winter visitor

141 Grey Wagtail *Motacilla caspica caspica caspica* (Gmelin) Winter visitor

142 Indian White Wagtail *Motacilla alba dukhunensis* Sykes Winter visitor

143 Masked Wagtail *Motacilla alba personata* Gould Winter visitor

144 Large Pied Wagtail *Motacilla moderaspatensis* Gmelin Resident

Family Dicaeidae

145 Indian Thickbilled Flower pecker *Dicaeum agile agile* (Tickell) Resident

Family Noctariniidae

146 Indian Purple Sunbird *Nectarinia asiatica asiatica* (Latham) Resident, subject to local movements

Family Zosteropidae

147 Indian White-Eye *Zosterops palpebrosa palpebrosa* (Temminck) Resident

Family Ploceidae

148 Indian House Sparrow *Passer domesticus indicus indicus Jardine* and Selby Resident

149 Sind Jungle Sparrow *Passer pyrrhonotus* Blyth Resident

150 Indian Yellowthroated Sparrow *Petronia Xanthocollis xanthocollis* Burton Resident

151 Indian Baya *Ploceus philippinus philippinus* (Linn.) Resident, subject to seasonal movements

152 Blackthroated Weaver Bird *Ploceus benghalensis* (Linn.) Resident, subject to local movements

153 Indian Streaked Weaver Bird *Ploceus manyar flaviceps* Lesson Resident

154 Red Munia *Estrilda amandava amandava* (Linnaeus) Resident

155 Whitethroated Munia *Lonchura malabarica malabarica* (Linnaeus) Resident

156 Indian Spotted Munia *Lonchura punctulata punctulata* Resident

Family Emberizidae

157 Striolated Bunting *Emberiza striata striolata* (Lichtenstein) Resident

158 Crested Bunting Melophus lathami (Grey) Resident

(g) Climate*

(i) Climatic Divisions and Seasons and Their Duration

The climate of the Bathinda District is, on the whole, dry and is characterised by a very hot summer, a short rainy season and a bracing cold season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season from November to March is followed by the summer

*Material supplied by the Additional Director General of Meteorology (Research), Pune

season which lasts upto the end of June. The period from July to the middle of September constitutes the south-west monsoon season. The latter half of September and October may be termed as the post-monsoon season.

(ii) Temperature and Humidity

Temperature.—There is a meteorological observatory at Bathinda. The data of this observatory may be taken as representative of the climate of the district as a whole. From about the end of March, the temperature increases rapidly till beginning of July. June is the hottest month having an average daily maximum temperature of about 42°C and the mean daily minimum about 28°C. It is intensely hot during the summer. Scorching dust-laden winds which blow on many days make the weather very trying. On individual days, the maximum temperature rises upto about 48°C. With the onset of the south-west monsoon by about the end of June or beginning of July, there is an appreciable drop in day temperature. However, the weather is oppressive due to increased moisture in the air on account of frequent breaks in the monsoon rains. By about the middle of September, when the monsoon withdraws, both the day and night temperatures begin to decrease. The drop in the night temperature even in October is much more than the drop in the day temperature. It is only after October that both the day and night temperatures begin to decrease rapidly. January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature of about 21°C and the mean daily minimum of about 4°C. In the cold season, the district is affected by cold waves in the rear of passing western disturbances and the minimum temperature on such occasions may go down to the freezing point of water or even a degree or two below.

Humidity.—Relative humidities in the mornings throughout the year are more than 50 per cent and during monsoon month about 75 per cent. Afternoons are comparatively drier.

Table I gives the period averages of temperature and relative humidity during the different months of the year in the Bathinda District :

TABLE 1

Period Averages of Temperature and Relative Humidity

(BATHINDA)

Month	Mean Daily		Highest Maximum ever recorded		Lowest Minimum ever recorded		Relative Humidity 0830	Humidity 1730*
	Max. °C	Min. °C	°C	Date	°C	Date	%	%
January	21.2	3.9	27.4	1965 January 18, 19	-3.5	1975 January 4	68	52
February	24.2	8.3	31.8	1960 February 27	-0.9	1964 February 1, 3	66	47
March	29.4	12.6	36.9	1964 March 4 days	4.6	1979 March 8	62	43
April	35.1	18.3	45.4	1979 April 23	8.9	1965 April 2, 3	52	39
May	39.6	22.4	47.4	1981 May 19	14.2	1977 May 4	51	40
June	42.0	27.6	47.4	1978 June 9	17.2	1976 June 14	53	36
July	37.9	27.0	47.6	1972 July 2	18.4	1979 July 4, 5	71	58
August	35.9	25.8	40.7	1960 August 2, 4	19.3	1979 August 9	77	65
September	35.4	23.2	41.5	1980 September 27	16.7	1962 September 30	72	58
October	34.1	16.7	38.7	1961 October 1	7.9	1964 October 31	61	47
November	27.9	9.4	38.4	1965 November 1	0.3	1976 November 18	62	49
December	22.5	4.4	28.9	1977 December 9, 11	-0.9	1973 December 23	67	53
Annual	32.1	17.5					64	49

*Hours I.S.T.

(iii) Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the district are available for five stations ranging from 14 to 60 years data. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Tables 2 and 3. The average rainfall in the district is 405.6 mm. About 75 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the monsoon months of July to September, July being the rainiest month generally. There is some rain in June and post-monsoon and winter season. The rainfall in the district in general increases from the south-west towards north-east. From the available data, it is seen that the annual rainfall in the district was highest in 1908 being about 185 per cent of the normal, while in 1924 it was lowest, i.e. 9 per cent of the normal. It will be seen from Table 2 that the annual rainfall in the district was between 200 and 500 mm in 52 years out of 75.

On an average, there are about 20 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 14 at Phul to 24 at Bathinda.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any of the five stations during the available period was 332.7 mm at Mansa on 4 October 1955.

(iv) Atmospheric Pressure and Winds

Cloudiness.—Skies are moderately to heavily clouded during the monsoon season and for the short spells of a day or two during the cold season in association with the passing of western disturbances. During the rest of the year, the skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Winds.—Winds are generally light. During the period May to September, winds are mostly from directions between south and west. In the period, October to March, the morning winds are light and variable, while in the afternoons they are from directions between north-west and north-east. In April also, the morning winds are light and variable and in the afternoons blow from directions between south-west and north.

Special Weather Phenomena.—Western disturbances affect the district during the cold season when dust

or thunderstorms sometimes accompanied by hail occur. Thunderstorms and more frequently dust storms occur during the hot season. Rains during the monsoon season is also occasionally associated with thunder.

Tables 4 and 5 give the mean wind speed and frequency of special weather phenomena respectively, for Bathinda.

TABLE

Normal And

Station	No. of years of data		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Bathinda Observatory	14	a	9.2	10.4	23.2	5.7	10.1	24.6	116.5	132.5
		b	0.1	1.2	1.8	0.9	0.9	1.8	5.5	5.2
Bathinda	25	a	13.2	12.6	13.6	5.4	9.3	38.8	140.3	128.2
		b	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.9	1.9	6.6	5.2
Mansa	19	a	14.3	13.9	11.1	5.3	9.5	34.2	161.9	121.9
		b	0.9	1.4	0.9	0.4	0.8	1.8	5.3	5.5
Phul	16	a	13.0	10.1	4.7	0.9	3.0	23.0	137.2	91.3
		b	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.1	1.4	4.5	3.1
Nathana	60	a	15.4	13.7	11.0	4.5	4.0	24.7	90.5	90.8
		b	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.4	1.5	4.1	4.0
Bathinda (District)		a	13.0	13.1	12.7	4.4	7.2	29.1	129.5	112.9
		b	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.6	1.7	5.2	4.6

2

Extremes of Rainfall in the Bathinda District

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of Normal year	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal year	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours	
							Amount (mm)	date
63.6	4.5	2.7	6.7	409.7	175	64	181.4	1964
2.6	0.4	0.4	0.7	22.5	(1975)	(1969)		Aug 18
78.1	14.5	4.7	5.7	464.4	151	63	256.1	1964
3.1	0.5	0.5	0.7	24.1	(1958)	(1965)		Aug 18
01.2	9.5	1.2	5.7	494.3	181@	44	332.7	1955
3.5	0.6	0.2	0.5	21.8	(1955)	(1965)		Oct 04
40.2	4.2	0.5	8.1	336.2	185	18	151.0	1968
1.9	0.3	0.1	0.5	14.1	(1975)	(1961)		July 19
52.1	9.9	2.1	4.8	323.5	232	11	229.9	1955
1.8	0.2	0.1	0.5	15.9	(1908)	(1924)		Oct 04
67.0	8.5	2.2	6.2	405.6	185	9		
2.6	0.4	0.3	0.6	19.7	(1908)	(1924)		

(a) Normal rainfall in mm
(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm or more)
*Based on all available data upto 1980. Years of occurrence given in brackets
@ Data used less than 365 days

TABLE 3

Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District
(Data 1901-1980)*

Range in mm	No. of years	Range in mm	No. of years
000-100	3	401-500	10
101	6	501-600	7
201-300	22	601-700	4
301-400	20	701-800	3

*During the period under consideration rainfall data for 5 years, are not available for all the days of the year.

TABLE 4

Mean Wind Speed in kilometers/hours
(BATHINDA)

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
3.1	4.0	5.1	5.7	5.8	7.0	8.0	5.8	4.1	3.4	2.5	2.9	4.8

TABLE 5

Special Weather Phenomena
(BATHINDA)

Mean No. of days with	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
Thunder	0.3	0.4	1.6	1.0	1.7	1.1	1.6	0.4	0.4	0	0.1	0.4	9.0
Hail	0	0	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	1.0
Dust-storm	0	0	0.1	0.6	1.2	1.3	0.7	0	0.2	0	0	0.1	4.2
Squall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fog	2.0	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	3.0

Number of days 2 and above are given in whole numbers

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

Introductory

The district of Bathinda came into existence with the formation of the PEPSU in 1948. It had its headquarters at Faridkot, which were shifted to Bathinda in 1953. The district takes its name after its headquarters town Bathinda. There are different versions about the origin of the name of the town. According to Khalifa Mohammad Hasan's *History of Patiala,* its ancient name, was Bikramgarh. Bathinda is said in the Hindu annals to have been capital of Jai Pal of Hindushahi dyansty which ruled over Punjab during 10th and first quarter of 11th centuries. Tabarhindh was in all probability the old name of Bathinda. According to another version, the town is said to have been named after a Rajput ruler Binai Pal and his *wazir* (minister) Thanda Ram, i.e. from Binai B + Thanda = Bathanda or Bathinda.

The Bathinda District, as on today, comprises a few district administrative units of the erstwhile Phulkian States of Jind, Nabha, Patiala and Faridkot and some parts of Firozpur and Hisar districts which were then with the British rulers. Thus, the history of the district is traceable through its various constituent parts.

(a) Ancient Period

The ancient history of Bathinda has been traced to the Indus Valley Civilization. Certain sites explored in the Mansa Subdivision of Bathinda District link it with the sites explored and excavated in Rupnagar District. This civilization has been called the Indus Valley Civilization, because most of its sites have been found along the Indus. The Civilization was spread over a vast area and present Bathinda District was part of it. It is also called the Harappan Culture, because the sites of the ancient culture excavated at Harappa in Pakistan have given ample proof that the Indus Valley Civilization was much developed and advanced.

The sites[1] explored in Mansa Subdivision have been classified into Pre-Harappan, Harappan and late Harappan Period. The conclusions have been drawn from the various types of pottery found from the mounds explored.

The sites found near the following villages in Mansa Subdivision have been classified into the Pre-Harappan Period, Harappan Period and Late Harappan Period :

Pre-Harappan Period

1 Alipur Manoran
2 Baglian-de-Theh
3 Bare
4 Chhoti Mansa
5 Dhalewan
6 Gurni Kalan
7 Hasan Pur
8 Hirke
9 Lakhmir Wala
10 Naiwala Theh

Harappan Period

1 Alipur Mandran
2 Baglian-de-Theh
3 Dalewan
4 Chhoti Mansa
5 Gurni Kalan
6 Hassanpur
7 Hirke
8 Karanpura
9 Lakhmir Wala
10 Lallian Wali
11 Lalu Wala
12 Ali-Da-Theh
13 Naiwala Theh

Late Harappan Period

1 Alipur Mandran
2 Chhoti Mansa
3 Ali-Da-Theh
4 Bare

[1] B.B. Lal, S.P. Gupta, *Frontiers of Indus Civilization* (Delhi, 1984), pp 520, 527

5 Bhikhi
6 Danewala
7 Dalewala
8 Nehriwala
9 Sahnewali

The main characteristics of Pre-Harappan culture was that the bricks used by the people were unbaked and smaller than those of the Harappan Period. They used copper to manufacture their implements and ornaments.

The main characteristics of Harappan culture are good town-planning, careful layout of streets, elaborate drainage system, organized municipal Government and on the whole a developed urban life.

The late Harappan culture shows unmistakable signs of all-round decadence. New houses were built and drains laid out in utter violation of the municipal rules. Kilns were sometimes built in the heart of the town.

This urban type of Harappan Civilization was destroyed by Aryans, who were basically a rural tribe. The appearance of the Aryans on the soil of the Punjab in about B.C. 1500 seems to have coincided with the destruction of the great Indus cities. Hordes of these invaders seem to have descended into the Punjab plains from the north-west in several successive waves between B.C. 1500 and 800. The Punjab in turmoil witnessed, perhaps for the first time a state of fierce and constant warfare for several centuries. The wars between the invading Aryans and the placid pre-Aryans of the land ended in the victory of the Aryans over the non-Aryans.

During the Rigvedic Aryan period, Bathinda seems to have been the part of *Saptasindhu* (seven waters) which became to be known as *Panchanada* (five rivers) in Mahabharta time. During the Maurya and Gupta period, the area of the modern Bathinda District was undoubtedly a part of the empire of Mauryas and Guptas. Hence the ancient people of Bathinda District enjoyed the blessings of an efficient administration of the Maurya and Gupta Kings.

The area of Bathinda District had been under

the rule of the Bhattis for a considerable period. It is believed that in the 3rd century, Rao Bhatti established the towns of Bathinda and Bhatner in Lakhi Jungle area. Both these towns were fortified and linked through a tunnel. Rao Bhatti did his best to habilitate people from outside in this region. Later on, there arose several conflicts between Bhattis and Barar Rajputs for domination and ultimately the Barars succeeded in capturing Bathinda.

(b) Medieval Period

The Medieval Period of history starts with the Muhammadan invasions of India. After the fall of powerful empire of Harshvardhan of Thanesar, India became the target of foreign invaders. The invasion of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni in the 11th century shook the Indian rulers completely. At that time, the frontier area of India, including the area of the present Bathinda District was under the rule of Hindushahi rulers. It is believed that Bathinda was capital of Hindushahi rulers for more than a century. There is no doubt that the Hindushahi rulers defended this country from the onslaughts of Muhammadan invaders for a considerable period, but they could not stand against the incessant invasions of Mahmud of Ghazni.

The decline and decay of the Hindushahi Kingdom, which was the first to bear the brunt of the Turkish onslaught, enabled Mahmud to penetrate into the heart of Hindustan. First of all, he besieged in 1004 AD the fort of Bathinda which lay on the route from the north-west into the rich Ganga valley. It was bravely defended by the local ruler, named Bijai Rai, but Mahmud's superior military strength succeeded in capturing it. All the inhabitants of the place, except those who became converts to Islam, were put to the sword. A huge booty was captured[1].

From the conditions of chaos and confusion created by the continuous onslaughts of the Muhammadan invaders and especially those of Mahmud of Ghazni, the Rajputs rose to power after the fall of the Hindushahis in the Punjab. The Chauhans first ruled in

1 A.L. Shrivastava, *The Sultanate of Delhi*, 711-1526 A.D. (Agra, 1971), pp 55-56

Ajmer, but it appears that by 1164 they had occupied Delhi as well as the entire tract of territory lying between it and the Satluj. Sirhind and Bathinda constituted the two most important military stations on the north-western frontiers of the Rajput kingdom. The area of Bathinda District was under Chauhan Rajputs and Prithvi Raj Chauhan was an illustrious ruler of this dynasty. He fortified important towns of his frontier right upto Bathinda in order to be able to guard against any possible invasion from the north-west. Muhammad Ghori made his first attack on the fortress of Bathinda and besieged it in 1189. Prithvi Raj did not seem to have been ready, and the attack probably was a surprise one. The garrison was defeated and had to surrender. Muhammad Ghori stationed his men in the fortress under a Commander, named Zia-ud-din. When the Sultan was about to return, Prithvi Raj appeared in the vicinity of the fortress to recover it. A fierce battle was fought in 1191. Prithvi Raj's troops attacked the Sultan with vigour and inflicted upon him a terrible defeat. Muhammad Ghori himself was seriously wounded. He was helped to ride his horse by one of his Khilji officers and was taken away from the field. Prithvi Raj besieged the fortress of Bathinda, but it took him thirteen months to recover it from Zia-ud-din, its commandant.

Prithvi Raj Chauhan was defeated in the second battle of Tarain, which is a landmark in the history of India. It proved to be a very decisive contest and ensured the ultimate success of Muhammad Ghori against Hindustan. The Chauhan military power stood completely broken[1].

After the defeat of Prithvi Raj Chauhan in the famous battle of Tarain in 1192, the area of Bathinda came under the rule of the Muhammadans. Accordingly, Muhammad Ghori was the first Muhammadan ruler of this area who was subsequently succeeded by his most prominent slave, named Qutab-ud-din Aibak who laid the foundations of new dynasty, which is popularly known as the Slave Dynasty. The period between 1206--1526 is known as 'The Period of the Sultanate of Delhi', and the areas of Bathinda District

1 *Ibid*, pp 74-75

undoubtedly remained under the rule of the Sultans of Delhi. It is also believed that area of present Bathinda District was part and parcel of the main Delhi Province and the fort of Bathinda had a great strategic position during the Sultanate Period.

Qutb -ub-din Aibak was the first Sultan of Delhi who ruled from 1206 to 1210. Illutmish was the next important Sultan of Delhi who reigned for twenty years. During his reign, Nazir-ud-din Quabacha, the ruler of the province of Sindh and Multan, had also included Bathinda and adjoining areas in his kingdom. But Illutmish succeeded in recovering Bathinda and adjoining areas from Nazir-ud-din Qabacha'.

After Illutmish, Raziyya who reigned from 1236--1240 was the next important ruler of the Slave Dynasty. Virtually, she was the first woman ruler of India who possessed adequate sagacity befitting her high status. But undue favour shown by her to the Abyssanian slave Jalal-ud-din Yaqut, offended the Turkish nobles who revolted. Moreover, the proud Turkish nobles could not reconcile themselves to the rule of a woman and brought about her downfall in an ignoble manner.

The above causes led to a conspiracy against the queen. Altunia, Governor of Bathinda, was also an active member of the conspiracy. He revolted and as soon as Raziyya reached Bathinda to suppress the revolt, some agents of the conspirators killed Yaqut, the favourite of the queen. The queen's party was thus weakened, and perhaps, she was found in a state of mental confusion. The conspirators now laid their hands on her and threw her into prison in April 1240. She was put into the custody of Altunia, the Governor of Bathinda. Bahram was proclaimed the Sultan of Delhi.

In the redistribution of offices that took place on the accession of Bahram, Altunia did not get what he had expected. He, therefore, became disaffected. He thought of a plan to avenge himself. In August 1240, he released Raziyya from the prison fort of Bathinda. He married her and proceeded to Delhi to capture it by force. But they were defeated by

1 *Ibid*, p. 101

Bahram's army and compelled to return towards Bathinda. Their troops had deserted them and near Kaithal, they were murdered by some robbers on 13 October 1240.

The most important slave king was Balban who virtually ruled this country from 1246--1287, for twenty years as Prime Minister of Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud and for 20 years as Sultan of Delhi. He made his cousin Sher Khan, the Governor of Bathinda and adjoining areas. Sher Khan was an energetic person who governed with great courage and tact and repulsed many incursions by the Mangols. As the Governor of the frontier provinces, he had become so powerful and influential that Balban began to consider him as a danger to his personal authority. In these circumstances, it is believed that Balban had managed to get Sher Khan poisoned. After Sher Khan, Balban appointed his eldest son Bughra Khan, as the Governor of Bathinda. He was also an able administrator who successfully defended his area against the Mangol invasions till he died in 1285 while engaged in a fight against the Mangols.

After the Slave Dynasty, the Khilzi Dynasty ruled about 34 years (1288--1321). Ala-ud-din Khilzi was an important ruler of this dynasty. After the Khilzis, the Sayyids reigned from 1414--1451. Sayyid Mubarak Shah was an important ruler of this dynasty who reigned from 1421--1434. During his reign, Shaikh Salim was the Governor of Bathinda who had collected a large treasure and a huge store of grain and provisions in the fort of Bathinda. After Shaikh Salim's death, early in 1430, Sultan Mubarak Shah bestowed all his lands on Shaikh Salim's two sons who did not however, seem to be satisfied with their lot and for ulterior motives incited Faulad, the slave of their late father, to revolt.

At the time of Shaikh Salim's death, his two sons were in the royal camp. Faulad was a very greedy man, and he was in charge of the Fort of Bathinda where Shaikh Salim had amassed a large amount of wealth. Faulad Turkbacha rebelled and confiscated the treasure in July 1430.

It was suspected by Mubarak Shah that the

sons of Sheikh Salim had a hand in it and they were imprisoned under the order of the Sultan. On hearing the news of the insurrection of Faulad, Mubarak Shah at once sent Malik Yusuf and Rai Hansu, the son of Raja Diljit Bhatti, to deal with the rebel, but they failed, as Faulad posing to negotiate for settlement, threw them off their guard and inflicted a crushing defeat on them. They fled and Faulad Turkbacha pursued them up to Sirsa. Their cash, goods and tents all fell into the hands of Turkbacha. At this defeat, Mubarak Shah himself marched against Faulad and ordered Imad-ul-Malik, the Governor of Multan to join the royal forces. Before the advance of the forces under Mubarak Shah, Zirak Khan, Malik Kalu, Islam Khan and Kamal Khan, who had been ordered to proceed against Faulad, had besieged the fort. Being hard pressed, Faulad sought for an interview with Imad-ul-Malik and agreed to submit to the Sultan, but he got a secret information that Mubarak Shah was planning to kill him and, therefore, under the fear of his death, Faulad gave up the idea of negotiations and carried on the struggle against the royalists. Mubarak Shah became hesitant to take a drastic action because he was informed that Faulad was trying to purchase help from the Governor of Kabul with the amassed wealth that he had preserved in the fort. Mubarak Shah instead of forcing the rebel to surrender by intensifying the pressure on him, acted unwisely slackening the operations against him. The Sultan ordered Imad-ul-Malik to withdraw to Multan. Leaving Islam Khan, Kamal Khan and Rai Feroze Bhatti to carry on the investment of the fort of Bathinda, he himself returned to Delhi in November 1480.

Faulad found himself in a tight corner and there was no way out except asking for foreign help with the offer of his vast treasure since he had full apprehensions of being captured by the Sultan. This interval gave Faulad time to arrange for help from other quarters and he sent his agents to Kabul invoking Shaikh Ali Mughal's help by promising a large sum of money in return. Shaikh Ali was much tempted to know all about the vast treasure of Faulad and marched with a large army from Kabul to the rescue of the Turkbacha.

Shaikh Ali plundered and devastated the principalities, particularly of those chiefs who were hostile to Faulad with a view to weakening them. He reached the fort of Bathinda where Faulad was besieged. Islam Khan and Kamla Khan left Bathinda, when Shaikh Ali was yet ten miles away. Faulad came out of the fort and offered the stipulated amount of rupees two lakhs for his timely help, and after this Faulad began to prepare himself for stronger defiance. The pact of Faulad with Shaikh Ali was a grave danger to the Sultanate of Delhi.

Mubarak Shah had ruled for little more than 13 years, under extremely trying circumstances. The Punjab had been at the mercy of the rebels since his accession. Jasrat, the Gakhar Chief, Shaikh Ali Mughal, the Governor of Kabul, and Faulad Turkbacha, the Governor of Bathinda were occupying and devastating one or the other part of the Panjab. The aims of Jasrat and Turkbacha were evidently to carve out independent kingdoms, but the aim of the Governor of Kabul was simply to fish in troubled waters so as to plunder the people of the Panjab[1].

Before the rule of the Mughals, India was ruled by the Lodhi Dynasty from 1451--1526. During the times of Bahlol Lodhi, the Sidhu-Brars were driven out of Bathinda fort with the help of royal support. Ibrahim Lodhi was the last ruler of the Lodhi Dynasty from whom Babar snatched power after defeating him in the first battle of Panipat in 1526. The Barars of the Bathinda District gave much help to Babar for the overthrow of corrupt and inefficient rule of the Lodhis. As a reward for their services, the area of Lakhi Jungle was given back to Barars by Babar.

It is worthwhile to mention here that the area of present Bathinda District was dominated by the Sidhu-Brars. Like almost all the Jat tribes, the Sidhus are of Rajput origin, and trace their ancestry to Jesal or Jesalji, a Bhatti Rajput, and founder of the state and city of Jesalmer, who was driven from his kingdom

1 Bakhshish Singh, Nijjar, *Panjab under the Sultans* (1000--1526 A.D.) (Delhi, 1968), pp 77-79, 85

by a successful rebellion in 1180, and wandered northwards where Pirthi Raj was then king of Ajmer and Delhi and the most powerful monarch of Hindustan. Near Hisar, Jasel determined to settle, and here four sons were born to him, viz. Salvahan, Kalan, Hemhel, and Pem. The third of these, Hemhel, sacked the town of Hisar, seized a number of villages in its neighbourhood, and overran the country up to the walls of Delhi. He was driven back by Illutmish, the third Tartar King of Delhi, but was afterwards received into favour and made Governor of the Sirsa and Bathinda country in 1212. He was succeeded by his son Jandra, who was only remarkable as the father of twenty-one sons, from whom as many clans have descended; Batera being the ancestor of the Sidhus, Khiva was the last pure Rajput of the family who first married a Rajputni, but she bore him no children, and he then took the daughter of one Basir, a Jat Zamindar of Neli as a second wife. This marriage was considered a disgrace by his Rajput kinsmen, and Khiwa was ever afterwards known as 'Kot' which signifies in the Punjabi dialect, an alloy of metals, or any inferior and degrading admixture.

Khiwa, however, obtained what he desired, an heir; but his first wife, jealous of her rival, bribed the mid-wife to substitute a girl for the boy, whom she took into the jungle and threw into a dry water-course. Shortly afterwards, a man passing by saw the infant, and having no children of his own, imagined that it had been sent by Heaven to console him, so he took it home and adopted it as his son. But the mid-wife was unable to keep the secret; the Rajputni wife was compelled to confess her guilt, and, after a long search, the boy was found and restored to his father. He was named Sidhu, and from him the Sidhu tribe has derived its name. Brar, a great grandson of Sidhu was the founder of the Brar tribe[1].

When the Emperor Babar invaded India in 1524, Sanghar, the Brar chief of this area, waited on him at Lahore and entered his army with a few followers; but soon afterwards he was killed at the battle of Panipat on 21 April 1526, when Babar defeated Ibrahim

1 L.H. Griffin, *Rajas of the Punjab* (Patiala, 1970), pp 2-3

Lodhi with great slaughter, and gained the Empire. This victory did not, however, lead him to forget the services of Sanghar, to whose son Bariam he gave the Chaudhriyat of the waste country to the south-west of Delhi, which office was confirmed to him by Humayun, the son and successor of Babar, in 1554. He lived for the most part at Neli, the village of Sidhu's maternal relations, and also rebuilt Bhidowal, which had become deserted. After his death in 1560, his son Mehraj or Maharaj succeeded to the chaudhriyat. Mohan, the grandson of Maharaj, by the advice of Guru Hargobind, the sixth of the Sikh prophets, founded the village of Mehraj or Maharaj, naming it after his great grandfather.

From this village, twenty-two others have been peopled, known as the Bais Maharajkian; and the Jagirdars inhabiting them are known as the Maharajkian Sikhs.

Mohan, with his eldest son Rup Chand, was killed, according to the custom of his family, in a fight with the Bhattis, about the year 1618, and Kala, the next surviving son, succeeded to the Chaudhriyat and the guardianship of his deceased brother's sons, Phul and Sandhali. soon after Mohan's death, Guru Hargobind again visited Bhidowal, and Kala, who had faith in the Guru's power and blessing, told his nephews that when they should see the saint, they were to place their hands on their stomachs, as if suffering from hunger. This they did; and Guru Hargobind asking the reason was told by Kala that the boys were starving. "What", said the Guru, "matters the hunger of one belly, when these boys shall satisfy the hunger of thousands". He then asked the name of the children; and on hearing that of Phul (blossom) he said, "The name shall be a true omen, and he shall bear many blossoms".

Phul was the second son of Rup Chand, by Mai Umbi, a Jitani or Jat woman. He was educated by a celebrated fakir named Samerpuri, who taught him the art of feigning death by stopping his breath, an accomplishment which had for him a most tragic result. In the year 1627, Phul left Mehraj and founded a village five miles distant, which he called after his own name. He received a *firman* or deed of grant from the Emperor Shah Jahan, confirming to him the

office which had been for so many years held by his family. The prophecy of Guru Hargobind was fulfilled, and Phul had seven children from whom have descended many noble families. Phul had resorted to the practice of *langar* (community kitchen) for the people of Lakhi Jungle area and thereby he became very popular. He also built a fort at Phul in the year about 1654.

From Tiloka, the eldest son of Chaudhri Phul, have descended, as has before been said, the families of Nabha and Jind. Rama, the ancestor of the Patiala Family, was the second son of Phul. Tiloka, the eldest son of Phul succeeded to the office of Chaudhary. The village of Gumti was assigned to Ghanu, Jhandu, and Takhat Mal, the younger sons of Phul.

The village of Bhai Rupa was founded by Bhai Rup Chand, the devotee of Guru Hargobind. This village is situated about 13 km to the north of the town of Phul in Rampura Phul Tahsil of Bathinda District.

Rama or Ram Chand, the ancestor of the Patiala family, is said to have first distinguished himself by attacking and dispersing a large body of marauders who were passing the village of Phul laden with plunder; and obtaining by his success some considerable wealth, he founded the village of Rampur, and began, after the example of the robbers he had despoiled, to attack such of his neighbours as were less powerful than himself. He made a raid into the Bhatti country, and defeated Hussan Khan, one of the old enemies of his family, with much loss, near the village of Chandal, and carried off much spoil, money, horses, and cattle. His next victory was over the Muhammadan Chief of Kot, whom be defeated after a sharp fight and plundered his camp[1].

Both Tiloka and Rama were the followers of Guru Gobind Singh. During the battle of Guru with Wazir Khan of Sirhind, Tiloka and Rama helped Guru alongwith their soldiers. They fought at Anandpur Sahib and also at Chamkaur Sahib. Guru Gobind Singh also stayed for sometime at Damdama Sahib in Bathinda District. Rama and Tiloka served the Guru with full devotion

1 *Ibid*, pp 4-12

during his stay at Damdama Sahib. Here, Guru stayed for quite some time dictating the *Adi Granth* to a devout Sikh of his, Bhai Mani Singh, and adding to it his father's hymns and, according to tradition, one verse of his own. He did so, because, it is said that the original copy was with his cousin, Dhirmal, who refused to part with it, and the Sikhs wanted an edition certified by the Guru. He also made additions to his own compositions. Here he was also joined by his wives, Sundri and Sahib Kaur. When they asked the Guru where the young sons were, the Guru replied, pointing to his followers: "For these thousands, I sacrificed the other four. So long as these sons of mine are alive, I will not consider the death of my four sons in vain."[1] It is worthwhile to mention here that two elder sons of Guru Gobind Singh, laid down their lives in the battle of Chamkaur Sahib and remaining two younger sons were martyred at Sirhind by Wazir Khan, the Faujdar of Sirhind.

The Guru according to Dr Ernest Trumpp, made 1,20,000 converts during his stay at Damdama Sahib. The old glory of Anandpur Sahib, it appears, had returned and Sikhs thronged here from far and near. Talwandi Sabo is now the headquarters of the Nihangs of the State. A big fair is held here on Baisakhi day. Guru also stayed for sometime in the fort of Bathinda. There is a *gurudwara* inside the fort in the memory of Guru Gobind Singh.

During the fight of Banda Bahadur with Wazir Khan of Sirhind, the Sidhu Brars of Bathinda District fought on the side of the forces of Banda Bahadur.

Ala Singh, the son of Rama, was the founder of Patiala State. He was only twenty-three years of age when his father was murdered in 1714. Ala Singh was a great fighter. He conquered Barnala and adjoining areas in 1753. He attacked Bathinda which was in the possession of Sardar Jodh Singh Saboke who gave a tough fight to Ala Singh for three months. But when Ala Singh succeeded in getting the help of Dal Khalsa, Jodh Singh surrendered. After conquering Bathinda, Budhlada and adjoining areas were also conquered

1 Dr Gopal Singh, A *History* of the *Sikh People* (1469-1978), (New Delhi, 1979), pp 313-314

by Ala Singh. In this way, the most of the area of present Bathinda District came under the rule of Ala Singh of Phul dynasty.

Ala Singh had only one wife Fattoh, the daughter of Chaudhary Khana, a Subhran zamindar of Kauloke in Rampura Phul Tahsil of Bathinda District. A story was told of her, that at her birth, her mother, disappointed at having a daughter when she had earnestly desired a son, put the new-born child in an earthen vessel and buried it in the ground. A wandering mendicant of the name of Devi Dass happened to pass, and seeing the mother in tears, inquired the cause of her grief. She confessed to him what she had done, and the mendicant told her to disinter the child, for of her would be borne a famous race, which should rule all the neighbouring country. The child was taken out of the ground unhurt, and eventually became the wife of Ala Singh, bearing him three sons, viz. Sardul Singh, Bhumian Singh, Lal Singh, all of whom died in the lifetime of their father. Sardul Singh, the eldest son, married as his first wife the daughter of a Sirdar at Bhikhe (in Mansa Tahsil of Bathinda District) who became the mother of Maharaja Amar Singh.[1]

Ala Singh consolidated his power by defeating the Bhattis in 1757. This victory over the Bhattis also increased reputation of Ala Singh. In the capture of Sirhind by the Sikh confederacy in 1763, Ala Singh played a significant role and that is why Sirhind and Patiala area went to his share. He made Patiala, the capital of his state. Ala Singh died in August 1765 at Patiala, and he was succeeded by Amar Singh, his grandson. Thus the most of the area of the Bathinda District came to be ruled by the Phulkian rulers from the headquarters of Patiala. Therefore, the history of the Bathinda District from henceforward gets linked with the history of the Patiala State.

Raja Amar Singh was also a great conqueror who further consolidated and extended the boundary of Patiala State. In the year about 1770, he sent a big force to capture the fort of Bathinda from Sukhchen

1 L.H. Griffin, *The Rajas of the Punjab* (Patiala, 1970), pp 27-28

Singh Sabo. But it was not an easy affair to take possession of this fort as he had no artillery of sufficient power to reduce it. He was compelled to tire and starve Sukhchen Singh out, and for a whole year the fort was besieged without success till the owner tired of his resistance, proposed to surrender if the Raja would raise the siege and promise him safety. Amar Singh agreed to this, but before drawing off his troops and returning to Patiala, he insisted that Kapur Singh, son of the Chief, with four or five of his principal officers, should be given to him as hostages. The siege was then raised, but Sukhchen did not give up the fort, and it was not till four months later that he visited Patiala, accompanied by Sodhi Bharpur Singh, a man whose sanctity was so generally respected by the Sikhs, that Sukhchen thought his company of more value than any safe conduct from the Raja. Arriving at Patiala, he asked for the release of the hostages, agreeing to remain himself in confinement until the fort was surrendered. To this the Raja consented, and Kapur Singh, with the other hostages, returned to Bathinda, and at once began to strengthen the defences and increase the garrison. On hearing this, Raja sent orders to assault the fort without delay,, and treated Sukhchen Singh with great severity to the indignation of Sodhi Bharpur Singh, who protested against such treatment of a man who had been persuaded to come to Patiala under his assurance of safety. At length Sukhchen, weary of his rigorous imprisonment, sent an order to his son to make over the fort to the Patiala officials, which was done, and Sukhchen released. This acquisition was made in 1771 and hence most of the area of the present Bathinda District became part of Patiala State.

Soon after the victory of Bathinda, there was the danger of a Maratha attack to the consternation of Amar Singh, who sent off all his treasure and family jewels to Bathinda, which, lying amidst sandy waste, was not likely to be attacked. Anyhow, Patiala was not attacked by the Marathas and Raja Amar Singh set out to punish some refractory Zamindars in the neighbourhood of Bathinda. Raja Amar Singh died in 1781 at the age of thirty five.

Raja Sahib Singh, the new chief of the Patiala

State was a child of six years of age. The affairs of the state were in the hands of Diwan Nanun Mal who was an Aggarwal banian of Sunam. He was a man of great experience who had served Raja Amar Singh well, both in the council and in the field.

During the time of Sahib Singh, a serious revolt broke out at Bhikhe, in Mansa Tahsil of Bathinda. Sardar Ala Singh, the brother of Rani Khem Kaur, one of Raja Amar Singh's widows, seized the town with the aid of *zamindars* of the neighbourhood, expelling the Patiala Governor, Thaman Singh, from the town and the fort. The Ranis and their relations had, at this time, great power in Patiala. They all, with the exception of Rani Hukman, hated Nanun Mal for his efforts to maintain economy and to restrain their extravagance within due bounds; and the Diwan found himself opposed and thwarted in every possible way. He, however, mustered a large force composed of Patiala, Jind, Nabha, Malerkotla, Bhadaur and Ramgharia troops, and, accompanied by Rani Hukman, marched against Bhikhe and invested the village. After few days of skirmishing, Ala Singh, seeing further resistance hopeless escaped from Bhikhe by night, and fled to his home at Talwandi, where he was pursued by the Diwan and captured. He was imprisoned at Patiala for a time, but on the intercession of Sodhi Nahr Singh of Anandpur, a man of great sanctity, he was at length released on payment of a heavy fine, and allowed Dhamon and other villages for his support.

To add to the difficulties of the Patiala administration, the year 1783 was of famine as terrible as any that had ever devastated the northern India. The previous year had been dry and the harvest poor; but, in 1783, it failed entirely. The country was depopulated; the peasants abandoning their villages and dying in thousands of disease and want; but little revenue could be collected; the country swarmed with bands of robbers and dacoits, and the state of anarchy was almost inconceivable. The neighbouring Chiefs began to seige for themselves the Patiala villages and all who dared flout Patiala authority declared themselves independent. But Diwan Nanun Mal was able to crush all these revolts with an iron hand.[1]

1 *Ibid*, pp 53-54 and 160

The most important thing that happened during the rule of Raja Sahib Singh was that Patiala State including the most of the area of Bathinda District came under the domination of the British Government as Raja Sahib Singh sought and obtained the protection of the British. Raja Sahib Singh died on 26 March 1813 and was succeeded by his son Karam Singh.

Raja Karam Singh had to face many problems from the extravagant claims and pretensions of his half-brother Kanwar Ajit Singh who demanded the fort of Bathinda from Karam Singh. As the fort of Bathinda was the strongest in the Patiala territory, Raja Karam Singh declined the offer. However, he settled matters with Ajit Singh, giving him less important places.

The Maharajkian Sikhs, settled in about 22 villages around Maharaj in Bathinda District, had formed another constant subject of dispute between the Phulkian Chiefs, Patiala, Nabha and Jind, each claiming supremacy over them. These Jagirdars were of Phulkian origin, and, in 1833, were estimated at between forty to fifty thousand souls, inhabiting twenty-two large villages, the total area of which was about forty thousand acres.

Their customs were peculiar; each individual claimed to be absolutely independent, and neither son nor brother remained in subjugation after he was able to cultivate his share of the land. The soil they owned was unirrigated, nevertheless it yielded abundant harvests. But although no more than simple agriculturists, the Maharajkians had given up none of their warlike habits. Each man carried arms, which he never laid aside, even at the plough; for the whole community was of so turbulent a character, that no one was safe from the encroachment of his neighbour. Such being the case, it may seem strange that these men had been so long able to preserve their independence, were they not always ready to unite against any common enemy; and their strength, bravery, and warlike habits, caused them to be respected. They had scarcely any municipal government, and their only law was of equal division of inheritance.

During Muhammadan days, the Maharajkians had paid tribute to Delhi, and when the empire fell, they

naturally referred to the neighbouring Chiefs to arbitrate in their disputes; some going to Nabha, some to Jind, and the police and revenue posts on the boundary, were also always ready to send troops into the Maharajkian territory whenever their help was asked. This state of things led to the usual results. The Chiefs whose assistance was asked gave it with the sole object of strengthening their own personal influence and power: rival factions called in rival Chiefs, and the people gained very little benefit from the foreign interference; while jealousies and feuds continually increased. Weary, at last, of perpetual disorder, the Maharajkians solicited the help of the British Government. The case was a very difficult one to decide: Patiala, Nabha, and Jind, each claimed superiority, but to this they had not title, nor could they show that, at any time, they had received from the Maharajkians any kind of acknowledgement of such superiority. But the people were so wild and lawless that some strong hand was necessary to control them. The idea of divided authority exercised by the three Phulkian houses was felt to be impracticable, and at length the Government decided to make over the villages, for a term of years, to Patiala, as being the strongest and the most likely to keep its troublesome neighbours in order. Certain conditions were, however, appended to the grant, to which the Maharaja of Patiala would not accede, and persisted in maintaining exclusive rights of unconditional jurisdiction; rights which had been repeatedly denied by the British Government. The result was that the Maharajkians, in August 1833, were brought under direct British superintendence, and the Phulkian Chiefs were warned not to interfere in the affairs of the community, which became peaceful and well-behaved, as soon as the rival influences of Nabha and Patiala ceased to agitate it.

This change in the character of the Maharajkians for the better was very marked, and it was apparent immediately after they had come under British control. No harsh rules or unintelligible procedure were prescribed for them, but simple village courts were formed, in which the elders were to decide upon more disputed cases. The result was that in a few years the bloodshed and affrays which were before so frequent, became almost unknown, and the confidence of the people

in the intentions of the British Government became such that they begged that a *thana* or police station might be placed in their midst, though they had always refused to admit any such post belonging to the neighbouring Chiefs, and would have resisted such an encroachment to the death. They gave up almost entirely the practice of female infanticide, which had been before universal. Their excuse for the prevalence of this crime was singular enough. When told that it was expressly forbidden in the precepts of their Guru, Gobind Singh, they replied that it had been impossible for them, during the times of anarchy that had prevailed since they had adopted Sikhism, to find leisure to become acquainted with the doctrines of their scripture; and that the first notice that they had ever received of infanticide being an offence against their religion was in an injunction issued some years before by the Rajas of Patiala and Nabha. They, however, engaged to suppress the crime, and they were both sincere and successful; the punishment of forfeiture of his estate being ordained for any one who should commit it.[1]

During the first Anglo-Sikh War in 1845-46, Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala fought on the side of the British. He died during this war and his son and successor Maharaja Narinder Singh also helped the British in the Anglo-Sikh War.

During the disturbances of 1857-58, no prince in India showed greater loyalty or rendered more conspicuous service to the British Government than the Maharaja of Patiala. The Patiala Chief was splendidly rewarded for his services by the British Government.

On 1 November 1861, Maharaja Narinder Singh was invested with the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, at Allahabad; and about the same time, he was appointed a member of the Governor General Council for making laws and regulations. On 13 November 1862, Maharaja Narinder Singh, the most enlightened ruler of the State, passed away at the age of thirty-nine.

Mahinder Singh was only ten years old at the time of his father's death. In May 1870, the Maharaja was nominated a knight of the Most Exalted Order of the State of India. During his time, Mahindra College

1 *Ibid*, pp 161-163

of Patiala was established which made significant contribution to the spread of education in Malwa area including the area of present Bathinda District.

After the death of Maharaja Mahinder Singh of Patiala in 1873, Rajinder Singh became the Maharaja of Patiala. The foundations of Rajindera Hospital, Patiala were laid by him in 1877. The establishment of the hospital gave some sort of medical relief to the people of Malwa. In 1881, a railway line from Rajpura to Bathinda was installed. It added to the facilities of communication to the people of this area. Maharaja Rajinder Singh passed away in 1900.

Maharaja Bhupinder Singh was the next Maharaja of Patiala state who gave much help to the British during the World War I. Many young persons were recruited from this area to be sent on the war front. Maharaja Bhupinder Singh died in 1938 and he was succeeded by his son Yadvindera Singh. Maharaja Yadvindera Singh gave much military aid to the British during the Second World War.

The Struggle for Freedom

Namdhari Movement.—Even after the Great Uprising of 1857, pockets of resistance remained throughout the country and found expression in local movements. One of the most significant of such efforts to expel the British was the Namdhari Movement popularly known as Kuka Movement initiated by Bhai Ram Singh on 1 April 1857 at the village Bhaini Sahib in the Ludhiana District. He was a simple peasant but had great personal qualities which attracted the loyalty and allegiance of large sections of people in the Punjab. A man of the people, Bhai Ram Singh knew of the hardships and sufferings of the ordinary peasants and based his movement on a redress of their grievances. He had served as a soldier in the Sikh Army and had been influenced by the idea of Sikh dominion over the Punjab. With his deep insight into human character, he realised that neither political liberation nor social and economic uplift would be possible without an improvement in the quality of the individual. He, therefore, placed great stress on moral qualities and sought to inculcate in his followers a spirit of religious devotion and service. Within a few years, Bhai Ram Singh

developed into Guru Ram Singh with a considerable following in Ludhiana and adjoining areas.[1]

Within a short period, Namdhari Movement spread in the rest of Punjab including the area of present Bathinda District. 'Mastana Dal' of this Movement included many revolutionaries from Bathinda District who took an active part in the freedom struggle. In July 1871, Gurmukh Singh, Mangal Singh and Mastan Singh of Village Pitho, then part of Phul District of Nabha State (now in Rampura Phul Tahsil of Bathinda District) attacked and killed the butchers of Raikot (Ludhiana District) who used to injure the feelings of the Hindus and the Sikhs by slaughtering the cows. These persons were captured and hanged in Raikot.[2] It was under the Movement that Ram Singh and Sham Singh of village Joga, Mansa Tahsil of Bathinda District, were among those who were shot dead at Malerkotla under orders of the British Rulers. Besides these incidents, the Namdharis of Bathinda District took an active part in the freedom struggle of the country. However, the movement was ruthlessly suppressed by the British in 1872.

It is true that the Namdhari Movement did not succeed, but nevertheless it left a permanent impression on a large section of the people. The insistence of Guru Ram Singh on self-reliance helped in developing among them their system of justice and communication. This was a considerable achievement in view of the prevailing circumstances. Even more remarkable was the Kuka insistence on growth of indigenous agriculture and trade. In some respects, Guru Ram Singh had anticipated the non-cooperation movement of 1921 in his idea of boycott of British institutions in the country. It is also claimed that the Kuka movement directly influenced the Ghadar and other political movements in the Punjab in early twentieth century.[3]

The Ghadar Movement.—The Ghadar Movement

1 Fauja Singh Bajwa, *Kuka Movement* (Delhi, 1965), (pages viii and ix of the Foreword)

2 *Punjabi Tribune*, March 1985

3 Fauja Singh Bajwa, *Kuka Movement* (Delhi, 1965) (page x of the Foreword)

was the first purely secular movement which aimed at to liberate India by force of arms. The rebellion was planned in the United States and Canada. Funds were raised from Indians living in foreign countries. The headquarters of the movement was at San Francisco. Sohan Singh Bhakna was the President and Lala Hardyal was the General Secretary of the Party.[1] Pt. Kanshi Ram of Kupnagar District was the treasurer of the Ghadar Party. A weekly paper called *Ghadar* (The Rebellion) was started with Lala Hardyal as Chief Editor. Because of the journal, the Organisation came to be known as the Ghadar Party.

In the first issue of *Ghadar* published on 1 November 1913, the objective of the party was stated in the following words; "Today, there begins in foreign lands, but in our country's language, a war against the British Raj.....What is our name ? *Ghadar*. What is our work ? *Ghadar*. Where will *Ghadar* break out ? In India. The time will soon come when rifles and blood will take the place of pen and ink.[2]

The harassment of the passengers of the ship 'Kamagata Maru', mostly Punjabis, instigated the people of Punjab living in foreign lands to participate actively in the Ghadar Movement. Unfortunately, the movement failed because of the leakage of information by Kirpal Singh who had been planted by the British among the Ghadarites.

In this context, it is worthwhile to mention here that there were many freedom fighters belonging to Bathinda District who took an active part in the Ghadar Movement. An article *'Malwe De Gadri'* by Sarwan Singh Bir appearing in the *'Punjabi Tribune'*. dated 26 January 1984, gives names of persons of this district who participated in this movement as follows :--

	Name	Village	Tahsil
1	Badan Singh S/o Bhagel Singh	Dalel Singh Wala	Mansa

1 The Tribune, dated 30 June 1982

2 Khushwant Singh and Satindra Singh, *Ghadar, 1915* (New Delhi, 1966), p. 19

	Name	Village	Tahsil
2	Kehar Singh S/o Jhanda Singh	Khemuana	Bathinda
3	Arjun Singh S/o Gobind Singh	Khiala Kalan	Mansa
4	Ram Singh S/o Gurmukh Singh	Ablu	Bathinda

The Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal Movement.—The Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal Movement remained very forceful in Patiala State. As much of the area of Bathinda District was under Patiala State; the movement had also its impact in the district. To begin with, the Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal, as the new organization was called, focussed its attention on political issues such as liberty of movement and speech and misuse of state finances by the rulers, particularly Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala. To reinforce their struggle, the organizers affiliated their Praja Mandal to the All-India States' People's Conference which was brought into being about the same time and established close contacts with the Indian National Congress, the most powerful freedom fighting force in the country. The All India States' People's Conference was born at Bombay in 1927, and under its inspiration, Praja Mandals were organised in a large number of states.

Sewa Singh Thikriwala, popularly, known as 'Kirpan Bahadur' was the real hero of the Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal to raise the voice of the people against despotic rule in the princely states. The movement gained much momentum with the arrest of Sewa Singh Thikriwala. Akalis were actively associated with this movement. They started their campaign with a long tour of Patiala State by Baba Kharak Singh, who was known at that time as the 'uncrowned king of the Panth' and was at the zenith of his political career. He addressed scores of political conferences. He addressed a big political conference at Mansa in Bathinda District where the birth of the Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal was announced. He attacked the autocratic order in general and Maharaja Bhupinder Singh's misrule in particular, preached the message of the Indian freedom movement and exhorted

his audience to participate in the agitation launched by the Akalis. The formation of the Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal was announced on 17 July 1928 at Mansa. Sewa Singh Thikriwala was elected as its president and Bhagwan Singh Longowalia as its general secretary (both of whom were absent, the former being in jail and the latter outside the State because of a number of pending cases against him). Only Jaswant Singh Danewalia out of the Praja Mandal leaders addressed the rally. He was designated as the working president of the new organization. The rally was attended by thousands of peasants from neighbouring villages. Akali jathas from Barnala, Bathinda, Mansa, Maur, Sardulgarh, Sunam and Bhawanigarh took part in the procession.[1]

Baba Kharak Singh in his speech attacked the misdeeds of Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala as under :--

> Rajas and Nawabs are worse than animals because they oppose freedom. We shall set them right. Maharaja Ranjit Singh was punished by the *Sangat* because he had relation with a prostitute. But it is shameful that Bhupinder Singh is procuring the daughters and sisters of his subjects for immoral purposes and people are not raising even a voice of protest. He squanders away the hard-earned money of his people in England and Europe. The Kapurthala Maharaja lives in his state only for four months in a year. Such Rajas should not get even a pension.[2]

Jaswant Singh Danewalia, working president of the Punjab Riasti Praja Mandal, demanded replacement of autocracy by democracy. he termed the Chamber of Princes as "a Dacoits' Chamber" whose ring-leader was Bhupinder Singh.

The Mansa Conference provided the guidelines for the new movement. The main objectives of the movement synchronised with the aims of the All India States People's Conference. A strong personal touch was provided by attacking the misdeeds of the Maharaja of Patiala who had imprisoned Sewa Singh.

1 Ramesh Walia, *Praja Mandal Movement in East Punjab States* (Patiala, 1972), pp 51, 54

2 *Ibid*, pp 56-57

Due to various pressures, Maharaja Bhupinder Singh had to release Sewa Singh and about forty other Akali prisoners in August 1929. Sewa Singh Thikriwala undertook an intensive tour of the Patiala State including the area of present Bathinda District. The territories of Patiala, Nabha, Jind and Malerkotla were contiguous to one another and the message which Sewa Singh carried reached not only the Patiala people, but the rural-folk in the adjoining states also. It was a silent message because he never delivered any speech. He just thanked his audience with *Wahiguru ji ka Khalsa Wahiguru ji ki Fateh* and sat down, but his silence was more vocal than a speech[1]. He also visited village Ubha of Mansa Tahsil. Sewa Singh's tour of the Patiala State culminated in the holding of the first regular session of the Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal in the Bradlaugh Hall, Lahore, on 27 December 1929. Hundreds of Praja Mandal workers from different East Punjab States attended the session which was addressed by leaders of the All India States People's Conference and of the Punjab Provincial Congress committee. Many of these workers had come to Lahore all the way on food. They took out a procession through the streets and bazars of the town drawing the attention of the people towards the excesses of the princes in general and the Maharaja of Patiala in particular.

Among the resolutions passed by the Conference, there was one demanding action against the Maharaja of Patiala for his misrule and loose morals. Another notable feature of the conference was the emergence of Bhagwan Singh Longowalia as the second most effective leader of the states people's movement in Punjab. He was elected General Secretary of Punjab Ryasti Praja Mandal along with Sewa Singh Thikriwala who was re-elected President. Like Sewa Singh, the Longowalia too, was the product of the Gurudwara Reform Movement.

On their return from Lahore, the Praja Mandal workers started making preparations for observance of the first independence day. On 26 January 1930, Sewa Singh Thikriwala led a procession of *Kisans* from his village to Barnala, the district headquarters, carrying the Congress flag in front. Processions and public meetings were also organized at Mansa and

1 *Ibid*, p. 77

many other places in the district. Importance of the day was explained and a pledge was taken to liberate people living in the states from the double slavery of the British and the princes. Throughout the year 1930-31, the Praja Mandal leadership remained busy in extending their work to the smaller states of the East Punjab.

Workers of the Praja Mandal were now openly going round the villages and telling people that the removal of the Maharaja was only a matter of days. Some Praja Mandal workers were arrested from the Baisakhi gathering at the Damdama Sahib in Bathinda District in the Patiala State and were charged with demanding the sack of the Maharaja.

Throughout 1931, the agitation for the sack of Maharaja Bhupinder Singh continued unabated. Dozens of small and big *dewans* were organised inside the State. Such gatherings were also organised at village Ubha (Mansa Tahsil) and Mansa, in Bathinda District which were attended by Sewa Singh Thikriwala.

Budhlada was another important centre of Praja Movement in the present Bathinda District. Public meetings were held there quite frequently. As in those days, Budhlada was part of British territory (Hisar District), it was convenient for the Praja Mandalists to hold meetings and conferences there. The death of Sewa Singh Thikriwala in 1934 gave a serious set back to this movement.

In a public meeting held at Budhlada, resolutions were adopted condemning enhancement of land revenue and *abiana* and demanding relief in taxes. A demand was raised that peasants should be permitted to sell their produce in the *mandis* (market towns) of the Punjab as the prices there were higher. It was pointed out that the price of cotton was rupees four and annas six per maund at Bareta (Patiala State), while it was rupees five and annas four at Budhlada (Punjab), distance between the two *mandis* being hardly six miles.[1]

Akali religious-cum-political conferences were also held at Mansa and Talwandi Sabo in 1940.

1 *Ibid*, pp 129-30

Most of the Praja Mandal leaders being behind bars and Akali Dal pursuing a totally anti-Congress policy, the East Punjab States did not witness any resistance in 1942-43. There were not much disturbances in the wake of the Quit India Resolution passed by the Bombay Session of the Indian National Congress in August 1942.

During the war years, the Communists and Congressmen remained in jail or were interned in their villages. The Praja Mandal Movement remained a leaderless movement functioning in a vacuum. The only exception can be made in the case of the tenant movement in the Patiala State which continued unabated throughout the war years. In early 1939, a Kisan-Muzara Committee had been formed. Tenants had long been nursing grievances against the Akalis and the Congress leadership that their case was not being adequately pleaded for. The committee gave a new direction to their movement at a largely attended tenant conference at Jethuke in Rampura Tahsil of Bathinda District. A call was given for total stoppage of payment of *batai* (landlord's share of the produce). Tenants removed total crops to their homes. The State Government taking it as a challenge to its authority let loose police repression, but the movement remained spreading from one village to another. About four hundred tenant villages were affected by the new movement. Clashes took place between the landlords and their men and the police on one hand and tenant-men and women on the other. To protest against the wave of repression, a deputation of 101 persons was taken to Shimla, "The repression subsided to some extent but the game of hide and seek continued throughout the war years."[1] In 1945, a new twenty-one Member Muzara War Council was set up. It was more or less a Communist organization and under its leadership armed guards were mobilised to defend gains of the movement.[1]

The people of Bathinda District took an active part in overall freedom movement of the country. A big political conference was held at Phul on 25 and 26 April 1946 which was addressed by prominent Congress leaders from Punjab.

[1] *Ibid*, p. 163

Independence and its Aftermath

At the time of Independence in 1947, Maharaja Yadvindra Singh was ruling over the most of the present Bathinda District, with headquarters at Patiala. As in the rest of the country, people celebrated achievemet of Independence with great enthusiasm. Among the states, Maharaja Yadvindra Singh of Patiala played a significant role in the history of India by his sympathetic alliance and co-operation with the nationalist forces of the country and took a leading part in the negotiations with British Cabinet Mission in 1946. He so moulded the opinions of the ruling Princes as to bring them in line with the progressive leaders of the country and helped them achieve independence particularly in the crisis of 1947 when it was feared that some of them might play an obstructive role.

Under the Independence Act of 1947, India was declared a free nation with dominion status with effect from 15 August 1947. As a result of this epoch-making change, Punjab was partitioned. Apart from the administrative divisions of personnel and assets, the most disturbing factor in the process, which had not been clearly foreseen or provided for was the mass migration of the members of different communities from the West Punjab to the East Punjab and vice versa. There was a lot of bloodshed during the partition period in the entire district. Even though the wholesale transfer of communities had not been envisaged in the constitutional provisions, the force of circumstances compelled the people to be uprooted enmasse and leave their hearths and homes to seek security across the borders. The number of people moving with whatever they could collect, exceeded the wildest calculations of the respective Governments who were found utterly unprepared for the greatest exodus in history. The exodus of non-Muslims from all parts of West Pakistan into the East Punjab disrupted the whole economy and created a situation without parallel. Immediate measures had to be adopted for the relief and resettlement of the vast uprooted population suddenly reduced to a stage of utter misery. Large number of refugees were completely demoralised on account of want and destitution. The partition found the entire Government machinery in a state of paralysis. In the face of the colossal problem,

prompt action was taken by the State and Central Governments to arrange for the speedy relief and resettlement of the refugees and restore order. Simultaneously, a programme for their effective rehabilitation was launched and was completed in phases over several years.

India's Independence in August 1947 brought about a little change in the attitude of the princes, at least in the East Punjab. The much awaited reforms were to wait for about a year more. The Praja Mandal and the Akalis continued with their demands and remained quarrelling over the details of future set up. But after a very short interval, they patched up their differences, forged a united front and started demanding a responsible government. The Akalis issued an ultimatum to the East Punjab States to introduce responsible Government or face a *morcha*. The Praja Mandal had already been threatening a struggle. So the reforms could no longer be postponed. It was no longer possible for the States to continue in their old ways. The Praja Mandal was on the warpath. Administration was crisis-ridden and the Central Government at Delhi was not too sympathetic. In such a situation, the movement for merger of these states gained ground.

Formation of PEPSU and its merger with Punjab

The Patiala and the East Punjab States Union, or the PEPSU as it was popularly called, had come into existence on 20 August 1948, with the integration of the princely States of Patiala, Nabha, Jind, Faridkot, Kapurthala, Nalagarh and Malerkotla. This union came into being under the active guidance of Sardar Valabh Bhai Patel who was then the Home Minister and in charge of Indian States Department. Maharaja Yadavindra Singh of Patiala was appointed as the Rajparmukh (Head of State).

With the formation of the PEPSU in 1948, the Praja Mandal also changed its name to the PEPSU Pradesh Congress. All the princes in the East Punjab States except the Maharaja of Patiala were eliminated. Even the Patiala ruler was no more than the constitutional head of the State and the real power passed into the hands of the representative of the people. On 1 November 1956, with the reorganization of the States,

PEPSU was merged with the Punjab. With this even the constitutional position of the Maharaja of Patiala ended. The end of that status was in fact the end of one era and the beginning of another. The Praja Mandalist now claimed that they had achieved consummation of the great struggle which they had launched nearly thirty years earlier.

The State Reorganization Commission, which had been appointed by the Government of India on 29 December 1953 submitted its report in 1955 and recommended the merger of the PEPSU with Punjab. The government accepted the Commission's recommendation and implemented it with effect from 1 November 1956. At present, the district has four tahsils/subdivisions, viz. Bathinda, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo and Rampura Phul.

After merger with Punjab, the district has made rapid strides in the fields of agriculture and industry. Once arid lands are now yielding bumper crops. The establishment of Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, the National Fertilizer, Ltd. at Bathinda are the monuments of modern history of the district.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

(a) Population

(i) Total Population

According to the 1981 Census, the population of the Bathinda District was 13,04,606, of whom 6,99,815 were males forming 53.65 per cent and 6,04,791 were females forming 46.35 per cent. Out of the total population of the district, 10,08,729 persons (77.32 per cent) lived in the rural areas, while 2,95,877 persons (22.68 per cent) lived in the urban areas. Out of the people living in the urban areas 1,59,481 were males and 1,36,396 were females and in the rural areas 5,40,334 were males and 4,68,395 were females.

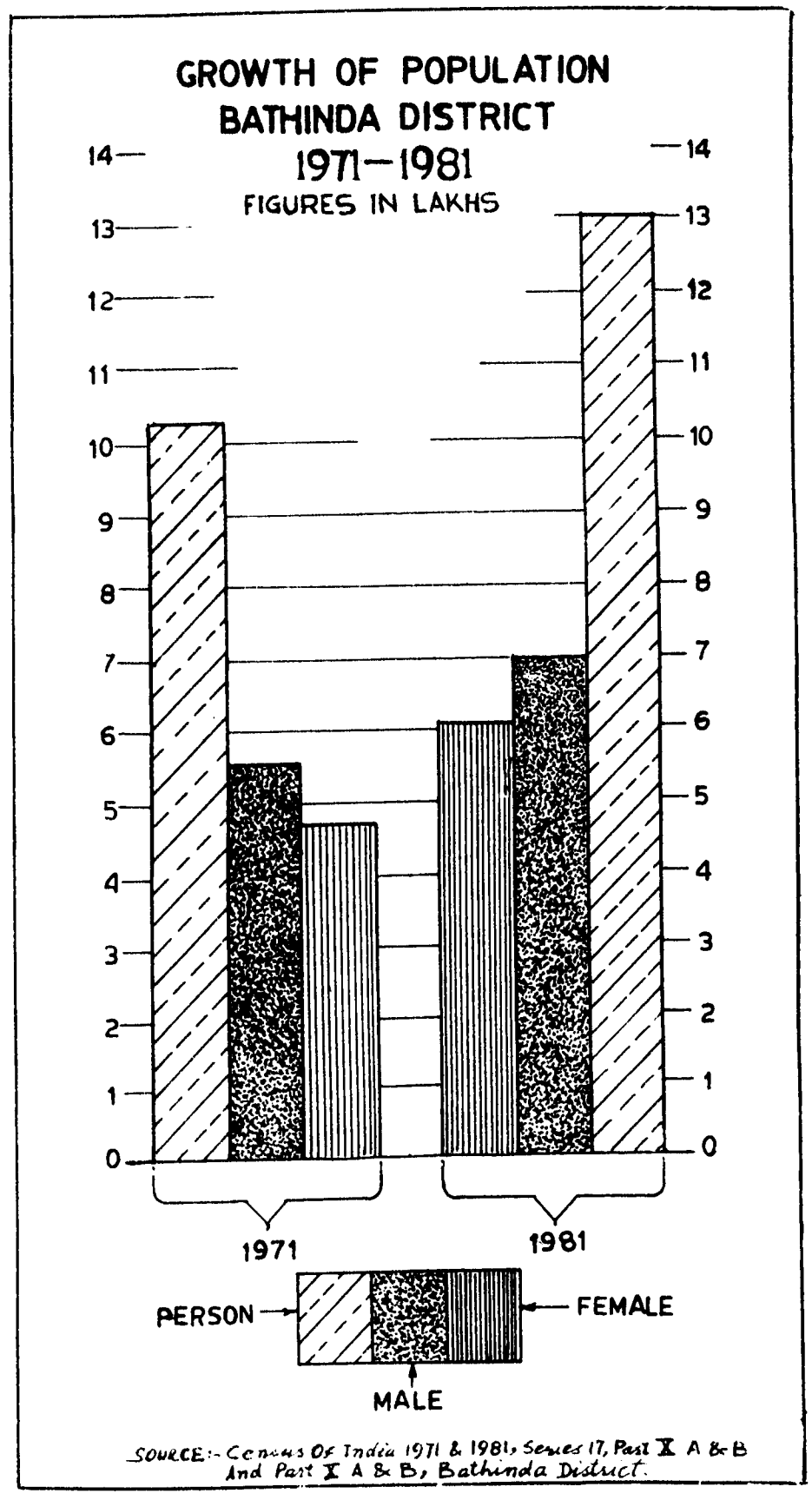
Growth of Population.—The population of the Bathinda District increased from 6,19,689 in 1951 to 13,04,606 in 1981. The variation in the population during these thirty years is shown in the following table :-

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation	Males	Females
1951	6,19,689	..	..	3,38,037	2,81,652
1961	8,28,420	+ 208,731	+ 33.68	4,52,046	3,76,374
1971	10,25,271	+ 196,851	+ 23.76	5,53,798	4,71,473
1981	13,04,606	+ 279,335	+ 27.24	6,99,815	6,04,791

(Census of India, 1981, Series-17 Punjab, Part II-A and Part II-B, General Population Tables and Primary Census Abstract, p. 65)

Emigration and Immigration.—According to the 1961 Census, out of 10,55,177* persons enumerated in the district, as many as 6,43,492 or 60.98 per cent were born at the place of enumeration. Among the rural population, this percentage worked out

*Includes population of the Faridkot Tahsil also.



to 65.49 and in urban areas to 44.20 denoting a higher degree of mobility in the towns.

Another 17.42 per cent of the population was born at another place within the district. This percentage was 9.78 in the case of males and 26.55 in the case of females, the higher percentage for females being owning to the factor of marriage.

Persons born in Punjab districts other than Bathinda numbered 1,54,045 or 14.60 per cent of the population. Even in this group, the percentage of females (20.89) was higher than that of males (9.34).

The Punjab born persons formed 93 per cent of the district population. The remaining 7 per cent hailed from areas shown below :

Place of birth	Number	Percentage to total population
Other States of India	20,074	1.9
Pakistan	51,715	4.9
Other Countries	1,245	0.1
Information not available	804	0.1

Persons born in other Indian States were mostly from Rajasthan (11,355), Uttar Pradesh (5,831), Delhi (1,147) and Jammu and Kashmir (451). The majority of persons hailing from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir were counted in the rural areas and of those hailing from Delhi in the urban areas.

The Pakistan-born persons were those who migrated in the wake of partition. The persons reported to have been born in countries other than Pakistan were mostly the children of the Punjabis who went abroad.

Density of Population.—As per 1981 Census, the density of population of the Bathinda District was 235 persons per sq. km. It is the second lowest amongst the districts of the State and significantly lower than the State density of 333 persons per sq. km. But it has recorded a substantial increase of

47 persons per sq. km. from 188 persons per sq. km. in 1971 to 235 persons per sq. km. in 1981.

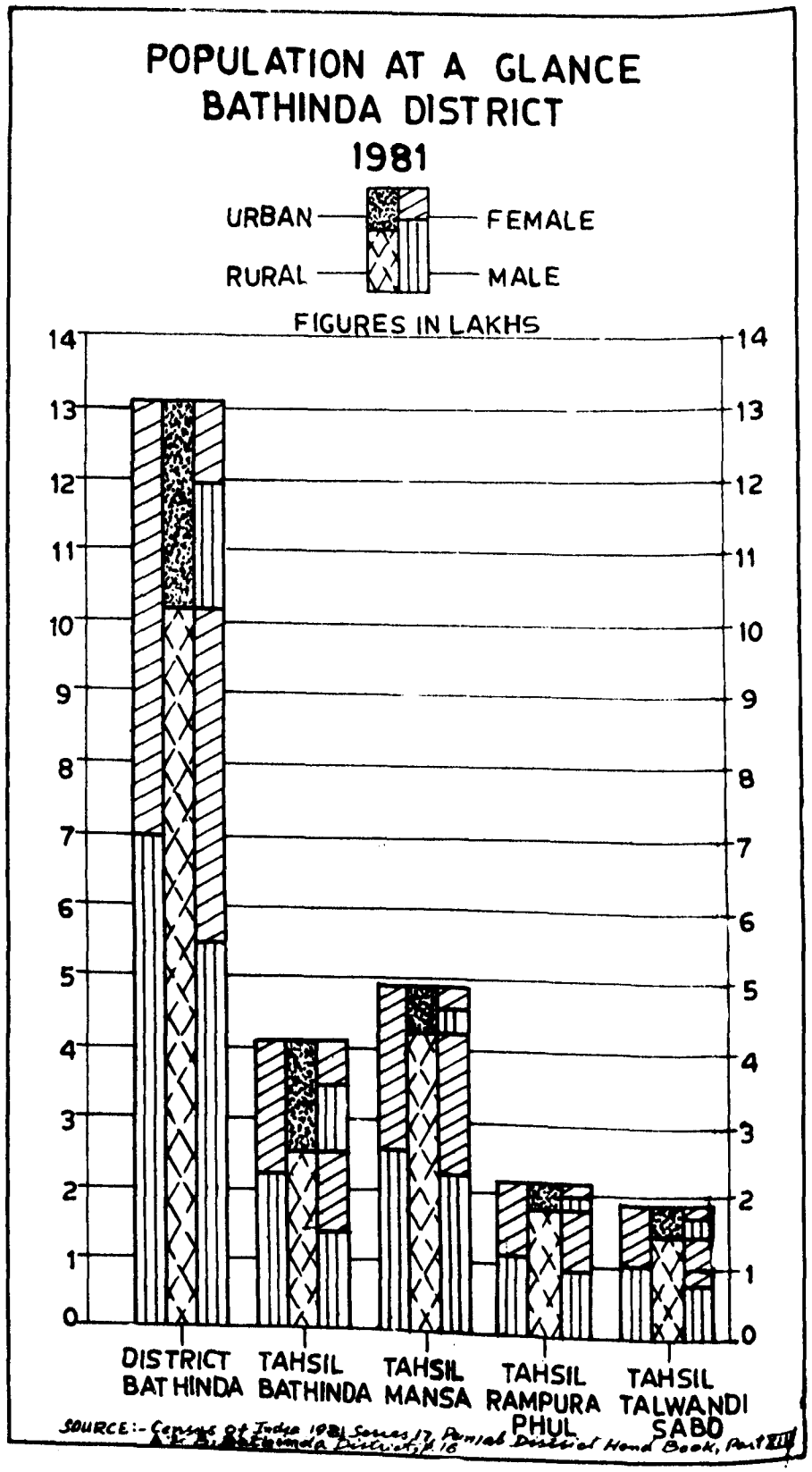
There is a wide gap in the density of population in rural and urban areas of the district. It is 186 for rural areas and 2,112 for urban areas.

The tahsil-wise density of population of the Bathinda District, according to the 1981 Census, is given below :

Tahsil/District	Density/Population per sq km		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Bathinda Tahsil	270	181	1,690
Mansa Tahsil	224	195	2,356
Rampura Phul Tahsil	241	206	5,536
Talwandi Sabo Tahsil	202	159	2,824
Bathinda District	235	186	2,112

(Census of India, 1981, Series 17 Punjab, Part II-A and Part II-B, General Population Tables and Primary Census Abstract, p.32)

Sex Ratio.—According to the 1981 Census, out of the total population of the district, 6,99,815 were males and 6,04,791 were females, i.e. showing a ratio of about 53.6 : 46.4. There were 864 females for 1,000 males in the district as against the corresponding figure of the Punjab State which stood at 879. The highest sex ratio of 869 has been observed from Mansa Subdivision and lowest 857 for Bathinda Subdivision. The other two subdivisions, viz. Talwandi Sabo and Rampura Phul had a sex ratio of 867 and 864, respectively. During the last three decades, there has been a slight improvement in favour of females which is shown in the following table :-



Year	Females per 1,000 males — Bathinda District		
	Total	Rural	Urban
1951	833	835	823
1961	833	834	827
1971	851	849	862
1981	864	867	855

Census of India Series 17--Punjab, Part II-A and Part II-B, General Population Tables and Primary Census Abstract, p. 69

(ii) Distribution of Population between Rural and Urban Areas

The following table shows the tahsil-wise distribution of population between rural and urban areas in the district, according to the 1981 Census[1] :--

District/Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Bathinda District	1,304,506	699,815	604,791
Rural	1,008,729	540,334	468,395
Urban	295,877	159,481	136,396
Bathinda Tahsil	409,881	220,723	189,158
Rural	258,270	137,692	120,578
Urban	151,611	83,031	68,580
Mansa Tahsil	491,608	262,975	228,633
Rural	422,857	226,757	196,100
Urban	68,751	36,218	32,533
Rampura Phul Tahsil	210,854	113,108	97,746
Rural	178,964	96,134	82,830
Urban	31,890	16,974	14,916
Talwandi Sabo Tahsil	192,263	103,009	89,254
Rural	148,638	79,751	68,887
Urban	43,625	23,258	20,367

Census of India, 1981 Series 17, Punjab District Census Part XIII-A & B Bathinda District, p. 16

(iii) Displaced Persons

On account of the partition of the country in 1947, the migration of the minority communities from either side of the border was unprecedented. Muslims settled in this district opted to migrate to Pakistan and the Hindus and Sikhs settled across the border crossed over to India. The then Bathinda District accommodated 48,382 persons giving a percentage of 7.2 over the total population of the district. The tahsil-wise distribution is given below :

Bathinda	16,235 Persons
Mansa	11,820 Persons
Faridkot	20,327 Persons (Now in Faridkot District)

The table given in Appendix on pages 91-92 shows the details of the refugees, who settled in the Bathinda District according to the district of origin in Pakistan.

(b) Language*

Linguistically, Bathinda District is surrounded by Bangru and Rajasthani, spoken in Haryana and Rajasthan states, and Malwai, an important dialect of Panjabi, spoken in Sangrur, Ludhiana, Faridkot districts of Panjab. The impact of Bangru and Rajasthani on the language of Bathinda is not of much significance. The language of Bathinda spoken in the villages is almost the core of the Malwai dialect. The urban speech is a Hindi influenced Punjabi variety of this dialect, but there is complete mutual intelligibility between the urban and rural language. The variety of language spoken in the rural areas is the dominating one. Mostly, *gurmukhi* script is used for writing this dialect.

The position of glottalic /h/ is very interesting in this area. In the word initial position its pronunciation is that of a consonant. Word finally as in the words ਸਾਹ, ਰਾਹ etc. it is pronounced as a high tone as /sa/and/ra/. This change of /h/ into tone,

*Material supplied by the Department of Anthropological Linguistics, Punjabi University, Patiala

word finally is uniform in all the dialects of Punjabi especially in Indian Panjab. The status of /h/in the word medial position is not clear in this dialect. In some of the words, it is pronounced as a consonant, e.g. ਸ਼ਹਿਰ, ਜਹਿਰ, ਠਹਿਰ, ਕਾਹਲ /sɛ́her/, jɛ́her/, , /lɛ́her/. /kahəl/, but in the words like ਸ਼ਹਿਰੋ, ਜਹਿਰੀ, ਠਹਿਰੀ, ਕਾਹਲੀ, it has changed into tone, which we can transcribe as /sɛ́ro/, /jɛ́ri/, /kali/, /lɛ́ri/. The process of conversion of /h/ into tone, word medially is so powerful, that both /h/ and tone are pronounced as in the words /kəhani/ ਕਹਾਣੀ /səheli/, ਸਹੇਲੀ ਸਹਾਰਾ /səhara/ /bəhana/ ਬਹਾਨਾ /gəhai/. ਗਹਾਈ

The prolongation of contact of the articulator at the point of articulation is a significant feature of this dialect. In the linguistic terminology, it is called gemination. In this dialect, gemination is phonemic and it is marked by writing the *gurmukhi* symbol ədək ਅਧਕ on the preceding letter of the geminated consonant. All consonants, except, /r/,/ɛ́/ ,/l/ ,/n/ ,/h/ can occur geminated or ungeminated. Gemination is possible only intervocalically and that too after any one of the vowels /I, ə, U/. The preceding vowel of the geminated consonant has to be one of the above noted vowels, but the following vowel can be any one out of the ten vowels of this dialect. Examples of gemination are :-

/məṭṭi/ਮੱਟੀ	/məṭi/ਮਟੀ
/sətti/ਸੱਤੀ	/səti/ਸਤੀ
/dəssi/ਦੱਸੀ	/dəsi/ਦਸੀ
/ɾəssa/ਰੱਸਾ	/ɾəsa/ਰਸਾ

While geminating aspirated stops such as /kh/ ,/ /ch/ ,/th/ ,/ph/ , only top letter is written double but the letter h indicating aspiration is not to be repeated e.g.

/məṭṭhi/ਮੱਠੀ
/jəpphi/ਜੱਫੀ
/nəkkhi/ਨੱਖੀ

An other phonologic feature worth mentioning here is that initial and medial consonant clusters are not pronounced in this area. In the *gurmukhi* spellings, clusters are indicated by writing a letter of smaller size and shape under the other letter, e.g. ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਠ, ਪ੍ਰੇਮ, ਪ੍ਰਧਾਠ but while pronouncing, a vowel

is inserted between the two sounds written together. Consonant clusters do occur word finally and that too after any one of the vowels /I, ə, U/.

Nasality is a significant feature of this dialect. All the ten vowels may occur oral (with velum raised) or nasalised (with velum lowered). This nasality being phonetic is also phonemic e.g. ਜਾ, ਜਾਂ, ਗਾ, ਗਾਂ, ਹੈ, ਸੈ, ਭੈ /ja/jã, ga/gã, so/sõ, pɔ̀/pɔ̃, Nasality is so dominant in this dialect that the vowels are effected by the nasality.

Like vowels and consonants, different pitch levels are also significant in the speech of this area. Pitch is called tone, when it is distinctive. There are three significant pitch levels in this area, technically termed as low tone, mid tone and high tone. Each word in this area has one of the three tones. Only one tone is possible in one word. The examples of tones are :-

/pa/ਭਾ	/pa/ਪਾ	/pa/ਪਾਹ
/kə̀ri/ਖੜੀ	/kə́ri/ਕੜੀ	/kə̌ri/ਕੜੀ
/kəadi/ਖੜੀ	/kə̃di/ਕੜੀ	/kədi/ਕੜੀ

The *gurmukhi* letters ਘ, ਝ, ਢ, ਧ, ਭ are not pronounced as voiced aspirates; Word initially their corresponding voiceless unaspirated is pronounced with low tone on the first or second syllable. When in medial or final position, these letters are pronounced as corresponding voiced unaspirates plus high tone on the preceding vowel or low tone on the following vowel. Tone has also disturbed the consonantal status of glottalic /h/.

The nouns in this area inflect for number and case. There are six cases, i.e. direct, oblique, vocative, ablative, locative and instrumental. There are two numbers, i.e. singular and plural. Every noun is either singular or plural, which is determined by the environment.

There are two genders : masculine; and feminine. Every noun animate or inanimate is assigned to either of the two genders. The gender of the noun is always inherent in it and there is no choice left for the speaker. Most of the /-a/ ending nouns are masculine and /-i/ ending are feminine, but there are exceptions to this also.

Pronouns in this area inflect for the categories of number, gender and case. The first person, singular and plural inflect for direct, dative and ablative cases. Second person singular and plural inflect for direct, dative, ablative and vocative cases. Vocative forms also mark the gender.

In this dialect, there are two sets of third person pronouns, i.e. /e/ " nearer to the speaker" and / o/ "farther from the speaker". These two forms do not inflect for gender or number. In the genitive form, the third person pronouns / e/ and / o/ inflect for number, gender and case by suffixing /-da/. The suffix /-da/ looses its tone and is treated as part of the word.

Under the Punjab Official Language Act 1967, Punjabi in the *gurmukhi* script became the official language of the State on the occasion of Baisakhi (13 April 1968). Accordingly, the official work at the district level and below is done largely in Punjabi than in English. Since Punjabi has been given the place of official language, people of the area show a greater enthusiasm for the study of this language. It is widely read, spoken and written in the district. Virtually Punjabi is the mother-tongue of the people of the district. Moreover, daily newspapers in Punjabi which are now published in large-scale and read by a large number of people, have also contributed a lot to the development of Punjabi language in the district. The extensive study and reading of the written Punjabi language have also moulded the dialect of the people to some extent.

(c) Religion and Caste

Principal Communities

The total population of the district, according to the 1981 Census, was 13,04,606. The Sikhs form the majority and the Hindus come the next. In the urban areas, however, the Hindus form the majority and the Sikhs come next. The Sikhs accounted for 76.26 per cent and Hindus 23 per cent of the total population of the district. The religion-wise population of the district alongwith number of households, according to the 1981 Census, is given in the following statement :—

Religion-wise Population of the Bathinda District, according to 1981 Census

Religion	No. of Households			Persons			Males			Females			Percentage to the total population
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban		Rural	Urban		
Sikhs	1,55,053	1,35,675	19,378	9,94,865	8,84,594	1,10,271	4,73,805	59,960		4,10,789	50,311		76.26
Hindus	52,660	19,616	33,044	3,00,040	1,17,322	1,82,718	62,838	97,950		54,484	84,768		23.00
Muslims	1,111	898	213	6,521	5,527	994	3,010	601		2,517	393		0.50
Christians	169	38	131	834	216	618	114	314		102	304		0.06
Jains	246	88	158	1,735	614	1,221	320	578		294	543		0.13
Buddhists	14	11	3	83	74	9	44	7		30	2		0.01
Other Religions and Persuations	80	56	24	487	349	138	184	67		165	71		0.04
Religion not stated	8	6	2	41	33	8	19	4		14	4		N
Total	2,09,341	1,56,388	52,953	13,04,606	10,08,729	2,95,877	5,40,334	1,59,481		4,68,395	1,36,395		100

(Census of India 1981, Series 17, Punjab, Paper-I of 1984, Household Population by Religion of Head of Household, pp 5 and 40--42)

Caste plays an important role in the socio-economic life of the people of the district. For a detailed description of each caste, caste-wise population figures are essential, but it is not possible because census enumeration with regard to different castes was not made in the census after 1951. In the absence of such data, much of the valuable information pertaining to the life and economy of the people cannot be included here. However, the general description of the traditional socio structure, customs and religious beliefs of some of the castes is given in the following paragraphs :

Sikhs

According to the 1981 Census, the Sikhs numbered 9,94,865 (5,33,765 males and 4,61,100 females), forming 76.26 per cent of the total population of the district.

Founded by Guru Nanak Dev (A.D. 1469--1539), Sikhism is a thoroughly modern and progressive religion. Its main principle is the worship of one invisible God.

Sikhs believe in the *karma* and the transmigration of the soul. Sikhism attaches great importance to the institution of *langar* or free kitchen, according to which the high and low have to sit side by side and dine together, thereby annihilating all distinctions of caste and creed. Every Sikh to become a "Singh" (lion) has to receive *amrit*, the baptism of the sword *(khanda)*. After baptism, he is essentially to wear the five K's viz. The *keshas* (unshorn hair), the *kachha* (short drawers), the *kangha* (comb), the *kara* (iron bangle) and the *kirpan* (sword). The Sikhs venerate ten Gurus and their holy book, the *Granth Sahib*.

The peasants of the Punjab State in Majha, Doaba and Malwa are mostly Sikhs and are known as Jats. A special mention is to be made of the Jats inhabiting the district. After partition, the non-muslim cultivators, mostly Sikhs form Pakistan, settled here. They belong to different *gots* (sub-castes) which are described in detail in the account that follows :

Jats.—Jats, who are muscular, stout, tall (those attaining height of six feat among them are not uncommon), handsome with reddish brown complexion and generally long lived. Besides, being good husbandmen, they make excellent soldiers, as they still possess the military spirits infused by Guru Gobind Singh. The important Jat *gots* in the district are : Sidhu, Gill, Mann, Dhaliwal, Sindhu, Dhillon, Chahal, Sandhu, Sekhon, etc.

Sainis.—A large number of Sainis are found in Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and Rupnagar districts of the State, but they are found in small number in the Bathinda District as well. They also rank among the best agriculturists. They own small holdings of land. Further, they are experts in cultivation of vegetables and gardens. Sainis are found both among Hindus and Sikhs.

Sansis.—The ancestors of Sansis were once stated to be called "Sursenas" and the Yadu Rajputs of Mathura. From the Yadus descended the Bhatti Rajputs. The Bhatti Rajputs flourished in Rajasthan for some centuries before Muslim invasions and particularly before the invasion of Ala-ud-Din Khilji, who ransacked Chittor, and drove away some recalcitrant Rajputs. Of them, the Bhatti Rajputs wandered towards the Punjab. Of this stock, among others, there was a Sansi tribe named after its leader "Raja Sansmal or Sensi". This tribe kept wandering about for five centuries. Some of them settled in Firozpur and Bathinda districts and other parts of the Punjab. Kirtu Sansi and Raja Sans of the Sansi tribe were very prominant and powerful.

Sansis are both Hindus and Sikhs. They speak their own dialect and have their own customs, though they are now adopting the Hindu and Sikh customs. In Bathinda District, they are mostly Sikhs though they intermarry with Hindu Sansis. The notable castes of the Sansis inhabiting the district are Chohan and Nirmals.

Hindus

The number of Hindus in the district, according to the 1981 Census, was 3,00,040 (1,60,788 males and 1,39,252 females), who formed 23 per cent of the total population.

There are many temples of Hindus in the district. The Hindus are often seen going to the temples of Lord Shiva, Lakshmi Narain, Devi, etc. in the mornings and in the evenings. They worship their gods and goddesses with flowers and *sandal*, singing *bhajans* or hymns, ringing bells, and holding a lighted lamp with four wicks in their hands. This ceremony is called *arti utarna*. The worshippers receive *charnamrit* or holy water, leaves of the *tulsi* plants and some *patashas*, called *Devi ka bhog* or *parshad*. The worship of the *pipal* tree and of Muhammadan saints are also common among Hindus.

Brahmans.—Earlier the Brahmans used to perform mainly priestly duties, but now only a small number of them are engaged in this profession. The Brahmans in the district are mostly from the Saraswat stock. The Saraswats derive this name from the river Saraswati. They are divided into *Athbans* or *Chhebans*. The distinction among these groups has disappeared and they now intermarry.

Khatris.—Khatris trace their origin from the Kshatriyas. They intermarry within the group or outside the group, but, like other Hindus, within their sub-caste. They are of good indisposition and generally literate. Avocations are no bar to them but rather a matter of convenience. They are engaged in trade, commerce, industry, private and government services, and also join the army.

Banians.—The word 'Banian' is derived from the Sanskrit word *'banijya'* or trade. As the name implies, Banians are primarily a trading class. They are traders par excellence, as they have been engaged in business since generations. Their main sub-castes are Aggarwals, Oswals, and Maheshwri. They trace their origin from Agroha in the Hisar District (Haryana) and claim to be the descendants of Raja Ugrasen. The most prevalent sub-castes of Banians in the district are Garg, Goyal, Jindal, Bansal, Singla and Mittal.

Jains

According to the 1981 Census, the Jains numbered 1,735 (898 males and 837 females), forming only 0.13 per cent of the total population of the district, Jainism is essentially a faith of Indian origin and is still popular in the country.

There is a Jain Sweitamber Tara Panthi Sabha at Bathinda. It was formed about 80 years back for religious preaching, especially the teachings of 'Lord Mahavir'. Morning prayers are held everyday at the Sabha building. In every *Chaturmas* (four month period), from the end of July to the end of November every year, saints or nuns stay here for religious preachings.

Christians

According to the 1981 Census, the number of Christians in the district was 834 (428 males and 406 females), who formed only o.06 per cent of the total population.

Christian missionaries have hardly made any significant impact in Bathinda District and as such their contribution in the social sphere is not worth of particular mention.

Muslims

According to 1981 Census, the number of Muslims in the Bathinda District was 6,521 (3,611 males and 2,910 females), forming only 0.50 per cent of the total population of the district.

Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.—The number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes in the distrct, according to 1981 Census, was 3,52,489 (1,89,659 males and 1,62,830 females), which formed 27 per cent of the total population. They are divided in groups, sub-groups, castes and sub-castes. Previously, like others they did not marry in other groups, but this rigidity is on the wane these days. Formerly, their avocations were restricted and they could not change them. Things have, however, changed after Independence. The Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are now at liberty to adopt any profession they like. They are engaged in trade, commerce, industry, private and government services including

police and even in the armed forces. Since 25 per cent of the civil posts are reserved for them, the literate Scheduled Castes find it more lucrative to join civil services, where they are also entitled to reservation in appointments and promotions. Illiterate Scheduled Castes, however, are generally engaged in agriculture. Before Independence, they were not allowed to own land but all restrictions in this regard have been dispensed with under the Constitution of India. They can now purchase land or any other immovable or movable property just as other members of the society can acquire property anywhere in the country. According to government policies, the surplus land with the government is being allotted to them at a nominal price.

(d) Social Life

Joint Family System.—The joint family system which has been a distinguished feature of Hindu society since times immemorial is showing signs of breaking up on account of the stress of changed economic and social conditions in the recent times. However, it cannot be concluded that this institution has totally disappeared because the younger generations still keep their families with their parents especially in the rural areas when the bread earner has to move out of the village due to increasing pressure of population on land.

Dowry System.—The dowry system is a social evil from which the people of the district are not immune. But people in general are not inclined to accept reform in this matter. Even the dowry legislation of 1961 has not fully succeeded in achieving its object. Their ideas not having been reformed, people find ways and means of by-passing the law.

Marital Age.—Early marriages were a usual feature in the district in the past. But the position seems to have changed considerably during the last two to three decades. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, popularly known as the Sharda Act, enforced from 1 April 1930, provided penalties for the celebration of marriages of male children under 18 and female

children under 14 years of age. Consequently, there has been a tendency for postponing marriages beyond the age specified in the Act.

(i) Property and Inheritance

The property and inheritance were governed by the customary laws in the district. With the passing of Hindu Succession Act, 1956, things have, however, changed. Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists inherit property under this Act. The property of the deceased is distributed equally among his sons, daughters, widow, mother, etc. However, during his life time, a person may dispose of by will or other testamentary disposition, any property, which he is capable of so disposing in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, or under any other law in force at that time and applicable to a Hindu. In case a person dies intestate, his sons, daughters, widow and mother inherit the property in equal shares. The adoption of children and the maintenance allowance to the wife are governed by the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956. Among the Muslims, the property of the deceased is inherited in equal shares by his sons, daughters and wife under the Shariat Act, 1937. The wife is the sole owner of the *mehr* given to her at the time of marriage. Inheritance, among the Christians is governed by the Indian Succession Act, 1925.

(ii) Marriage and Morals

Marriage.—Marriages amongst the Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims, Jains and Christians are performed according to their respective customary and traditional ceremonies. Civil marriages are performed to avoid social taboos and ostensibly to save the heavy costs involved in traditional marriages.

Prior to 1909, marriages amongst the Sikhs were performed according to Hindu rites. But with the passage of the Anand Marriage Act, 1909, the marriages are now performed by *Anand Karaj*. *Lawan* (Four couplets) from the *Adi Granth* are recited and the couple simultaneously moves around the *Adi Granth*. Thereafter the Anand Sahib is recited and the marriage is solemnised. It is now generally done in the mornings.

Marriage rites under *Anand Karaj* are cheap and simple. Unlike the Hindus, the services of Brahmans are not required; but instead the *granthi* (religious preacher) performs the duties. Dowry system as amongst the Sikhs, is also prevalent.

Among the Hindus, marriage is enjoined as a religious obligation, because a father is believed to achieve salvation only through a son.

Usually the marriage is arranged by the parents. However, the boy and the girl are now generally allowed to have a glance at each other. The parents of the girl approach the parents of the boy either directly or through a mediator. In urban areas, amongst educated classes, matrimonial alliances are contracted through advertisements as well. The use of the services of *Nai* (barber), as mediator has become obsolete. After preliminary inquiries about the required particulars, the parties agree to effect matrimonial alliance. After consulting the priest, the date is fixed for engagement. The father of the girl offers money and sweets to the boy, who is also given seven dry dates *chhuaras* out of which he is to eat one. After this ceremony, the horoscopes of the boy and the girl are studied and the date of marriage is fixed by the priest. Before the actual ceremony of marriage, a number of ceremonies are performed both at the house of the boy and the girl.

On the appointed day, an hour or so before the marriage starts in the evening, the *sehra bandi* ceremony is performed. The *barat* (marriage party) proceeds to the bride's house singing and dancing. At the bride's house, the relatives and friends gather to receive the *barat* where *milni* (reception) is held. After that, the *jaimala* (bride's garlanding the bridegroom) ceremony is performed. Recently, day marraiges are becoming popular.

At the time of *lagan* fixed by the priest, *phere* (circumambulating the holy fire by the bridegroom and the bride) ceremony is performed in the presence of relatives and friends and the marriage is solemnised. After the marriage, the bridegroom returns to his house alongwith the bride.

The marriage among the Muhammadans is a mutual contract and is called *nikah*. It is also generally an arranged marriage. After the betrothal takes place, the date of marriage is fixed. The bridegroom gives *mehr*, which is explicitly the property of the bride.

Marriage among Christians is solemnised in the Church and the priest performs the marriage ceremonies.

The Jains have the same system of marriage as the Hindus. The notable difference is that marriage ceremonies are performed by their own priest instead of a Brahman.

Widow Remarriage

Widow remarriage among the Hindus is not common Despite best efforts made by the Arya Samaj in this field, there has hardly been any progress. Among the Scheduled Castes, widow-remarriage is performed not according to customs but as an economic necessity. Among the Jat Sikhs, widow is remarried to the *dever* or *jeth* (younger or elder brother of the deceased). However, widow remarriage among Jains is not popular. Christians and Muslims, however, remarry widows.

Divorce

Though not unknown in the past, cases of divorce were rare. Instead of having recourse to court of law, the usual practice was to leave the girl with her parents and never recall her. However, with the passing of Hindus Marriage Act on 18 May 1955, the parties have started filing the cases of divorce in the courts of law. During 1981-82, 106 cases were instituted in the courts in the Bathinda District under the Act.

Morals.—Morals do not differ in the district in any way from those in other districts of the State. The age-old institution of prostitution ended with the migration of Muslim population. No new licences were issued in the Punjab State. The institution was subsequently banned in the whole of India. The other moral offences of enticing away girls or women for immoral purposes are governed under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956. Since the district is industrially backward, the number of persons employed in industry and of those who leave their families back is negligible, no problem involving immoral traffic is actually felt.

Position of Women

After Independence, the position of women has considerably improved and they have gained substantially in status. They are no longer merely slaves to their home and hearth. They receive higher education and do various kinds of jobs in schools, colleges and offices, etc. They are seen in various fields of life alongwith their male counterparts. It is beyond doubt that this tremendous change in the status of women has come mainly because of the spread of education, which in the post-partition period has revolutionised the life of the people of this backward region.

Though the *purdah* (covering of face by women) system is fast disappearing, it still has some hold in the rural areas of the district. On the whole, this custom is on the wane.

(iii) Birth and Death Ceremonies

Birth Ceremonies.—The Hindu pregnant woman observes various taboos for safe delivery and protection from attack of evil spirits. She has to observe also a number of restrictions during the period of pregnancy. During the period of solar or lunar eclipses, she is not permitted to cut anything or to see these eclipses. She is not invariably allowed to sleep in the open or under the tree. In the rural areas, she is sometimes prohibited to draw water from the well. Every effort is made by other family members to keep her cheerful during this period. She is generally given the types of food she likes.

Religious ceremonies start among the Hindus before the birth of a child. The expectant mother is served with gifts *(reet)* by her relations. At the time of accouchement, the *dai* (midwife) comes to the house. *Chuchi dhuai* (washing of nipples) ceremony is generally performed by the unmarried sister-in-law of the mother. She washes her nipples with warm water and receives some gifts. The breast feeding starts only after this ceremony.

The parents of the mother send sweets, *panjiri* (made of flour, ghee and sugar), ornaments, fruit and clothes on this occasion. This is called *chhuchhak* or *hua ka dena*.

The Sikhs do not consult priest on the birth of a child. Among them, holy *Granth Sahib* is opened by the priest at random and the child gets a name beginning with the first letter of the first word of the first passage on the left page. The women generally observe forty days seclusion *(chhilla)*. The Sikhs perform *dastar bandi* ceremony after which the child starts the use of turban.

Death Ceremonies.—In case of death among the Hindus, the dead body is bathed and wrapped in a cloth. The body is put on a bier and carried to the cremation ground with recitation of *mantras* (hymns). The bier is placed on pyre and put to fire by sprinkling *samagri* and ghee. On the fourth day, called *chautha*, a few persons go to collect the *phul* (charred bones) which are broken into pieces and immersed into the Ganges at Hardwar in the presence of a priest. Similar custom prevails amongst the Sikhs with the only difference that the ceremonies are performed by a *granthi* or any learned man. They immerse the ashes into Satluj River at Patalpuri (Kiratpur Sahib) in Rupnagar District.

The Hindus mourn their dead for eleven days, but the period differs among different sections of the people. The mourning ends by feeding the Brahmans. The Sikhs end the mourning with *Bhog* ceremony.

(iv) Home Life

Dwellings.—As in other parts of the State, there has been lot of improvement in the housing pattern of the people of Bathinda District, as compared to pre-partition days. The percentage of *kachcha* houses in the district has considerably decreased. In the towns of Bathinda District, people have pucca houses of bricks and cement. However, in the suburbs of the towns, some *kachcha* houses are visible. In the rural areas, however, *kachcha* houses are found in a large proportion.

During the pre-partition days, Hindus and Sikhs were discouraged by the Mahammadans to build pucca houses in the areas where the latter were dominating. However, after the partition of the country in 1947, they became free from this situation of inhibition, and constructed a large number of pucca houses. In

Bathinda District, there is a lot of difference in the nature of dwellings in the urban and rural areas. Bathinda is the most flourishing town of the district. There are many three-storeyed wall constructed buildings in the town. The recently constructed houses, however, are of modern designs. Cement and iron are mostly used in the construction of modern dwellings. In the rural areas, separate apartments are built for the cattler. Many people in the rural areas have good pucca houses, as the economic condition of the agriculturist class is now much better than the earlier times. High yield from land through modern and scientific methods of farming has ameliorated the economic condition of the farmers.

Furniture and Interior Decoration.—In modern times, the status of the people is judged by the standard of their dwellings and the furnishing thereof. Since furniture and decoration have become a matter of prestige, people vie with one another in having costly and elegant things. The preferred items of furniture are modern types of beds and cots, dressing table, sofa sets, dining table and chairs, electric fans, air-conditioners, floor carpet or drugget particularly for the drawing-room and steel almirahs, etc. are taken as status symbols. Table radios or portable transistors are found in almost every home, rich or poor. Television and tape recorders have been popular not only in urban areas, but also in rural areas of the district. The well-to-do people in rural areas have almost all items of furniture as those found in urban areas. In the houses of economically weaker sections of people, chairs and a small table besides old type of furniture like *pihri, muhra* could be invariably seen.

Pots and pans of stainless steel are becoming popular though their high prices are a disincentive to their extensive use. Modern cutlery is in big demand and the well-to-do entertain guests in dinner sets of good quality chinaware and unbreakable plastic ware. In the rural areas also, people use utensils made of stainless steel, and modern cutlery, but they have still not abandoned the use of bronze and brass utensils like *thalis, Karahis, glasses, lotas, kettles* etc.

Dress and Ornaments.—In the rural areas of the district, the dress of a farmer consists of a *safa*

(turban), a kurta (shirt), and a *chadra* (ankle deep cloth tied round the waist). This type of dress is used in summer, while in winter there is an addition of usually a cardigan or pullover and especially a *loi* (thin warm cloth) or a blanket. Besides, a loose-fit pyjama is also invariably used by the people. The educated villagers, especially the younger generation, have started wearing clothes like pant-shirt, and pant-coat. The women generally wear *salwar-kameez* suit and cover their heads with *dupattas* (headgears). In winter, women use woollen shawls and cardigans.

The educated people in urban as well as rural areas have mostly taken to the western dress. The Sikhs wear turban, but among others it is confined to the old people.

In the urban areas of the district, the women wear *salwar-kameez* and *dupatta*, but among the younger generation *sari* has become popular. The school as well as the college going girls wear *salwar* and shirt. The use of western trousers, even among younger women is very rare in the district.

Ornaments are generally worn by the females. Earlier, ornaments made of gold were used by them. But now gold is being substituted either by silver or artificial jewellery. In urban areas, it is only the middle aged women who wear a small quantity of gold, a small chain around the neck, a nose pin, a ring and ear rings. The modern young and educated ladies who generally move out wear artificial jewellery besides a ring made of gold. Besides the gold ornaments, ladies from very well off families wear diamond jewellery. Silver ornaments are becoming very popular among the lower middle class, as gold prices have soared beyond their reach.

In rural areas, ladies generally use silver jewellery, although in some well-to-do families gold jewellery is also used. The newly married women display a good deal of jewellery. The commonest amongst which are *shingar patti* on the forehead, *chaunk* on the headtop, ear rings and *jhumkian* in the ears and *nath* (a large nose-ring). The *nath* is used only at the time of one's marriage and is replaced by *tilli* or *dandi* thereafter. The women also wear bangles and a variety of rings. They also wear *mattermala* (a

kind of golden necklace). The newly wedded brides also wear *chura* of white plastic in decorative designs. Formerly, the *chura* was made of ivory.

Man do not wear much jewellery. Some well-to-do persons wear gold chain, gold *karha*. Rings are commonly worn in finger.

Food.—In the morning, an average villager takes *roti* (wheat loaf), *dahi* (curd) and tea or *lassi* (butter-milk). Mid-day meal includes *roti* with onion and mango pickle in addition to some pulse or vegetable. In the afternoon, parched gram or maize is eaten by many. The evening meal (dinner) consists of *roti* with some cooked pulse or vegetable. During winter, maize *rotis* with *sag sarson* (cooked mustard leaves) is taken. Meat and eggs are also taken by the people. On the occasions of marriage and festivity, the use of rice is very common. Tea has become very popular and is taken at least thrice a day. It is replacing *lassi* to a great extent. In the post-partition period, on account of the rise in price of *desi* ghee, the use of vegetable oils, as cooking medium, has become almost universal. People of the district have also developed liking for sweet-meats.

As in other parts of the State, smoking is not uncommon in the district. The people also make use of liquor. However, the use of *jarda* (tobacco plus calcium carbonate) and modern intoxicating drugs, especially among the younger generation, is on the increase.

(v) Communal Life

Fairs and Festivals.—Fairs and festivals provide an index to the cultural, social and domestic life of the people. Many among them are based on legends and aim at propitiating deities and persons belived to be blessed with super-natural powers, and invoking them for the grant of desires and for warding off troubles and curing ailments. Festivals of socio-religious nature provide an atmosphere of devotion and enjoyment. Some festivals mark the seasonal changes and some are local in character and are associated with some place, saint or *pir*. The fairs and festivals attracting large gatherings are taken advantage of by Government,

religious and social organisations, and business firms, for publicity purpose.

As in the adjoining districts, the religious festivals are celebrated with great enthusiasm in the district. *Gurpurbs* are the largest religious festivals of the Sikhs which are celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm. A large number of Hindus also participate in these celebrations. Big congregations are held on the birthdays of Guru Nanak Dev and Guru Gobind Singh and on the martyrdom days of Guru Arjan Dev and Guru Tegh Bahadur. The *gurpurb* of Guru Ravi Dass is also celebreated in February with great enthusiasm. People also show great enthusiasm in celebrating the religious festivals of Shivaratri, Holi, Janam Ashtmi, Rakhi, Dussehra, Diwali, Ram Naumi. Nirjala Ekadashi, Guga Naumi, etc. The seasonal festivals of Lohri, Maghi, Basant and Baisakhi are also celebrated by the people with a good deal of fanfare.

Games, Sports and Recreations.--Almost all sorts of modern games and sports are played in schools and colleges, the more important among these being hockey, football, volleyball, cricket, boxing, athletics, basketball, etc. Now a days, girls are also taking interest in games and sports. Among the indigenous games, mention may be made of *kabaddi*, wrestling, playing-cards, chess, and kite-flying, Dramas, cultural shows including *bhangra* and dance, cinema, etc. from the usual sources of entertainment.

Folk Songs and Cultural Life.—Folk songs express the most intimate ideas and sentiments of the people. These are sung on different occasions. Brief extracts from some of the folk songs (both in Punjabi and Roman scripts), common in this region, are given below :

ਲੋਹੜੀ

ਅਲੜ ਬਲੜ ਬਾਵੇ ਦਾ,
ਬਾਵਾ ਕਣਕ ਲਿਆਏਗਾ,
ਬਾਵੀ ਬੈਠੀ ਛੱਟੇਗੀ,
ਮਾਂ ਪੁਣੀਆਂ ਵੱਟੇਗੀ,
ਬਾਵੀ ਮੰਨ ਪਚਾਏਗੀ,
ਬਾਵੇ ਨੂੰ ਖੁਆਏਗੀ ।

Lori

Allarh ballarh bave da,
Bava kanak liavega,
Bavi bethi chhattegi,
Maan poonian vattegi,
Bavi mann pakavegi,
Bave noon khuavegi.

ਕਿੱਕਲੀ

ਛੀ ਛੀ ਜੀਵੇ ਮਾਂ, ਖਖੜੀਆਂ ਖਰਬੂਜੇ ਖਾਂ
ਖਾਂਦੀ ਖਾਂਦੀ ਕਾਬਲ ਜਾਂ, ਕਾਬਲੋਂ ਆਈ ਗੋਰੀ ਗਾਂ
ਗੋਰੀ ਗਾਂ ਗੁਲਾਬੀ ਵੱਛਾ, ਮਾਰੇ ਸਿੰਙ ਤੁੜਾਵੇ ਰੱਸਾ
ਮੁੰਡੇ ਖੇਡਣ ਗੁੱਲੀ ਡੰਡਾ, ਕੁੜੀਆਂ ਗੀਤ ਗਾਂਦੀਆਂ
ਮਰਦ ਕਰਨ ਲੇਖਾ ਪੱਤਾ, ਰੰਨਾ ਘਰ ਵਸਾਂਦੀਆਂ ।
ਆਲ ਮਾਲ ਹੋਇਆ ਥਾਲ .....

Kikli

Chhi chhi jive maan, khakharian kharbuje khaan,
Khaandi khaandi kabul jan, kabulon ayee gori gaan,
Gori gaan gulabi vachha, maare sing turave rassa,
Munde khedan gulli danda, kurian geet gandian,
Marad karan lekha patta, rannan ghar vasandian,
All mal hoya thal.....

ਕਿੱਕਲੀ ਕਲੀਰ ਦੀ
ਪੱਗ ਮੇਰੇ ਵੀਰ ਦੀ
ਦੁਪੱਟਾ ਮੇਰੇ ਭਾਈ ਦਾ
ਸੂਰਾ ਜੋ ਲੜਾਈ ਦਾ
ਹੱਸਦੀ ਹੱਸਦੀ ਟੱਪਾਂਗੀ
ਸਹੇਲੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਦਸਾਂਗੀ
ਵੀਰ ਮੇਰਾ ਆਵੇਗਾ
ਭਾਬੋ ਨੂੰ ਲਿਆਵੇਗਾ
ਜੋੜ ਚੜ੍ਹੂੰ ਵੀਰ ਦੀ, ਕਿੱਕਲੀ .....
ਕਿੱਕਲੀ ਕਲੀਰ ਦੀ ਪੱਗ ਮੇਰੇ ਵੀਰ ਦੀ
ਦੁਪੱਟਾ ਮੇਰੇ ਭਾਈ ਦਾ, ਫਿੱਟੇ ਮੂੰਹ ਜਵਾਈ ਦਾ .....

Kikli kalir di pag mere vir di,
Dupata mere Bhayee da,
Sura jo larayee da,
Hasdi Hasdi tapangi,

Sahelian noon dasangi
Vir mera avega
Bhabo noon liavega
Janjh charhe vir di, Kikli.....
Kikli kalir di
Pag mere vir di
Dupata mere bhayee da
Phite mooh javayee da

ਦੋਹੇ

ਤੂੰ ਲੋਂਗ ਮੈਂ ਲੈਚੀਆਂ ਭੈਣੇ, ਦੋਨੋ ਚੰਗੀ ਚੀਜ਼,
ਤੈਨੂੰ ਤਾਂ ਮੈਂ ਇਉਂ ਰੱਖਾਂ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਦੰਦਾਂ ਵਿਚਾਲੇ ਜੀਭ ।

Dohe

Toon long main lechian bhene, dono changi cheeze,
Taihu taan main ion rakhan, jiven danda vichale jeebh.

ਉਰਲੇ ਪਾਸੇ ਕਿਆਰੀਆਂ ਪਰਲੇ ਪਾਸੇ ਸਾਗ,
ਹੋਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਮੱਥੇ ਤਿਊੜੀਆਂ ਮੇਰੇ ਵੀਰ ਦੇ ਮੱਥੇ ਭਾਗ ।

Urle passe kiarian parle passe sag,
Horan de mathe tiurian, mere vir de mathe bhag.

ਬੋਲੀਆਂ

ਮਾਏ ਨੀ ਤੂੰ ਵਰ ਨੀ ਸਹੇੜਿਆ ਪੁੱਠੇ ਤਵੇ ਤੋਂ ਕਾਲਾ,
ਆਵਣ ਕੁੜੀਆਂ ਮਾਰਠ ਤਾਹਨੇ ਆਹ ਤੇਰੇ ਘਰ ਵਾਲਾ,
ਕੁੜੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਇੰਜ ਤਪ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਜਿਉਂ ਆਰਨ ਵਿਚ ਫਾਲਾ.....
ਰਿਹਾ ਮੋਠਾਂ ਤੇ ਨਾਗ ਮੇਲਦਾ ਕਾਲਾ ।

Bolian

Maaye nee toon var nee saheria puthe tave ton kala,
Aavn kurian maran tahne aah tere ghar wala,
Kurian de vich ion tap jaandi jion aaran vich phala,
Riha mothan te naag melda kala.

ਸੱਸ ਮੇਰੀ ਦੇ ਮਾਤਾ ਨਿਕਲੀ, ਨਿਕਲੀ ਮਾੜੀ ਮਾੜੀ,
ਸੋਹਰਾ ਮੇਰਾ ਪੁਜਣ ਚੱਲਿਆ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਨਾਲ ਫੁਲਕਾਰੀ
ਜੋੜ ਜਗਾਉਂਦੇ ਨੈਂ ਢਾਕੀ ਫੂਕ ਲਈ ਸਾਰੀ
ਜੋੜ ਜਗਾਉਂਦੇ ਨੈਂ .....

Sus meri de mata nikli, nikli maarhi maarhi,
Sauhra mera poojan chalia lai ke laal phulkari,
Jot jagaunde ne dari phook lee saari,
Jot jagaunde ne.....

ਬਾਰਾਂ ਬਰਸੀ ਖਟਣ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ ਖਟ ਕੇ ਲਿਆਂਦੀ ਸੂਤ ਦੀ ਅੱਟੀ
ਦੁੱਖ ਦਿਓਰੀ ਵੀਰਾ, ਭਾਬੋ ਲਾਡਲੀ ਰੱਖੀ

Baari barsi khatan gia see khat ke liandi soot di atti
Dukh diugi veera, bhabo ladli rakhi

ਖੇਤ ਜਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਕੋਲੋ ਕੋਲੀ ਕੋਲ ਉਨਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਨਿਆਣੀਆਂ, ਨੀ ਕੋਲੋ ਕੋਲੀ
ਮਠੇ ਗਡਾ ਲਏ ਚਿੜੀਆਂ ਖੂਬ ਉਡਾਈਆਂ, ਨੀ ਜੱਟਾ ਦੇ ਪੁੱਤ ਸਾਧੂ ਹੋ ਗਏ
ਸਿਰ ਪੁਰ ਜਟਾਂ ਰਖਾਈਆਂ, ਬਗਲੀ ਫੜ ਕੇ ਮੰਗਣ ਚੜ੍ਹ ਗਏ ਖੈਰ ਨਾ ਪਾਉਂਦੀਆਂ
ਮਾਣੀਆਂ, ਲੁੱਕ ਲੁੱਕ ਦੇਖਦੀਆਂ, ਦਿਉਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਭਰਜਾਈਆਂ .....

Khet jina de kolo koli kol unnan dian niayian,
Nee kolo koli manhe gada lai chirian khoob udayian,
Nee jattan de putt sadhu hoge sir pur jatan rakhaian,
Bagli farh ke mangan charh gaye khair na paundian maian,
Luk luk dekhdian, deuran nu bharjaian.....

ਗਿੱਧਾ ਗਿੱਧਾ ਕਰੇਂ ਮੇਲਣੇ ਗਿੱਧਾ ਪਊ ਬਥੇਰਾ, ਸਾਰੇ ਪਿੰਡ ਦੇ ਮੁੰਡੇ ਸਦਾ ਲਏ,
ਕੀ ਬੁੱਢਾ ਕੀ ਠੇਰਾ, ਨੀ ਅੱਖ ਤਾਂ ਪੱਟ ਕੇ ਦੇਖ ਮੇਲਣੇ, ਭਰਿਆ ਪਿਆ ਬਨੇਰਾ,
ਸਬਜ਼ ਕਬੂਤਰੀਏ ਦੇ ਦੇ ਝੋਕ ਦਾ ਗੇੜਾ .....

Gidha gidha kare melne gidha pau bathera,
Sare pind de mundey sada lae kee buda kee thera,
Nee akh tan put ke dekh melne bharya pia banera,
Sabaz kabbutriye de de shauk de gera.....

ਗਿੱਧਾ

ਨਿੱਕੀ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਮੈਂ ਰਹਿੰਦੀ ਨਾਨਕੀ ਖਾਂਦੀ ਦੁੱਧ ਮਲਾਈਆਂ,
ਤੂਰਦੀ ਦਾ ਲੱਕ ਛੁਟੇ ਖਾਂਦਾ, ਪੈਰੀਂ ਝਾਂਜਰਾਂ ਪਾਈਆਂ,
ਗਿੱਧਿਆਂ ਚ' ਨੱਚਦੀ ਫਿਰਾਂ, ਦੇਵੇ ਰੂਪ ਦੁਹਾਈਆਂ,
ਗਿੱਧਿਆਂ ਚ' ਨੱਚਦੀ ਫਿਰਾਂ .....

Gidha

Niki hundi main rehendi nanki khandi dudh malaian,
Turdi da lak jhoote khanda perrin jhanjran payian,
Gidhian ch nachdi phiran deve roop doohaian,
Gidhian ch nachdi phiran.....

ਅੱਧੀ ਰਾਤ ਦਾ ਹੱਲ ਨੀ ਜੋੜਿਆ ਨਾ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਟੁੱਕ ਟੇਰਾ,
ਛੱਪੜੀਆਂ ਦਾ ਪਾਣੀ ਪੀਤਾ ਝੁਰਿਆ ਮਨ ਚ' ਬਥੇਰਾ,
ਭਾਬੀ ਅੱਡ ਕਰਦੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਮਨ ਮੇਰਾ .....

Adhi raat da hal nee joria na bhejia tuk tera,
Chhaprian da pani peeta jhuria mun ch bathera,
Bhabi add karde bahut khushi mun mera,

ਘਰ ਨੀ ਵੇਖਦੀਆਂ ਵਰ ਨੀ ਵੇਖਦੀਆਂ, ਬਦਲਿਆਂ ਖੋਰੀਆਂ ਮਾਂਵਾ,
ਬੁਢੜੇ ਨਾਲ ਵਿਆਹ ਕਰ ਦਿੰਦੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਕੇ ਚਾਹ ਕੂ ਲਾਂਵਾ,
ਏਸ ਜਵਾਨੀ ਨੂੰ ਕਿਹੜੇ ਰਾਹ ਮੈਂ ਲਾਵਾਂ .....

Ghar ne vekhdian var ne vekhdian, Badlian khorian mawan,
Budrhe nal viah kar dindian de ke char ku lawan,
Ais jawani nu kehra rah main lawan....

ਉਚੇ ਟਿਬੇ ਮੇਰੀ ਬੋਤੀ ਚਰਦੀ
ਨਿੱਕੇ ਨਿੱਕੇ ਕਰਦੀ ਲੇਡੇ
ਤੋਰ ਸ਼ਕੀਨਾ ਦੀ ਤੂੰ ਕੀ ਜਾਣਦੀ ਭੈਣੇ

Uche tibe meri boti chardi
Nike nike kardi lede
Tor shankena de tun kee jandi bhade

(e) Rehabilitation

On the partition of the Country in 1947, the mass migration of minority communities from either side of the border raised an un-precedented problem of rehabilitation of the Hindu and Sikh refugees from Pakistan in India. As per 1951 Census, the refugees who settled in the Bathinda District numbered, 48,382, (25,627 males and 22,755 females). To begin with, they were housed in camps established for the purpose and were provided with food, clothing, bedding, medical aid, etc. Side by side, steps were taken to rehabilitate them in rural and urban areas of the district. In the rural areas, the displaced persons settled in the Muslim evacuees villages according to their allotments. In the urban areas, they mostly settled in various *bastis* in its outskirts.

Appendix

(Vide Page 68)

Displaced Persons from Pakistan, etc., who settled in the Bathinda District on the partition of the Country in 1947 :

	District of Origin (Pakistan, etc.)	Persons	Males	Females
1	Lahore	9,779	5,101	4,678
2	Sialkot	579	354	225
3	Gujranwala	1,571	769	802
4	Sheikhupura	1,389	725	664
5	Gujrat	262	192	70
6	Shahpur	814	471	343
7	Jhelum	512	266	246
8	Rawalpindi	847	415	432
9	Attock	415	250	165
10	Mianwali	2,190	1,292	898
11	Montgomery	4,070	2,082	1,988
12	Lyallpur	2,972	1,519	1,453
13	Jhang	220	138	82
14	Multan	2,987	1,565	1,422
15	Muzaffargarh	156	62	94
16	Dera Ghazi Khan	176	101	75
17	Gurdaspur	78	39	39
18	Hyderabad	21	3	18
19	Karachi	84	82	2
20	Upper Sind Frontier Tract	2	2	-
21	Sukher	10	-	10
22	Hazara	75	57	18
23	Mardan	9	9	-
24	Nawab Shah	59	42	17

District of Origin (Pakistan, etc.)		Persons	Males	Females
25	Peshawar	626	44	582
26	Kohat	4	4	-
27	Bannu	166	87	79
28	Dera Ismail Khan	152	67	85
29	Quetta	51	51	-
30	Balauchastan	20	-	20
31	Bahawalpur	18,086	9,838	8,248
	Total	48,382	25,627	22,755

(Census of India, 1951, PEPSU District Census Handbook, Vol. III, Bathinda District, Table No. D-V-p.21)

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

The economy of the district is predominantly agricultural. The main occupation of the rural community is agriculture and its allied activities. After the Independence, Bathinda has made consistent progress in agriculture and the average yield per hectare of all the principal crops grown in the district today can be compared favourably with that of other districts of the State.

According to 1981 Census, 77.32 per cent population of the Bathinda District was rural as against the corresponding figure of 72.32 per cent on the average for the Punjab as a whole. Out of the total working force of the district, 60.1 per cent was engaged in agriculture as cultivators and agricultural labourers. The breakup of persons engaged in agriculture in the district as per Census of 1981 was as follows :

	Males	Females	Total
As cultivators	1,85,536	679	1,86,215
As agricultural labourers	87,794	3,388	91,182
Total :	2,73,330	4,067	2,77,397

(Census of India, 1981, Series-17 Punjab Part II-A and Part II-B, General Population Tables and Primary Census Abstract)

(a) Land Reclamation and Utilization

(i) Land Utilization.—Land is a scarce resource. The utilization of this resource is, therefore, central to any programme of economic planning in an economy which is predominantly agricultural.

The following table gives classification of area by land use in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 and 1980-81 to 1988-89 :—

Classification of area by land use in the Bathinda District during 1977-78 and 1980-81 to 1988-89

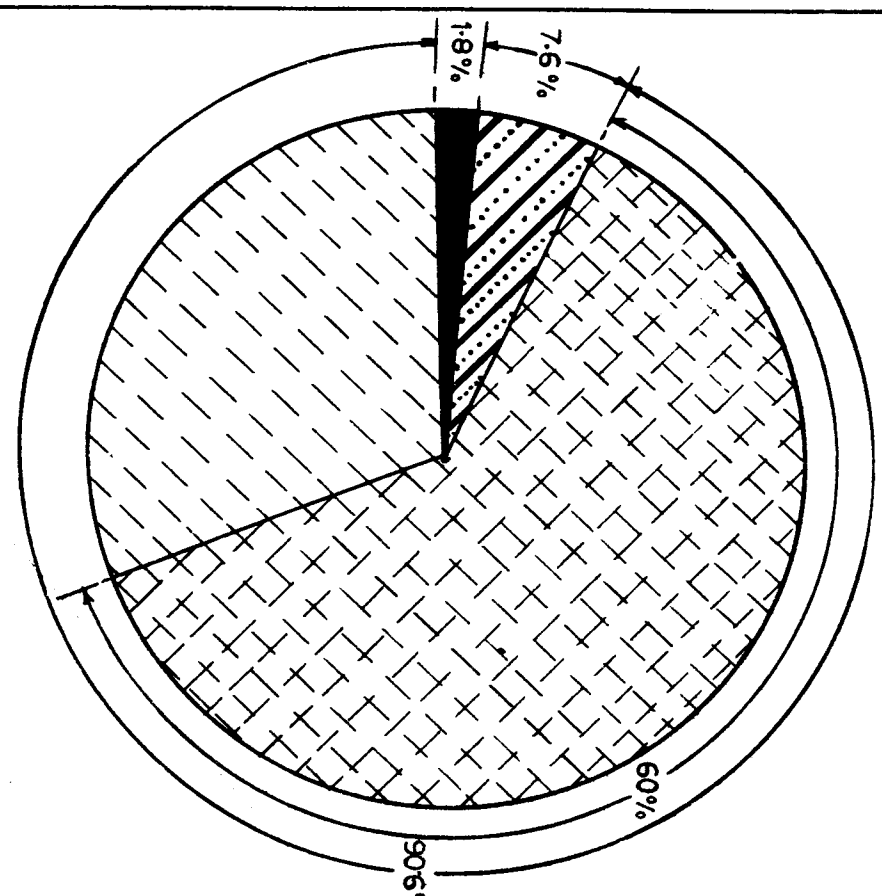
(Thousand hectares)

Sr. No.	Particulars	1977-78	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	Total area acoording to village papers	554	554	554	554	554	554	554	554	554	554
2	Area under forests	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
3	Land not available for cultivation	38	41	41	41	43	42	42	42	42	42
4	Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	1
5	Fallow land	1	(a)	(a)	--	1	1	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
6	Net area sown	505	502	503	503	500	501	501	501	501	502
7	Area sown more than once	248	281	306	293	312	281	312	313	290	333
8	Total cropped area (6 + 7)	753	783	809	796	812	782	813	814	791	835

(a) Below 500 hectares

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989)

CLASSIFICATION OF AREA BY LAND USE
IN
BATHINDA DISTRICT
1988-89



Source: statistical abstract of punjab, 1989.

According to the Director of Land Records, the total area of the district during 1988-89 was 554 thousand hectares. The land classified under the various categories of utilization is described as under :

Area under forests includes all lands classed as forests under any legal enactment dealing with forests of administrated as forests, whether state owned or private and whether wooded or maintained as potential forest land. The area where crops are raised in the forest and grazing lands or areas open for grazing within the forest are included under the forest area. The area under the forest in the district during 1988-89 was 10 thousand hectares.

Land not available for cultivation includes land occupied by buildings, roads and railways or under water, e.g. rivers and canals and other lands put on uses other than agriculture. This also covers all barren and unculturable land like mountains, deserts, etc. which cannot be brought under cultivation unless at a high cost. The total area of land not available for cultivation in the district during 1988-89 was 42 thousand hectares.

Other uncultivated land excluding fallow lands denotes land available for cultivation, either not taken up for cultivation or abandoned subsequently for one reason or the other. It includes culturable waste; all grazing lands; whether they are permanent pastures and meadow land or otherwise; village common lands and lands under miscellaneous trees, bamboo bushes and other groves for fuel, etc. not included in orchards. Under the last category, there was 1 thousand hectare land in the district during 1988-89.

Fallow land other than current fallows refers to all lands which are taken up for cultivation but are temporarily out of cultivation for a period of not less than one year and not more than five years. Current fallows comprise cropped areas which are kept fallow during the current year. The area under fallow lands in the Bathinda District was less than 500 hectares during 1988-89.

Net area sown represents the area sown with crops and orchards, the area sown more than once during the same year being counted only once. In

1988-89, the net area sown in the district was 502 thousand hectares, which was 91 per cent of the total area of the district. It was next higher to only Faridkot District in the State. The area sown more than once is that portion of net area sown which was sown more than once in a year. The total cropped area is the gross area under all crops in a year and is the total of net area sown and the area sown more than once. The area sown more than once in the district was 333 thousand hectares during 1988-89. The cultivable area and the net area sown for per agricultural worker in the district, during 1981 was 1.82 hectares and 1.81 hectares, respectively. The cropping intensity in the district during 1988-89 was 166 per cent.

(ii) Cultivable Waste.—This category includes land available for cultivation, whether actually cultivated or not done so for one reason or the other and land once taken up for cultivation but not cultivated again for more than five years in succession. Such land may be fallow or covered with shrubs or jungle not put to any use. Lands under thatching grass, bamboo, bushes, miscellaneous tree crops, etc. which are not included under forests, have been considered as cultivable waste. All grazing lands which are permanent pastures, meadows, village common lands and grazing lands within the forests have also been covered under this classification.

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

(iii) Reclamation of Waterlogged Area, Swamps, etc.—When the water table rises to a certain limit and comes to only less than five feet below the ground level is called waterlogging or *sem*. Waterlogging is a serious problem affecting the productivity of land which can support only some aquatic plants like grass and weeds. *Thur* is a white or ash-coloured material

consisting of harmful salts. It subsides after the rains but the crust forming over the surface merely betrays its existence. *Kallar* is also classed with *thur*. The area under *thur* is reclaimed with the use of gypsum. Gypsum is supplied to small and marginal farmers at a rate subsidized to the extent of 75 per cent and to the extent of 50 per cent to the others by the Government through the Punjab Land Development and Reclamation Corporation.

The area under *thur*. (salinity) and *sem* (water-logging) in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given below :

(Hectares)

Year	*Thur*	*Sem*	Total
1977-78	9	198	207
1978-79	9	198	207
1979-80	7	329	336
1980-81	7	494	501
1981-82	7	444	451
1982-83	7	496	503
1983-84	7	942	949
1984-85	7	942	949
1985-86	7	942	949
1986-87	7	942	949
1987-88	—	—	—
1988-89	—	—	—

(*Source : Irrigation, Floods and Waterlogging Statistics of Punjab, 1979-80*, issued by the Economic Adviser to Government Punjab, and Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Punjab)

(b) Irrigation

Irrigation is the most important ingredient in the package of practices for intensive cultivation. Chemical fertilizers, which are a costly input, cannot

be used by the farmers with confidence without assured irrigation. Though the annual rainfall in the district is about 29.5 centimetres, the same is erratic and confined mostly to the monsoon. Hence, the necessity of artifical irrigation. The sources of irrigation are canals, wells and tube-wells. The main source of irrigation in the district is canals.

Since the creation of Bathinda District in 1948, the irrigated area of the district has gone up from time to time. In 1951-52, the irrigated area of the district was 2,24,533 hectares which increased to 2,94,947 hectares in 1961 and was 47.6 per cent of the net sown area. In 1972, the total area of the district decreased due to the transfer of Faridkot Tahsil to the newly created Faridkot District. During 1988-89, the irrigated area of the district increased due to the extension of irrigation facilities. It was 4,27,700 hectares and was 85.2 per cent of the net sown area in the district.

(i) Rainfall.—Situated far away from the Himalayas, the district gets meagre rainfall. It is also influenced by the heat, sand and dust storms of the Rajasthan desert. Mostly, the rainfall in the district is spread from the month of July to September. In winter, intermittent rainfall in the district during the last five years, from 1984 to 1988 totalled to 330.0 milimetres. Hówever, with the extension of irrigation facilities, the failure of crops for want of rains does not occur in the district. The following table gives the rainfall in the district during 1978--1988 :-

Rainfall in the Bathinda District, 1978 to 1988

(Centimetres)

Year	Annual Rainfall	Railfall during the month of											
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1978	21.03	1.42	2.39	--	--	--	2.62	8.43	--	4.90	0.61	--	0.66
1979	24.06	1.98	5.57	1.77	0.88	1.25	0.22	6.06	2.19	2.03	--	1.04	1.07
1980	35.59	1.20	0.44	1.60	--	0.80	1.74	19,45	4.86	3.71	1.23	--	0.56
1981	29.25	1.42	1.50	1.12	0.48	0.46	0.26	8.43	9.22	4.94	0.61	0.15	0.66
1982	31.60	1.50	1.50	1.10	0.50	0.50	2.60	8.40	9.20	4.90	0.60	0.10	0.70
1983	38.31	2.51	0.77	0.48	6.93	0.96	1.14	6.85	8.93	4.87	4.87	--	--
1984	30.65	--	2.19	0.20	1.25	--	1.30	11.99	10.65	2.65	--	0.40	0.02
1985	39.63	--	--	--	0.17	--	2.48	11.39	22.50	0.67	---	--	2.43
*1986	315.5	14.2	15.0	11.0	4.8	4.6	26.2	84.3	92.2	49.0	6.1	1.5	6.6
1987	130.6	2.7	17.5	14.7	8.9	33.2	23.4	2.8	22.7	--	4.7	--	--
1988	527.1	0.4	4.2	4.5	--	--	11.5	130.3	83.7	288.2	--	--	4.3

*Figures from 1986 to 1988 are in milimetres. (*Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989*)

Irrigation Facilities.—Assured irrigation facilities were necessary for successful induction of the seed-fertilizer technology and propagation of multiple cropping. More and more area in the district has been brought under irrigation. In 1960-61, the gross area irrigated in the district was 338 thousand hectares (59.9 per cent) which increased to 501.2 thousand hectares (73.4 per cent) in 1969-70 and 760.9 thousand hectares (91.1 per cent) in 1988-89.

The main source of irrigation in the district is the network of canals. Canals irrigate 82.4 per cent of the net area irrigated in the district which is highest in the State. Wells and tube-wells also play a role in the field of irrigation. The table given below shows the net area irrigated, alongwith the percentage to the net area sown by different sources of irrigation in the district during 1977-78 to 1988-89 :

(Thousand hectares)

Year	Government Canals	Wells including tube-wells and pumping-sets	Other sources	Total	Percentage to net area sown
1977-78	290.3	59.3	-	349.6	69.2
1978-79	339.3	58.3	-	397.6	73.5
1979-80	366.7	58.6	-	425.3	84.6
1980-81	321.8	49.2	-	371.0	73.9
1981-82	309.5	49.2	-	358.7	71.3
1982-83	358.1	48.5	-	406.6	80.8
1983-84	339.4	67.2	-	406.6	81.3
1984-85	332.4	71.5	-	403.7	80.6
1985-86	351.8	54.6	-	406.4	81.0
1986-87	345.6	69.6	-	415.2	82.9
1987-88	381.9	69.5	-	451.4	90.1
1988-89	354.3	73.4	-	427.7	85.2

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989)

பதிப்பாசிரியர்
விவரச்சுவடி
எழும்பூர், சென்னை-600 008

Canals

The main source of irrigation in the Bathinda District is canals, the underground water being not fit for irrigation in most parts of the district. The district is served by the Sirhind Canal System, which offtakes from river Satluj at Rupnagar Headworks, through its two branches, viz. Abohar Branch and Bathinda Branch. The Sirhind Canal tails off at the Buwani regulator (about 2½ km down stream of the Doraha Bridge in sub-tahsil Payal of Ludhiana District), from where it is bifurcated into three branches. From the left side offtakes the Patiala Branch (to the south-east), from the right side offtakes the Sidhwan Branch (towards the west) and on the front side (to the west) goes the Combined Branch. The Combined Branch after running for about 3 km, bifurcates into two branches, viz. the Abohar Branch and the Bathinda Branch, at Manpur regulator (situated in sub-tahsil Payal).

Bathinda Branch.—The southern or Bathinda Branch, originally constructed in 1882, has also been remodelled. It starts with a bed width of 45 meters, depth of 1.6 meters and a full supply by 2,787 cusecs. It has length of 160 km. The area irrigated by Bathinda Branch in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, was as under :

(Hectares)

Year	Tahsil Bathinda	Tahsil Rampura Phul	Tahsil Talwandi Sabo	Tahsil Mansa	Total
1977-78	1,28,590	—	51,134	—	1,79,724
1978-79	1,35,972	—	52,596	—	1,88,568
1979-80	1,42,218	—	54,905	—	1,97,123
1980-81	1,42,919	3,303	55,294	—	2,01,516
1981-82	1,44,674	3,430	56,090	—	2,04,194
1982-83	1,43,368	3,535	48,356	—	1,95,259
1983-84	1,45,139	3,641	48,460	—	1,97,240
1984-85	1,44,499	3,630	48,674	—	1,96,803
1985-86	1,47,030	49,092	3,591	—	1,99,713
1986-87	1,49,968	49,985	3,662	—	2,03,615
1987-88	1,52,926	50,523	3,703	—	2,07,152
1988-89	1,55,749	50,994	3,723	—	2,10,470

(Source : Superintending Engineer, [illegible] Circle, Ludhiana)

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Abohar Branch.—The northern or Abohar Branch, originally constructed in 1883 has also been remodelled. It starts with bed width of 48 meters, depth of 2.6 meters and a full supply of 4,834 cusecs. This branch has been reduced to carry a discharge of 2,803 cusecs on account of the construction of Sirhind Feeder Canal, which now irrigates the areas lying on the right side of Rajasthan Feeder, previously irrigated from the Abohar Branch. Only a part of Raunta Distributory of Abohar Canal irrigates partly Rampura Phul and Bathinda tahsils of Bathinda District. This canal passes of R.D. 42,600 to R.D. 99,300 in the Bathinda District. It provides irrigation to 6 villages of Rampura Phul Tahsil and 13 villages of Bathinda Tahsil.

The area irrigated by Abohar Branch in Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given below :

(Hectares)

Year	Tahsil Rampur Phul	Tahsil Bathinda	Total
1977-78	7,498	2,713	10,211
1978-79	7,728	2,932	10,660
1979-80	7,891	3,340	11,231
1980-81	8,014	3,141	11,155
1981-82	8,211	3,277	11,488
1982-83	8,407	3,249	11,656
1983-84	8,617	3,249	11,866
1984-85	8,671	3,229	11,900
1985-86	3,300	8,864	12,164
1986-87	3,367	9,029	12,396
1987-88	3,411	9,004	12,415
1988-89	3,447	9,071	12,518

(Source : Superintending Engineer, Sirhind Canal, Ludhiana)

Wells (including Tube-wells and Pumping-sets)

Wells, tube-wells and pumping-sets are secondary source of irrigation in the district. The wells are

very old system of irrigation and play a minor role for this purpose. The bullocks and camels provide the main source of power for running the persian wheels. But this old system of irrigation is almost totally replaced by pumping-sets and tube-wells run by electricity and diesel. Water in many parts of the district is very deep below the surface and is brackish and unsuitable for irrigation. But in some parts of the district, where the water is less brackish, the same can be used for irrigation. The number of tube-wells (electrical and diesel) installed in the district and used for irrigation purposes, during 1981-82 to 1988-89 is given below :

Year	Number of tube-wells		
	Electrical	Diesel	Total
1981-82	5,121	24,830	29,951
1982-83	5,620	26,980	32,600
1983-84	5,784	27,815	33,599
1984-85	6,430	28,179	34,609
1985-86	7,785	40,729	48,514
1986-87	9,254	42,296	51,550
1987-88	10,599	43,189	53,788
1988-89	11,311	45,018	56,329

(Source : Chief Agricultural Officer, Bathinda)

(c) Agriculture and Horticulture

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

The Agriculture Department is represented in the district by the Chief Agricultural Officer, Bathinda, who is under the control of the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Chandigarh. The Chief Agricultural Officer is the overall in charge of the entire agricultural activities in the district. He guides the farmers in proper cultivation of land, proper use of fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides and in arranging good quality of seeds.

The Chief Agricultural Officer is assisted by 1 District Training Officer, 1 Deputy Director of Agriculture (Pulses), 9 Block Agricultural Officers, 3 Soil Testing Officers; 1 Assistant Agricultural Engineer, 1 Junior Engineer, 1 Superintendent, 7 Accountants, 1 Technical Assistant (Statistical), 4 Technical Assistants, 3 Statistical Assistants, 4 Field Assistants, 5 Compost Inspectors, 66 Agricultural Inspectors, 1 Agricultural Inspector (Implements), 69 Agricultural Sub-Inspectors, 2 Project Operator-cum-Mechanic, 76 Beldars, 4 Laboratory Attendents, besides ministerial/ technical Class III and IV staff.

The Agriculture Department guides the farmers in respect of sowing high yielding varieties, proper use of manures and fertilizers, sowing and irrigation times of crops, and in controlling various pests and diseases affecting agricultural crops. It manages procurement of fertilizers and good seeds as well as laying out demonstration plots to bring home to the cultivators the superiority of varieties recommended for cultivation in the district.

The Government takes keen interest in increasing agricultural production by popularizing improved agricultural practices and implements. Loans are advanced to the cultivators for repairing and installing tube-wells and pumping-sets under the development of irrigation programmes.

The Agriculture Department and other similar angencies adopt the following extension methods to transfer the technology to the farmers :-

(i) Agriculture shows and exhibitions

(ii) Training camps (District, Block and Village level) during *kharif* and *rabi* seasons

(iii) Field days and field visits to the farmers to the progressive farmers

(iv) *Kisan Divas* and *Kisan Melas*

(v) Demonstration plots and minikits trails

(vi) Extension articles and Radio/T.V. talks

(vii) Field visits

(viii) Circular letters, Bulletins and Pamphlets

(ix) Personal contacts

(ii) Set up and activities of the Horticulture Department.—Prior to May 1979, Horticulture Department was functioning under the control of the Chief Agricultural Officer, Bathinda. To diversify the agriculture, a separate department of Horticulture was created on 2 May 1979. From May 1979, the department has been functioning under the control of Horticulture Development Officer, Bathinda, who is under the administrative control of Director of Horticulture, Punjab, Chandigarh. The Horticulture Development Officer is assisted by 6 Horticulture Inspectors, 1 Horticulture Sub-Inspector, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the Horticulture Department in the district are : to help in site selection, soil testing, water testing, and layout of orchards and arrangement of fruit plants, to educate the fruit growers regarding right and proper use of horticultural operations in their orchards such as training, pruning and spraying of orchards, grant of 50 per cent subsidy on fruit plants, garden tools, insecticides/ pesticides etc. and advancement of loans through banks for establishing new orchards and nurseries, beautification of public places by arranging ornamental plants; training in fruit and vegetables preservation through community canning centres; to supply high quality and certified seeds of potato and other vegetables.

There are 3 demonstration and nursery centres functioning in the district, which are described below:

1 Government Garden and Nursery, Rampura Phul.—This unit comprises 68 acres of land where different varieties of citrus fruit plants are raised and propagated to meet the demand of the fruit growers of the area. Besides, there is another nursery known as Barian Bagichi, which is the subsidiary of the Government Garden and Nursery of Rampura Phul. It comprises 53 acres of land where 10 varieties of *ber* are collected. Fruit plants of improved *ber* varieties are also propagated here.

2 **Jiwan Singhwala.**—This unit, measuring 25 acres, is being established as progeny-cum-nursery of different fruits suited to this arid-irrigated zone.

3 **Harnam Singhwala.**—The total area of this unit (potato seed farm) is 25 acres, where good quality potato and other vegetable seeds are produced which are supplied to the vegetable growers in the area.

(iii) Soils and Crops

Soils.—The soils of the district fall under the order Arid soils. The soils are generally loamy sand to sandy loam in texture and only a few have a texture finer than sandy loam. Sand dunes occupy about 5 per cent area of the district. The soils are normal to alkaline in reaction. About thirty five per cent soils are normal in reaction and of the remaining sixty five per cent alkaline. The soils are mostly normal with respect to total salt concentration and not more than five per cent soils have electrical conductivity more than 0.8 millimhos/cm.

The organic carbon content of around ninety per cent soils is low and around ten per cent soils is medium. Therefore, the soils respond to the applied nitrogen very well. The available phosphorus content of the soils ranges from low to high, fifty per cent of the soils are low, thirty two per cent are medium and eighteen per cent are high in available phosphorus content. Seventy per cent of the soils have high available potassium content and the rest thirty per cent are medium in available potassium content. Very few soils of this district are low in available potassium.

The available zinc content of the soils ranged from 0.04 to 9.25 ppm with a mean value of 0.68 ppm. Eighty six per cent soils of Rampura, 82 per cent soils of Bathinda, 79 per cent soils of Sangat, 75 per cent soils of Phul blocks are deficient in available zinc and need zinc application for reasonable good crop-yields. The available copper content varies from 0.03 to 4.16 ppm, but only 5 per cent soils are deficient in available copper. Available iron in soils ranges from 1.0 to 23.8 ppm and 10 per cent soils are deficient in iron. The available manganese content varies from 0.8 to 44.4 ppm. The soils of the district are quite fit for the cultivation of cotton, *bajra*, *guara*, gram, wheat and *raya*. In the blocks of Rampura

Phul and Budhlada where irrigation water is in plenty paddy is grown successfully during *kharif*.

Quality of underground irrigation water

The electrical conductivity of underground irrigation water ranges from 200--5800 micromhos/cm and residual sodium carbonates from nil to 20.5 m.e/litre. Soluble sodium is the dominant cation in underground irrigation waters. On the basis of electrical conductivity and residual sodium carbonate of the water, 23.38 and 39 per cent of the samples, respectively are fit, marginal and unfit for irrigation. The concentration of boron ranges from 0 to 5.75 ppm and 27 per cent of the water samples contained boron more than 2 ppm and are unfit for irrigation. The concentration of flourine ranges from nil to 9.0 ppm and sixty six per cent water samples contain flourine more than one ppm which is hazardous to human and animal helath.

Major and Subsidiary Crops.—There are two well-defined harvests in the district, *rabi* and *kharif*. The major *rabi* crops (locally called *hari*) or spring harvest are wheat, gram, barley, oilseeds, fodder crops, potatoes and winter vegetables. It is sown in October—December and harvested from mid-March to mid-May. The major *kharif* crops (locally called *sawani*) or autumn harvest are rice, maize, sugarcane, cotton, pulses, *bajra* and vegetables like chillies, onions and gourd. It is sown in June--August and is reaped from early September to late December. Sugarcane and cotton are sown a little earlier. Some crops come in between these two harvests. For example, *toria* matures late in December and is classed as *zaid* (extra) *kharif*. Similarly tobacco and melons are harvested late in June and are classed as *zaid* (extra) *rabi*. *Kinnu* and *ber* are main fruits grown in the district.

As between the two main harvests, the area devoted to *rabi* crops is a little more than that devoted to *kharif* crops. The preponderance of *rabi* over the *kharif* is due to the irrigation facilities. In the district, where land is dependent entirely on rains, *kharif* is the major harvest, because rains occur mostly during the monsoon months.

The detailed particulars regarding the area under different crops and their total production in the district from 1977-78 to 1988-89 are given in Appendices I and II at the end of this chapter on pages 149-150 and 151-152. The important *kharif* and *rabi* crops are described as under :

Wheat

The principal *rabi* foodgrain crop of the district is wheat sown throughout the district. Its cultivation is more extensive where a greater supply of canal and well water is available.

With the improvement in irrigation facilities, the area under this crop has increased from 226 thousand hectares in 1977-78 to 329 thousand hectares in 1988-89. The district produced 1,040 thousand metric tonnes of wheat during the same year.

Paddy

Paddy is an important *kharif* crop and is gaining importance in the district. Owing to increased irrigation facilities and heavy rains, the production of paddy is increasing. In some of the blocks like Phul, Rampura, Budhlada and Jhunir, more area is being brought under paddy on account of its higher profitability and so it allows timely sowing of wheat as it vacates the field earlier than American cotton. Moreover, it is a more certain crop than cotton.

With the improvement in irrigation facilities, the area under this crop increased from 3 thousand hectares in 1977-78 to 31 thousand hectares in 1988-89. During 1988-89, the production of paddy was 95 thousand metric tonnes.

Bajra

Another important foodgrain of the district is *bajra*. It is a *kharif* food crop and is grown all over the district. Although, it is generally sown under canal irrigated conditions, timely monsoon rains, greatly help in putting larger area under the crop. Though the total production of the crop in the district is fairly large, the yield per acre is modest.

The area under *bajra* cultivation during 1988-89 was 4.1 thousand hectares and its production was 4.4 thousand metric tonnes.

Barley

Barley is another *rabi* crop of the district. It is sown on light sandy soils where wheat crop cannot give good yield, or when it becomes too late for sowing wheat crop due to shortage of canal water supply at the sowing time. During the year 1988-89, the area under barley was 12.4 thousand hectares, which was highest in comparison to other districts in the State, and its production was 30 thousand metric tonnes.

Maize

Maize is a *kharif* and subsidiary crop of the district. It is consumed mostly in winter. It is sown in irrigated lands. Hybrid varieties of maize is becoming popular with the farmers. During 1988-89, whole of the 1 thousand hectares area under maize was under hybrid varieties. Its production was 6 thousand metric tonnes during the same year.

Pulses

The pulses grown in the district are gram, mash, *moong*, *moth* and *massar*. From these pulses, gram is the major crop. It is sown mostly under *barani* conditions and is well distributed throughout the district. It is a stiff rival of wheat in light sandy soils in unirrigated areas because of its less water requirements. During 1988-89, the area under gram cultivation was 39.5 thousand hectares and its production was 40.5 thousand metric tonnes.

Cotton

Cotton is the most important commercial crop of the district. Both American and *desi* varieties of cotton are cultivated. Introduced in early fifties, the American varieties soon became popular and their production outgrew of the *desi* variety. However, it is very sensitive to unfavourable conditions and so of the late *desi* variety. There has been a considerable increase in the cultivation of the American cotton because of its higher profitability over the

other *kharif* crops. To some extent, this crop is sown in the area where groundnut was previously sown, because under irrigated condition, groundnut cannot compete with it. During the year 1988-89, the area under cotton was 272.9 thousand hectares and its production was 123.15 thousand metric tonnes.

Sugarcane

Sugarcane is not an important crop of the district and it is sown in the limited area, because there is no sugar mill in the district. Moreover, sugarcane crop requires lot of water. Canal water is inadequate in this district and under groundwater is mostly unfit for irrigation. During the year 1988-89, the area under this crop was 1.7 thousand hectares only and its production was 8 thousand metric tonnes.

Groundnut

It is a *kharif* crop of the district. It is sown in a limited area. There has been no expansion in its cultivation because under irrigated conditions, this crop has less profitability than cotton. But under unirrigated condition, this crop cannot be grown successfully due to low rainfall. During 1988-89, the area under groundnut in the district was only 0.6 thousand hectares and its production was merely 1 thousand metric tonnes.

Oilseeds

Among the oilseeds grown in the district, the most important are rape and mustard. Sesamum and groundnut are grown in samll area. During the year 1988-89, rape and mustard were grown in 26.2 thousand hectares and their production was 25 thousand metric tonnes.

Vegetables.—Vegetables are grown on limited area in the district. There is an ample scope for bringing more and more area under vegetables, because various type of soil is available in the district which is suitable for vegetable cultivation.

The total area under vegetables in the district during 1988-89 was 2,462 hectares. The following vegetables are grown in the district:—

Summer Vegetables : Lady finger *(bhindi)*, bottle-gourd *(ghia kaddu)*, brinjal, round and long *(baingan)*, musk-melon goot-type *(kharbuza)*, sponge-gourd *(ghia)*, radge-gourd *(kaii tori)*, water-melon *(tarbuz)*, chillies *(mirch)*, sweet-potato *(shakarkandi)*,

Winter Vegetables : Carrot *(gajar)*, raddish *(muli)*, turnip *(shalgam)* spinach *(palak)*, onion *(piaz)*, peas *(matar)*, and potato *(alu)*, cauliflower *(phulgobhi)*, cabbage *(bandgobhi)*.

Potatoes are also grown in the district. During 1988-89, the area under potatoes was 259 hectares.

Fruit crops and Gardens.—Fruits have great importance from the point of view of agriculturists for the high returns from their cultivation. The main fruits grown in the district are *kinno, ber* and citrus. The area under fruits in the district during 1988-89 was 3,404 hectares.

(iv) Improved Agricultural Practices

Improved agricultural practices play a vital role in increasing productivity in agriculture. Increase in productivity is the result of increased irrigation facilities, introduction of high yielding varieties (H.Y.V.) of crops, application of chemical fertilizers, adoption of multiple cropping pattern, plant protection measures and use of improved agricultural implements, etc. But use of improved and high yielding varieties of seeds is the most important in bettering agricultural production. The high yielding varieties of different crops sown in the district are given below :

Name of crop	Variety
Wheat	WG 357, WG 377, WL 711, WL 1562, DWL 5023, HD 2009, PBW 12, PBW 34, PBW 54, HD 2329, PBW 120, HD 2285, PBW 138, WL 410, TL 419
Paddy	PR 106, IR 8, Jaya, P 579, Basmati, PR 4141, PR 103,
Maize	Vijay, Ganga-5, Ageti 76
Cotton	LH 372, F 414, J 34, LD 230, F 286, LH 900

Name of crop	Variety
Gram	C 235, C 214, G 543, G 130, GL 769
Groundnut	M 13, Pb. G No. I 1, M 145
Sugarcane	COJ 64, COJ 1146, COJ 1148

(Source : Chief Agricultural Officer, Bathinda)

The area under high-yielding varieties during 1988-89 was: wheat 329, rice 31, maize 1 and *bajra* 2 thousand hectares, respectively in the district.

The percentage of the area under high-yielding varieties to the total cropped area in the district for wheat, rice, maize, *bajra* during 1977-78 and 1981-82 to 1988-89, is given below :

Name of Crop	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Wheat	91.59	100.00	100.00	99.35	99.66	99.66	100.00	99.68	100.00
Rice	66.66	100.00	92.03	100.00	100.00	97.02	100.00	100.00	100.00
Maize	33.33	100.00	75.00	100.00	66.66	50.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Bajra	44.18	84.21	--	86.24	72.16	70.32	83.33	47.61	48.78

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1978 to 1989)

(v) Farmers' Training Camps

A farmer's Training Centre is working in the district under the control of the District Training Officer, Training Officer(M), Training Officer(F.M.) and Subject Matter Specialist.

Farmers' Training camps play a key role in changing the attitude of the people towards agricultural development in the district. These camps are initiated to educate large number of farmers on scientific farming, Special training programmes are organised twice a year at district, block and village level. Various problems of farmers are discussed and they are helped to implicate the latest package practices so that they may get maximum yield from their produce. Every year about 2,00,000 farmers are trained during *rabi* and *kharif* seasons.

(vi) District Rural Development Agency, Bathinda

It was established as 'Small Marginal Farmers' and Agricultural Labourers' Agency, Bathinda during 1973-74. Later on, its name was changed to Small Farmers' Development Agency' and now it is known as 'District Rural Development Agency', Bathinda. The main activity of the Agency is 'Poverty Eradication' under 20-Point Economic Programme.

The Agency has taken up manifold programme to ameliorate the economic conditions of poverty stricken and downtrodden masses in the countryside. For the economic development, there is a need for an easy flow of credit, but in the beginning, financial institutions were reluctant and shy to advance loans to the rural poor, lest the loans get converted into bad debts.

The Agency, with active and constant efforts has now made the financial instiutions to come forward and advance loans in a big way to the economically weaker sections so that they may be able to set up their units and earn their livelihood and at the same time pay off their loans. Various schemes have been prepared under Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Minor Irrigation, ISB and Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM). The small farmers are entitled to get $\frac{1}{4}$th of the total financial outlay as subsidy while marginal farmers/agricultural labourers are entitled to get $\frac{1}{3}$rd as subsidy. In addition, the interest accrued on the loan amounts is paid by the State Government.

The year-wise progress of the Agency from 1977-78 to 1988-89 was as under:

Year	Total expenditure (Rupees in lakhs)	Share of SC/ST (Rupees in lakhs)	Total number of beneficiaries	Number of SC/ST beneficiaries	Total loan distributed (Rupees in lakhs)	Share of SC/ST (Rupees in lakhs)
1977-78	19.95	5.02	2,772	943	61.02	12.60
1978-79	18.01	5.81	2,769	1,133	51.09	21.54

Year	Total expenditure (Rupees in lakhs)	Share of SC/ST (Rupees in lakhs)	Total number of beneficiaries	Number of SC/ST beneficiaries	Total loan distributed (Rupees in lakhs)	Share of SC/ST (Rupees in lakhs)
1979-80	19.53	3.24	3,587	481	30.67	9.40
1980-81	40.70	8.38	3,758	825	57.65	19.15
1981-82	70.01	22.56	8,928	2,754	135.22	69.12
1982-83	91.06	39.14	7,858	3,640	176.05	81.19
1983-84	68.78	31.84	5,831	3,550	125.39	65.27
1984-85	84.60	40.21	7,042	4,020	151.45	79.32
1985-86	58.85	26.39	6,298	2,955	138.13	64.80
1986-87	85.30	48.02	7,199	4,006	107.31	72.11
1987-88	56.61	35.14	6,750	4,222	158.51	98.87
1988-89	61.02	34.12	5,887	3,477	137.01	75.70

(Source: Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Bathinda)

(vii) Agricultural Co-operatives

Co-operatives have played a major role in the supply of finance to the agriculture sector for the development of land, irrigation system and for its mechanization. To fit them for this role, structural changes have been made in the co-operative movement and procedures have been modified to link credit with production on the one hand and with supplies and marketing on the other. Co-operative Movement in India was introduced as a sequal to the rural indebtedness and the first legislation on the issue was the Co-operative Societies Act, 1904, which enabled the organization of agricultural credit co-operative in the rural areas. Main stress was laid on the rural credit rather than on urban credit in view of the greater importance of the rural economy in India. There was a rapid growth in the number and activities of the co-operative credit societies from 1906 to 1911. During this period, the Government realised

some of the shortcomings of the Act of 1904. The Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 was, therefore passed which recognised three tier system of co-operatives including two types of central societies in addition to the primary societies recognised by the Act of 1904. The Act recognised non-credit societies also. But the rural credit societies continued to be predominant in the co-operatives structure.

The agricultural co-operative credit in Punjab is divided mainly in two sectors, one dealing with the short-term and medium-term credit and the other with the long-term credit. The short and medium-term credit in the State is based on a three-tier system, i.e. the Apex Co-operative Banks at the State level, the Central Co-operative Banks at the district/tahsil level, and the Co-operative Agricultural Service Societies at the village level. The long-term credit is awarded from the Punjab State Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank at the Apex and the Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks at the district/tahsil level.

(i) Co-operative Agricultural Service Societies.— The co-operative agricultural service society is the mainstay of the co-operative movement, which exists at the operational level. These societies play an important role in meeting the credit requirements of the farmers for fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. Earlier for their financial requirements, the farmers had to go to the village money-lenders, who charged exhorbitant rate of interest. Now these societies provide finance to its members under their borrowing limits at their door steps at a reasonal rate of interest.

The major objectives of the agricultural service societies are supply of agricultural credit, distribution of essential consumer commodities, provision of storage and marketing facilities and provision of credit for light agricultural implements and machinery.

The following table shows the loans advanced by the Co-operative Agricultural Service Societies alongwith their membership, share capital, deposits, etc. in the Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89:—

Year	No. of Societies	Member-ship	Share capital (Rs in lakhs)	Loan advanced during the year (Rs in lakhs)	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
1977-78	536	88,520	97.03	546.13	18.99
1978-79	144*	91,376	132.90	841.58	22.62
1979-80	150	96,285	168.09	1,487.94	26.22
1980-81	148	1,00,464	211.35	1,532.46	23.12
1981-82	148	1,05,073	245.45	1,825.38	36.51
1982-83	213	1,11,003	286.94	2,426.92	33.51
1983-84	233	1,11,745	300.40	1,729.58	31.22
1984-85	233	1,12,123	331.07	2,110.80	35.75
1985-86	233	1,33,484	370.29	1,977.67	32.45
1986-87	233	1,14,496	401.15	1,997.63	42.08
1987-88	297	1,15,029	442.64	2,698.66	52.53
1988-89	297	1,16,904	461.08	2,791.02	63.83

(Source : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

* The number of Societies decreased due to the reorganization of the Primary Co-operative Agricultural Credit/Service Societies into Agricultural Service Societies.

(2) Central Co-operative Bank.—The Central Co-operative Bank is functioning in the district at Bathinda. It has a network of 46 branches all over the district. The main activities of this bank are; raising of deposits from member societies and the public, and advancement of loans to its member co-operative societies. The following table shows the deposits held by this bank in Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89 :—

Year	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
1977-78	35,513
1978-79	43,548
1979-80	55,861
1980-81	53,847
1981-82	57,108
1982-83	59,815
1983-84	58,745
1984-85	83,884
1985-86	1,09,684
1986-87	1,34,893
1987-88	2,38,326
1988-89	2,25,522

(*Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1985* and Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

(3) Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks.—To meet the requirements of long-term loans of the farmers, the Punjab State Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., was registered as a co-operative society on 26 February 1958*. In order to take the institution closer to the farmers, Primary Land Co-operative Banks have been registered at district/tahsil headquarters.

The Land Mortgage Bank advances loans to the Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks and these banks further advance loans to their members falling under their jurisdiction. The Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank advances loan to the individuals and societies for installation of tube-wells, purchase of tractors and agricultural machinery, redemption of mortgaged land, purchase of land and land levelling, etc.

There are 4 Primary Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks functioning in the district, one each at Bathinda, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo and Rampura Phul. The following

*The nomenclature has changed to 'The Punjab State Co-operative Agricultural Development Bank' w.e.f 29 April 1986.

table shows the long-term loans advanced by these banks alongwith their membership in Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:--

Year	Membership	Loan advanced (Rs in lakhs)
1977-78	19,927	320.00
1978-79	21,917	389.00
1979-80	23,571	382.77
1980-81	26,717	498.31
1981-82	28,872	559.94
1982-83	30,433	--
1983-84	32,260	624.35
1984-85	34,605	575.08
1985-86	35,564	443.38
1986-87	40,650	859.34
1987-88	42,726	695.15
1988-89	44,046	593.18

(*Source* : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

(4) Co-operative Agricultural Non-Credit Societies.— Formed under the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, these societies are set up for the purpose of agricultural requirements like machinery, agricultural implements, fertilizer, manure and improved seeds, for sale of agricultural produce, for insurance of crops, cattle, for purposes of cattle-breeding and promoting better farming and better living. During 1988-89, the number of agricultural non-credit societies in the district was 85.

Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Societies

Marketing Co-operatives of primary producers have been organized in all the regulated markets of the district. Besides, functioning as commission agents in the markets for marketing of produce of the area, these societies also purchase wheat and other commodities

for the Government whenever required. With a view to aiding supply and marketing operations, the co-operatives are encouraged to acquire their own godowns. Apart from ordinary godowns, storage facilities are also being provided by the co-operative societies to their members in the shape of cold stores.

At the State level, there is the Punjab State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation (MARKFED)., wholesale societies at the district level and marketing societies at the primary level.

The number of co-operative societies and their membership, value of goods marketed, etc. from 1977-78 to 1988-89 in the Bathinda District was as under:

Year	No. of Societies	Membership	Share capital (Rs in lakhs)	Working capital (Rs in lakhs)	Value of goods marketed (Rs in lakhs)
1977-78	11	6,973	6.56	178.48	362.55
1978-79	11	7,176	6.28	246.57	498.70
1979-80	11	7,180	6.87	166.71	55.55
1980-81	11	7,180	6.87	163.40	517.12
1981-82	11	7,182	6.87	192.01	533.62
1982-83	11	7,445	8.08	184.21	647.78
1983-84	11	7,445	8.08	184.21	640.78
1984-85	11	7,445	8.03	163.21	905.91
1985-86	18	7,467	7.81	180.13	27.61
1986-87	18	7,479	9.69	226.65	33.26
1987-88	18	7,479	9.79	150.90	36.55
1988-89	18	7,554	8.85	154.70	1,006.49

(*Source*: Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

Co-operative Farming Societies

The aim of the co-operative farming is to pool together the fragmented and uneconomic holdings so that they become big farming units and the farmers

are able to exploit the economies of large-scale farming. Its aims have been defined in the Draft outline of the First Five-Year Plan. "Workers engaged in the same type of work whether they are owners or non-owners, will receive renumeration on the same principle, so that the landless labourers' position in the society will begin to change."[1]

The number and membership of co-operative farming societies from 1977-78 to 1988-89, in the district, was as under:

Year	No. of Societies	Membership	Share capital (Rs in lakhs)
1977-78	27	575	2.58
1978-79	27	575	2.58
1979-80	27	575	2.58
1980-81	27	575	2.58
1981-82	27	575	2.58
1982-83	41	880	2.65
1983-84	41	880	2.65
1984-85	41	880	2.65
1985-86	41	880	2.65
1986-87	41	880	2.65
1987-88	41	880	2.65
1988-89	41	880	2.65

(*Source* : Deputy Registar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

Other Societies

In addition to the societies discussed above, there are a number of co-operative societies in other agricultural and allied fields. The following table

[1] *Indian Government Planning Commission, The First Five-Year Plan, A Draft outline (New Delhi)* 1951, p. 101

shows their number during the year 1988-89:--

Sr. No.	Type of Society	Number
1	Primary Marketing Societies	18
2	Primary Agricultural Service Societies	288
3	Milk Supply and Dairy Societies	408
4	Housing Societies	189
5	Joint Farming and Collective Farming Societies	35
6	Labour and Construction Societies	126
7	Non-Agricultural Credit Societies	78
8	Industrial Societies	432
9	Women Industrial Societies	6
10	Women Thrift and Credit Societies	37
11	Poultry Societies	65
12	Transport Societies	10
13	Non-Agricultural and Non-Credit Societies	7
14	Other Societies	644

(*Source* : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

(viii) Progress of Scientific Agriculture

There is enormous scope of scientific cultivation in the district. Agricultural production can be increased by either extensive cultivation or intensive cultivation. Extensive cultivation is possible by bringing larger areas under cultivation by claiming waste lands, fallow lands, etc. Intensive cultivation consists of applying scientific methods in cultivation, provision of better seeds evolved through agricultural research, and use of improved implements, chemical fertilizers, etc. A few of these are detailed below :

Agricultural Implements.—The use of improved agricultural implements and machinery helps the farmers in timely performance of various agricultural operations by saving time. Mechanization cuts down labour costs

and facilitates multiple cropping and intensive cultivation. The use of old implements has mostly become outdated. The persian wheels are being replaced by tube-wells and pumping-sets. The traditional system of threshing wheat under the feet of bullocks has completely been machanised. The farmers are also using precision machines like seed-drills, seed-cum-fertilizer-drills, corn planters, etc. However, improved agricultural implements, viz. iron plough, combine harvestors for wheat and paddy, etc. are getting very popular. There has been a phenomenal increase in the number of tractors in the district. There were only 2,754 tractors in the district in 1972. The figure rose to 14,735 in 1984-85 and further to 30,007 in 1988-89.

Soil Testing.—There are three soil testing laboratories in the district, one each at Bathinda, Mansa and Rampura Phul. Each laboratory tests around 10,000 water and soil samples every year. Soil testing is undertaken in I.R.D.P. (Integrated Rural Development Programme) village on priority basis. For economic use of costly fertilizer, it is essential that soil is got tested. Soil samples are taken by the field staff before hand. Soil testing facilities are available free of cost in each block.

The sub-soil water of this district is not fit for irrigation. Moreover, waterlogging has created serious problems to reclaim the *kallar* area. The department gives 75 per cent subsidy to reclaim the area. The consumption of gypsum, during 1981-82 to 1988-89, is given below:

Year	Metric tonnes
1981-82	20,616
1982-83	18,466
1983-84	16,010
1984-85	9,322
1985-86	16,520
1986-87	5,009
1987-88	11,851
1988-89	15,775

(Source : Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Seeds.—One of the basic inputs for increasing output per unit of area is the use of certified, quality seeds of high yelding varieties. For the production and supply of improved seeds, Punjab State Seeds Corporation has been set up. It also propagates amongst the farmers the benefits of using quality seeds. Further the Seed Certification Authority, an autonomous body, has been established for certification of quality seeds. Besides, many other schemes have been implemented to provide improved seeds, seedlings and plants which give higher yield and better quality produce. The private agencies and the National Seeds Corporation also assist the farmers in the supply and distribution of various types of seeds.

The Punjab Improved Seeds and Seedlings Act, 1950, provides for the use of pure seeds and seedlings recommended by the Department of Agriculture and makes it incumbent on cultivators in any notified area to use only improved varieties of seeds stored by authorized agents.

Crop Rotation.—The rotation of crops is adopted by the farmers to increase the fertility of the soil by leaving the land fallow and adopting mixed cropping. Suitable crop rotations thus help in maintaining the soil fertility. Besides, crop rotation differs according to different type of soils/areas and other pervailing conditions. In the case of sandy loam soil which is mostly found in the district, the main crop rotation followed are groundnut-wheat maize-wheat, cotton-wheat, *kharif* fodder-wheat, etc. If the soil is clay loam, the crop rotations being followed are paddy-wheat, *kharif* fodder-wheat, etc. If the soil is saline and alkaline, the main crop rotations being followed are green manuring paddy-wheat.

In addition to the above given rotations, vegetables followed by vegetables rotation is also followed in clay loam soil and to some extent in all the remaining type of soils except saline and alkaline soils.

Fallow Cultivation.—The cultivation of land which was left fallow in the past for gaining fertility is called fallow cultivation. However, with the progress of scientific methods of cultivation, availability of irrigation facilities, good manuring and judicious

rotation of crops, etc., this practice is not being adopted in Bathinda District. In 1988-89, the fallow land in the district was only 1,000 hectares.

Fertilizers and Manures.—It is a well recognised fact that different crops, while growing, remove various plant nutrients in substantial quantity from the soil. The continued deterioration of the plant food elements from the soil leads to low fertility and lower agricultural yield. It is, therefore, essential that plant nutrients are replenished through the increased use of chemical fertilizer, micro nutrients and manures so that the crops continue to give good yields.

Chemical Fertilizers

The New H.Y.V's can absorb high doses of chemical fertilizers and give higher yields. Nitrogen phosphorus and potassium are important elements and are required in large quantities by these crops. These elements are mostly deficient in soils. Therefore, concentrated fertilizers of each of these nutrients as well as mixtures of single nutrient fertilizers are manufactured and applied to the soil to raise the fertility of the land. The use of chemical fertilizers increased from 37,000 nutrients tonnes in 1977-78 to 84,000 nutrients tonnes in 1988-89 in the district.

The following table shows the use of chemical fertilizers in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:—

Year	Nitrogenous (N)	Phosphatic (P_2O_5) 2.5	Potassic (K_2O) 2	Total (NPK) ('000' Nutrients tonnes)
1977-78	28	7	2	37
1978-79	31	10	2	43
1979-80	32	11	1	44
1980-81	38	14	1	53
1981-82	40	15	1	56
1982-83	45	16	1	62
1983-84	50	18	1	69
1984-85	54	20	—	74

Year	Nitrogenous (N)	Phosphatic (P_2O_5) 2.5	Potassic (K_2O) 2	Total (NPK) ('000' Nutrients tonnes)
1985-86	57	23	—	80
1986-87	64	26	—	90
1987-88	57	25	1	83
1988-89	66	21	2	89

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989)

The cropping intensity in the district increased from 129 per cent in 1977-78 to 166 per cent in 1988-89. Due to increase in the intensity of cropping per unit of area, the deficiency of micro-nutrients has started appearing. Zinc deficient areas have been identified in the district and large-scale demonstration in these areas for application of zinc sulphate are arranged to create awareness amongst the farmers. The farmers of the district have become conscious of the bad effects of the depletion of micro-nutrients anc started the use of zinc sulphate.

Local Manurial Resources

Rural Compost and Cattle-Dung Manure.—Farm yard manure or cattle dung manure is an alround good measure for the maintenance and improving of the soil fertility. However, the farm yard manure commonly used by the cultivators is poor both in quality and quantity. This is largely due to faulty method of its preparation and incomplete utilization of the useful ingredients contained in cattle dung. In context of emphasis on high yielding varieties programme, it has been inevitable that larger quantities of good manure are produced in the villages. In view of the importance of this manure, the Government has launched a compaign to make the best use of farm yard manure and other wastes. The East Punjab Conservation of Manures Act, 1949 (amended in 1950) provides for the setting up of manure conservation committees and empowers the State Government to notify particular areas for the purpose of conserving manure

and makes it incumbent on cultivators to take such measures as may be necessary for the purpose. The rural compost scheme was made permanent in the State in October 1966.

The rural compost prepared in the district during the last five years, i.e. from 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given below:

Year	Rural Compost prepared (in metric tonnes)
1977-78	3,76,530
1978-79	4,04,412
1979-80	4,03,206
1980-81	4,37,136
1981-82	8,51,759
1982-83	15,40,000
1983-84	17,64,500
1984-85	15,43,000
1985-86	18,00,000
1986-87	9,26,692
1987-88	12,50,000
1988-89	12,70,000

(Source : Field Manure Officer, Punjab, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar)

Green Manuring.—Green manuring is very important for soil fertiltity as it directly adds nitrogen to the soil. It also improves the soil texture by the addition of human or organic matter. The addition of the organic matter improves both heavy and sandy soils, for it has a binding effect on the loose particles of sandy soil and makes the tough and heavy soil less heavy. The water-holding capacity of the soil is also increased. In the Bathinda District, the crops generally used for green manuring are *guara, dhaincha, saun-hemp, senji and berseem.*

The extension of Green Manuring Scheme was introduced in the State in April 1961. It aims at popularising the use of green manure in the State. The following table shows the area under green manuring crops in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:--

Year	Area under green manuring (in hectares)
1977-78	5,590
1978-79	5,346
1979-80	6,487
1980-81	4,540
1981-82	8,704
1982-83	24,000
1983-84	22,200
1984-85	22,000
1985-86	25,500
1986-87	18,389
1987-88	11,400
1988-89	4,000

(Source : Field Manure Officer, Punjab, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar)

Town Compost and Sullage Utilization

Town Compost.—Another important source from which large quantity of manure could be obtained is the refuse of urban areas. The composting of the urban waste has been recognised all over the world as a sound system for its disposal from the point of view of sanitation as well as supply of rich organic matter. The refuse available in the town, i.e. all sorts of waste organic matter such as cattle dung, house refuse, leaves of trees, and night-soil are a potential source of good quality compost. The Town Compost Scheme was introduced in the State in 1944. Under the scheme, all town waste are collected and allowed to decompose in various trenches. Almost

all the municipalities in the district have taken up the work of composting of urban waste. The quantity of town compost prepared in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below:

Year	Town/Urban compost prepared (in metric tonnes)
1977-78	22,309
1978-79	17,313
1979-80	16,563
1980-81	17,715
1981-82	17,655
1982-83	2,565
1983-84	2,752
1984-85	3,699
1985-86	2,379
1986-87	3,352
1987-88	4,980
1988-89	4,363

(*Source* : Field Manure Officer, Punjab, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar)

Sullage Utilization.—The water as well as the plant nutrients and organic matter supplied by sewerage or sullage is highly useful for almost all crops. It is easily available for fields in the vicinity of towns.

(ix) Agricultural Insect-Pests and Diseases and Obnoxious Weeds.

Insect-Pests and Diseases.—Agricultural production can be increased with the protection of crops from pests and diseases. Due to rise in intensity of cropping, incidence of disease has increased. To face the problem of rising pests and insect infection, the State Government is supplying pesticides/insecticides to the farmers on 'no profit no loss' basis, besides providing technical guidance and plant protection equipment on hire basis. In addition to this, aerial spraying facilities are also provided to the farmers. The plant protection squads in the blocks help the farmers to combat the pest menace. For controlling the seed-born diseases and improving the germination of some crops, seed-treatment is being undertaken extensively.

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

Crop Pests and Diseases

Wheat	Loose smut, Ear Cokle, Brown rust, Karnal bunt, Termites
Gram	Bilt, Gram blight, Pot borer
Barley	Loose and covered smuts, Rust, Aphid and Termites
Sarson	Phyllody, White rust, Alterneria blight, Downy mildew, Mustard aphid, Mustard sawfly
Cotton	Angular leaf spot, Bacterial blight, Root rot, Anthracnose, Thrip, Jassid, Pink boll worm, Spotted boll worm, Heliothis
Paddy	Bacterial Blight, Leaf hoppers
Maize	Maize borer
Sugarcane	Redrot, Borers, Pyrilla, Black bug
Bajra	Ergot
Kharif pulses	Mosaic, Whitefly, Borers

Fruit Pests and Diseases

Citrus	Citrus canker, Scab, Gummosis, Anthracnose, Citrus psylla, Citrus leaf minor, Whitefly and mite
Ber	Powdery mildew, Leaf mould & leaf spot, Fruit fly, Catter pillar and Lae insect
Grapes	Anthracnose, Cercospora, Leaf spot, Collar rot, Powder mildew, Water berry, Grapvine thrip, Yellow & red Wasp, Leaf roller

Cucurbits	Powdery mildew, Downy mildew, Collar rot, Alternasia blight, Red phumphin betle, Aphid and Jassid, Fruit fly, Spidermite

Vegetables Pests and Diseases

Bhindi	Yellow vein, Musaic, Damping off, Jassid, Aphid bollworms and Spider mite
Tomato	Early blight, Leafcurl, Roothnit, Jassid, Tobacco caterpillar, Root knit
Chilli	Fruit rot, Leaf curlvirus and Musaic, Termite, Thrips, Mites, Whitefly
Brinjal	Little leaf virus, Phomosis blight, Jassid, Hadda bettle borers, Spider mites

Store Grain Pests

1 Khapra Bettle
2 Rice Weevil
3 *Susri*
4 Gram *Dhora*

Miscellaneous Pests

1 Rats
2 Sparrows
3 Parrots

Obnoxious Weeds.—With the increase of multiple cropping and higher inputs, weeds have become a problem. Farmers have largely adopted 'Machett', an effective weedicide for the rice crop. Control of weeds in wheat crop has been made with the help of 'Tribunal', a more effective weedicide introduced in recent years.

Research Stations.—There is only one research station in the district, i.e. Fruit Research Station

of P.A.U. Ludhiana at Bathinda. It conducts trial regarding scientific fruit cultivation and also raises nurseries of different fruits for distribution among the farmers. The scientists of university research station organize training camps and field visits also. There is one fruit nursery at Rampura Phul run by the Department of Horticulture which caters to the need of the fruit growers of the district. There are two seed farms of the department at Talwandi Sabo and Sheikhpura which serve as demonstration centres for the farmers of the district and also produce quality seeds. There is no agricultural college in the district. Agricultural shows are organized at the district/block level. Training camps are very helpful in transferring the scientific technology to the farmers.

(d) Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fisheries

The livestock plays an important role in the economy of the district. The essential equipment of the farmer includes a pair of oxen to do the ploughing and to draw his cart. They are keystone in farming. When the State is passing through green revolution, there is a greater need to produce more milk, eggs and wool to cope with the growing needs of the population. This is being done through introduction of large-scale cross breeding programme in the State and improved feeding management practices and control of the contagious diseases.

The following table shows the number of livestock in the district from 1966 to 1977:--

Particulars	(hundreds) 1966	(hundreds) 1972	(thousands) 1977
Livestock	*7,178	9,488	987.3
Cattle	2,238	2,665	245.4
Buffaloes	2,317	2,775	273.8
Horse and Ponies	15	16	76.6
Donkey	54	66	4.8
Mules	1	2	0.5
Sheep	1,075	962	129.9

Particulars	(hundreds) 1966	(hundreds) 1972	(thousands) 1977
Goats	1,133	1,089	108.1
Camels	336	379	37.7
Pigs	10	17	4.2
Poultry	927	1,517	175.3

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1972, 1979 and *1982)*
*Figures of Faridkot Tahsil of Faridkot District are included.

(i) Animal Health Wing and Animal Breeding Wing

At the district level, the Animal Husbandry Department is under the control of Project Officer, Intensive Cattle Development Project, Bathinda. It consists of two wings, i.e. Animal Health Wing and Animal Breeding Wing. The work of Animal Health Wing is looked after by the District Animal Husbandry Officer and the Deputy Director Animal Husbandry, Bathinda is responsible for the working of Breeding Wing. They are assisted by 44 veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 2 Animal Husbandry Assistants, 54 Veterinary Compounders, 13 Stock Assistants, besides Class III and Class IV staff.

Animal Health Wing.--The main activities of Health Wing are : to treat animals for surgical incidences and against systematic disturbances to publicize hygienic milk production; to organize farmer's training camps; to ensure hygienic meat supply; to deal with the vetero-legal cases; to regulate the supply of rice polish for poultry; to attend to contagious diseases against animals; to promote poultry, piggery, sheep and goat raising; and to keep a look on cattle fairs and cattle export, etc. These activities are carried out through 55 veterinary hospitals and 47 permanent outlying veterinary dispensaries in the district.

Animal Breeding Wing.--The activities of the Breeding Wing relate to the improvement of cattle breed in the district. Cattle breeding programme is being implemented through artificial insemination centres/ units, key village units and Intensive Cattle Development Projects. Frozen semen of exotic Brown Swiss breed from Switzerland is being used in the veterinary institutions of this district. Apart from this, the main activities of the Breeding Wing are; to keep up the breeding efficiency of bulls; to procure semen from bulls and supply it to the key village units for artificial insemination; to organize camps for increasing the production and efficiency of cows and buffaloes; to hold camps for calf health; to organize calf rally in villages; and to propagate enhanced high quality fodder production. The activities are carried through the Artificial insemination Centre, Budhlada under the charge of a trained Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and 15 Key Village Units and 23 Intensive Cattle Development Projects Units under the charge of trained Stock Assistants.

The regional semen bank was established in the district in 1976 at Bathinda. One liquid nitrogen plant has been functioning in it. It has been producing liquid nitrogen to 95 frozen semen units of this district. In addition to this, 123 institutions of Faridkot and Firozpur districts are also being supplied with liquid nitrogen. Frozen semen straws of cows and buffaloes are being collected from the semen banks of Nabha and Patiala where the bulls of exotic breeds are kept.

The Key Village Units/Intensive Cattle Development Project Units functioning in the district, as on 31 March 1989, are given below :

Key Village Units		I.C.D.P. Units	
1	Sardargarh	1	Jassi Pau Wali
2	Multama	2	Jhumbo Bhai ke
3	Sivian	3	Bahoyatri
4	Bhokhra	4	Malwala
5	Jeda	5	Bangi Ruldu Singh
6	Deon	6	Jassi Bagwali
7	Sirye Wala	7	Sema
8	Poohli	8	Bibiwala
9	Datewas	9	Tungwali
10	Borewal	10	Gobindpura

Key nits Village	I.C.D.P. Units
11 Tahlian	11 Aklia Jalal
12 Rangrial	12 Kesar Singh Wala
13 Dodra	13 Dyalpura Mirja
14 Khuda	14 Gumti Kalan
15 Kalloh	15 Salabatpura
	16 Jekhuke
	17 Nangal Kala
	18 Atla Kalan
	19 Kheva Khurd
	20 Sangreri
	21 Gurna Kalan
	22 Ahmadpur
	23 Alampur Mandran
	24 Bodhipur

Development of Gaushalas

This scheme was introduced in the Punjab during 1956-57. At present, there are 11 *gaushalas* in the district, one each at Bathinda, Baretta, Budhlada, Mansa, Alike, Rampura Phul, Maur, Raman Mandi, Talwandi Sabo, Bucho Mandi and Goniana.

Cattle Fairs and Shows

Among the cattle fairs held in the Punjab the cattle fair of Bathinda proper is the most important which is held daily. These fairs serve a very useful purpose by bringing the buyers and sellers of the cattle in direct touch with each other. Cattle of good quality are also kept for demonstration. In some important fairs, prizes are awarded to the owners who bring good quality cattle in the fair. The Government gets revenue from the sale and purchase of the cattle. In 1967, the Punjab Government nationalized the cattle fairs throughout the State by promulgating the Punjab

Cattle Fairs (Regulation) Ordinance, subsequently replaced by the Punjab Cattle Fairs (Regulation) Act of 1968. In each district, a Cattle Fair Officer with necessary supporting staff organises cattle fairs. In Bathinda District, cattle fairs and shows are held at Bathinda, Mansa, Baretta, Maur, Rama, Budhlada, Bhai Rupa, Goniana and Kot Fateh.

Castration

The reproductive ability of scrub and inferior bulls is controlled by means of castration. Breeding through such bulls causes deterioration in the genetic potential of the progeny. The Animal Husbandry Department has been making efforts for the elimination of undesirable male calves through castration to improve the livestock. Keeping this in view, 1,305 cattle were castrated in Bathinda district during 1988-89.

Control of Menace of Wild and Stray Cattle.—The wild and stray cattle cause a great damage to the crops. In order to control this menace, a scheme for the rounding up of wild and stray cattle as well as for their disposal, known as Wild and Stray Cattle Catching Scheme, was launched in the State in 1962-63. Under the scheme, cattle catching parties have been organised to round up wild and stray cattle. Upto 1988-89, 218 wild and stray cattle were caught from the district.

(ii) Area Under Fodder Crops

The grazing facilities which were available in the past have considerably decreased. The permanent pastures and grazing lands where cattle were grazed have been utilised for agriculture. With the deterioration of grazing facilities, fodder crops have gained much importance. The area under such crops was 60,720 hectares in 1988-89. The important among the fodder crops are *jowar (chari), guara, berseem,* Oats *(javi)* and other fodder crops.

The following table gives the area under fodder crops in the district during 1977-78 and 1981-82 to 1988-89 :-

Area under fodder crops in the district during 1977-78 and 1981-82 to 1988-89

(Area in hectares)

Fodder Crops	Year						
	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Kharif Crops									
Jowar (chari)	25,784	23,025	9,008	20,887	17,763	28,644	28,574	26,172	22,760
Guara	1,551	1,889	30,145	46,357	36,224	1,751	1,274	2,733	1,120
Other Fodders	3,223	--	56,643	12,487	16,194	3,591	3,775	4,156	10,818
Total	30,568	24,914	95,796	79,731	70,181	33,992	33,623	33,061	34,698
Rabi Crops									
Berseam	10,815	13,457	--	--	--	15,343	15,002	15,175	15,749
Oats *(Javi)*	591	3,141	4,910	5,048	5,427	5,963	6,823	8,706	9,574
Other Fodders	9,309	11,499	16,190	19,453	14,773	1,310	1,107	1,068	907
Total	20,715	28,097	21,100	24,501	20,200	22,616	22,932	24,949	26,230
Grand Total	51,283	53,011	1,16,896	1,04,232	90,381	15,608	56,555	58,010	60,928

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

(iii) Dairy Farming

Dairy occupies the foremost place as a subsidiary to the agrarian economy of the district. There is hardly a household in rural area that does not own a few milch cattle. Dairies, small and big, are found all over the district because milk is an important dietic component for a Punjabi. Persons engaged in dairy need assured market, guaranteed price and regular lifting of milk from their doorsteps. The setting up of milk plant at Bathinda has led to a built-in system for collection of milk from the rural milk producers. Buffaloes and cows constitute the main source of the supply of milk.

According to Livestock Census of 1977, there were 2,45,400 cows and 2,73,800 buffaloes in the Bathinda District.

(iv) Sheep Breeding

Sheep rearing is generally picked up by the weaker sections of the society. The district is at the top in this field because some small and marginal farmers have also adopted it as their subsidiary occupation to supplement their income. The climate of the district is conducive for sheep rearing and certain poorer section of the people traditionally take to the occupation.

The number of sheep and goats in the district was 1,29,900 and 1,08,100 respectively, according to 1977 Livestock Census.

(v) Poultry Farming

The eating habits of the people have changed considerably from vegetarian food to non-vegetarian food over past few years. The government is also laying great emphasis for the development of poultry. The poultry service centres functioning at Mansa and Rampura Phul are providing extension services to the poultry farmers of the district. According to the Livestock Census of 1977, there were 1,75,300 poultry birds in the district.

(vi) Fisheries

The operation of fish-culture on scientific and technical lines in the Bathinda District had started

with the implementation o the First Five-Year Plan. In order to assess the potentiality of fish-culture, a village to village survey of the district was conducted during the years 1963-64 to 1980-81.

The District Fisheries Officer, Bathinda is in charge of the fisheries in the district and its office was established during 1974-75. He is functioning under the administrative control of the Assistant Director Fisheries, Firozpur Circle, Firozpur. The District Fisheries Officer, Bathinda is assisted by 2 Fisheries Officers (One each posted at Mansa and Nathana), 1 Clerk and 4 Fishermen, besides Class IV staff.

The main activities of the department in the district are conservation of fisheries' resources and development of fish-culture in ponds and tanks, auctioning of the notified waters, canals and stocked ponds, survey of new ponds suitable for fish-culture and stocking thereof, production of fish seed of stockable varieties by induced breeding, providing assistance for adoption fish-culture to the interested persons especially weaker sections.

The fisheries resources of the district are running water and impounded water. The running water resources constitute the Ghaggar River and canal within the boundary of the district. According to 1980-81 survey, 272 hectares water area was available for fish-culture in the district.

During 1988-89, the area stocked with fish was 109.03 hectares and income from fisheries in the district was Rs 25,565. Fish ponds brought under fish culture during 1988-89 were 102 and subsidy given to the farmers for adoption of fish culture was Rs 44,100 lakhs during the same year.

(vii) Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals Animal Diseases

Animals suffer from a number of diseases in the district. Tick-born diseases have been responsible for heavy morbidity and death of livestock. Exotic and cross-bred cattle are particularly susceptible to these

diseases. The most common among the sheep and goats are as under :

Rinderpest (mogh wan) foot and mouth diseases *(muh-khur)*, haemorrhagic septicaemia *(gal ghotu)*, black-quarter *(phersujna)* and parasite diseases. Among the sheep and goats, goiter and liver diseases are found. *Surra* among the equines and camels is found.

Veterinary Hospitals.--Both curative and preventive measures are taken by the technical staff of the Veterinary Department working in different vaterinary hospitals/dispensaries in the district.

In 1988-89, there were 66 veterinary hospitals and 86 permanent outlying dispensaries in the district which treated 2,04,244 cases (sick animals). To prevent the diseases, as many as 3,58,712, vaccinations were performed/inoculated to the animals. Besides, under the artificial insemination, 40,677 cows and 14,528 buffaloes were covered. The list of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries in the district, as on 31 March 1989, is given in the following table :--

Veterinary Hospitals		Permanent Outlying Dispensaries	
1	Bathinda	1	Gulabgarh
2	Behman Dewana	2	Dan Singh Wala
3	Kot Shamir	3	Jandan Wala
4	Baluana	4	Kili Nihal Singh
5	Nahian Wala	5	Balahar Binjoo
6	Mehma Sarja	6	Kot Fattah
7	Teona	7	Maisar Khana
8	Virk Kalan	8	Pathrala
9	Ghudda	9	Nandgarh
10	Sangat	10	Bandi

Veterinary Hospitals		Permanent Outlying Dispensaries	
11	Jeeda	11	Laleana
12	Sema	12	Chathe Wala
13	Salabat Pura	13	Ganga
14	Mehraj	14	Jodhpur Pakhar
15	Talwandi Sabo	15	Swaitch Kamaloo
16	Maur	16	Bhagi Bander
17	Raman	17	Behman Jassa Singh
18	Rajgarh Kube	18	Chak Ruldu Singh Wala
19	Siekhpura	19	Naruana
20	Siengo	20	Bhaini Ghuhar
21	Malkana	21	Mandi Kalan
22	Pacca Kalan	22	Kotha Guru
23	Raike Kalan	23	Raiya
24	Natheha	24	Kaloke
25	Phul	25	Bhaini
26	Bhucho Mandi	26	Ghanda Bana
27	Poohla	27	Karar Wala
28	Nathana	28	Rampura
29	Kalyan Sikha	29	Raiya
30	Chak Fateh Singh Wala	30	Maizia
31	Lehra Mohabat	31	Ralla
32	Rampura Phul	32	Hodla Kalan
33	Balian Wali	33	Saide Wala
34	Dhade	34	Sadda Singh Wala
35	Badiala	35	Jawaharke
36	Chowke	36	Hero Kalan
37	Bhagta	37	Raipur

Veterinary Hospitals		Permanent Outlying Dispensaries	
38	Bhai Rupa	38	Bhagwanpura
39	Alike	39	Bhaini Bagha
40	Jalal	40	Ramgarh Shahpurian
41	Dhapali	41	Reond Kalan
42	Malooka	42	Gurraddi
43	Mansa	43	Bakhshi Wala
44	Bhikhi	44	Chak Bhaika
45	Joga	45	Kulrian
46	Khiala Kalan	46	Sangha
47	Phaphre Bhaike	47	Kanakwal Chehlan
48	Jhunir	48	Bhodi Pura
49	Mirpur Kalan	49	Alisher Khurd
50	Bajewala	50	Kot Lallo
51	Behniwal	51	Kishangarh
52	Fatta Maloke	52	Sardulgarh
53	Bhame Kalan	53	Multania
54	Budhlada	54	Sivian
55	Boha	55	Bhokhra
56	Baretta	56	Deon
57	Vareh	57	Siryewala
58	Ubha Barj Dhillwan	58	Poohli
59	Bachhoana	59	Datewas
60	Gobindpura	60	Borewal
61	Sardulgarh	61	Tahlian
62	Moffer	62	Rangrial
63	Kusla	63	Dodra
64	Bangi Deepa	64	Kutiwal

Veterinary Hospitals	Permanent Outlying Dispensaries
65 Dalel Wala	65 Kalloh
66 Khaire Kalan	66 Jassi Pau Wali
	67 Jhumba Bhaike
	68 Bahoyatri
	69 Malwala
	70 Bangi Ruldu
	71 Bibi Wala
	72 Jassi Bag Wali
	73 Tung Wali
	74 Gobindpura
	75 Aklia Jalal
	76 Kesar Singh Wala
	77 Dyalpura Mirza
	78 Gumti Kalan
	79 Jethuke
	80 Nangal Kalan
	81 Atla Kalan
	82 Kheeva Khurd
	83 Sangreri
	84 Gurne Kalan
	85 Ahmandpur
	86 Alampur Mandran

(*Source* : Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry, Bathinda)

(e) Forestry

The Bathinda District falls under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Forest Officer, Bathinda, whose office was established in September 1961. The jurisdiction of the division extends to the entire area of the district. Bathinda Division has been divided into five ranges, viz. Bathinda, Talwandi Sabo, Rampura, Mansa and Bir Talab Range. On 31 March 1989, Divisional Forest Officer was assisted by 1 Deputy Divisional Ranger, 2 Forest Rangers, 2 Deputy Rangers, 16 Foresters, 78 Forest Guards, 1 Superintendent, 1 Assistant, 8 Clerks, and 1 Jeep Driver, besides Class IV employees.

(i) Importance of the Forestry in the Economy of the District.—The district is very close to Rajasthan desert and is known for high velocity dust-storms and shifting of sand dunes. The district has a very hot summer. Therefore, higher importance attaches to forestry in this district than any other district of the State. The plantation of trees has manifold advantages, as it works as a windbreaker to reduce the wind velocity and thus lowers the capacity of wind to carry away the soil. The Rajasthan desert is also gradually shifting towards the district. Afforestation is the only way to check this shifting. There are also several other indirect benefits from forests, as they increase the humidity of air and stabilise the temperature.

In the recent energy crisis, there is a marked increase in the demand of fuel wood. Wood is also required for furniture making, house construction, agricultural implements, wooden boxes, etc. Tall grasses especially *kana* is required for thatching. Grass and tree levels are used as cattle feed. Thorny bushes and branches of trees are extensively used for fencing of fields. Keeping in view these needs, it was decided to bring more Government lands under the control of Forest Department for raising fuel and economic plantation. Therefore, railway strips and the strips

of national highways were put under the charge of Forest Department. In 1966, Government decided to transfer the areas of the strips along all P W D roads and canals to the Forest Department for afforestation.

Plants like *shisham, neem, kikar, siris,* eucalyptus are raised in a number of forest nurseries for the raising of plantation in different forest areas. The plants from these nurseries are also supplied to the public.

(ii) Area Under Forests.— Soon after the transfer of various strips to the Forest Department, the areas were got demarcated as protected forests under Section 29 of the Indian Forests Act, 1927. Systematic plantation work was started under the provision of Second Five-Year Plan when a scheme for strip plantations was prepared for carrying out planting along roads, rail and canal strips in the territory of PEPSU. It was under the provision of this plan that planting was done from 1956-57 onwards on these strips. Later on, a plantation scheme to cover the entire Punjab State was included in subsequent Third Five-Year Plan and Fourth Five-Year Plan. The Forest Department carried out planting work to cover most of the blank strips by tree crop.

In 1988-89, the total area under forests in this district was 10,188 hectares which was divided into five ranges. The rangewise area during 1988-89 in the division is as under :

Name of Range	Total Area (hectares)
1 Bathinda	2,731
2 Talwandi Sabo	2,620
3 Rampura	2,315
4 Mansa	2,458
5 Bir Talab	64.40
Total	10,188.40

The forests are categorised into three classes, viz. Protected Forests, Forests under Section 38 of Indian Forests Act and Unclassed Forests. The category-wise classification of the existing forests of the district is given in the following table :--

Particulars	Area (hectares)	
(A) Protected Forests		
(a) Demarcated Protected Forests		261
(b) Undemarcated Protected Forests—		
(i) Canal-side Forests	5,764	9,103
(ii) Road-side Forests	2,067	
(iii) Forests along the sides of Railway Line	1,272	
(B) Forests Under Section 38 of Indian Forests Act	--	--
(C) Unclassed Forests		760
Total ..		10,124

Forest Produce.—Forest produce has been classified into two types, viz. major forest produce and minor forest produce. Firewood and timber fall under the classification of major forest produce, while grasses fall under minor forest produce. Some revenue is also collected from the sale of saplings, stumps, etc. It

is also included under minor forest produce for convenience. The annual income obtained from the sale of forest produce from 1977-78 to 1988-89, was as under :

Year	Major Produce (Rs)	Minor Produce (Rs)
1977-78	13,51,645	1,30,671
1978-79	17,67,600	97,075
1979-80	16,52,805	1,29,791
1980-81	12,63,960	1,23,791
1981-82	46,55,305	1,35,091
1982-83	37,63,700	4,78,556
1983-84	27,01,660	5,70,475
1984-85	17,61,471	5,02,972
1985-86	5,16,658	7,31,931
1986-87	18,01,786	9,11,666
1987-88	13,24,124	4,98,995
1988-89	14,97,979	4,46,222

(Source : Divisional Forest Officer, Bathinda)

(f) Floods

The area of Bathinda District is not much affected by floods. Floods are caused by overflowing of rivers or excessive rains. There is no major river flowing in the district. However, the Ghaggar River runs through the southern strip of Mansa Tahsil. It enters Mansa Tahsil at village Hengna and leaves it near village Rorki. The main volume of water into Ghaggar comes through a depression called Sunam *Cho*. The volume of water in the river is considerable during the rainy season and causes damage in the low-lying areas along its banks. The general drainage of the district was towards Ghaggar and the result was that flood water flowing from the surrounding areas of Firozpur, Faridkot and Sangrur districts found its way through the district. Floods were causing great damage either sides of the drainage. The government provided relief to the flood affected people in the

shape of compensation/gratuitious grants and *taccavi* loans, remission or postponement of land revenue/*abiana*. etc. But, the flood affects have decreased considerably owing to certain corrective steps of Drainage Department. The department has been executing various flood control and drainage schemes under the master plan on flood control. The department has constructed some drains. These drains are helpful in controlling floods, to lower the water table of waterlogged areas, to make the land cultivable and to clear the blockages in the natural depressions which were formed prior to the canalization of the main *chos* and excavation of drains with the construction of canals/distributaries and roads without providing proper drainage work. The following table shows the damage caused by floods and heavy rains in the district during 1978 to 1987 :-

Damage caused to private property and area under crops, produce and its value due to floods during rainy season in the Bathinda District, 1978 to 1987

Year	Number of villages/ towns affected	Area affected (sq. km.)	Human lives lost (number)	Cattle heads lost (number)	Houses damaged	Area affected (hectares)	Value (000' Rs)
1978	80	81	—	—	278	8,101	12,085
1979	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1980	52	8	—	7	896	834	417
1981	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1982	—	—	—	—	—	--	—
1983	45	—	—	—	2,056	28,113	27,072
1984	33	28	—	—	714	2,797	5,356
1985	520	608	13	109	42,500	29,856	82,791
1986	28	116	—	—	—	11,628	—
1987	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1979 to 1987)

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 108)

Area under principal crops in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 and 1981-82 to 1988-89

(Thousand hectares)

Crops	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Cereals									
Rice	3	11	13	25	55	46	44	39	31
Jowar	0.1	0.4	0.3	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Bajra	42.6	18.6	9.7	11.6	19.4	9.1	7.2	2.1	4.1
Maize	9	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
Wheat	226	263	295	309	296	303	325	319	329
Barley	5.9	23	24.4	19.8	13.0	13.4	9.1	8.8	12.4
Pulses									
Gram	128	122	71	56	59.2	60.8	58.8	34.7	39.5
Mash	0.08	0.05	.02	.03	.04	0.02	0.02	—	—
Moong	0.69	2.03	1.70	2.02	2.49	3.79	3.97	1.46	2.15
Massar	.36	0.58	0.62	0.42	0.26	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.19

Crops	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Oilseeds									
Groundnut	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.8	0.6
Rape and Mustard	42.6	26.6	17.4	20.1	33.2	36.5	26.6	30	26
Sesamum	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Linseed	—	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Other Crops									
Sugarcane	3	2	2	2	1.9	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.7
Dry Chillies	0.39	0.24	0.32	0.23	0.16	0.23	0.26	0.14	0.11
Tobacco	—	—	--	—	—	—	—	--	—
Potatoes	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Cotton (American)	166.7	206.2	234.4	235.2	178.3	214.4	217.1	247.3	257.6
Cotton (Desi)	27.9	20.2	20.6	21.4	19.6	27.3	22.9	16.5	14.7

(Agricultural Statistics of Punjab, 1979-80 to 1988-89)

(a) Denotes less than 50 hectares.

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 108)

Production of principal crops in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 and 1981-82 to 1988-89

(Thousand metric tonnes)

Crops	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Cereals									
Rice	9	36	47	96	185	153	151	127	95
Jowar	0.1	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bajra	52	24	10	11	19.2	7.7	6.7	1.7	4.4
Maize	14	8	6	2	2	3	4	1	.60
Wheat	519	768	826	701	830	948	820	963	10.40
Barley	8	47	35	27	19	24	17	17	30
Pulses									
Gram	112	62	36	30	30.6	54.8	40.2	11.8	40.5
Mash	0 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moong	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.8	2.4	3.4	3.8	1.1	2.2
Massar	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1

(Thousand metric tonnes)

Crops	1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Oilseeds									
Groundnut	3	1	(c)	--	1	1	1	1	1
Rape and Mustard	24	13	11	17	36	32	18	29	25
Sesamum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Crops									
Sugarcane*	15	11	10	12	5	10	11	9	8
Dry Chillies	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Tobacoo	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes	6.6	10	4.0	4.0	—	—	—	4.4	5.4
Cotton (American)	65.35	74.03	73.84	49.15	80.99	93.26	116.42	124.64	119.01
Cotton (*Desi*)	10.18	6.52	6.15	3.57	6.80	9.61	7.49	4.90	4.14

(*Statistical Abstract of Punjab, 1978 to 1989*)

(C) Denotes less than 500 metric tonnes.

* Production of sugarcane in terms of *gur*.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

(a) Old-Time Industries and Industrial Development

The importance of industries in the modern national economy needs no emphasis. The truth of the slogan 'industrialise or perish' has been well realised in the State. Bathinda District has also been tracking the path of industrialisation, since the recent past.

Agriculture has been the main occupation of the people of the district. Cotton, wheat, mustard, gram, barley, etc. are the main crops of the district. Accordingly, some agro-based industries like oil *ghani*, flour mills and cotton-ginning factories had been in operation in the past. Besides, some traditional industries like leather-tanning, shoe-making, *ban* making, pottery and handloom weaving were also prevalent in the Bathinda District. At present, the district has made rapid industrial progress in respect of certain agro-based industries such as cotton-ginning and pressing, oil and oil cake, *dal* plant, flour mills, barley *ghat*, mill board and straw board, bread & biscuits, etc. Leather and pottery industries have also been very popular throughout the district. *Desi jutti* of. Bathinda is still considered to be a special item of the small-scale industry of the district.

(b) State Aid to Industries

Ever since the setting up of Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant at Bathinda, the district is making rapid industrial progress. New units, both large/medium and small-scale are coming up. The availability of incentives/facilities extended by the State/Central Government for the development of industries in this backward district has also attracted a good number of entrepreneurs for setting up various industrial units. Bathinda is rapidly emerging as an industrial town. One Urban Industrial Estate at Bathinda has already been set up by the government. There are two Industrial Focal Points developed by the government for the development of industries. Plots in these focal points are allotted on 99 years lease-hold basis. Mansa

and Rampura Phul towns are also on the path of progress in the field of industrial development.

Ever since the declaration of Bathinda District as a backward district in 1972, the liberalized industrial policy and incentives provided by the State/ Central Government have been encouraging the development of new industries in the district Central subsidy at the rate of 15 per cent is given to the enterpreneurs who set up new industries subject to the maximum limit of Rs 15 lakhs. Moreover, interest free loan is also granted to the rew industries for 8 years from the date of production of the unit. As per policy of the Government, refund of octroi paid for the purchase of building material, machinery and raw materials is also allowed to these industrial units. Exemption from the payment of electricity duty is also given to these units for 8 years from the date of commencement of production. The District Industries Centre, Bathinda also sponsors the loan applications of new entrepreneurs to various financial institutions.

The State Industries Department has several attractive schemes to encourage the industrialists for setting up new industrial units. These include concessions regarding land, finance and capital, power, taxation and in the procurement of raw material, etc. The department also provides technical guidance for starting new industries and imparts industrial training at various institutions. The following table shows the amount of financial assistance given under the Punjab State Aid to Industries Act, 1935 for the development of small-scale industries in the Bathinda Distirct, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 :-

Years	Loans		Grants-in-aid and subsidy	
	No. of Units	Amount (Rs)	No. of Parties	Amount (Rs)
1977-78	43	2,50,000	10	7,000
1978-79	51	2,50,000	21	10,000
1979-80	20	1,00,000	35	17,37,000

Years	Loans		Grants-in-aid and subsidy	
	No. of Units	Amount (Rs)	No. of Parties	Amount (Rs)
1980-81	16	65,000	49	11,23,000
1981-82	14	65,000	59	27,78,000
1982-83	—	—	14	6,10,000
1983-84	—	—	37	7,97,000
1984-85	—	—	29	5,45,000
1985-86	—	—	27	12,23,000
1986-87	—	—	35	12,47,000
1987-88	—	—	16	6,34,000
1988-89	—	—	68	43,74,000

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989)

Besides the above, other measures taken for the promotion of industries in the district are discussed below :

(1) Role of Quality Marking Industrial Development Centres.—The Department of Industries, Punjab, has also set up Quality Marking Industrial Development Centres in the district for providing facilities of testing, marking and all types of services to the manufacturers. Quality control helps to secure uniformity of products. These Centres facilitate constant improvement of processing in manufacturing. The uniformity in specifications also facilitates the inter-changeability in the products. Moreover, production cost can be reduced through continuous processing.

(2) Common Facility Workshops.—The Industries Department has set up four Common Facility Workshops at Bhikhi, Talwandi Sabo, Sangat and Gill Kalan in the rural area of the district. These workshops provide common facility service at nominal charges to the artisans and farmers. Training is also imparted to the rural artisans and educated unemployed persons in these workshops in different engineering trades

under the Rural Industries Programme/Rural Artisans Programme.

(3) Other Organisations for the Development of Industries.—Besides the above mentioned facilities, there exist the following Organizations for the promotion of industries in the district :-

(i) The Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation, Ltd., Chandigarh.—Established in March 1962, the Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation has gradually matured into a multi-service agency designed to provide a variety of services and assistance to small-scale industries. The main functions of the Corporation comprise procurement, storage, distribution of industrial raw materials, whether imported or indigenous and boosting the exports from the State. It renders the needed help and guidance to exporters of the State in the small-scale sector. The raw materials are distributed to those industrial units whose names are recommended by the Director of Industries, Punjab, Chandigarh through offices of the Department opened in various towns. Iron and steel items are provided to the concerned units at the controlled price. During 1988-89 the Corporation supplied 362 metric tons of iron and steel to 200 units and 130 metric tons of pig iron to 16 units in the district.

(ii) The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Ltd., Chandigarh.—The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation was set up in 1966 under the Companies Act, 1956, in order to promote the industrial development. It has played a significant role towards the development of industries in Bathinda District. This district has been notified as a Centrally declared backward area and as a result, a lot of concessions are available to the industries to be set up in this district. The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, prefers to set up industries in backward areas declared as such by the Central and State Governments and hence, Bathinda District too has got this privilege. It has also been designated as a second State level financial institution for disbursement of term loans under the Industrial Development Bank of India's Refinance Scheme since

1976. The Corporation offers the facility of direct subscription/underwriting upto 15 per cent of the equity capital for projects in private sector. Besides, the Corporation administers the Seed Capital Assistance Scheme of Industrial Development Bank of India, wherein eligible entrepreneurs can get upto 10 to 15 lakhs to fill up the gap, if any, in their contribution to the project cost. The Corporation also acts as a disbursing agency under the Central subsidy to its promoted and assisted projects in centrally declared backward areas.

The Corporation has set up Punjab Spinning & Weaving Mills, Malwa Cottonseed Products Ltd, Punjab Ceramics Limited and Punjab Mohta Polytex Limited in the Bathinda District which are already in production.

The Corporation, besides setting-up of its own units in Bathinda District has also extended liberal financial assistance to the private sector units in this district. Upto 31 March 1989, term loans amounting to Rs 395.30 lakhs were sanctioned by Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation to various private sector units in Bathinda District.

(iii) The Punjab Financial Corporation, Chandigarh.—It was established in 1953 under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951, with the object of providing medium and long-term loans for setting up new industries in the State. A branch of the Corporation is also functioning at Bathinda for the convenience of the entrepreneurs.

The Punjab Financial Corporation advances loans from Rs 20 to Rs 30 lakhs under the various schemes to the small-scale and medium-scale units. It provides finance to new units for creation of fixed assets and to existing units for expansion or modernisation. The rate of interest varies from 10.25 per cent to 16 per cent per annum depending on the size and location of the unit.

The Corporation lays special emphasis on the development of small-scale industries and to foster the growth of industry in backward areas of the State. The benefit of concessional rate of interest on loans

is granted to industrial units after availment of refinance from the Industrial Development Bank of India. The Corporation also disburses Central subsidy to the units located in notified backward areas.

The amount of loans sanctioned and disbursed by the Corporation in Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below :

(Rs in lakhs)

Year	Sanctions	Disbursement
1977-78	88.67	78.08
1978-79	86.73	42.04
1979-80	75.24	63.57
1980-81	105.24	94.71
1981-82	141.06	87.12
1982-83	201.42	178.36
1983-84	99.73	138.42
1984-85	27.05	72.04
1985-86	47.89	46.27
1986-87	297.42	83.47
1987-88	535.39	323.87
1988-89	326.98	255.70

(*Source*:Punjab Financial Corporation, Chandigarh)

(iv) The Small Industries Service Institute, Ludhiana.—Set up in 1956 by the Government of India, the Small Industries Service Institute, Ludhiana, has its regional office at Ludhiana, with jurisdiction over the States of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The Institute provides technical counselling, training, preparation and distribution of technical literature in the form of technical bulletins, drawing and designs and economic information service. The industrial management advice, marketing and rendering common facilities in the workshop and laboratories of the Institute and its extension centres are also included in the scope of its activities.

This Institute has promoted the growth and development of industries in Bathinda District in a number of ways. Action Plan was prepared in 1978-79 on the basis of a techno-economic survey of the district. The Action Plan, besides giving background information on the district, brought out a list of industries having scope for development, demand and ancillary potentital.

On the basis of above survey, an industrial compaign was held in March 1979 in collaboration with the District Industries Centre, Bathinda to provide on the spot techno-economic guidance to the prospective entrepreneurs. Registration of new industries was done after on the spot scrutiny of the projects which were approved by the banks there and then. This gave a big fillip to the growth of industries in the district.

In addition to above, the Institute is continuously extending technical and economic assistance to the existing industries of the district to resolve their problems including industrial sickness and modernization.

(c) Industrial Training Institutes

The industrial training programme in the Punjab received an impetus under the Government of India's programme. The Department of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Punjab imparts industrial, technical and vocational training to boys and girls through its various industrial training schools/institutes/centres.

There are two Government Industrial Training Institutes in the district, one each at Bathinda and Budhlada, where training in engineering and non-engineering trades is given to trainees. Besides, there is one Government Industrial School for women at Rampura Phul where training in cutting and tailoring and embroidery is imparted to women trainees. There is also a Government Industrial Teacher's Training Institute for women at Bathinda.

The detailed particulars regarding the different Government Industrial Training Institutes in the district are given in the following statement :-

Government Industrial Training Institutes in the Bathinda District

Number of Seats Sanctioned Trade-wise, during 1988-89

Sr. No.	Name of the Institute	Year of establishment	Duration		Name of Trade/Course	Number of seats
1	Industrial Training Institute, Bathinda	1963-64	Two Years	1	Fitter	32
			Do	2	Turner	36
			Do	3	Machinist	24
			Do	4	Mechanic Radio & Television	32
			Do	5	Mechanic Motor Vehicle	32
			Do	6	Electrician	48
			Do	7	Wireman	32
			Do	8	Machinist (Grinder)	24
			Do	9	Mechanic Instrument	32
			Do	10	Mechanic Refrigrator & Air Conditioning	16
			Do	11	Draftsman (Civil)	16
			Do	12	Draftsman (Mechanical)	16
			Do	13	Surveyor	16
			One Year	14	Forger & Heat Treatment	16
			Do	15	Carpenter	32
			Do	16	Moulder	16
			Do	17	Sheet Metal Worker	16
			Do	18	Welder (g)	12
			Do	19	Tractor Mechanic	32
			Do	20	Stenography (English)	32
			Do	21	Stenography (Punjabi)	16
					Total	528
2	Industrial Training Institute, Budhlada	1963-64	Two Years	1	Fitter	16
			Do	2	Turner	24
			Do	3	Machinist (Domp)	24
			Do	4	Machinist (Grinder)	12
			Do	5	Wireman	32
			Do	6	Electrician	48
			Do	7	Motor Vehicle Mechanic	32

Sr. No.	Name of the Institute	Year of establish-ment	Duration		Name of Trade Course	Number of seats
			Two Years	8	Mechanic Radio & Television	16
			Do	9	Mechanic Refrigerator & Air Conditioning	16
			Do	10	Draftsman (Civil)	16
			One Year	11	Welder (Gas & Electric)	12
			Do	12	Moulder	16
			Do	13	Tractor Mechanic	16
			Do	14	Book Binder	16
			Do	15	Stenography (English)	32
			Do	16	Stenography (Punjabi)	16
					Total :	360

(Source: Director of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(d) Industrial Areas and Estates

The scheme for the establishment of industrial estates was launched in the State with the object of dispersing industries to economically backward areas and creating conditions for planned industrial growth.

Industrial Estate, Bathinda.—There is one industrial estate at Bathinda, which has industrial sheds of 'A' type (550 square yards each) and 'B' type (2,916 square yards each) for various type of industrial activities.

Industrial Focal Points.—There are two industrial focal points developed by the Government for the development of industries. Thirty-six plots of 1,000 square yards each have been allotted to new entrepreneurs on 99 years lease hold basis in the old focal points situated near Industrial Training Institute, Bathinda. Similarly, at Industrial Focal Point, Dabwali Road, Bathinda, 89 out of 102 plots of different sizes have been allotted to new entrepreneurs. The remaining 13 plots have been reserved for non-Indian residents/ Scheduled Castes for priority industries.

(e) Sources of Power

The various sources of power used in the district were wood-fuel, coal and water. But in modern times, the main source of power is electricity. The Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda is a very significant source of power in the district. Besides providing employment potentials to thousand of workers, it has converted the backward area of the district into a fully developed industrial township because of enough supply of power from it. Besides, some more areas have been chosen for tapping additional renewable energy, viz. solar energy for cooking and heating purposes, bio-gas for home and agriculture, briquetting for replacing coal windmills (wind power) and photo-voltaic cells (solar energy).

Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda.—Ever widening gap between power demand and its availability was one of the basic reasons for envisaging the Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant for the State of Punjab. The other factors favouring the installation of the

thermal power station were low initial cost and comparatively less gestation period as compared to hydro-electric generating stations. The foundation stone of Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant at Bathinda was laid on 19 November 1969 on the auspicious 500th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev.

The historic town of Bathinda was selected for this first and prestigeous thermal power project of the State due to its good railway connections for quick transportation of coal, availability of canal water and proximity to load centre.

The total installed capacity of the power station is 440 MW with four units of 110 MW each. The first unit of the plant was commissioned in September 1974. Subsequently second, third and fourth units started production in September 1975, March 1978, and January 1979, respectively. The total power available from this plant meets as much as 40--45 per cent of total power requirement of Punjab to spin the wheels of industry and agricultural pumping-sets.

Bathinda District is served by the Bathinda Circle of Punjab State Electricity Board. All the villages/towns have been electrified since 1971. The total number of industrial consumers, as on 31 March 1989 (category-wise), is given below :

Category	Number of industrial consumers
Small Power	3,139
Medium Supply	369
Large Supply	74
	3,582

(Source : Executive Engineer (Tech.) DS Circle, Punjab State Electricity Board, Bathinda)

(f) Growth and Development of Industries

Though Bathinda is a backward district, yet it has a good industrial development potential. Bathinda

the headquarters town of the district, is one of the biggest railway junctions in the State connecting Punjab with the States of Haryana and Rajasthan and Union Territory of Delhi. Seven rail lines branch out in different directions from here.

The district has been declared industrially backward by the Government of India and is eligible for capital subsidy at the rate of 15 per cent for new units. The area is also eligible for concessional finance from the financial institutions. In addition, concessions like exemptions from income tax for profits earned by industries also give incentives to the growth and development of industries. The facilities like priority in the allotment of raw meterial and machinery also exist.

Traditional skills available in the district include shoe-making, *ban* and rope making, carpentry, blacksmithy, handloom weaving, etc. Of these, shoe-making or *jutti* making is quite popular and famous for its quality of work. The activity is dispersed in various towns and villages of the district, but its major concentration is at Mansa. Cottage units make *desi* shoes and market them not only in the district, but also in the contiguous area of Haryana and Rajasthan. *Ban* making is concentrated in Bathinda town where about 400 families are engaged in this activity. Industrial activity in the district is fast picking up. The number of registered factories which stood at 271 in 1980 increased to 506 by the end of 1989.

Ever since the setting up of Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant at Bathinda, the district is making rapid industrial progress. Prior to that, there was insignificant industrial activity. New units, both large/medium and small-scale are coming up. Another factor which has been helpful in the growth of industrial sector in this backward district, is the new industrial policy announced by the State Government.

The availability of incentive, viz. 15 per cent central subsidy has immensely helped the industrial development in the district. Quite a number of entrepreneurs have been attracted by the incentive/facilities extended by the State/Central Government.

(g) Industries and Manufactures of the District

The industries in the district may be classified under three broad heads, viz. large and medium-scale, small-scale and cottage and village industries. A brief description of some of the important industries of the district is given below :

(i) Large and Medium-scale Industries

Besides Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda, whose description has already been given earlier in this chapter, the following are the important large and medium-scale industries in the district :—

(1) Roshan Lal Oil Mills Limited, Bathinda.—It was established at Bathinda on Mansa Road in 1974, with 40 tons per day capacity. In a short span of 10 years, the unit has successfully carried out three expansions/modernisation schemes by increasing the capacity of oilseed crushing unit to 100 tons per day in 1976-77. In the year 1978, a Vegetable Oil Refinery of 15 tons per day capacity was established and its capacity was further increased to 30/35 tons per day during 1985-86. A continuous automatic Solvent Extraction Plant of 40/60 tons per day capacity was established in 1978-79 and its capacity was further increased to 100/150 tons per day during 1985-86.

The capital cost of the project is about Rs 327.24 lakhs. The labour strength is about 300 workers. The company is recognised as an 'Export House'. Its products are also exported to South Korea, USSR, German Democratic Republic of Taiwan. It produced goods worth Rs 5645.40 lakhs from 10 October 1987 to 31 March 1989 and exported goods worth Rs 94.58 lakhs.

(2) National Fertilizers Limited, Bathinda.—It came into being on 23 August 1974. The capital cost of the project is Rs 240.46 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs 71.85 crores. It started its production in 1979. *Kisan* urea, the main product of this plant is ideally suited to all crops grown on all types of soils. It is a highly concentrated nitrogenous fertilizer with 46 per cent nitrogen. It does not leave any harmful residue in soil and has

a quick and lasting effect on plants. The other products of the plant are amonia and sulphur as by-product. This giant project after attaining full production would increase the production of foodgrains to the tune of 2.3 million tonnes and will save cost on import of fertilizers. During 1988-89, the total capital employed by the unit was Rs 19,162.18 lakhs and produced fertilizer worth Rs 16,407.29 lakhs and gave employment to 1,085 persons.

(3) Milk Plant, Bathinda.—The Milk Plant, Bathinda was commissioned in September 1974 with a capital investment of Rs 106.9 lakhs. It functions under the Punjab State Co-operative Milk Producers Federation Limited, popularly known as Milkfed. During the past five years, the milk procurement of the plant has gone up from 60 lakh litres in 1980-81 to 451.4 lakh litres in 1988-89. Milk supply in the town has been increased from 10 lakh litres to more than 28.2 lakh litres, during the same period. Production of ghee registered an increase from 368 metric tons in the year 1980-81 to 435.3 in the year 1988-89. Production of skimmed milk powder decreased from 388 metric tons in 1980-81 to 45.4 metric tons in the year 1988-89. Apart from sales network in all the important towns of the State and major cities outside the State, the plant is catering to inmates of Bathinda through four milk bars and six milk booths and 15 other retail sale outlets for liquid milk. It also manufactures and sells milk-cake, *paneer*, *lassi* and sweetened flavoured milk through its milk bars/dealers.

During 1988-89, the total capital employed by the plant was Rs 611.70 lakhs. It produced goods worth Rs 715.30 lakhs and gave employment to 434 persons. Moreover, around 550 villages level co-operatives which are contributing milk to this plant are giving direct employment to an equal number of employees in the villages. The Milk Plant is also providing milk market to dairy owners of the districts who are members of the co-operative milk societies.

(4) Punjab Ceramics Limited, Bathinda.—It was established in 1977 to meet the demand of Electricity Boards of the northern States of India for H.T. Insulators. It has been established with imported technology from U S A The major plant and machinery have

been imported from U K and U S A It is the only plant in the northern States with automatic process to produce good quality product. The main purchaser of the products are the State Electricity Boards, Railways and manufacturers of transformers.

The plant came into commercial production on 1 October 1984. It produced goods worth Rs 4.10 crores and gave employment to 437 persons during 1988-89. The total capital employed in the unit amounted to Rs 7.82 crores during the same year.

(5) Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, Bathinda.—Bathinda is suitable for establishing the spinning mills as it is a cotton growing belt. The Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited Bathinda went into production in 1979 with capital investment of Rs 668.50 lakhs and has the capacity of 43,142 spindles. During 1988-89, the total capital invested by the unit was Rs 711.12 lakhs. The unit provided employment to 1,603 persons during the same year.

(6) Chhatar Extractions Private Limited, Bathinda.—It was establishment at Bathinda on Dabwali road in 1980 with a capital investment of Rs 82.50 lakhs. During 1988-89, the total capital employed by the unit was Rs 168.12 lakhs. Its capacity of utilization is 150 metric tons rice bran per day. The main source of raw material are the rice shellers of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, etc. The oil extracted from rice bran is sold to the vanaspati manufacturers and to the soap manufacturers. The rice bran extraction is exported to Czechoslovakia, worth Rs 5.44 lakhs during 1988-89. About 100 persons were employed by this unit.

(7) Malwa Cotton Seed Products Limited, Doomwali.—It was established with capital investment of about Rs 109 lakhs in 1979 at village Doomwali, on Malout-Bathinda bye-pass, situated at about a distance of 40 km from Bathinda and 1 km from Mandi Dabwali. It is under the joint management of Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation and Punjab Agro Industries Corporation.

The main object of establishing this plant at Doomwali is to promote the economy of this backward district. The main raw material, i.e. cotton seed

and rice bran are available in plenty from the surrounding area. The plant is centrally located in the cotton belt of Northern India.

The main products of the plant are cotton seed oil, rice bran oil and by-products such as cotton seed and rice bran extractions which have a good market in foreign countries and is utilized locally as cattlefeed.

(8) Roshan Lal Paper Mills (P) Ltd., Bathinda.—It was established on Mansa Road, Bathinda in 1980 and the unit went into production in February 1982 with the capital investment of Rs 56.58 lakh. The installed capacity of the mill is 1,500 metric tons of paper annually. The main product of the mill is white paper and the wheat and rice straw is utilised as raw material to manufacture the paper. The product is mainly marketed in Haryana and Delhi. During 1988-89, the total capital employed by the unit was Rs 165.98 lakhs and it produced 3920.3 metric tons of paper. It provided employment to around 100 persons during the same year.

(9) Munak Chemicals Limited, Bathinda.—It was established at Bathinda on Dabwali Road in July 1984 with a production capacity of 66,000 TPA of single superphosphate and 33,000 TPA of sulphuric acid, which was further extended to 1,32,000 TPA and 56,100 TPA, respectively in 1987. The capital investment of the company as on 31 March 1989 was Rs 956 lakhs. During 1988-89, it produced goods worth Rs 1,281 lakhs and gave employment to 259 persons.

(10) The Bhupendra Flour Mills Limited, Bathinda.—This unit came into being in 1945. Its authorised capital was Rs 15 lakhs. The raw material required by the unit is wheat. The main products are *atta, maida, rawa/sooji* and bran. During 1988-89, it produced goods worth Rs 108 lakhs and gave employment to 34 persons.

(11) The Mansa Co-operative Spinnings Mills Limited, Mansa.—It was established in co-operative sector in 1982 and went into production in 1984 with the authorised capital of Rs 1,050 lakhs. The total capital investment of this unit up to 31 March 1989

was Rs 1,005.37 lakhs. The cotton is used as raw material which is available in abundance in this area, as Mansa is located in cotton growing belt. It produced goods worth Rs 663.62 lakhs and provided employment to 1,168 persons during 1988-89. The cotton yarn produced by the mill was exported to U K and Italy worth Rs 2.93 lakhs during 1987-88.

(12) Markfed Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factory, Goniana.—The Punjab State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (MARKFED), Chandigarh established a Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factory at Goniana in November 1976, in co-operative sector. The installed capacity of the unit is 30,000 bales per year. The total investment as on 31 March 1989 was Rs 29.9 lakhs. The factory is doing custom work for ginning and pressing of cotton received from Cotton Corporation of India and Markfed Cotton Cell, Bathinda. During 1988-89, the unit did custom work worth Rs. 19.55 lakhs and gave employment to 14 persons.

(13) Punjab Mohta Polytex Limited, Bathinda.—It was established in 1983 with capital investment of Rs 11.19 lakhs. Out of the licenced capacity of 22,608 spindles and 504 rotors, it started its commercial production on 1 November 1989 with 9,504 spindles and 504 rotors. The utilization of its capacity was increased to 22,464 spindles in 1986. Cotton is used as raw material and its main product is cotton yarn. The turnover of the company during 1988-89 (for 10 months) was Rs 1600.83 lakhs and it gave employment to 700 persons. It exported cotton yarn to Belgium Indonesia, South Korea, Phillipines, Italy and U K worth Rs 97.79 lakhs during 1988-89.

(ii) Small-Scale Industries

The different types of registered working small-scale units in the district as on 31 March 1989 are detailed below :

(1) Edible Oil.—There were 32 units engaged in the extraction of edible oil in the district. These units employed 226 workers and produced edible oil worth Rs 155.65 lakhs during 1988-89.

(2) Ice Factories.—In 1988-89, there were 30 ice factories in the district. These employed 147

persons and produced ice worth Rs 45.55 lakhs during the year.

(3) Spices.—There are only 8 registered units engaged in the production of spices in the district. These are engaged with the grinding of whole spices such as pepper, coriander seeds, red chillies, mango powder, turmeric, etc. and market them after packing in small packets. During 1988-89, these produced goods worth Rs 8.25 lakhs and gave employment to 31 persons.

(4) Soft Drinks.—In 1988-89, there was only one unit engaged in the production of soft drinks. It employed 6 persons and bottled soft drinks worth Rs 13 lakhs.

(5) Biscuits.—In 1988-89, there were only 7 units engaged in the production of biscuits in the district which marketed their product in the whole of the Punjab State. Their major product is glucose biscuits, while other kinds of biscuits are also produced. These units employed 27 persons and produced biscuits worth Rs 60.40 lakhs during 1988-89.

(6) Wooden Furniture and other Wooden Products.—There were 335 units engaged in the manufacture of various kinds of wooden furniture such as wooden *pawas*, wooden crates, etc. in the district. During the year 1988-89, these units manufactured furniture worth Rs 182.90 lakhs and provided employment to 930 persons.

(7) Tractor Parts.—In 1988-89, there were 35 units engaged in the manufacture of tractor trollies and wheat threshers in the district. These produced goods worth Rs 188.97 lakhs and gave employment to 128 persons during the same year.

(8) Diesel Engine Parts.—In 1988-89, there were only 3 units engaged in the manufacture of diesel engine parts in the district. During the same year, these units employed 16 persons and produced diesel engine parts worth Rs 9.70 lakhs.

(9) Desert Coolers/Room Coolers.—In 1988-89, there were 27 units engaged in the manufacture of desert coolers/room coolers in the district. These

units produced goods worth Rs 76.20 lakhs and employed 107 persons.

(10) Transformers and Electric Motors.—In 1988-89, there were 13 units engaged in the manufacture of transformers and electric motors in the district. These units produced goods worth Rs 114.50 lakhs and gave employment to 41 persons.

(11) Enamelled Wire.—In 1988-89, there was only 1 unit engaged in the manufacture of enamelled wire in the district. It produced enamelled wire worth Rs 94.70 lakhs and employed 9 persons during the same year.

(12) Ceiling Fans, Bulbs and Electrical Household Applicances.—39 Units were engaged in the manufacture of ceiling fans and electric bulbs, etc. in the district during 1988-89. These units employed 213 persons and produced goods worth Rs 57.45 lakhs.

(13) Railway Components.—In 1988-89, there were only 2 units engaged in the manufacture of railway components and produced goods like railway trains, fitting, rail pad, cotter pin, steel ball, etc. They produced goods worth Rs 490 lakhs and employed 20 persons during the year.

(14) Fuel Pumps/Gear Boxes.—In 1988-89, there were 2 units engaged in the manufacture of fuel pumps/ gear boxes in the district which employed 10 persons and produced goods worth Rs 3.70 lakhs.

(15) Paper Bags.—Only 4 units were engaged in the manufacture of paper bags in the district. The main raw material required for this industry is coloured paper. These units produced goods worth Rs 7.10 lakhs and employed 13 persons during the year 1988-89.

(16) Straw Board.—In 1988-89, there was only 1 unit engaged in the manufacture of card board. This unit produced card board worth Rs 6.65 lakhs and gave employment to 10 persons during the same year.

(17) Die Block Printing.—There was only one unit engaged in the manufacture of die blocks during 1988-89. The die blocks are used for the printing of *namdas chaddars, khes,* etc. It produced blocks

worth Rs 1.10 lakh and employed only 2 persons during 1988-89.

(18) Leather Goods.—Shoe making is an important industry of the district. During 1988-89, there were 265 units engaged in the manufacture of shoes. These units mainly manufacture *juties, chappals, gurgabies,* travelling goods, purses etc. The raw material required for this industry is calf leather, *dhori, chrome,* etc. During 1988-89, these units produced goods worth Rs 48.65 lakhs and gave employment to 506 persons.

(19) Tyre Retreading.—In 1988-89, there were 13 units engaged in the tyre retreading work. These units gave employment to 71 persons and did business worth Rs 68.00 lakhs during the same year.

(20) PVC Footwear.—There were 3 units engaged in the manufacture of PVC footwear like *hawai chappals* and plastic shoes. During 1988-89, these units produced goods worth Rs 6.10 lakhs and gave employment to 64 persons.

(21) Compound Rubber.—There were 2 units engaged in the manufacture of compound rubber. The items manufactured by these units include rubber sheets which are used for tyre retreading and as sole for shoes. These units employed 19 persons and produced compound rubber worth Rs 43 lakhs during 1988-89.

(22) Washing Soap and Cleaning Powder.—In 1988-89, there were 75 and 3 units engaged in the manufacture of washing soap and cleaning powder respectively, in the district. These units are mostly located in urban/suburban areas of the district. For running these industries, not much machinery is required. Only *bhatties, karahas,* tanks, moulds and patterns are required. These units also produce pure *(nirol)* variety of soap in which no tallo and sodium silicate is used. During 1988-89, these industries produced goods worth Rs 337.05 and Rs 5.05 lakhs and gave employment to 314 and 9 persons, respectively.

(23) Ink and Sodium Silicate.—Sodium silicate is one of the items of raw materials for manufacture of soap. The machinery required for the manufacture of sodium silicate consists of tanks, furnaces, boilers and other miscellaneous equipments. The main items

of raw materials required for manufacture of sodium silicate are soda ash, silicate sand, besides other chemicals and coal. In 1988-89, there were 3 units engaged in making sodium silicate and provided employment to 5 persons and produced good worth Rs 31.25 lakhs.

(24) Cement Jalies and R.C.C. Pillars.—In 1988-89, there were 21 units engaged in the manufacture of cement *jalies*. Cement *jalies* are fixed in the buildings for ventilation purposes. The main raw material required for this industry is cement, sand and wire. These units produced cement *jalies*, etc. worth Rs 331.0 lakhs and provided employment to 854 workers.

(25) C.I. Casting.—During 1988-89, there were 22 units engaged in C.I. casting in the district. The main products of this industry are C.I. pipes, main hole-covers, moulded pots for different machines, etc. During 1988-89, these units produced goods worth Rs 166.40 lakhs and gave employment to 96 persons.

(26) Ammonia Roll.—There was only one unit engaged in the production of Ammonia Roll in the district. It provided employment to 3 persons and produced Ammonia Roll worth Rs 8.18 lakhs during 1988-89.

(27) Steel Almirah and Furniture and Allied Products.—In 1988-89, there were 117 units engaged in the manufacture of steel almirah, trunks, *petties*, baskets, etc. The main material required in this industry is iron sheets of different gauges, iron rivets, welding machines, etc. During 1988-89, these units produced goods worth Rs 184.49 lakhs and gave employment to 397 persons.

(28) Sanitary Fittings.—There was only one unit engaged in the production of sanitary cans and fittings in the district. It produced goods worth Rs 45.15 lakh and gave employment to 6 persons during 1988-89.

(29) Agricultural Implements.—In 1988-89, there were 441 units engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements and machines in the district. These units are mainly located at Mansa, Budhlada, Sardulgarh, Rampura Phul and Goniana. The improved agricultural implements manufactured by these units included tractor trollies, camel carts, disc-harrows, etc. Besides other traditional implements are also manufactured by these units. In 1988-89, these units produced goods worth Rs 519.09 lakhs and gave employment to 1,250 persons.

(30) Bread.—In 1988-89, there were 19 bread manufacturing units in the district. These units gave employment to 88 persons and produced goods worth Rs 27.65 lakhs during the year.

(31) Rice Shellers.—In 1988-89, there were 45 rice shellers in the district. These employed 699 persons and produced rice worth Rs 3320.33 lakhs during the year.

(32) Ice Cream.—In 1988-89, there were 6 units engaged in the production of ice cream in the district. These units employed 27 persons and produced ice cream worth Rs 15.20 lakhs during the year.

(33) Ready-made garments.—In 1988-89, there were 35 units engaged in the manfacture of various types of ready-made garments in the district. These units employed 96 persons and produced ready-made garments worth Rs 15.85 lakhs during the year.

(34) Candle Manufacturing.—In 1988-89, there were 12 units engaged in the manufacture of candles in the district. These units gave employment to 39 persons and produced goods worth Rs 50.05 lakhs during the same year.

(35) Medicines.—In 1988-89, there were 4 units engaged in the manufacture of medical syrup in the district. It employed 157 persons and produced goods worth Rs 181.30 lakhs during the same year.

(36) Brick-kilns.—In 1988-89, there were 24 units engaged in the manufacture of bricks and tiles in the district. It employed 657 persons and produced goods worth Rs 224.40 lakhs during the same year.

(37) Lime Manufacturing.—In 1988-89, there were 14 units engaged in the manufacture of lime in the district. It employed 76 persons and produced goods worth Rs 35.97 lakhs during the same year.

(38) S.W. Pipes.—There were 3 units engaged

in the manufacture of S.W. pipes in the district during 1988-89. It gave employment to 56 persons and produced goods worth Rs 50.15 lakhs during the same year.

(39) M.S. Wire.—In 1988-89, there were 3 units engaged in the making of M.S. wire in the district. These units gave employment to 14 persons and produced goods worth Rs 49.30 lakhs during the same year.

(40) Aluminium Utensils.—There were 5 units engaged in making aluminium utensils in the district during the year 1988-89. It gave employment to 22 persons and produced goods worth Rs 56.35 lakhs during the same year.

(41) Mating Wire and Electrods.—In 1988-89, there were only 2 units in the district. These units gave employment to 21 persons and produced goods worth Rs 112.90 lakhs during the same year.

(42) Lift Pump and Voltage Stablizers.—In 1988-89, there were 4 units engaged in the manufacture of these items in the district. These units gave employment to 32 persons and produced goods worth Rs 37.90 lakhs during the same year.

(43) Motor and Auto Rickshaw Parts.—In 1988-89, there were 7 units engaged in the manufacture of motor and auto rickshaw parts in the district. These units employed 33 persons and produced goods worth Rs 66.35 lakhs during the same year.

(44) Rubber Conveyer Belt, Rubber Feeders and Nipples.—In 1988-89, there were 4 units engaged in the manufacture of rubber conveyer belt and rubber feeder and nipples in the district. It employed 24 persons and produced goods worth Rs 26.30 lakhs during the same year.

(45) Polythene Bags.—In 1988-89, there were 7 units engaged in the manufacture of polythene bags in the district. These gave employment to 30 persons and produced goods worth Rs 18.80 lakhs during the same year.

(46) P.V.C. Pipe.—There were 3 units engaged in making P.V.C. pipes in the district during the year 1988-89. These units gave employment to 70 persons and produced goods worth Rs 3.40 lakhs during the same year.

(47) Special and Alloy Steel Casting.—In 1988-89, there was only one unit of special and alloy steel casting in the district. It employed 59 persons and produced goods worth Rs 93.15 lakhs during the same year.

(48) Nuts and Bolts.—In 1988-89, there were only 2 units engaged in the manufacture of nuts and bolts in the district. It gave employment to 10 persons and produced goods worth Rs 28.45 lakhs during the same year.

(49) Ginning Parts.—In 1988-89, there were 7 units engaged in the manufacture of parts of ginning machines in the district. It gave employment to 57 persons and produced goods worth Rs 143.50 lakhs during the same year.

(iii) Cottage and Village Industries

To ameliorate the lot of weaker section of the rural society, the Government is taking deep interest in setting up village and cottage industries. These industries serve dual purpose of providing employment in the rural areas and bettering the economic lot of the inhabitants of the villages. The government is laying much stress in the growth and development of cottage and village industries, particularly handloom weaving, leather and handicrafts in various parts of the State. Those industries which are carried on in the homes of the artisans assisted by the members of their families are called cottage industries. In the following pages are described the important cottage and village industries of Bathinda District :-

(1) Fibre Industry.—In 1988-89, there were 219 units functioning in the district which produced cloth worth Rs 20.50 lakhs and gave employment to 499 persons. The main products of these units are *khadar, khesies,* etc.

(2) Leather.—In 1988-89, there were 889 units engaged in the leather industry. These units provided employment to 1,154 persons and produced goods worth Rs 120.64 lakhs. These units are engaged in leather tanning and manufacture of superior leather goods.

(3) Gur and Khandsari.—In 1988-89, there was only one unit engaged in *gur* and *khandsari* industry which produced *gur* and *khandsari* worth Rs 0.55 lakhs and provided employment to 4 persons.

(4) Bamboo and Cane.—About 137 units were engaged in the bamboo and cane industry in the district during the year 1988-89 which provided employment to 247 persons and produced goods worth Rs 21.10 lakhs during the same year.

(5) Pottery.—In 1988-89, 67 units were engaged in this industry which provided employment to 203 persons. These units produced pottery worth Rs 23.89 lakhs during the same year.

(6) Soap Industry.—In 1988-89, 5 units were engaged in the manufacture of washing soap. These units provided employment to 22 persons and sold their finished product worth Rs. 22.66 lakhs.

(7) Lime.—In 1988-89, 19 units were engaged in the production of lime and gave employment to 65 persons. These units sold lime worth Rs 5.40 lakhs during the same year.

(8) Processing of Cereals and Pulses Industries.—There were 73 units engaged in processing cereals and pulses in the district which provided employment to 144 persons. These units processed goods worth Rs 30.97 lakhs during the year 1988-89.

(9) Village Oil Industry.—In 1988-89, 6 units were engaged in this industry which provided employment to 6 persons. These units produced goods worth Rs 11.84 lakhs during the same year.

(10) Cottage Match Industries.—In 1988-89, 2 units were engaged in match box industry which provided employment to 26 persons. These units produced goods worth Rs 2 lakhs during the same year.

(iv) Jail Industries

A few industries, viz. carpentary, textiles, tent making, soap making, etc. are being run in the Central Jail, Bathinda to enable the prisoners to learn different trades. The training provided to prisoners in these trades also proves useful after their release from the jail. The prisoners also get some remuneration for their work done in these different trades. This remuneration is given in the form of coupons, termed as jail currency. While in jail, the prisoners can provide meagre financial help to their dependents or the frugal and hardworking prisoners can encash

these at the time of their release.

The average number of prisoners employed in the jail industries, total production and gross profit during 1977 to 1989 are given below :-

Year	Daily average of prisoners working in the factory	Production (Rs)	Gross profit (Rs)
1977	96.45	2,49,368	22,699
1978	102.36	1,77,729	16,156
1979	191.82	3,26,307	35,118
1980	169.98	4,60,863	41,893
1981	202.00	3,90,316	35,483
1982	345.19	8,17,939	81,794
1983	197.45	6,10,007	61,000
1984	185.51	6,97,438	69,743
1985	223.43	12,38,990	1,23,899
1986	217.46	11,71,430	1,17,143
1987	183.90	8,64,073	86,407
1988	188.48	5,98,281	59,828
1989	154.63	7,35,193	73,519

(Source : Superintendent, Central Jail, Bathinda)

(h) Role of Industrial Co-operatives

Industrial co-operatives play an important role in the development of cottage and village industries. Their main aim is to give employment to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of which industrial societies are organised. These societies are the only source for the poor artisans through which they avail of the facilities, such as financial assistance, supply of raw material, technical guidance and marketing. The organisation of industrial co-operative societies has changed the economic condition of the artisans and has thus enlightened them.

The most encouraging feature of this movement is that the State Government in 1982 established the Mansa Co-operative Spinning Mill at Mansa which came into production in 1984. It produced yarn worth Rs 7.95 crores during 1988-89. The total capital employed by the unit amounted to Rs 868.15 lakhs. It gave employment to 14,178 persons during the same year.

The following table shows the number and membership of the industrial co-operative societies alongwith value of goods produced in the district, as on 30 June 1989 :

Name of Industry	No. of Industrial Co-operative Societies	Membership	Value of goods produced (Rs in lakhs)
Spinning Mill	2	1,939	—
Weaver Societies	29	350	1.35
Small-Scale Industries	116	1,490	28.42
Handicrafts	10	141	—
Khadi and Village Industries	136	1,911	8.18

(*Source* : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

The industrial co-operatives in the State were under the Co-operative Department up to April 1963, when the industrial co-operative wing was transferred to the Industries Department. In June 1974, these were again put under the control of the Co-operative Department. The Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda is holding the charge of the industrial co-operative societies in the Bathinda District. He is assisted by two Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies one each at Bathinda and Mansa.

The amount of loans and subsidies given by the Government to the industrial co-operative societies in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given in the following table :--

Progress made by the Industrial Co-operative in the Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89

(Rs in lakhs)

Year	No. of all kinds of Industrial Co-operative Societies			Membership		Share Capital (Rs)			Working Capital (Rs)		Value of goods produced			Value of goods Sold		
	Total	Under Winding up orders	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill	Spinning Mill	Indl. Societies	Spinning Mill
1977-78	265	87	-	13,513	—	15.70	—	15.70	—	32.18	—	25.10	—	—	24.95	—
1978-79	265	87	-	3,529	—	21.53	—	21.53	—	32.56	—	30.00	—	—	30.69	—
1979-80	274	97	1	3,629	450	17.53	70	17.53	70.16	37.77	69.95	14.11	—	—	14.11	—
1980-81	280	102	1	7,737	889	18.63	125	18.63	125.76	42.25	129.28	20.21	—	—	21.75	—
1981-82	291	103	1	3,892	1,062	21.25	231	21.25	231.69	37.99	239.34	27.57	—	—	21.66	—
1982-83	311	112	1	4,132	1,331	24.72	338	24.72	338.17	53.76	353.64	29.93	—	—	40.89	—
1983-84	328	121	1	4,319	1,663	29.70	461	29.70	461.40	73.08	874.84	32.67	—	—	43.42	—
1984-85	356	121	1	4,666	1,939	34.46	461	34.46	461.93	81.23	1,221.48	—	—	—	—	—
1985-86	366	120	1	4,772	1,939	38.00	497	38.00	497.31	82.40	1,221.48	40.96	269.00	39.72	244.00	
1986-87	385	118	2	5,081	3,414	39.86	536	39.86	536.59	85.18	1,306.94	42.36	385.00	41.18	335.00	
1987-88	418	121	2	5,452	3,452	42.90	569	42.90	569.96	96.37	1,438.12	52.08	928.54	47.68	865.97	
1988-89	432	122	2	5,452	3,452	46.40	512	46.40	512.54	111.32	1,513.34	56.27	794.71	54.18	805.22	

(*Source* : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

(i) Labour and Employers Organizations

The district of Bathinda formed part of former princely States of Patiala, Nabha, Jind and Farikdkot. The exploitation of the worker had become an accepted norm in the society and anyone talking of reform of wages or working conditions for the workers was viewed with suspicion. This exploitation was rather more in this area being ruled by the princely rulers. In the course of time, exploitation of workers led to dissatisfaction which occassionally found expression in strikes. On the whole, the life of workers in this area was worse than that of their counterparts in the former British territory.

However, with the achievement of independence, the workers became more enlightened and they have formed their own unions for the redressal of their grievances. The following is the list of registered trade unions of workers employed in different industries in the district :-

Sr. No.	Name of Trade Union	Year/Date of registeration
1	Bathinda Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	20 November 1971
2	Milk Plant Employees' Union, Bathinda	10 May 1973
3	Imarti Labour Union, Bathinda	27 January 1975
4	National Fertilizer Employees' Union, Bathinda	31 May 1977
5	Garhwal Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	1978
6	National Fertilizer Official Association, Bathinda	19 January 1979
7	Class IV Employees' Union, Bathinda	25 May 1979
8	Thermal Work-charged Staff Union, Bathinda	19 September 1979
9	Shri Bhagwati Oil Mill Mazdoor [illegible] Bhucho Mandi	15 October 1979
10	[illegible] Labour Union, Bathinda	1980

Sr. No.	Name of Trade Union	Year/Date of registeration
11	Sooti Mill Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	26 September 1980
12	Cotton Factory Mazdoor Union, Mansa	19 July 1982
13	Lal Jhanda N.F.L. Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	25 July 1984
14	Punjab Ceramic Worker's Union, Bathinda	1985
15	Moonak Chemical Employee's Union, Bathinda	26 July 1985
16	Employees' Union Jindal and Company, Bathinda	26 December 1985
17	Punjab Spinning Karmchari Dal Head Office, Bathinda	8 August 1986
18	Punjab Ceramic Karmachari Dal, Head Office, Bathinda	6 September 1986
19	Rubicon Steel Workers' Union, Bhucho Kalan	29 December 1986
20	Chemical and Oil Karamchari Sangh, Bathinda	7 July 1987
21	Stelco Worker's Union, Rampura Phul	21 April 1988
22	Ginning Factories Worker's Union, Rampura Phul	9 May 1988
23	Multi Melt Steel Worker's Union, Rampura Phul	10 June 1988

(*Source* : Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(j) Welfare of Industrial Labour

Welfare of industrial labour is mainly of two types, viz. voluntary and statutory. In the statutory

type fall those concessions which are to be provided under the law. In the voluntary type fall those concessions which are provided by the management of the industrial units on humanitarian grounds.

The general economic condition of industrial workers in the district is not below the standard of their counterparts in other districts and there is hardly any variance in wage level of different categories of workmen in the district. There is one Labour Welfare Centre functioning in the district at Bathinda. It imparts training to the female dependents of employees and workmen of shop and commercial establishments and factories in cutting, tailoring, knitting and embroidery, etc. Labour Officers under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948 have been appointed by Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. and National Fertilizer Ltd. These units have also constructed housing colonies for providing accommodation to the workers.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

(A) Banking and Finance

(a) History of Indigenous Banking

Till 1763, when the Phulkian States were formed, the history of indigenous banking of the area falling under the present Bathinda District was not much different from the rest of the parts of the State. During the period 1763--1948 (PEPSU was formed in 1948) like in other parts of the Phulkian States, this area had its traditional indigenous bankers in towns and money-lenders in villages. The former received deposits, dealt in *hundis* and financed trade and industry, advanced loans after carefully ascertaining the purpose for which these were required. The money-lenders in the villages on the other hand mainly financed for consumption purposes. The village money-lenders, namely, *Sahukars, sharafs* and banians constituted the main bulk of the indigenous bankers for a long time. The wealthy agriculturists also played an important role in the rural economy and like other money-lenders were engaged in providing agriculture finance. The rate of interest charged by these money-lenders differed from place to place. Sometimes, they lent money against pledge of gold or silver ornaments, land and standing crops in the fields. The crops in the fields were usually purchased by the money-lender himself during the harvest time at nominal rate and the price was adjusted against the loan including the interest. Loans were advanced clandestinely and dubious ways of collection of arrears were adopted by the money-lenders.

(b) General Credit Facilities

(i) Indebtedness, Rural and Urban

Indebtedness is the state or incidence of being in debt. Rural and urban areas are different in many ways and are different in respect of indebtedness as well. Because of the difference in the structure of urban and rural societies, borrowing in the two areas are also resorted to for different reasons and

even the behaviour of borrowers differs a lot in rural and urban areas.

Rural indebtedness is the incidence of borrowing money by the people in rural areas from various sources. Different amounts of money are borrowed by the people generally for effecting improvement and development of agriculture, for the purchase of agricultural implements or the replacement of old implements, and for purchasing fertilizers and better seeds. It is, however, found that the small farmers do not utilize fully the borrowed money for the purpose for which they have borrowed it; the money is used for unproductive purposes such as observance of orthodox customs, expenditure on weddings, social and religious festivals, etc. For obvious reasons, recovery of loans in rural areas is not of very high order.

Urban indebtedness refers to the incidence of borrowing of different amounts, generally higher than those by ruralities, by industrialists, and members of the business coummunity from commercial banks and other government, semi-government and private financial institutions. Such loans are seldom used for the purposes for which these had been borrowed. Because of the proper application of borrowings in urban areas, the rate of return from the loans is optimum and recovery from loans advanced is generally satisfactory.

Rate of Interest.—The rate of interest charged in the district varies from place to place, from one lending agency to another and is related to the purpose for which the amount has been borrowed. It also varies with respect to surety or security offered.

The commercial banks in the district charge rate of interest fixed by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time. Their rates differ according to the amount advanced and for the purpose it is lent. The co-operative societies advance loans at the rate of 11½ per cent interest upto Rs 5,000 and 12½ per cent above Rs 5,000 and 14½ and 15½ per cent interest, respectively is charged from the defaulters.

The indigenous money-lenders charge maximum rate of interest, i.e. around 24 per cent. The unregistered

money-lenders advance loans at a still higher rate of interest. Sometimes, in rural areas, the interest is calculated in kind when the loan is advanced in kind. This practice is, however, gradually disappearing because of the coming up of the institutions which extend liberal financial assistance in the rural areas.

Since people have become literate and there are adequate banking facilities available to meet their requirements, the system of usury has become outdated. However, in the remote areas where people are still backward, the money-lenders take advantage of their ignorance and helplessness and charge higher rate of interest.

(ii) Role of Private Money lenders and Financers

Money-lenders.—From time immemorial, the sahukar or banian (rural money-lender) has controlled the village economy and the poor peasantry has been at his mercy for all their social and economic needs. In recent years, there has been a considerable growth in the number of co-operative credit societies and banks. But the influence of private money-lenders charge the high rate of interest than other agencies but, still they are popular as they are easily approachable and the borrowers have not to undergo a long procedure or red-tapism. Besides, they sometimes advance loans without any landed security and so the borrowers have no fear of attachment of property.

The co-operative credit societies meet the requirement of only short-term credit. But for the permanent improvement in land and for introduction of modern technology, long-term heavy investment is required. Besides, the long-term finance are provided by the Land Mortgage Banks and the commercial banks have also started evincing keen interest in farm financing. A number of schemes have been launched by various commercial banks to encourage the introduction of modern technology in agriculture.

The private money-lenders and financers still supply a sizeable portion of rural credit. Their notoriety is not very different from that of their counterparts elsewhere, but now they operate under severe restrictions imposed by the Punjab Registration of Money-Lenders

Act, 1938. Under the Act, the money-lender is required to register himself and obtain a licence for carrying on business. He is also required to maintain regular account books.

It is very difficult to give any reliable statistics of the number and volume of business of the money-lenders. There are many private money-lenders who carry on business without a licence. The number of registered money-lenders in the district, as on 31 March 1989 was 186.

(iii) Government and Semi-Government Credit Agencies

To save the loanee from the clutches of the traditional money-lender, a large number of government and semi-government agencies have been established to provide finance in rural as well as in urban areas on fair terms and reasonable rate of interest. These agencies include the Punjab Financial Corporation, Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Co-operative Banks and Co-operative Societies.

The Punjab Financial Corporation was established in 1953 under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951 with the object of providing medium and long-term loans to the industrial concerns located in the State of Punjab. It was reconstituted under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, on 1 April 1967. The Corporation provides loans to the medium and small-scale industries, nursing homes/small hospitals, weigh bridges, hotels and transport establishments in the district. Loans are provided by the Corporation for setting up new industrial projects as also for the expansion, diversification, renovation and modernisation of existing projects. Its upper limit of providing finances/loans to a public/private limited company or a co-operative society is Rs 60 lakhs, whereas it is Rs 30 lakhs in other cases. For loans to household industries, artisans, village and cottage industries, the upper limit is Rs 50,000 and the lower limit is Rs 2,000. For loans to physically handicapped entrepreneurs, the upper limit is Rs 2 lakhs and the lower limit is Rs 2,000. In addition, special capital upto Rs 4 lakhs at service charge of 1 per cent only is provided to technical entrepreneurs to meet the gap in their resources as compared to the minimum promoters contribution. The Corporation also sponsors many promotional

activities like entrepreneurship development programme, market studies/surveys, etc. The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation, Ltd, in joint participation with Punjab Financial Corporation can extend a further loan of Rs 90 lakhs, besides equity participation. For loans above Rs 150 lakhs, joint financing in participation with PSIDC and the commercial banks, can also be undertaken. The rate of interest charged by the Corporation depends upon the various categories of borrowers. It varies from 9.25 per cent to 11.5 per cent per annum. The categories to whom loan is granted on concessional rate of interest include artisans, village and cottage industries, household industries, physically handicapped persons, ex-servicemen, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes entrepreneures, unemployed persons, etc. in industrially backward districts. Further, loans at concessional rate of interest are also provided for modernisation and rehabilitation of sick units. Loan is advanced against registered mortgage of fixed assets of the industrial concerns, on personal guarantee of the partner's etc. It is repayable in 7 to 10 years. But its repayment period may be extended to 12 years in the case of units located in the industrially backward areas.

The Punjab and Village Industries Board established under the Punjab Khadi and Village Industries Act, 1955 is actively engaged in the economic uplift of the rural masses of the Punjab State, particularly the village industries artisans belonging to Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes, weaker sections of the society and yellow card holders, through the programme and scheme of Khadi and Village Industries Commission. It provides financial assistance to the village industries artisans, entrepreneurs, co-operatives and registered institutions for the development and promotion of village industries (including *khadi*, that are currently on the schedule of the village industries approved by Government of India. Loan is granted upto Rs 10,000 to the beneficiary on furnishing the surety bond of a person possessing moveabe property, free from encumbrance worth twice or more of the amount involved. Loan exceeding Rs 10,000 is granted to the loanee on furnishing the security of loan by way of executing mortgage without possession, of the immovable property worth

one and half time or more of the amount involved. The tenure of loan for *kachcha* structure and implements, etc. is five years and for building and machinery is ten years. The loan granted for five years is repayable in 3-4 annual instalments with interest. The first instalment falls due at the end of 2/3 years. Loan granted for 10 years is recoverable in 9 annual instalments. The instalment falls due at the end of 2 years. The rate of interest is charged only 4 per cent per annum simple on all types of loans.

(iv) Joint Stock Banks

There are 16 commercial banks operating in the district apart from Central Cooperative Bank and Primary Cooperative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd. Banking facilities are available in all the towns and major villages of the district. These banks open their branches at places where there is a good scope of business.

State Bank of Patiala is the lead bank for Bathinda District. Besides, the following commercial banks are also functioning in the district:--

1 State Bank of India
2 Punjab National Bank
3 Union Bank of India
4 Central Bank of India
5 Indian Overseas Bank
6 Punjab and Sind Bank
7 New Bank of Inida
8 Corporation Bank
9 United Commercial Bank
10 Bank of India
11 Oriental Bank of Commerce
12 Bank of Baroda
13 State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur
14 Hindustan Commercial Bank
15 Dena Bank
16 Canara Bank

The number of banking offices at various places in the district, as on 31 March 1989, is given in Appendix I on pages 209–214 at the end of this chapter.

The total deposits and banking credit in the district, as on 31 March 1989, amounted to Rs 29,262 lakhs and Rs 18,589 lakhs, respectively and credit deposit ratio was 64 per cent.

(v) Post Office Savings Bank Account

The Post Office Savings Bank Account Scheme was started in India on 1 April 1982. Earlier, it was known as Government Savings Bank whose foundation was laid in 1833 when the first such bank was started at Calcutta in 1833.

Post Offices are the most important outlets for the savings of the people, specially in the rural areas. The number of account holders in post office saving banks is increasing steadily from year to year.

As many as 4,356 new Savings Bank accounts were opened with the post offices in the Bathinda District during 1985-86 to 1988-89. The deposits in all the accounts in the district, during this period amounted to Rs 2,25,10,728, and the total accounts as on 31 March 1989, were 17,695.

(vi) Co-operative Movement

For a considerably long period, the usual sources of short-term finance of the farmers were the money-lenders who charged exorbitant rates of interest and resorted to many malpractices to cheat ignorant and illiterate cultivators. In this background, the co-operative movement was launched in the country for imparting credit facilities to the farmers.

The co-operative movement in India was introduced as a sequel to rural indebtedness and the first legislation was the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904 which enabled the organization of credit co-operatives. The co-operative credit society represented an organizaion with a very selective membership advancing nominal amounts as loans to meet a limited number of contigencies, seldom related to production and with negligible local participation in its resources. The objective of the co-operative movement during the period was not to replace the money-lender as to curb his acquisitive propensities but to introduce wholesome practices in

the dealing of the private money-lending agencies.

After the Independence, when Bathinda District became a part of the PEPSU, the co-operative movement made a considerable progress. In 1956, with the merger of PEPSU with the Punjab, the area of present Bathinda District also became part of the Punjab, and the co-operative movement made further progress under the Five-Year Plans. As on 30 June 1989, there were 1,805 co-operative societies in the district, out of which 376 were co-operative credit societies. In addition, the Central Co-operative Bank functions at Bathinda with 47 branches at different places in the district.

Co-operative Credit Societies.—The Co-operative Credit Society (Bank) can be started with ten or more persons normally belonging to a village. The value of share is generally nominal to enable even a farmer of meagre resources to become a member of the society. Each of the member is fully and equally (according to share) responsible for the loss of the society in the event of its failure. During 1988-89, there were 376 co-operative credit societies (297 agricultural and 79 non-agricultural) in the district. The primary object of the agricultural credit societies is to assist the farmers to increase agricultural production and to play a major role in the development of rural economy by providing adequate facilities for short-term credit for fertilizers improved seeds, better implements and for extension of advanced agricultural techniques.

The non-agricultural co-operative credit societies comprise employees' credit societies, craftsmen co-operative credit societies and others catering to the credit requirements of non-cultivating section in rural and urban areas.

The details pertaining to membership and working of the agricultural and non-agricultural co-operative credit societies functioning in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, are given in Appendices II and III at pages 215 and 216.

(c) Insurance and Small Savings

Insurance.—Private insurance companies concerned

life risk besides marine, fire, motor accidents and miscellaneous risks upto 1956 when Life Insurance Corporation was established in public sector. With the nationalisation of life insurance business in 1956, Life Insurance Corporation of India has become the foremost and the largest single agency doing life insurance business in India. Prior to 1956, only the Agents and Inspectors of various insurance companies procured business for their respective insurance companies. Upto 1 April 1959, when a branch of the Life Insurance Corporation of India was opened at Bathinda, the insurance business was carried on by the Inspectors and Agents of the Corporation. To provide better service to the policy holders in the district, the Life Insurance Corporation opened its second branch at Mansa in October 1982. On 31 March 1989, these branches had 6 Class I Officers, 16 Class II Development Officers, 30 Class III and 6 Class IV employees. Besides, 281 Agents were also functioning in the district.

The Life Insurance Corporation of India advances loans to the policy holders, government and semi-government institutions, agencies for different purposes.

These branches now settle claims and payment of loans as it used to be at the office of the Divisional Manager, Chandigarh earlier. The claims are paid by means of post-dated cheque one month prior to the date of maturity of the policy.

The following statement shows the performance of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:—

Year	Number of policies	Sum assured (Rs)
1977-78	1,590	2,32,00,000
1978-79	1,669	2,64,00,000
1979-80	2,394	4,32,00,000
1980-81	2,082	4,37,00,000
1981-82	2,083	4,85,00,000
1982-83	2,231	5,20,00,000

Year	Number of policies	Sum assured (Rs)
1983-84	1,958	4,34,00,000
1984-85	1,705	4,05,00,000
1985-86	2,111	6,30,00,000
1986-87	3,001	10,26,00,000
1987-88	3,672	16,24,00,000
1988-89	4,895	23,28,00,000

(Source: Manager (Planning), Life Insurance Corporation of India, Northern Zone Divisional Office, Chandigarh)

Before the nationalization of general insurance companies on 1 January 1973, a number of private companies were engaged in the work of general insurance. Besides, the Life Insurance Corporation of India had also started the general insurance business with effect from 1 January 1964. On 1 January 1973, general insurance companies were also nationalised and an apex body known as the General Insurance Corporation came into existence. Under the General Insurance Corporation, 4 general insurance companies, viz. the Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Ltd., the New India Assurance Company Ltd., the National Insurance Company Ltd. and the United India Fire and General Insurance Company Ltd., are working.

All types of general insurance policies are issued for only one year and are renewable every year. The risks covered under the general insurance are broadly of three types, viz. fire, marine (transportation of goods) and miscellaneous insurance. Under the miscellaneous insurance, there are about 20 to 25 types of insurance including motor and all other types of insurance like fidelity guarantee, aviation insurance, burglary, personal accidents, etc. Besides the above, cattle insurance has also been introduced from the year 1974.

Small Savings.—Small Savings Scheme is a centrally-sponsored scheme and is controlled by the Ministry

of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), Government of India. The National Savings Commissioner, Government of India, with his headquarters at Nagpur heads the National Savings Organization and looks after the small savings work in the country. Under his direct control, there are Regional Directors, National Savings, posted in different States. The Regional Director, National Savings, Punjab is posted at Chandigarh. He has under him five Deputy Regional Directors, National Savings, at Patiala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar and Chandigarh. In each district, there is a District Savings Officer. In some of the important districts, viz. Amritsar, Jalandhar and Ludhiana, however, there are two District Savings Officers. All these officers are under the direct control of the National Savings Commissioner. In the Bathinda District, there is one District Savings Officer at Bathinda.

The Directorates of Small Savings have been set up in the States to ensure better co-ordination between the Central Organization and the State Governments. The Director, Small Savings, Punjab, Chandigarh, is the head of the State Government's Small Savings Department. At the district level, the District Savings Officer is the co-ordinating agency between the Central Organization and the district authorities in the promotion and growth of the movement. The main advantage to a State under this programme is that out of the money invested by the people in small savings, two-third of it is available to the State Government as interest bearing loan from the Government of India for financing developmental activities within the State.

The number of Agents who convassed and propagated for the small savings scheme on commission basis in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989, was 318.

The gross and net investment under the small savings scheme in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, are given in the following table :-

Year	Gross Investment (Rs)	Net Investment (Rs)
1977-78	3,18,02,000	59,59,000
1978-79	2,51,57,000	31,96,000
1979-80	4,14,21,000	1,72,47,000
1980-81	5,16,16,000	2,60,56,000
1981-82	12,33,60,000	3,70,69,000
1982-83	4,62,86,000	4,88,50,000
1983-84	9,97,69,000	6,76,28,000
1984-85	11,40,69,000	3,80,11,000
1985-86	11,63,18,000	8,15,42,000
1986-87	15,91,22,000	12,00,61,000
1987-88	18,96,11,000	13,19,72,000
1988-89	25,62,10,000	17,37,76,000

(*Source:* District Savings Officer, Bathinda)

The National Savings Schemes offer certain unique facilities including nomination, immediate encashment by nominee on death of account holder: interest accrued on yearly basis for income tax purposes in the case of National Savings Certificates (VI issue) and social security certificates and no tax deduction at source. Amounts invested in these schemes are exempt from Wealth Tax upto Rs 5 lakhs for an individual; and investment made in National Savings Certificates VI and VII Issues on or after 2 April 1983 qualifies for rebate in Income Tax under Section 80-C.

National Savings Certificates.—The Government of India have released National Saving Certificates Series VI and VII. On investment under these certificates, an investor gets income tax exemption under Section 80-C of Income Tax Act, 1961. Further interest paid/ accrued is exempted from income tax upto Rs 7,000 per annum. There is no upper limit for investment in these series. These certificates are available in denomination of Rs 50, Rs 100, Rs 500, Rs 1,000, Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 in the VI series and Rs 100, Rs 500, Rs 1,000, Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 in the VII series. In the VI series, Rs 100 invested becomes Rs 190.10 after six years and in the VII series, the investor gets interest at half yearly intervals. The annual rate of interest payable on these certificates is 11 per cent.

Besides, Post Office Time Deposits and Post Office Recurring Deposit Account Schemes are also available.

Indira Vikas Patra.—Under the Scheme, certificates in denomination of Rs 250, Rs 500 and Rs 2,500 can be purchased from the post offices. The money invested in these certificates becomes double in 5 years. There is no maximum limit for their purchase and these are freely transferable by one person to another. The duplicate certificates can, however, be issued by the post office only in case of defacement or mutilation of the certificate.

(d) Currency and Coinage

The decimal system of coinage was introduced in the district on 1 April 1957 alongwith the old (British) coins. The old rupee was divided into half a rupee *(dheli* or *athani)*, one-fourth of a rupee *(pauli* or *choani)*, one-eight of a rupee *(doani)*, one sixteenth of a rupee (anna), one-thirty second of rupee *(takka)*, and one-sixty fourth (paisa) of a rupee. An *anna* was equal to 4 pice or 12 *pies*, there being 3 *pies* in a pice. Gradually, the old coins were withdrawn from the circulation.

Decimal system of currency and coinage has been adopted by almost all countries in the world. Therefore, with a view to bringing about uniformity and facilitating comparison with currencies of other countries of the world, under this decimal coinage system, coins and paper currency of different denominations are in circulation. Now a rupee consists of 100 paise, with coins in the denominations of 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 paise. Besides, coins of Re 1, Rs 2 and Rs 5 are also in vogue. Currency notes are issued in the denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500 rupees. Earlier, currency notes were also issued in the denomination of 1,000 rupees, but these have been demonetized, w.e.f. 16 January 1978. Simultaneously with other districts of the Punjab, the decimal coinage completely replaced the old coinage in the Bathinda District. In the initial stage of the introduction of the new

currency, the public in general and rural masses in particular, faced some difficulties as the old system was deep-rooted in them. In course of time, people have now fully adopted to the decimal system of coinage.

The decimal coinage system has brought about a great transformation in the whole accounting procedure. Undoubtedly, it has made the accountancy and book-keeping much easier, quicker and simpler.

(B) Trade and Commerce

Since, agriculture has been the major occupation of the people, the items of exports from the district were wheat, wheat-flour, gram, *bajra, gowara,* mustard seed *(sarson)* and cotton. Wheat, gram and cotton found a good market in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra and some traders of these states had set up their agencies in the Bathinda District to conduct purchases for them. With the opening of spinning mills at Bathinda and Mansa in district Bathinda, at Malerkotla in district Sangrur and at Abohar and Malaut in the adjoining Firozpur and Faridkot districts, some of the cotton produced in the district is being utilised within the State. The main trade markets in the district were Bathinda, Sangat, Goniana, Raman, Maur, Mansa, Budhlada, Baretta, Rampura Phul, Bhucho Mandi, etc. The principal imports of the district were salt, sugar, kerosene, motor spirits, metals, gunny bags, cotton piece goods, warm clothes, and machines. Bathinda carried on wholesale business in cloth. A district wholesale society was organised in the district in 1957. Transactions on behalf of its member societies after charging a nominal commission have been made by it in respect of seed, fertilisers, agricultural implements, insecticides and other inputs. At various intervals, Nafed used to procure potatoes at Rampura Phul Mandi through Markfed.

(a) Course of Trade

The usual course of trade for agricultural produce in the district is from the agriculturists to the consumers through the middlemen. There is no direct link between the growers and the consumers. Commission agents *(arhtias)* whole-sellers and retailers act as middlemen between the growers and the consumers.

The purchasers of the grains gather at the shop of *kachcha arhtia* and the sale of the commodities starts in open auction under the supervision of the auctioneers appointed by the market committee, through the commission agents turn by turn. Such sales are conducted daily during the hours fixed for this purpose. *Kachcha arhtias,* who sell the commodities on behalf of the producers receive commission on fixed rates permissible under the bye-laws of the market committee. The delivery of the goods is made at the shop of the *kachcha arhtia* and the purchaser himself arranges for their carriage to his premises at his own cost. The *kachcha arhtia* pays the sale price to the seller immediately after the transaction is completed.

(b) Trade Centres

(i) Regulated Markets

The Punjab Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1961, provides for the establishment of markets for agricultural produce in the State and for better regulation of its sale and purchase. The object of the regulated market is to regularise the purchase and sale of agricultural commodities with benefits to the sellers as well as to the buyers. The producers are provided with the market intelligence and storage accommodation. Market practices relating to the bidding, weighing and delivery of goods are regulated and payment of the actual value to the cultivators is assured.

Each village of the district has been attached with one market or the other and the provisions of the Act are applicable to the whole of the area where transaction, delivery and weighment are done. Each market committee has a principal market yard. In addition, there are a number of sub-market yards in towns and big villages.

There are 14 principal regulated agricultural markets in the district at Baretta, Bathinda, Bhucho, Budhlada, Goniana, Mansa, Maur, Raman, Rampura Phul, Sangat, Bhagta Bhai Ka, Bhikhi, Talwandi Sabo, and Sardulgarh. In these regulated markets, the main commodities for which transactions usually take place are wheat, *bajra,* gram, barley, maize, paddy, oil-seeds, cotton, etc.

(ii) Fairs and other Rural Marketing Centres

Fairs.—A number of religious, social, recreational and seasonal fairs and festivals are held in the district at various places. Besides normal activities at a fair, many kinds of trading activities also take place. The important fairs and festivals held in the district are mentioned in Chapter III 'People'.

Cattle Fairs.—These fairs are of great advantage to the agriculturists as they facilitate the sale and purchase of cattle. These are also a source of income to the Government by way of a fee charged on the sale/purchase of cattle. Such fairs are held at Bathinda, Rampura Phul, Mansa, Baretta, Raman, Maur, Jhunir, Bhucho, Budhlada, Bhai Rupa and Kot Fatteh. At Bathinda proper, cattle fair is held weekly but at Mansa, Maur and Rampura, cattle fair is held generally every month.

(c) Co-operation in Trade

(i) Co-operative Marketing

Keeping in view the malpractices suffered by the cultivators in the marketing of agricultural produce, the need for co-operative marketing was felt and a number of such societies were set up. At present, almost all the regulated markets and sub-market yards are served by a co-operative marketing society. The cultivators can now store their produce in the godowns of these marketing societies. Previously, they had to dispose it of immediately after harvesting. At the district level, District Co-operative Wholesale Marketing Societies have been organised for coordinating the activities of primary marketing societies. At apex level, the Punjab State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation (MARKFED) federates these institutions. The District wholesale Co-operative Marketing and Supply Society at Bathinda was registered on 15 July 1957 with membership of 30 (9 societies and 21 individuals) and share capital of members of Rs 1,500 (Rs 450 societies and Rs 1,050 individuals). During 1988-89, its membership was 7,526 with a share capital of Rs 9.06 lakhs and the functions of the District Wholesale Co-operative Marketing and Supply Society were managed by the administrator. The society opened the following co-operative marketing societies which are functioning

in the district :—

Sr. No.	Name of the Society	Date of registration
1	The Bathinda Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Bathinda	11 October 1956
2	The Goniana Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Goniana	25 November 1958
3	The Rampura Phul Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Rampura Phul	22 August 1959
4	The Sangat Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Sangat	7 May 1966
5	The Bahia Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Bhucho Mandi	25 November 1955
6	The Mansa Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Mansa	9 February 1960
7	The Sardulgarh Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Sardulgarh	5 April 1972
8	The Budhlada Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Budhlada	16 October 1960
9	The Bareta Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Baretta	9 April 1962
10	The Raman Co-operative Marketing-cum-Processing Society Ltd., Raman	31 January 1958
11	The Maur Mandi Co-operative Marketing-cum- Processing Society Ltd., Maur Mandi	24 February 1961

The present marketing system in the district is controlled by the private traders, commission agents, etc. and the role of the co-operative marketing is insignificant as it did not make much headway in marketing the produce of farmers. In recent years, co-operative marketing societies have loaned heavily on business provided by the government. The income of the co-operative marketing societies from pucca *arhtia's* business, purchase of sugar, fertilizer, seeds, insecticides, etc. has gone up.

A number of godowns have been constructed by the co-operative marketing societies mostly with the help of National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) both in rural and urban areas, where storage facilities are provided to the members. These godowns are of much use in collecting the produce of cultivators in rural areas, and arrangements are made for its transportation to the nearest marketing society. The storage charges in these godowns are quite nominal.

The work done by the co-operative marketing societies in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is shown in Appendix IV at page 217.

(ii) Co-operative Consumers' Stores.—As on 31 March 1989, there was only one co-operative consumers' store in the district, namely the Bathinda Central Co-operative Consumers' Store Ltd., Bathinda. It was registered on 8 July 1963 and it started functioning on 1 September 1963. Its aims are to ensure fair distribution of various commodities to the consumers at reasonable rates. On 31 March 1989, it was running 5 branches at different places in the district.

The membership of the store, as on 30 June 1989, was 7,407 with a paid-up share capital of Rs 4.30 lakhs (Rs 35.42 lakhs by individuals and societies and Rs 0.88 lakhs by government).

(d) State Trading

Fluctuation in the price of foodgrains necessitated the adoption of State Trading in wheat and other essential commodities. This helped to maintain price level which was fair both to the producer and the consumer. The extent of procurement basically depended on the extent of product.

The State Trading Scheme in foodgrains was introduced in the Bathinda District alongwith the rest of the State in 1958-59 to provide essential commodities to the consumers at reasonable rates. On 31 March 1989, there were 110 fair price shops functioning in urban areas and 556 in rural areas of the district. The State Trading in foodgrains was introduced in the State during 1959. The total quantity of foodgrains purchased by the Food and Supplies Department under

this scheme in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given as under :

Year	Quantity purchased (Tonnes)
1977-78	72,605
1978-79	61,469
1979-80	84,863
1980-81	67,727
1981-82	86,370
1982-83	1,07,817
1983-84	1,27,552
1984-85	1,08,660
1985-86	1,32,626
1986-87	1,03,697
1987-88	48,662
1988-89	50,885

(Source : District Food and Supplies Controller, Bathinda)

(e) Merchants and Consumers' Associations for the Dissemination of Trade News

(i) Merchants' Associations.—The following merchants associations have been formed to protect the interest of their members in the district :-

1 Wholesale Cloth Merchants' Association, Bathinda
2 Retail-sale Cloth Merchants' Association, Bathinda
3 Wholesale Karyana Merchants' Association, Bathinda
4 Retail-sale Karyana Merchants' Association, Bathinda
5 Wholesale General Merchants' Association, Bathinda
6 Retail-sale General Merchants' Association, Bathinda

7 Retail-sale Iron Merchants' Association, Bathinda

8 Retail-sale Paint Hardware Merchants' Association, Bathinda

9 Retail-sale Shoe Merchants' Association, Bathinda

10 Bathinda Swarankar Association, Bathinda

11 Automobile Spare Parts Merchants' Association, Bathinda

12 Chemist & Druggist Wholesale Merchants' Association, Bathinda

13 Halwai and Tea Stall Owners' Association, Bathinda

14 Vegetable Market Commission Agents' Association, Bathinda

15 Flour Mill Owners' Association, Bathinda

16 Kachcha Arhtia Association, Bathinda

17 N.F.L. Employees' (Primary) Consumer Society, Bathinda

18 Retail-sale Cloth Merchants' Association, Mansa

19 Retail-sale Karyana Merchants' Association, Mansa

20 Kachcha Arhtias' Association, Mansa

21 Mansa Halwai and Tea Stall Owners' Association, Mansa

22 Retail-sale Cloth Merchants' Association, Rampura Phul

23 Retail-sale Karyana Merchants' Association, Rampura Phul

24 Rampura Phul Kachcha Arhtia Association, Rampura Phul

25 Automobile and Spare Parts Merchants' Association, Rampura Phul

26 Vapar Mandal Association, Bathinda

27 Kachcha Arhtia Association, Bhucho

28 Kachcha Arhtia Association, Goniana

29 Retail-sale Karyana Merchants' Association, Goniana

(ii) Market Intelligence.—Both the buyer and the seller must be well-acquainted with the demand and supply position in order to strike a fair bargain. This will mean from the producers' side a regulated flow of supplies to the *mandis*, from the dealers' point of view adequate arrangement for handling the produce and its storage, and on the transport side availability of the right number of wagons or other means of transport at the required time.

For efficient marketing and right co-ordination of the forces of supply and demand, authentic information about the volume of marketable surplus, prices, arrivals, stocks and movements of the more important agricultural commodities is very essential. Market news about the rates of commodities are disseminated to the public through boards displaying rates outside the offices of the market committees, radio news bulletins, etc. All India Radio, Jalandhar, broadcasts a daily bulletin on rates prevailing in various markets of the State. Market news are also communicated to dealers at different places through correspondence and by telephones.

(f) Weights and Measures

The following weights and measures were in common use among the people living in the area of the present Bathinda District :--

(a) In urban areas : Maund, 20 seer, 10 seer, 5 seer, 4 seer, 1 seer, *Chhattank, tolas, mashas* and *ratis*.

(b) In rural areas :

2¼ *man (kachcha)* = 1 maund

1¼ *man (kachcha)* = 20 seer

1 *man (kachcha)* = 16 seer

1 *dhari (10 ser kachcha)* = 4 seer

1 *panjseri* (5 *ser kachcha*)= 2 seer

2½ *ser (kachcha)* = 1 seer

Till 1941, there was no uniform use of standard weights and measures. The weights and measures differed not only from state to state but also from district

to district in many respects. With the increase in the commercial and industrial activities in the country, this chaotic state created a sense of uncertainty in trade. This situation made it easy for the traders to defraud their customers. It was remedy to this evil that the Punjab Weights and Measures Act, 1941, which itself was a corrollary to the Standard of Weights and Measures Act, 1939, was passed by Government of India. Under this Act, both the systems, viz. the Indian system, i.e. *tola,* seer and maund, and avoirdupois system, i.e. ibscuts; and tons were prescribed.

The square measure was the *bighas,* equal to five-eights of an acre. The country *kos* was about one and quarter miles.

All these measures did serve some useful purpose, but the ultimate objective of introducing uniformity in the system of weights and measures was still not fulfilled. Many countries of the world had adopted the metric system of weights and measures, and therefore, for the sake of uniformity in the weights and measures used in international trade and in trade within the country, the metric system of weights and measures was introduced with effect from October 1958, in accordance with the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956, passed by the Parliament and the Punjab Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958, framed thereunder. In the case of weights, the use of old weights too was allowed for a period of two years and was discontinued from October 1960 when the use of metric weights was made compulsory. In the case of measures, a period of one year was allowed for the measures, previously in vogue and from April 1962, metric measures were made compulsory. The use of metric units also became obligatory from April 1962.

To begin with, the public in general and the rural masses in particular did experience difficulty in understanding the new system of weights and measures. To acquaint the people with the metric system of weights and measures, the Government issued pamphlets and displayed posters all over the country explaining in simple language the conversion of old measures into the metric ones. Thus, in due course of time, people got accustomed to the use of the metric system of weights and measures.

There are 3 Inspectors, Weights and Measures, assisted by 3 Manual Assistants who verify weights, scales, etc. used in the district.

(g) Storage and Warehousing

In villages, people store their produce in *bharolas* or back-rooms of the residential house, *kothas* (bins) in the open or in the bags. In markets, the *arhtias* (commission agents) and co-operative marketing societies maintain their own godowns. The mills and factories also maintain their godowns in their premises to stock the requisite raw material. The godowns maintained by private dealers and co-operative marketing societies were not of desired specifications and there was no organized storage of grains. Keeping in view the need for scientific and organized storage of grains, the Agriculture Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporation Act, 1956, was passed. It was replaced by the Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962, under which Warehousing Corporation was established.

The Punjab State Warehousing Corporation was set up in January 1958 and after reorganization of the erstwhile State of Punjab in 1966, it was reconstituted under the Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962, with effect from 1 November 1967. The Punjab Government and the Central Warehousing Corporation are the two equal shareholders of the State Warehousing Corporation. Its main functions are to provide scientific storage at low charges and arrange for cheap and quick credit facilities against the stored produce; to acquire and build godowns and warehouses at such places with the State as it may, with the previous approval of Central Warehousing Corporation determine; to run warehouses in the State for the storage of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilizers and notified commodities; to make arrangements for the transport of agricultural produce, seeds, manure, fertilizers and notified commodities to and from warehouses. The Punjab State Warehousing Corporation also acts as an agent of the Central Warehousing Corporation or of the Government for the purchase, sale storage and distribution of agricultural produce, seeds, manure, fertilizers and notified commodities.

The Central Warehousing Corporation and the State Warehousing Gorporation have acquired expertise in scientific preservation of agricultural and other products.

Though functioning on business principle, they provide services at very reasonable rates for scientific storage of agricultural produce, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. The main benefits which have accrued to the agriculturists from the warehousing corporation are :

(a) scientific storage of their produce in rat-proof, dump-proof and leak-proof godowns. Stocks remain pest-free throughout the period of storage by preventive and curative measures.

(b) cheap credit is available from the scheduled banks on the pledge of warehouse receipt issued by a Warehouse Manager in token of the stocks stored in his warehouse. This credit is available to the depositors according to the credit restrictions imposed by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

(c) agriculturists have the opportunity to get market intelligence which enable them to sell their produce at appropriate occasion.

During 1988-89, the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation had godowns at 8 places in the Bathinda District. The following table indicates the location and storing capacity of warehouses with their dates of opening in district :--

Serial No.	Name of the Warehouse	Date of opening	Average capacity during 1988-89 (in Metric tonnes)
1	Bathinda	2/62	17,302
2	Baretta	3/68	28,000
3	Bhucho	4/62	14,400
4	Budhlada	4/64	22,858
5	Goniana	4/72	18,900
6	Raman	4/64	9,900
7	Rampura Phul	3/62	19,820
8	Bhikhi	10/83	16,200

(Source : Managing Director, Punjab State Warehousing Corporation, Chandigarh)

Cold stores have also been opened in the private sector for storing agricultural and other goods.

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 191)

Banking Offices functioning at various places in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

Name of the Bank

I State Bank of Patiala

1 Bathinda
2 Civil Lines, Bathinda
3 Industrial Estate, Bathinda
4 Grain Market, Bathinda
5 Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda
6 M.S.C., Bathinda
7 P.R. Nagar, Bathinda
8 Balluana
9 Bhisiana
10 Goniana
11 Mehma Sarja
12 Virk Kalan
13 Bangi Ruldu
14 Nathana
15 Bhucho Kalan
16 Bhucho Mandi
17 Bibiwala
18 Kalyan Sukha
19 Tungwali
20 Talwandi Sabo
21 Raman Mandi
22 Maur Mandi
23 Kotfatta
24 Maisar Khana
25 Sheikhpura

26 Singho
27 Rampura
28 Balianwali
29 Chauke
30 Phul Town
31 Mehraj
32 Jalal
33 Mansa Main
34 Mansa ADB
35 Industrial Area, Mansa
36 Bhikhi
37 Khiala Kalan
38 Ralla
39 Jhunir
40 Behniwal
41 Fatta Maluka
42 Sardulgarh
43 Budhlada
44 Bareh
45 Baretta
46 Boha

II State Bank of India

1 Bathinda
2 Bathinda ADB
3 Bathinda Cantt.
4 Behman Diwana
5 Kotshamir
6 Nahianwala
7 Sibian
8 Kahan Singh Wala

9 Lehra Mohabbat
10 Raman Mandi
11 Maur Mandi
12 Rampura
13 Dhapali
14 Mansa
15 Bhaini Bagha
16 Joga
17 Raipur

III Punjab National Bank

1 Bathinda Main
2 A.S. Chowk, Bathinda
3 Sangat
4 Pacca Kalan
5 Chak Ruldu Singh Wala
6 Nathana
7 Bhucho Khurd
8. Gobindpura
9 Rampura
10 Sailbrah
11 Mansa
12 Bhikhi
13 Hero Kalan
14 Sardulgarh
15 Budhlada
16 Baretta
17 Borewal
18 Kulrian
19 Reond Kalan

IV Punjab & Sind Bank

1 Bathinda Main
2 I.T.I., Bathinda
3 Goniana
4 Rai Ke Kalan
5 Raman Mandi
6 Talwandi Sabo
7 Rampura
8 Bhai Rupa
9 Bhagta Bhai Ka
10 Sangha
11 Jhanda Kalan
12 Bachhoana

V New Bank of India

1 Bathinda Main
2 Civil Lines, Bathinda
3 Bhagta
4 Kothaguru

VI Union Bank of India

1 Bathinda
2 Harraipur
3 Bhagwangarh
4 Bandi

VII Central Bank of India

1 Bathinda
2 Bhucho
3 Talwandi Sabo

VIII Oriental Bank of Commerce

1 Bathinda
2 Chak Fateh Singh Wala
3 Kot Fatta

IX Indian Overseas Bank

1 Bathinda
2 Mansa

X Regional Rural Bank
Faridkot-Bathinda Kashetriya Gramin Bank

1 Bathinda
2 Kararwala
3 Jethu Ke
4 Moosa
5 Phaphere Bhaike
6 Ubha
7 Ahlupur
8 Akkanwali
9 Bhame Kalan
10 Datewas
11 Kishangarh

XI Canara Bank

1 Bathinda
2 Civil Lines, Bathinda
3 Phus Mandi
4 Kotshamir
5 Bhagoo

XII UCO Bank

1 Bathinda
2 Jhumba

XIII Bank of Baroda

Bathinda

XIV Bank of India

Bathinda

XV Dena Bank

Bathinda

XVI Corporation Bank
Bathinda

XVII State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur
Bathinda

(*Source* : Lead Bank Officer (B), State Bank of Patiala, Head Office, Patiala)

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 192)

Work done by the Co-operative Agricultural Credit Societies in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 to 1988-89

Co-operative year ending June	No. of Co-operative Societies at the end of the year	Membership		Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Loan Advanced during the year (Rs in lakhs)	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
		Societies	Individuals			
1977-78	536	--	88,520	97.03	546.13	18.99
1978-79	144	--	91,376	132.90	841.58	22.62
1979-80	150	--	96,285	168.09	1,487.94	26.22
1980-81	148	--	1,00,464	211.35	1,532.46	23.12
1981-82	148	--	1,05,073	245.45	1,825.38	36.51
1982-83	213	--	1,11,003	286.94	2,426.92	36.51
1983-84	233	--	1,11,745	300.40	1,729.58	31.22
1984-85	233	--	1,12,123	331.07	2,110.80	35.75
1985-86	233	--	1,12,484	370.29	1,977.67	32.45
1986-87	233	--	1,14,496	401.15	1,997.63	42.08
1987-88	297	--	1,15,029	442.64	2,698.66	52.53
1988-89	297	--	1,16,004	461.08	2,791.02	63.83

(*Source* : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

APPENDIX III

(Vide page 192)

Work done by the Co-operative Non-Agricultural Credit Societies in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 to 1988-89

Co-operative year ending June	No. of Co-operative Societies at the end of the year	Membership		Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Loans Advanced during the year (Rs in lakhs)	Deposits (Rs in lakhs)
		Societies	Individuals			
1977-78	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1978-79	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1979-80	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1980-81	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1981-82	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1982-83	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1983-84	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1984-85	63	--	5,328	3.16	4.18	8.93
1985-86	78	--	7,561	3.68	13.65	10.33
1986-87	78	--	7,563	3.70	13.49	9.50
1987-88	78	--	7,563	5.08	14.15	8.63
1988-89	79	--	7,775	9.03	73.34	11.55

(Source : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

APPENDIX IV

(Vide page 202)

Work done by the Co-operative Marketing Societies in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 to 1988-89

Co-operative year ending June	No. of Societies	Membership		Total	Share Capital paid up (Rs in lakhs)	Working Capital (Rs in lakhs)	Value of goods marketed (Rs in lakhs)
		Societies	Individulas				
1977-78	11	663	6,310	6,973	6.56	178.48	362.55
1978-79	11	663	6,513	7,176	6.28	246.57	498.70
1979-80	11	663	6,517	7,180	6.87	166.71	55.55
1980-81	11	663	6,517	7,180	6.87	163.40	517.12
1981-82	11	663	6,619	7,182	6.87	192.01	533.62
1982-83	11	663	6,782	7,445	8.08	184.21	657.78
1983-84	11	663	6,782	7,445	8.08	184.21	640.78
1984-85	11	663	6,782	7,445	8.03	163.21	905.91
1985-86	18*	663	6,804	7,467	7.81	180.13	27.61
1986-87	18*	663	6,816	7,479	9.69	226.65	33.26
1987-88	18*	663	6,816	7,479	9.79	150.90	36.55
1988-89	18*	663	6,868	7,554	8.85	154.70	1,066.49

(Source : Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda)

*7 Co-operative Marketing Societies are under liquidation.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

(a) Old-time Routes and Highways and Modes of Conveyance

The socio-economic development of a region mainly depends upon its means of communications-- roads, railways, airlines, inland navigations, ferries and bridges, gas and oil pipeline, etc. Of all these modes of communications, roads, metalled or unmetalled, are the most universal and perhaps the oldest used by the humanity. Even in these days, no area can enjoy the fruits of progress unless it is well served by a good network of roads. Construction of roads plays a dominant role in the development of industrial and agricultural sectors of the economy. The Grand Trunk Road, made by Sher Shah Suri, is the oldest road passing through the territory of Punjab. During the reign of East India Company, the construction of roads got attention of the British rulers.

Although the area of Bathinda District is sandy to a great extent, still in its length and breadth, it is adequately served by roads as well as by railways. Before the advent of automobile vehicles and railways, the major modes of conveyance in the district were domesticated animals like bullocks, camels, horses, donkeys, etc. These animals were used both for undertaking long journeys and transportation of goods. Besides, bullocks/camel carts and tongas were used by the people to travel from one place to another. With the development of rail and road transport, the people by and by started replacing the old means of transport by the modern ones. Presently, the people even in the most remote areas have started using the advanced means of transport.

(b) Road Transport

Roads play a vital role in the gigantic task of national construction. The area of the present Bathinda District comprised parts of the erstwhile princely states of Patiala, Nabha, Faridkot and some portions of the British territory, then forming part of Firozpur District. The metalled and unmetalled roads were maintained by the rulers of the then

princely states. By the turn of the 20th century, the roads maintained by them in the area comprising present Bathinda District were Bathinda-Mandi, Hadiaya-Bhikhi and Phul Railway Station roads. Prior to the partition of the country, a pucca road connecting Bathinda with Firozpur via Kot Kapura-Faridkot traversed the district. After the Independence, the State/Central Governments paid attention towards the construction of roads. By 1950-51, there existed about 221 km of metalled/unmetalled roads in the district. By 1960-61, the length of roads in the district increased by 680 km and by 1970-71, it further increased to 1,176 km. During 1972, the Faridkot Tahsil of the district was attached to the newly created Faridkot District. Due to the tremendous increase in the activity of road construction, the road length in the district touched the 2,783 km mark in 1988-89.

The major roads passing through the district are Bathinda-Sardulgarh, Dakha-Sardulgarh, Bagha Purana - Nathana, Barnala-Jaitu, Bhawanigarh-Ko-Shamir, Dialpura-Rampura Phul, Maur-Bathinda-Dabwali, Bhikhi-raitia, Moonak-Budhlada, Sardulgarh-Tohana, Nathana-Jandwala, Bathinda-Ghuda, Jalal-Hakim Singh Wala, Talwandi Sabo-Raman, Mansa-Talwandi Sabo and Maur-Talwandi Sabo. Besides, there are also certain minor link roads which pass through the villages connecting these with major roads. The following figures give an idea of extension of roads in the district :-

Year	Metalled roads (km)	Unmetalled roads (km)	Total length of roads (km)
1950-51	176	45	221*
1960-61	559	121	680*
1970-71	1,176	--	1,176*
1984-85	2,504	46	2,550
1985-86	2,577	110	2,687

*These figures include road length of the then Faridkot Tahsil also.

Year	Metalled roads (km)	Unmetalled roads (km)	Total length of roads (km)
1986-87	2,717	40	2,757
1987-88	2,773	10	2,783
1988-89	2,783	-	2,783

Punjab District Census Handbook No. 16, Bathinda District 1961, pp., 22 and 74 and Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1972 and 1985 to 1989)

In 1988-89, the total road length in the district was 2,783 km. This road length per hundred sq km of area of the district works out to 66 km and per lakh of population 236 km. All the inhabited villages of the district are linked with roads.

(i) Classification of Roads

The National/State highways are the main arteries of commerce within the states. The District roads and village roads carry the traffic into the interior and serve the needs of rural areas by linking them with the railways and highways.

According to the Nagpur Road Plan of 1943, the roads were classified into four categories, viz. National highways, State highways, District roads and Villages roads. Out of the total length of roads in the district, the length of National highways was 46 km, whereas of State highways, District major roads, other Distirct roads and village roads was 226.02 km, 163.04 km, 194.04 km and 2,153.90 km, respectively. The State highways, District major roads, other District roads and village roads are maintained by the Public Works Department (B&R). Besides, various Municipal Committees also maintain roads within their municipal limits (The length of such roads is given in Chapter XIV,' Local Self-Government). A detailed description of each category of roads in the Bathinda District is given below :

National Highways.—The National highways serve as inter-State links and are of national, strategic

and administrative importance. These are constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department out of the Central Government funds. The portion of National highway No. 15 from village Ramana Jit Singh to village Karamgarh Sattran traverses 46 km in the area of Bathinda District.

State Highways.—These are main arterial roads of the State and are generally connected with the National highways. Sometimes, they connect highways of adjacent states and also district headquarters or important cities. These are constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department. The State highways passing through the Bathinda District are : State highway No. 17 Bathinda-Sardulgarh via Rori, 47.07 km of which falls in the Bathinda and Talwandi Sabo tahsils. The other sections of this highway are Rori to Sardulgarh Road, of which 4.40 km falls in Mansa Tahsil, Bhawanigarh, Bhikhi, Sunam, Kot Shamir Road, of which 62.60 km area falls in the Mansa Tahsil; Bagha Purana, Nathana, Bhucho Road, of which 39.85 km area falls in the Rampura Phul Tahsil, Dakha, Raikot, Barnala, Mansa, Sardulgarh, Sirsa Road, of which 72.10 km area falls in the Mansa Tahsil.

District Major Roads.—These are defined as roads traversing each district, serving areas of production and markets and connecting these with each or with highways and stations. These roads are also maintained by the State Public Works Department. On 31 March 1989, the total length of these roads in the district was 163.04 km.

Other District Roads.—These serve as important arteries of communications among the different parts of the district. Their total length in the district, as on 31 March 1989, was 194.04 km.

The other District roads also include the roads formerly falling under head 'district minor roads', since the use of the latter term has been discontinued.

Village Approach Roads.—These roads connect villages or groups of villages with one another and to the nearest district roads. These are constructed by the joint efforts of the villagers. Previously, some of these roads were maintained by the Zila

Parishad, Bathinda, but now these have been transferred to the State Public Works Department. The total length of these roads in the district, as on 31 March 1989, was 2,153.90 km.

(ii) Vehicles and Conveyances

Though, the use of camel cart in the urban areas as a means of conveyance has largely been replaced by motor vehicles, yet in the countryside, the camel cart is still in vogue. The camel cart is being fitted with pneumatic rubber tyres in place of traditional wooden wheels. In the rural areas, the horse-drawn vehicles used for the carriage of passengers has been mostly replaced by the motor bus. But in *mandis*, however, donkey/camel-drawn vehicles still continue to ply side by side with motor vehicles for the transportation of goods. The *thelas* pulled by one or two men and used mostly in the cities to carry goods from one place to another, within the city premises are also being replaced by quicker mechanised modes of transportation. Tractors have now become a popular means of transport with well-to-do farmers. The people have become speed minded and prefer to travel by mechanised vehicles.

Automobiles.—The automobile has become a common means of travel and transportation of goods for long distances. Its speed and reliability enable the user to cover a wide areas in the minimum of time and with the minimum of trouble.

Automobiles which are plied in the district include motor-cycles, scooters, jeeps, cars, taxis, buses, trucks, tractors and auto-rickshaws. The number of differnt types of motor vehicles registered in the district from 1981-82 to 1988-89 given in Appendix I on page 231.

Bicycles.—The bicycle is the most popular means of conveyance for relatively short distances. Its operation is economical and it can be put to multiple uses. Moreover, its maintenance cost is also very low. It is an essential means of conveyance in cities, especially for the poor and lower middle class persons. The villagers bring vegetables, milk and other agricultural produce to the mandi markets on cycles.

Cycle-Rickshaws.—It is a three-wheeled cycle pulled by a man with a sitting capacity of two persons and used to cover short distances generally within the city area. It is a cheap, convenient and easy type of conveyance as compared to mechanically operated vehicles. Its charges are low and it has not to wait for passengers for long as only two persons make its full capacity. Moreover, it can pass through narrow and zig-zag streets also. The development of roads has increased the mobility of cycle-rickshaws from the towns to the adjoining villages and *vice versa*. According to the bye-laws framed by the State Government, persons who are physically fit and are between the age of 18 and 45 generally ply this vehicle. Under the Scheme 'Rickshaw *Chalak* (puller) Rickshaw *Malik* (owner)', loans are arranged by the State Government from commercial banks so as to enable the rickshaw-pullers to purchase their own rickshaws. Interest of these loans is reimbursed in full by the Government. Under the Punjab Cycle Rickshaw (Regulation of License) Act, 1976, licences are issued to the owners only.

Horse Carriages.—Although buses and rickshaws are plying in all the towns of the district, the horse carriages are still in vogue under the changed name horse carts. The farmers and shop-keepers who cannot afford tractor-trollies have maintained horses, donkeys and camel carts. As a means of conveyance, horse/donkey carts are very helpful in carrying passengers and carriage of goods from one part of the city to another, from town to town, from town to villages and *vice versa*. Tongas, and *ekkas* are useful and cheap means of transportation for the villagers as well as for the local passengers in the towns. There is keen competition between the horse-drawn carriages, on the one hand, and the motor-buses, tempos and cycle-rickshaws on the other. Though an old type of conveyance, the horse-drawn carriages cannot be ousted completely.

(iii) Public and Private Transport

The Provincial Transport Controller headed the Transport Department till June 1969. He was responsible for enforcing the Motor Vehicles Act and rules framed

thereunder. The commercial wing of the department also functioned under his control. In order to give equal justice to the private operators and the State owned transport, the Transport Department was bifurcated in June 1969, in two wings, viz. commercial wing and non-commercial wing. The former, known as Punjab Roadways, was placed under the control of the Director, State Transport, Punjab, and the latter under the State Transport Commissioner, Punjab as heads of the Department. The Director, State Transport, being the overall in charge of commercial wing, is concerned with the development and operation of state transport buses on commercial basis. The State Transport Commissioner is concerned with the issuing of route permits and the enforcement of the Motor Vehicles Act and the rules framed thereunder, grant of route permits for stage carriers to both the public and private sectors and for public carriers, tempos, taxis, etc.

Prior to the Independence, road transport was mostly in the hands of private operators, who were interested only in large profits and seldom cared for the convenience of the passengers. With the rapid development of a network of roads and industrialisation, road transport has expanded enormously. Therefore, the Government have started gradual and progressive nationalisation of this service. At present, there is a partial nationalisation of passenger transport service in the State and 60:40 scheme is in operation. Under this scheme, all further operations on the existing local routes, not exceeding 16 km as well as monopoly routes shall be undertaken by the Punjab Roadways.

State Owned Services.—Most of the bus routes in the district are operated by the three depots of PEPSU Road Transport Corporation viz. Bathinda I, II & Budhlada. The Bathinda Depot came into being on 30 March 1970. It was bifurcated into two depots, viz. Bathinda Depot-I and Bathinda Depot-II, the later started functioning, w.e.f. 1 May 1979. The Bathinda I and II depot owned 93 and 96 buses, respectively as on 31 March 1989. These depots operated on 62 and 54 routes and covered 24,958 and 24,882 scheduled kilometres daily, respectively. Another depot of the

Pepsu Road Transport in the district, viz. Budhlada Depot, started functioning from 1 May 1979. It had 73 buses and operated on 51 routes and covered 19,148 scheduled kilometres daily as on 31 March 1989. The details of these routes are given in Appendix II at the end of the Chapter on pages 232—239.

Private Bus Services.—A number of bus routes in the district are also being operated by the private transport companies. The particulars regarding the names of the private companies and the routes operated by them are given in Appendix III, at the end of the chapter on pages 240—254.

Goods Transport by Road.—It is mainly in the hands of the private companies and owners. The State Government is following a liberal policy for the grant of public carrier permits. In almost all the important towns of the district, unions have been formed by the owners of trucks for the public carrier of goods. The establishment of these companies have relieved the businessmen of the ardous job of transporting their goods from one place to another, not even in the State but in the country as well. They can just book their goods on telephone as these companies have established their regular offices. For inter-state operation of the trucks for the transport of goods from one state to another, the government has entered into bilateral agreement with other states to facilitate free flow of goods throughout the country. The names of some of the important goods transport companies functioning in the district are given below :

1 Transport Corporation of India Ltd., Bathinda
2 Parkash Road Line Private Ltd., Bathinda
3 South Eastern Roadways, Bathinda
4 East India Transport Agency, Bathinda
5 Gohati Indore Roadways, Bathinda
6 Great India Road Lines, Bathinda
7 Green Roadways (Regd), Bathinda
8 Eastern Road Carriers (Regd), Bathinda
9 Pepsu Goods Transport Company, Bathinda

10 Milap Rajasthan Roadways, Bathinda

11 Montogomery Cop-Ready Goods Transport Society Ltd., Bathinda

12 New Okara Transport Company, Bathinda

13 Patiala Transport Company, Private Ltd., Bathinda

14 Chadha Motor Transport Company, Private Ltd. Bathinda

15 Milap Transport Roadways, Bathinda

16 Maheswari Golden Carriers, Bathinda

17 Green Roadways Corporation, Bathinda

18 Patiala Carriers (Regd), Bathinda

19 Delhi Punjab Goods Carriers, Bathinda

20 Delhi Punjab Golden Carriers, Bathinda

21 Delhi Punjab Gujarat Carriers, Bathinda

22 Wadhawa Golden Carriers, Bathinda

23 Doaba Public Goods Carriers, Bathinda

(c) Railways

The Bathinda District lies in the Delhi Division of Northern Railway. Bathinda is the biggest railway junction on the broad-gauge line having connections with Rajpura, Firozpur, Hanumangarh, Rewari and Delhi. The railway lines starting from Bathinda junction or passing through the Bathinda District are; Bathinda Delhi line and stations falling on this line in the district are Katar Singh Wala, Kot Fateh, Maisar Khana, Maur, Kotli Kalan Halt, Sadda Singh Wala, Mansa, Narindrapura, Budhlada, Date Was Bareta and Kahangarh; Bathinda-Firozpur line has Goniana and Chand Bhan stations, Phus Mandi, Bhucho, Laihra Khana Halt, Lehra Muhabat, Rampura Phul and Jethu Ke stations are situated on Bathinda-Dhuri-Ambala Cantonment line. Bathinda-Hindumalkote-Sri Ganganagar line has only three stations, namely Behman Dewana, Bullluana, Karamgarh Sardargarh Halt. Five stations, namely Narauna Jodhpur Romana Halt, Gursar Sanehwala, Bagwall and Pathrala Halt are situated on Bathinda-Suratgarh line. Bathinda-Rewari line has

six stations, namely Garhi Bhagi, Shergarh, Manwalakot Bakhtu Halt, Bangi Nihal Singh Raman and Ratangarh Kanakwal Halt falling in the district. From the above, five lines which start from Bathinda junction, are broad gauge double lines. The other two lines, i.e. Bathinda-Fazilka and Bathinda-Sirsa are metre gauge single lines. The total route length of railways in the district is approximately 244 km. The average route length per 100 sq km of the area works out to be 4,141 km in the district.

Rail-Road Competition.—Every means of transport has its own sphere of economic service and its limitations. The problem of competition arises only when some means of transport extend their own activities and narrow the sphere of other means of transport. In the beginning, road traffic was not much affected by the introduction of railways in India, as at that time mechanical haulage did not exist. But the position changed after the World War I (1914-18), when mechanical road haulage became popular throughout the country. A large number of motor-buses began to ply on the roads and competed with railways for short distance passenger traffic. The Railway Board Report of 1926-27 pointed out that the Indian Railways had begun to feel the pressure of competition from motor vehicles. The main difficulty being faced by the railways vis-a-vis road vehicles was that on account of the flexible character of their service, the road vehicles were free to choose the best paying traffic.

The Government of India, therefore appointed in 1933 the Mitchell-Kirkness Committee to conduct inquiry into the rail-road competition. The Committee recommended a strict regulation of road traffic to eliminate competition. In 1937, the Wedgewood Committee also recommended the protection of railways against unfair competition of roads by controlling, supervision, regulating and licensing of the motor vehicles. In 1939, the Motor Vehicles Act was passed for regulating motor transport. During the World War II (1939-45), there was practically no rail-road competition. But after the War, the fear of rail-road competition arose again. In 1950, the Government appointed the Motor Vehicles Taxation Inquiry Commission, which recommended the imposition of taxes on the vehicles. Consequently,

the rail-road competition was reduced due to the heavy taxation imposed on road vehicles. However, with the vast development of agriculture and industry in the country and consequent increase in traffic, the rail-road competition has become a thing of the past and the two systems of transport have become complementary rather than competitive.

(d) Waterways, Ferries and Bridges

Waterways and Ferries.—There is neither any navigable river/canal nor any ferry system in the Bathinda District.

Bridges.—Bridges are constructed over the streams, canals, *chos*, etc. for the smooth running of road traffic.

(e) Travel and Tourist Facilities

There are a number of *dharmshalas* and *serais* in the district for travellers, tourists and visitors. Besides, hotels and restaurants in urban areas of the district provide lodging facilities to the visitors. *Gurudwaras*, in urban as well as in rural areas, provide free boarding and lodging facilities to the visitors.

Rest Houses.—These are maintained by different Government departments to accommodate their employees while on tour to the district. The employees of the Public undertakings also make use of this facility. However, when vacant, these are made available to the public as well on prescribed rent. A list of rest houses in the district is given in Appendix IV, on pages 255--258.

(f) Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones

The post offices in the district are under the control of the Superintendent, Post Offices, Bathinda Division, Bathinda. To provide postal facilities to the public, letter boxes have been affixed at the important centres in towns which are cleared at fixed timings, once or twice a day. All the villages of the Bathinda District have been covered under daily delivery system.

The Postal Index Number (PIN)* Code was introduced in the country on 15 August 1972. It is a six digit code that identifies and locates every departmental delivery service. It provides with a built-in routing, information for posta sorting and quick delivery of the post. The Pin Code of Bathinda is 151001.

Om 31 March 1989, there were one Head Post Office, 31 Sub-Post Offices, and 198 Branch Post Offices in the district. A list of these post offices is given in Appendix V on pages 259--266.

Telegraphs.—The district is well served by a number of combined post and telegraph offices. There are one TP/Morse office, 7 Morse sub-offices and 48 phonocum sub-offices, in the district. On 31 March 1989, telegraph facility was available in 56 post offices in the Bathinda District, as given in Appendix VI on page 267.

Telephones.—There are 24 telephone exchanges in the district functioning at Bathinda, Mansa, Maur, Budhlada, Bareta, Bhucho, Goniana, Sangat, Sardulgarh, Raman, Phul, Phul Mandi, Talwandi Sabo, Nathana, Kotha Guru Ka, Balianwali, Kot Fateh, Boha, Jhunir, Bhai Rupa, Bhikhi, Bhagta Bhaika, Joga and Kot Shamir. These are under the control of the Sub Divisional Engineer, Telephones, Bathinda, who works under the overall control of the Divisional Engineer, Telephones, Bathinda Division, Bathinda. The total number of connections and extensions provided by these exchanges, on 31 March 1989 were 8,100 and 298, respectively. Besides, there are 86 public call offices functioning in the district.

Radios and Televisions.—There are a Television Station and a Radio Broadcasting Station at Bathinda. The data regarding the number of television and radio sets in the distrtict is not available, as these have been totally exempted from the license fee. The description regarding the T.V. Station at Bathinda is given below :

*The first digit represents the zone, the second the sub-zone & the routing, the third digit pinpoints the sorting district and the last three digits indicate the specific post offices included in that sorting district.

Doordarshan Service in Bathinda.—A low power (100 watts) T V transmitter was installed in Bathinda on 12 June 1984. It had an effective range of 25 kilometres round the T V tower. This has since been replaced by a high power (10 KW) with effect from 1 April 1985, increasing thereby, the range of service to 90 kilometres. The T V transmitter is housed in the Doordarshan building situated on the main Mansa Road and has 135 meters high mast on which the TV transmitting antenna has been fixed. It operates on channel 12 and relays Delhi Programmes via Microwave lines.

(g) Organisations of Owners and Employees in the Field of Transport and Communications

To promote their service interests and well-being, the following unions/associations have been formed by the employees in the field of transport and communications in the distrct :-

Sr. No.	Name of the Union
1	Rickshaw Workers' Union, Bathinda
2	Western Command M E S Civilian Drivers' Association, Bathinda
3	Pepsu Road Transport Corporation Drivers' Union, Bathinda
4	Auto Worker's Union, Bathinda
5	Tonga Rehra Mazdoor Union, Bhagta Bhaika
6	Gadda Labour Union, Bareta Mandi
7	Budhlada Gadda Rehri Mazdoor Union, Bathinda
8	Rampura Phul Truck Operator's Union, Bathinda
9	Rama Truck Operator's Union, Bathinda
10	Rickshaw Chalk Mazdoor Union, Bathinda

APPENDIX I (Vide page 222)

Number of different types of motor vehicles registered in the Bathinda District, during 1981-82 to 1988-89

Year	Buses	Cars	Jeeps	Taxis	Auto-Rickshaws	Motor Cycles/ Scooters	Trucks	Tractors	Others
1981-82	130	2,313	366	25	17	8,891	946	20,491	99
1982-83	132	2,445	377	38	19	10,293	1,090	22,454	99
1983-84	113	2,541	408	90	25	11,851	1,211	24,113	103
1984-85	124	2,658	432	96	32	13,371	1,304	25,219	105
1985-86	146	2,781	470	99	52	15,248	1,350	26,078	108
1986-87	166	2,934	528	101	96	17,514	1,523	27,178	109
1987-88	200	3,119	576	123	129	19,426	1,707	29,165	112
1988-89	229	3,374	623	124	144	22,365	1,929	31,506	113

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1982 to 1989)

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 225)

Bus routes operated by the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation Bathinda I, II and Budhlada Depots, as on 31 March 1989

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
1	Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda-1	Patiala--Chandigarh	3	70	420
		Patiala--Ambala Cantonment	2	56	224
		Bathinda--Patiala	5	171	1710
		Patiala--Nangal	1	152	304
		Jakhal--Patiala	1	91	182
		Bathinda-Malout	1	53	106
		Bathinda--Dabwali	11	40	880
		Bathinda--Hisar	1	190	380
		Patiala--Kasauli	1	140	280
		Bathinda-Sirsa	1	128	256
		Bathinda--Jakhal	1	132	264
		Bathinda--Talwandi	6	30	360
		Bathinda--Kot Shamir	6	13	156
		Bathinda--Jiwan Singh Wala	6	19	228
		Bathinda--Talwandi (via Pakka)	1	57	114
		Phagwara--Hoshiarpur	1	38	76
		Bathinda--Kharar (via--Chandigarh)	1	256	512
		Bathinda--Jassi Bagwali	6	30	360
		Bathinda--Malerkotla	5	110	1600
		Muktsar--Patiala	1	226	452
		Talwandi--Nangal	1	346	692

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Bathinda--Lambi	1	43	86
		Bathinda--Sangha	3	90	540
		Raman--Rampura	3	63	378
		Muktsar--Patiala (via Barnala)	1	232	464
		Bathinda--Raman	3	42	252
		Bathinda--Abohar	1	95	190
		Malout--Abohar	1	32	64
		Abohar--Sri Ganganagar	1	44	88
		Bathinda--Amritsar	2	184	736
		Talwara--Ludhiana	2	189	756
		Bathinda--Suratgarh	1	160	320
		Bathinda--Maur	3	42	252
		Talwandi--Musa (via Jhunir)	3	62	372
		Maur--Raman (via Kabbee)	2	48	192
		Bathinda--Sunam	2	114	456
		Sultanpur--Jalandhar	1	65	130
		Dabwali--Chandigarh (via Badal)	1	298	596
		Talwandi Sabo--Chandigarh	1	228	456
		Bathinda--Raman (via Pakka)	6	43	516
		Sultanpur--Talwandi Sabo	1	187	374
		Ludhiana--Phagwara	1	44½	89
		Bathinda--Sanghol Khurd	1	61	122
		Bathinda--Delhi (via Hisar)	1	372	744

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Bathinda--Haridwar	1	399	798
		Bathinda--Killianwali	1	60	120
		Bathinda--Hoshiarpur	1	241½	483
		Hoshiarpur--Chimanpura	1	49	98
		Bhucho Mandi--Mansa	2	60	240
		Talwandi--Musa (via Birawala)	3	57	342
		Talwandi--Musa	3	51	306
		Talwandi Sabo--Amritsar (via Rampura Baga)	1	275	550
		Kalawala--Anandpur	1	340	680
		Raman--Chandigarh	1	242	484
		Raman--Amritsar	1	249	498
		Kot Shamir--Raman	2	26	104
		Jiwan Singh Wala--Talwandi Sabo	6	11	132
		Talwandi Sabo--Sardulgarh	3	42	252
		Raman--Kallianwali	3	18	108
		Kallianwali--Jalandhar	1	252	504
		Bathinda--Saipur (U.P. to Rajasthan Border)	1	541	1082
		Bathinda--Pehowa	1	224	448
2	Pepsu Road Transport Corporation Bathinda-II	Bathinda--Ablu Kotli	6	28	336
		Patiala--Chandigarh	3	70	420
		Bathinda--Malout	21	53	2226
		Bathinda--Nathana	16	34	1088
		Nathana--Goniana	2	21	84

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily serivce (km)
		Nathana--Bhucho Mandi	8	14	224
		Bathinda--Maharaj	3	45	270
		Maharaj--Dhapali	6	22	264
		Bathinda--Patiala	3	177	1062
		Bathinda--Chandigarh	1	247	494
		Bathinda--Baloh	2	54	216
		Bathinda--Firozpur	1	104	208
		Patiala--Mandi	1	250	500
		Bathinda--Bhucho Mandi	6	20	240
		Bathinda--Gidderbaha	4	32	256
		Nathana--Bhagta	8	20	320
		Bathinda--Pathankot	1	348	696
		Bathinda--Moga (via Nathana)	4	107	856
		Bathinda--Moga (via Rampura)	3	124	744
		Rampura--Ballianwali	6	18	216
		Rampura--Chaoke	6	19	228
		Bathinda--Gurdaspur	1	292	584
		Bathinda--Fazilka	3	109	654
		Bathinda--Gobindpura	8	16	256
		Bathinda--Malerkotla	2	153	612
		Bathinda--Bhadaur	2	66	264
		Bathinda--Barnala	1	75	150
		Bathinda--Ballianwali	2	54	216
		Bathinda--Chaoke	1	55	110
		Raman Mandi--Patiala	1	221	442

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Bathinda--Badal (via Gidderbaha)	1	56	112
		Bathinda--Jhumba	4	26	208
		Bhucho Mandi--Ballianwali	4	16	128
		Rampura--Nathana	6	27	324
		Rampura--Jalal (via Bhai Rupa)	4	32	256
		Bathinda--Jaito	4	45	360
		Bathinda--Ganga	4	31	248
		Bhagta--Baghapurana	2	26	104
		Rampura--Moga	1	82	164
		Bathinda--Amritsar (via Faridkot)	1	184	368
		Bathinda--Abohar (via Panniwala)	2	105	420
		Nathana--Chandigarh	1	239	478
		Goniana--Chandigarh	1	263	526
		Raman Mandi--Amritsar	1	227	454
		Raman Mandi--Chandigarh	1	290	580
		Bathinda--Shimla	1	375	750
		Bathinda--Sangrur	2	120	480
		Bathinda--Pehowa	1	230	460
		Rampura--Firozpur	2	136	544
		Rampura--Amritsar	1	195	390
		Bathinda--Katra (via Amritsar)	1	467	934
		Bathinda--Agra (upto Hodel)	1	515	1030

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Bathinda--Ambala Cantt.	2	233	932
		Patiala--Shimla (via Kalka)	1	198	396
3	Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Budhlada	Bathinda--Faridkot	1	67	134
		Patiala--Jakhal	1	91	182
		Budhlada--Patiala	3	110	660
		Budhlada--Bhikhi	6	17	204
		Budhlada--Mansa (via Bhikhi)	2	36	144
		Mansa--Labhiwal (via Bhikhi)	3	53	318
		Budhlada--Ralla	6	30	360
		Budhlada--Bathinda (via Narinderpura)	2	82	328
		Budhlada--Bathinda (via Bhikhi)	2	95	380
		Bathinda--Jakhal (via Bhikhi)	5	132	1320
		Firozpur--Bathinda (via Baja Khana)	2	109	436
		Mansa--Rattia	5	75	750
		Bathinda--Mansa	2	59	236
		Mansa--Jakhal (via Narinderpura)	4	60	480
		Budhlada--Jakhal)	13	37	962
		Budhlada--Sangrur (via Dhanaula)	1	73	146
		Budhlada--Chandigarh	2	180	720
		Budhlada--Mansa (via Narinderpura)	6	23	276

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Jakhal--Patran	3	33	198
		Mansa--Sirsa	2	69	276
		Budhlada--Rattia	11	30	660
		Budhlada--Delhi (via Hisar)	1	284	568
		Budhlada--Sardulgarh	2	65	260
		Budhlada--Dabwali	1	137	274
		Sardulgarh--Rattia	1	35	70
		Budhlada--Sherkhan	2	16	64
		Budhlada--Maghania	2	20	80
		Budhlada--Uddat	4	16	128
		Budhalada--Jawalaji	1	288	576
		Budhlada--Barnala	6	56	672
		Patiala--Kularian	2	103	452
		Budhlada--Bareta	4	44	352
		Budhlada--Mansa (via Phaphre Bhai Ke)	6	22	264
		Budhlada--Ludhiana	2	135	540
		Mansa--Budhlada-Sangrur	4	80	640
		Budhlada--Dyalgarh	2	55	220
		Mansa--Sardulgarh	1	40	80
		Samana--Kulrian	2	86	344
		Firozpur--Mansa (via Jaito)	3	155	930
		Mansa--Budhlada (via Khilian)	1	22	44
		Budhlada--Mansa (via Nangal)	3	34	204

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Corporation	Name of route	No. of daily trips	Single length (km)	Total daily service (km)
		Budhlada--Patiala (via Jakhepal)	2	108	432
		Mansa--Chandigarh	1	182	364
		Faridkot--Amritsar (via Golewala)	1	146	292
		Jakhal--Chandigarh	1	161	322
		Uddat--Jhunir	4	24	192
		Chandigarh--Dharmgarh	1	154	308
		Budhlada--Amritsar (via Phaphre Bhaike)	1	266	532
		Budhlada--Lehra	2	30	120
		Budhlada--Goindwal	1	225	450
		Budhlada--Hisar	1	102	204

(Source : Depot Managers, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda I and II and Budhlada)

APPENDIX III

(Vide page 225)

Bus Routes Operated by the Private Transport Companies in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (km)	Total daily service (Km)
1	Bhai Rupa Bus Service (Regd.), Rampura Phul	Moga--Rampura (via Bhagta)	1	85	170
		Bhikhi--Rampura (via Khiwa-Kot Dunna)	1	60	120
		Faridkot--Moga (via Kotkapura)	1	60	120
		Rampura--Barnala (via Bhadaur)	3	57	342
		Rampura--Bhodipura--Baghapurana	1	59	118
		Ballo--Jaito--Faridkot	1	99	198
		Rampura--Mansa (via Maur)	2	96	384
2	Bajaj Bus Service (Regd.), Raman	Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo (via Gidderbaha)	1	99	198
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	1	43	96
		Bathinda--Raman--Talwandi Sabo	2	45	180
		Bathinda--Pakka Raman (via Malkana)	1	73	146
3	Bathinda Bus Co. (Regd.), Bathinda	Maur--Bathinda--Moga (via Bhagta)	1	132	264

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (km)	Total daily service (Km)
4	Bahia Bus Service (Regd.), Sardulgarh	Sardulgarh--Talawandi Sabo	3	85	510
5	Bahia Motors (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Sardulgarh--Jhande Khurd, (upto Punjab Border)	1	48	96
6	Bajwa Transport Company (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Muktsar (via Gidderbaha)	2	77	308
7	Behniwal Transport Company (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Maan Khera	1	55	110
		Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	1	35	70
8	Smt. Charanjit Kaur, w/o Kulwant Singh of Jalal	Fazilka-Abohar--Jhurar Khera	2	50	200
9	Dabwali Transport Company (Pvt.) Ltd., Bathinda	Dabwali--Gidderbaha (via Kheowali)	2	32	128
		Jaito--Faridkot	1	27	54
		Fazilka--Sirsa	1	158	316
		Gidderbaha--Jaito (via Mallan extended upto Bathinda)	2	86	344
		Gidderbaha--Dabwali (via Badal)	6	32	384

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (km)	Total daily service (Km)
		Bathinda--Muktsar (via Gidderbaha)	2	77	308
		Bathinda--Gidderbaha (via Badal)	2	54	216
		Fazilka--Dabwali (via Malout)	1	99	198
10	Dhillon Roadways (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Maan Khera	1	55	110
		Mansa--Chullar	1	54	108
		Bathinda--Abohar (via Panniwala)	1	98	196
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo (via Gidderbaha)	1	143	286
		Raman--Koriana--Sardulgarh	3	64	384
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Jhunir)	1	80	160
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Raipur)	1	50	100
11	Dhillon Transport (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Jhunir)	1	50	100
12	Darbar Bus Service Mansa	Mansa--Chullar	1	54	108
13	Deep Bus Service (Regd.), Raman	Raman--Rampura (via Talwandi Sabo)	1	74	148
		Bathinda--Raman (via Malluwala)	3	45	270

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
		Rampura--Ruldu Singhwala	1	85	170
		Rampura--Raman (via Ballianawali)	2	56	224
14	Daljit Singh S/o Darshan Singh of Budhlada	Mansa--Budhlada (via Bhikhi)	2	36	144
15	Guru Nanak Workers Co-op. Society Ltd., Bathinda	Bhagta--Bathinda (via Bhucho)	2	35	140
		Bathinda--Maur (via Jiwan Singh Wala)	1	42	84
16	Gurmail Singh S/o Basant Singh, Village Bhakhrial, Tahsil Mansa	Budhlada--Maghanian	2	20	80
17	Gurjant Singh S/o Basant Singh, Village Bhakhrial, Tahsil Mansa	Mansa--Budhlada (via Jawahar Ke)	1	26	52
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Uddat)	2	51	204
18	Gurbhajan Singh S/o Munshi Singh of Bhai Rupa, District Bathinda	Rampura--Amritsar (via Phul)	1	183	366

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
19	Guru Kanshi Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Abohar (via Badal)	1	95	190
		Bathinda--Raman--Talwandi Sabo	3	45	270
20	Guru Nanak Transport Co. (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Abohar	2	95	380
21	Gurprit Co-op. Society, Ltd., Rampura Phul	Rampura--Jaito (Upto Bathinda)	1	88	176
		Rampura--Raman (extended upto Jogewala)	1	67	134
22	Guru Nanak Transport Co. (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Abohar Hemkund	2	95	380
23	Hemkund Bus Service Pvt. Ltd., Bathinda	Bathinda--Faridkot (via Baja)	12	68	1632
		Firozpur--Mansa--Budhlada	1	164	328
		Firozpur--Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	3	128	768
		Bathinda--Faridkot (via Jaito)	1	92	184
24	Hemkunt Motors (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	1	35	70
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	2	30	120
		Talwandi Sabo--Mansa (via Musa)	1	42	84

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
25	Hardyal Bus Service (Regd.), Mansa	Barnala--Mansa--Raikot	4	80	640
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Jhunir extended upto Bathinda)	2	80	320
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo	2	45	180
26	HMK Motors (Regd.), Mansa	Rampura--Mansa (via Aklia, extended upto Budhlada)	1	64	128
27	Hartej Singh, Ram Singh, Gurbachan Singh, Amar Singh S/o Gurtej Singh of Mansa	Mansa--Sardulgarh	1	30	60
28	Hardyal Singh Moffer of Mansa	Mansa--Bhagwanpura	2	56	224
29	Hardial Singh S/o Ishar Singh of Raiya	Firozpur--Patiala (via Shakur-Mudki)	1	230	230
30	Jalal Bus Service (Regd.), Jalal	Rampura--Bhodipura	1	20	40
		Rampura--Jaito	1	58	116
31	Jagsir Singh S/o Natha Singh of Bathinda	Raman--Rampura (via Talwandi Sabo)	1	74	148

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
32	Joginder Singh, Ajaib Singh S/o Amar Singh of Bathinda	Mansa--Lakhewali (via Bhikhi)	2	53	212
33	Jalal Harijan Roadways (Regd.), Jalal	Maur--Raman (via Talwandi Sabo)	2	48	192
34	Jagdish Singh S/o Chanan Singh of Rampura	Rampura--Bathinda (via Maharaj)	1	32	64
35	Karam Singh, Teja Singh, Narotam Singh of Bathinda	Rampura--Firozpur (via Phul)	1	123	123
36	Kaka Singh S/o Sarwan Singh of Talwandi Sabo	Talwandi Sabo--Sardulgarh (via Rori)	2	40	160
37	Laddi Bus Service (Regd.), Mansa	Bathinda--Mansa (via Tungwali)	6	64	768
		[illegible] (via [illegible]khar)	3	50	300
		[illegible]--Mansa (via Tamkot)	1	16	32

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
		Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	1	35	70
		Bathinda--Ballianawali-Rarh	1	52	104
		Bathinda--Ballianawali (extended upto Mansa)	1	68	136
38	Malwa Motors (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Mansa (via Phaphre extended upto Budhlada)	1	78	156
39	Joginder Singh S/o Gurdial Singh, VPO Chak Singh Wala, Distt. Bathinda	Moga--Jalandhar (via Dharamkot)	1	115	230
40	Milap Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	4	30	240
		Bathinda--Rampura--Barnala	2	72	288
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo--Raman (extended upto Killianawali)	2	58	238
		Rampura--Raman (via Ballianawali)	2	56	224
		Bathinda--Gidderbaha (via Killi Virk)	3	32	192

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
41	Mansahia Transport Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mansa	Mansa--Chullar	1	54	108
		Bathinda--Mansa (via Phaphre Bhaike extended upto Budhlada)	2	78	312
		Bathinda--Dodra	3	90	540
		Bathinda--Bhikhi (extended upto Sunam)	2	106	424
		Mansa--Firozpur (extended upto Budhlada from Mansa)	1	164	328
		Mansa--Sangrur (extended upto Malerkotla)	1	97	194
42	Mirpur Motors (Regd.), Mansa	Mansa--Talwandi Sabo	1	50	100
		Barnala--Mansa (extended upto Raman)	1	98	196
		Barnala--Mansa--Talwandi Sabo	1	81	162
43	Mann Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Muktsar--Goniana (via Doda)	2	54	216
44	Mata Gujri Transport Co. (Regd.), Bathinda	Dabwali--Faridkot (via Malout)	1	109	218
		[illegible]--Bathinda [illegible]dhni)	1	130	260

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
45	Mansa Roadways Pvt. Ltd., Mansa	Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	1	35	70
		Mansa--Budhlada (via Jawahar Ke)	1	26	52
		Budhlada--Sardulgarh	4	45	360
		Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	3	42	252
		Mansa--Nangal Kalan	3	6	36
		Boha--Bareta	3	29	174
46	Maghar Singh, Nachhater Singh and Banta Singh of Moga	Budhlada--Mansa (Via Narinderpura)	3	23	138
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo (via Jaurkian)	2	62	248
47	Mal Singh S/o Chanda Singh, College Road, Mansa	Budhlada--Ralla	3	30	180
48	New Satluj Transport Co. (Regd), Mansa	Mansa--Chullar	1	54	108
		Rampura--Mansa (via Ballianawali)	1	50	100
49	New Guru Kanshi Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	2	30	120
		Mansa--Talwandi Sabo--Sardulgarh	1	74	148

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
50	National Weaker Section Transport (Regd.), Bathinda	Bhagta--Amritsar (via Baghapurana)	1	156	312
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo (via Gidderbaha)	1	99	198
		Raman--Amritsar (via Talwandi Sabo--Bathinda)	1	224	448
51	Naranjan Singh and Jatinder Kumar of Mansa	Mansa--Maan Khera (via Sardulgarh)	1	55	110
52	Nirbhai Singh S/o Mohinder Singh of Kot Shamir District Bathinda	Dabwali--Gidderbaha (via Kheowali)	2	32	128
		Gidderbaha--Muktsar (via Bhunder)	2	46	184
53	Punjab Bus Service (Regd.), Mansa	Barnala--Mansa	1	50	100
		Rampura--Faridkot	1	100	200
		Rampura--Mansa	1	50	100
54	Naranjan Dass S/o Hardwari Lal of Mansa	Budhlada--Amritsar (via Bathinda)	1	264	528
55	Punjab Bus Service c/o Subedar Bus Service of Mansa	Mansa--Boha (via Nangal Kalan)	1	35	70
		Mansa--Budhlada (via Jawahar Ke)	1	26	52

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
56	Punhani Bajaj Bus Service (Regd.), Raman	Raman--Bathinda (via Kamalu)	4	36.5	292
57	Raman Mandi Bus Service (Regd.), Raman	Mansa--Sardulgarh (via Jhande)	1	48	96
		Sardulgarh--Raman (via Talwandi Sabo)	1	69	138
		Mansa--Sunam--Lehara (extended upto Talwandi Sabo from Mansa)	1	123	246
58	Ramgarhia Bus Service(Regd.), Rampura	Rampura--Raman (via Talwandi Sabo)	2	56	224
		Rampura--Raman (via Ballianawali)	1	63	126
		Maur--Piron (extended upto Raman)	3	62	372
59	Ranjit Transport Company (Regd.), Bathinda	Dabwali--Singhewala (via Nandgarh)	3	23	138
		Bathinda--Abohar (via Badal)	2	95	380
		Bathinda--Kheowali	3	47	270
60	Roop Transport Company (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Jalandhar (via Rampura)	1	230	460
		Rampura--Bathinda (via Maharaj)	1	32	64

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
61	Raj Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Raman (via Jodhpur)	2	41	164
62	Raiya Saink Bus Service (Regd.), Rampura Phul	Budhlada--Amritsar (via Bathinda)	1	264	528
63	Sant Chita Nand, Gaushala Road, Alike	Bhadaur--Barnala	3	42	252
		Moga--Tapa	1	42	84
		Bhadaur--Tapa (via Pakho extended upto Bhikhi)	3	41	246
		Tapa--Bhikhi (via Mehta)	2	17	68
64	Sethi Transport Company (Regd.), Bathinda	Bathinda--Maur (via Jiwan Singhwala)	1	42	84
		Bathinda--Barnala	1	67	134
		Bathinda--Sangrur	1	115	230
65	Sidhu Bus Service (Regd.), Bathinda	Maur--Bathinda--Moga (via Bhagta)	1	132	164
		Bathinda--Talwandi Sabo	4	30	240
66	Sandeep Bus Service Ltd., Mansa	Bathinda--Ballianawali (via Gehri)	1	32	64
		Mansa--Chullar	1	54	108

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
		Mansa-Lehra (extended upto Patran)	3	100	600
		Mansa-Rampura (via Pirkot out of 3R/Ts 1 R/T extended upto Baja Khana)	3	32	192
					64
		Mansa-Rampura (via Maur)	1	40	80
		Mansa-Bathinda (extended upto Hero Kalan)	4	85	680
		Mansa-Lehra	3	73	438
		Mansa-Bathinda	2	59	236
		Mansa-Rampura (via Pirkot)	1	32	64
		Hero Kalan-Mansa-Bathinda	Without mileage permit		
67	Sukhpal Travels (Regd.), Mansa	Moga-Mansa (via Barnala)	1	117	234
68	Sukhdev Singh, S/o Chanan Singh of Mirpur Kalan, District Bathinda	Bathinda-Abohar (via Panniwala)	1	98	196
		Budhlada-Sardulgarh	2	45	180

Serial No.	Name of the Transport Company	Name of the route	Number of daily trips	Route length (Km)	Total daily service (Km)
69	Teja Singh, S/o Nand Singh of Bathinda	Rampura-Bathinda (via Maharaj)	1	32	64
70	Vishal Transport Co. (Regd), Mansa	Mansa-Sangrur (extended upto Malerkotla)	1	97	194
71	United Co-op. Transport Society Ltd., Rampura Phul	Malout-Jaito (via Ghagga)	2	56	224
		Ballianawali-Jaito (via Rampura)	1	73	146
		Rampura-Maur (via Pirkot)	3	35	210
		Rampura-Raman (via Maur)	2	56	224

(Source : Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Firozpur)

APPENDIX IV

(Vide page 228)

Rest Houses in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

Serial No.	Name and Place	Number of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
	Tahsil Bathinda		
1	Civil Rest House, Bathinda	4	Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda
2	P W D Rest House, Bathinda	4	Executive Engineer, P W D B & R, Bathinda
3	Virk Rest House, Virk	2	Executive Engineer, Sirhind Canal Division, Bathinda
4	Goniana Rest House, Goniana	2	Ditto
5	Chak Ram Singh Wala Rest House, Chak Ram Singh	2	Ditto
6	Kot Shamir Rest House, Kot Shamir	2	Ditto
7	Bibiwala Rest House, Bibiwala	2	Ditto
8	Bathinda Rest House, Bathinda	1	Ditto
9	Raike Rest House, Raike	2	Ditto
10	Kaljharani Rest House, Kaljharani	2	Ditto
11	Poohla Rest House, Poohla	2	Ditto
12	Teona Rest House, Teona	2	Ditto
13	Railway Rest House, Bathinda	2	Divisional Superintendent, Northern Railway, Delhi
14	Municipal Committee, Rest House, Bhucho Mandi	2	President, Municipal Committee, Bhucho Mandi
15	Police Rest House, Bathinda	4	Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda
16	Guru Nanak Sainik Rest House, Bathinda	6	Secretary, District Soldiers' Board, Bathinda

Serial No.	Name and Place	Number of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
17	Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant Rest House, Bathinda	6	Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Bathinda
18.	Market Committee, Rest House, Bhucho Mandi	1	Secretary, Market Committee, Bhucho Mandi
19	Panchayat Ghar, Zila Parishad, Bathinda	2	Secretary, Zila Parishad Bathinda
20	Log Hut, Black Buck Dear Park, Bir Talab, Bathinda	1	Divisional Forest Officer, Bathinda
	Tahsil Talwandi Sabo		
21	Irrigation Rest House, Talwandi Sabo	2	Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Sangrur
22	Irrigation Rest House, Behwan	2	Ditto
23	Irrigation Rest House, Raman	2	Ditto
24	Irrigation Rest House, Jassi Bagwali	2	Ditto
25	Irrigation Rest House, Kot Bakhtu	2	Ditto
26	Irrigation Rest House, Ram Nagar	2	Ditto
27	Irrigation Rest House, Jodhpur	2	Ditto
28	Market Committee, Rest House, Raman	3	Secretary, Market Committee, Raman
29	Market Committee, Rest House, Maur	4	Secretary, Market Committee, Maur
	Tahsil Rampura Phul		
30	Neor Rest House, Neor	2	Executive Engineer, Sirhind Canal Division, Bathinda
31	Phuloke Rest House, Phuloke	2	Ditto

Serial No.	Name and Place	Number of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
32	Canal Rest House, Ramuwala	2	Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Firozpur
33	P W D Rest House, Phul	2	Executive Engineer, P W D, B & R, Bathinda
34	P W D Rest House, Rampura Phul	2	Executive Engineer, P W D, B & R, Bathinda
35	Rampura Rest House, Rampura	2	Executive Engineer, P W D, B & R, Bathinda
36	Dialpura Rest House, Dialpura	2	Ditto
37	Jalal Rest House, Jalal	2	Executive Engineer, Sirhind Canal Division, Bathinda
38	Irrigation Rest House, Dipoli	1	Executive Engineer, Sirhind Canal Division, Bathinda
	Tahsil Mansa		
39	P W D Rest House, Budhlada	2	Executive Engineer, P W D, B & R, Mansa
40	Canal Rest House, Nahra	2	Executive Engineer, Sangrur Division, Sangrur
41	Irrigation Rest House, Jorkian	2	Ditto
42	Irrigation Rest House, Chahlanwala	2	Ditto
43	Irrigation Rest House, Bhaini	2	Ditto
44	Irrigation Rest House, Bajewala	2	Ditto
45	Irrigation Rest House, Jawaharke	2	Ditto
46	Irrigation Rest House, Sada Singh Wala	2	Ditto
47	Irrigation Rest House, Khara	2	Ditto
48	Irrigation Rest House, Joga	2	Ditto

Serial No.	Name and Place	Number of Suites	Name of Reserving Authority
49	Irrigation Rest House, Bhikhi	1	Executive Engineer, Sangrur Division, Sangrur
50	Market Committee Rest House, Bareta	1	Secretary, Market Committee, Bareta
51	Irrigation Rest House, Golewala	2	Executive Engineer, Mansa Division, I B, Mansa (Jawahar Ke)
52	Irrigation Rest House, Higna	2	Ditto
53	Irrigation Rest House, Kusla	3	Ditto
54	Irrigation Rest House, Malkon	1	Executive Engineer, Lehal Division, I B, Patiala
55	Irrigation Rest House, Sangri	1	Ditto
56	Irrigation Rest House, Bire Ke Kalan	1	Ditto

(Source : District Statistical Officer, Bathinda)

APPENDIX V

(Vide page 229)

Post Offices in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
Bathinda Head Post Office BSG-IPCO/Phonocum	1 Balluana
	2 Bahman Diwana
	3 Bhagwangarh
	4 Bibiwala
	5 Bir Bahman
	6 Chugga Kalan
	7 Gulab Garh
	8 Gahri Bhagi
	9 Gurusai Sehnewala
	10 Jaisinghwala
	11 Kaila Bandar
	12 Kot Shamir
	13 Multania
	14 Mahta
	15 Naruana
	16 Sardulgarh
	17 Baho Sibian
	18 Teona
	19 Jhumba

Sub Post Offices

1 Bathinda City Lower Selection Grade Phono-cum Telegraph Sub-Office (Non-Delivery) Public Call Office

2 Bathinda Cantonment

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
3 Breta Call Office, Public Call Office	1 Bahadurpur PCO
	2 Dharampura PCO/MPO
	3 Kulrian PCO/MPO
	4 Kishangarh (Sedho Singh Wala) (Sadda Singh Wala) PCO
	5 Kahangarh PCO
4 Bhagta Bhai Public Call Office, Phonocum	1 Kotha Guru
	2 Maluka
	3 Siryewala
5 Bhai Rupa Combined Office, Phonocum	1 Ghanda Bana
	2 Gumti Kalan
6 Bhucho Mandi Lower Selection Grade, Combined Office, Public Call Office	1 Bhucho Kalan PCO
	2 Chak Bakhtu
	3 Chak Fatehsinghwala E/MPO
	4 Lahra Bega
	5 Lahra Muhabbat PCO
	6 Lahra Khana
	7 Tungwali
	8 Sema
	9 Bhucho Khurd PCO
7 Boha Public Call Office, Combined Office	1 Alimpura Mandran
	2 Dalewala-E
	3 Maghanian Kalan-E-MPO
	4 Rewand Kalan MPO
	5 Saidewala MPO
	6 Talian-E-MPO
	7 Odat Saidewala MPO

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
8 Bhaini Baga Combined Office	1 Khiala Kalan
	2 Khokhar Kalan MPO
	3 Musa MPO
	4 Tamkot E-MPO
	5 Ubbah MPO
9 Budhlada Lower Selection Grade, Combind Office, Public Call Office	1 Ahmadpur PCO
	2 Alampur Bodala MPO
	3 Bareh
	4 Borawal PCO
	5 Bichhuwana PCO/MPO
	6 Bapiana
	7 Biroke Kalan
	8 Datewas MPO
	9 Dhalewan (Dhalehu) E-MPO
	10 Gueney Kalan MPO
	11 Hodla Kalan MPO
	12 (Kishangarh) Pharwain
	13 Kulana-E
	14 Phaphre Bhaike PCO
10 Bhikhi Combined Office, Phonocum	1 Attla Kalan MPO
	2 (Hamirgarh) Dhaipai
	3 Hiron Kalan
	4 Khewa Kalan
	5 Khewa Khurd PMO-E
	6 Kotra MPO
	7 Matti MPO
	8 Makha Chahla MPO
	9 Somaeh-E

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
1 Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda	
2 Grain Market Mansa Time Scale, Sub Post Office, Non-Delivery	
3 Goniana Mandi, Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office, Combined Office	1 Ablu
	2 Bhisiyana-E-MPO
	3 Bhokhra
	4 Burj Maihma
	5 Deon
	6 Ganga
	7 Har Raipur
	8 Jeeda
	9 Jandawala
	10 Bhemuana
	11 Maihma Sarja
	12 Maihma Sawai MPO
	13 Maihma Bhagwana E
	14 Nahianawala
	15 Wirk Kalan
	16 Wirk Khurd
Industrial Estate, Bathinda Time Scale, Sub Post Office, Non-Delivery	
Joga	1 Aklia
	2 Ballon-MPO
	3 Chaoke
	4 Ralla PCO
	1 Addamke MPO
	2 Chenewala-E-MPO
	3 Fatehpur-E-MPO

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
	4 Ghudduwala MPO
	5 Hingna MPO
	6 Jatana Kalan
	7 Jhando Ke MPO
	8 Fatta Maluka
	9 Kusla MPO
	10 Mofar
17 Maur Mandi, Lower Selection Grade, Combined Office, Public Call Office	1 Ghumman Kalan PCO
	2 Jodhpur Pakher
	3 Kamalu Swaitch-E
	4 Kot Fateh
	5 Kotli Kalan PCO/MPO
	6 Maur Kalan
	7 Maiser Khanna-E
	8 Kasohwara (Ramnagar)
	9 Kuttiwal Kalan
	10 Raj Khanna-E
	11 Rajgarh Kuba
18 Mansa, Lower Selection Grade, Combined Office, Public Call Office	1 Akanwali MPO
	2 Bajewala-PCO/MPO
	3 Bhame Kalan
	4 Gehley-E-MPO
	5 Kaurkian-E-MPO
	6 Kalalwa La MPO
	7 Khara E-MPO
	8 Kot Dharmun-MPO
	9 Koriana-E-MPO
	10 Kot Lallu E-MPO

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
	11 Lakhmirwala E-MPO
	12 Makha MPO
	13 Main-E-
	14 Nangal Kalan PCO
	15 Narinderpura MPO
	16 Nathea
	17 Raipur MPO
	18 Seharan
19 Nai Basti Bathinda, Time Scale, Sub Post Office, Non-Delivery	
20 National Fertilizer Bathinda	
21 Nathana, Public Call Office, Phonocum	1 Bajjuana
	2 Dialpura Mirza
	3 Gobindpura PCO
	4 Kaliyan Sukha
	5 Nathpura-E-MPO
	6 Phuli
	7 Puhla PCO
22 Phul Public Call Office, Phonocum	1 Dhapali
	2 Raya
	3 Selbara
	4 Alike
23 Raman Lower Selection Grade, Public Call Office, Combined Office	1 Bangi Ragghu MPO
	2 Bangi Ruldu MPO
	3 Kot Bakhtu
	4 Malkana MPO
	5 Seikhu MPO

Post Offices	Branch Post Offices
24 Rampura Phul Lower Selection Grade, Combined Office, Public Call Office	1 Ballian Wali
	2 Baini Kani
	3 Bhundar
	4 Dhandhey MPO
	5 Dikh MPO
	6 Gillan Kalan
	7 Jaidan E-MPO
	8 Jethuke
	9 Kararwala
	10 Kotra Korianwala
	11 Pittho
	12 Mandi Kalan PXO
	13 Maharaj
	14 Rampura
25 Railway Colony Bathinda Time Scale Sub Post Office, (Non-Delivery)	
26 Rampura Mandi Time Scale Sub Post Office (Non-Delivery)	
27 Salabat Pura	1 Aklia (Jalal)
	2 Dialpura Bhaika
	3 Dakamsinghwala
	4 Kaur Singh Wala
	5 Jalal
	6 Ramuwal Jalalka
28 Sangat Public Call Office/ Phonocum	1 Bandi E-MPO
	2. Chak Ruldusinghwala-E
	3 Chak Atarsinghwala MPO
	4 Gehri Butter-E
	5 Ghudda
	6 Jassi Baghwali

Post Offices	Branch Offices
	7 Kotli Sabo-E-MPO
	8 Kot Guru
	9 Kutti (Kishanpura)
	10 Nandgarh-E
	11 Pakkar Kalan PCO/MPO
	12 Pathrala
	13 Raike Kalan
29 Sardulgarh	1 Ahlupur
	2 Jhanda Kalan E
	3 Karandi-E-MPO
	4 Khaira Kalan-E-MPO
	5 Mirpur Kalan
	6 Mankhera (Gurmukhpura)
	7 Nahran
	8 Singha
30 Sirki Bazar Bathinda, Time Scale Sub Post Office, (Non-Delivery), Public Call Office / Phonocum	
31 Talwandi Sabo Combind Office, Public Call Office	1 Bhainiwala
	2 Behman Jassa Singh
	3 Bhegi Bhandar
	4 Dhingar-E-MPO
	5 Ramtirath Jaga
	6 Shekhpura MPO
	7 Singo
	8 Jiwan Singh Wala
	9 Chathewala

(Source : Superintendent, Post Offices, Bathinda Division, Bathinda)

APPENDIX VI

(Vide page 229)

Combined Post and Telegraph Offices in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

1	Bathinda	29	Ghuman Kalan
2	Bathinda City	30	Kotli Kalan
3	Bareta	31	Kuttiwal Kalan
4	Dharampura	32	Ram Nagar
5	Kahangarh	33	Mansa
6	Kishangarh	34	Bajewal
7	Bahadurpur	35	Nangal Kalan
8	Kulrian	36	Nathana
9	Bhagta Bhai	37	Gobindpura
10	Bhai Rupa	38	Poohla
11	Bhucho Mandi	39	Phul
12	Bhucho Kalan	40	Sailbra
13	Bhucho Khurd	41	Goniana Mandi
14	Lehra Mohabat	42	Joga
15	Tungwali	43	Aklia
16	Boha	44	Chaoke
17	Bhaini Bagha	45	Ralla
18	Khiala Kalan	46	Jhunir
19	Ubha	47	Fatta Maluka
20	Budhlada	48	Raman
21	Ahmedpur	49	Rampura Phul
22	Borewal	50	Mandi Kalan
23	Bareh	51	Mehraj
24	Bachhuana	52	Sangat
25	Phaphre Bhaike	53	Pakka Kalan
26	Bhikhi	54	Sardulgarh
27	Hamirgarh Dhaipai	55	Sirki Bazar Bathi
28	Maur Mandi	56	Talwandi

(Source : Superintendent, Post Offices, Bathinda Division, Bathinda)

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Although the main sectors of livelihood of majority of the population of the district are agriculture, industry, trade and commerce and transport, yet these do not cover the entire field of the economic activity of the district. There are a considerable number of people who earn their livelihood by following small crafts and other occupations such as hair-cutting, tailoring, laundry work or are engaged in education, legal services, etc. A brief description of some important miscellaneous occupations, which have not been mentioned elsewhere in this gazetteer, is given in this chapter. The statistical data, as have been mentioned in the 1961 Census at the same pattern, is not available in the ensuing 1971 and 1981 Censuses as classificational changes were brought by the Census Department. However, latest data have been included, wherever possible.

Bathinda is primarily an agricultural district and a large number of its population, being residents of the rural areas, directly or indirectly depend upon agriculture as their source of livelihood. As per 1981 Census, out of a total population of 12,94,957 persons, as many as 9,99,773 persons (82.22 per cent) were residing in the rural areas. In the same Census, it was reported that there were 4,62,818 workers including 63,887 marginal workers in the district. The working force constituted 36 per cent of the total inhabitants of the district. Out of these, 2,75,127 persons (1,85,461 cultivators and 89,666 agricultural labourers), i.e. 59 per cent were engaged in agricultural pursuits only. The remaining 1,87,691 persons were engaged in other occupations, both in rural and urban areas, which comprised livestock, forestry, plantation, industries, transport, storage and communications, trade and commerce; and other services such as construction; professional activities like law, medical, education, engineering, etc. Self-employed occupations and personal and domestic services are common, besides the Central State and Local Bodies employment. A good number of people, especially from the rural areas, gifted with steadiness and good physique join the armed forces.

(a) Public Administration

Central, State & Local Government Services.--For the implementation of the developmental and other activities of the Central, State and Local governments, a large number of employees are working in the district. With the introduction of popular Government and increase in population, more and more offices of different departments have been opened and employees are being posted to cater to the needs of the people of the district. On 31 March 1989, there were 20,235 Punjab Government employees working in various offices of State Government.

Keeping in view the security of service and other amenities available to the employees, the government service is held in high esteem. The Central, State and Local governments provide dearness allowance, house rent, besides providing loans recoverable in easy instalments to their employees for the construction of houses and purchase of vehicles, etc. The employees are also provided residential accommodation, wherever available and to the extent possible. The regular government employees are entitled to contribute towards their provident funds and their dependents are provided with the same in case of premature death or the employees get the same on their superannuation. The government employees are also provided free medical treatment at government hospitals and dispensaries, besides getting reimbursment of the expenses incurred on it. An employee is entitled to various kinds of leave at the time of need. The female employees are also entitled to maternity leave as per prevalent rules. The State Government also allows additional financial relief to its employees so as to bring them at par with Central Government employees in regard to dearness allowance, interim relief, etc. The government employees are also entitled to the benefit of compassionate gratuity and pension on superannuation.

The employees of the police department are provided with rent free accommodation, whereas those of the railway department are provided quarters on nominal rent. The railway employees and their families are provided free and privilege passes for travel.

Besides, the employees of certain departments are provided with uniforms. Class IV employees under the State, Central and Local Bodies are given free liveries. The Central Government allows its employees and their family members leave travel concession once in four years.

Public Employees' Organisations.—For the redressal of their grievances and giving a feedback of their problems to the administration, the employees of the various departments in the district have formed the following unions/associations :—

1 Workshop Union, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda

2 Pepsu Road Transport Corporation Driver's Union, Bathinda

3 Octroi Employees' Union, Municipal Committee, Bathinda

4 Municipal Sweeper's Union, Bathinda

5 Punjab Municipal Employees' Union, Budhlada

6 Punjab Electricity Employees' Sectional Officers Association, Bathinda

7 Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant Employees' Federation, Bathinda

8 Thermal Technical Employees' Union, Bathinda

9 Class IV Employees' Union, P S E B, Thermal Plant, Bathinda

10 Thermal Work Charged Staff Union, Bathinda

11 Sweeper Employees' Union, Thermal Plant, Bathinda

12 State Bank of Patiala Employees' National Union, Mansa

13 Bathinda Central Co-operative Bank Employees' Union, Bathinda

14 Bathinda Eastern Central Co-operative Bank Employees' Union, Bathinda

15 Milk Plant Employees' Union Bathinda

16 Western Command M E S Civilian Drivers' Association, Bathinda

17 National Fertilisers Employees' Union, Bathinda

18 National Fertiliser Officials' Association, Bathinda

19 Warehouse Corporation Workers' Union, Bathinda

20 PUNSUP Employees' Union, Bathinda

(b) Learned Professions

The learned professions include teaching, medical, legal, engineering services, etc. The information available in respect of their role in the district is given below :

Educational Services.—Bathinda District still continues to be at the lowest rung in the whole State in respect of literacy. Out of 100 persons, 27.73 were literate as against 40.86 in the State according to 1981 Census. There were 952 schools of all categories in the district as on 30 September 1988 in which 6,804 (3,785 males and 3,019 females) teachers were employed. Besides, there were 9 colleges in the district. The pay-scales of the college teachers have since been revised by the State Government on the basis of the recommendations made by the University Grants Commission making the same quite lucrative and attractive. Similarly, the pay-scales of school teachers are also satisfactory.

Medical and Health Services.—The medical profession has gained considerable importance during the last fifty years or so. The number of practitioners and consultants has increased considerably during this period because of increase in consciousness among the people regarding their health. There are doctors, physicians and surgeons, dentists, nurses, etc. working in various hospitals and dispensaries in the district. A number of doctors have also opened their private clinics and nursing homes.

In the year 1988, there were 552 doctors, 379 midwives, 68 nurses and 2,136 *dais* working in the 175 allopathic medical institutions in the Bathinda

District. Besides, 38 *vaids*, 2 *hakims*, 40 *up-vaids*, and 40 *dais* were working in 40(38 + 2) Ayurvedic/Unani medical institutions.

Legal Services.—Persons opting for legal profession are mostly concentrated in urban areas of the district. The legal profession is manned by judges, barristers, advocates, and *munshis*. Being a paying profession, it attracts a good number of persons who render legal assistance to the people. Besides being a remunerative occupation, it commands a good social status too. There are 4 Bar Associations functioning at Bathinda, Mansa, Rampura Phul and Talwandi Sabo subdivisional headquarters with a membership of 594 lawyers in the district.

Engineering Services.—The engineers play an important role in the social and economic development of an area. Details of the persons employed in engineering services in various government departments have been given in Chapter XIII' Other Departments'. Besides, a good number of persons have adopted the profession of contractors and architects or consulting engineers.

(c) Personal and Domestic Services

Personal Services

These services include barbers, washermen, launderers, tailors, water-carriers, weavers, cobblers, carpenters and the like which employ a considerable number of persons as detailed below :

Barbers.—The traditional practice of having family barber *(nai)* in urban areas for hair-cutting or nail-cutting of the customers on fixed monthly payment has become obsolete due to the opening of hair-cutting saloons/shops in the urban areas. The charges vary from Rs 5 to Rs 7 for hair-cut and Rs 2 to Rs 3 for shave in urban areas. The rates of barbering services in the rural areas are comparatively lower than in urban areas. The villagers in certain remote areas do have their family barbers. They are still paid fixed payment either in cash or in kind even monthly or at the time of harvest. The practice of conveying and sending messages the barber on the occassion of marriage, death,

etc. has become to a large extent, outdated because other prompt means of performing these chores have become quite popular. Moreover, the new generation does not like to stick to this profession, because on one side they like to adopt some advanced profession to raise their standard of living and on the other side there is no traditional and social bar in changing profession. The other functions which were performed by the *nain* (barber's wife) and barber at the time of marriage occasion, such as cleaning and knitting the hair of bride, looking after her in the marriage ceremonies in the house of parents as well as in the parents-in-laws-house has decreased considerably mostly due to the change in marriage system and rites and customs. In some areas of the district, where the people are still rigid to their old traditions, they make use of the services of *nain* as well as barber to some extent.

The barbers in the towns have formed their unions to look after their interests. Tuesday is usually observed as holiday by them.

Washermen.—Washermen or *dhobis* form an important occupational class. Earlier, their work was to collect clothes from the houses of their customers and return them after washing and ironing. In lieu of it, they were paid some fixed amount monthly/half yearly or the payment was made in kind. But this practice has adversely been affected with the emergence of dry cleaning shops in urban areas. These shops provide quick and quality service on reasonable rates. Their charges are higher than those of the washermen. In such areas, the people have to go to the shop personally to deposit their clothes with the drycleaner and again to collect them. However in rural areas, the practice of collecting clothes from the houses of the customers and returning them after washing and pressing is still existent, though there is a change in the mode of payment. Earlier, the payment of washing charges was made in kind, monthly or half-yearly but now, the washing and ironing charges are taken in cash on the basis of piece-rate.

Tailors.—The tailor is an indispensable unit of the society, as he fulfils the primary needs of

the public. The tailors in urban areas prepare clothes according to the tastes and fashions prevalent in towns and cities, while those in rural areas prepare ordinary types of clothes worn by the ordinary villagers. The stitching charges in urban areas are higher as compared to rural areas.

Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work independently. There are also some big tailoring concerns, which get the work done on commission basis. In rural areas, the old practice of *darzi* (tailor) going to different houses for stitching the clothes on the occasion of marriage is diminishing.

Carpenters.—The carpenters make and repair wooden structures like doors, windows, and other building fixtures. There are certain carpenters who make and repair sophisticated furniture also. The village carpenters make plough, carts and other agricultural and domestic wooden articles. They get their remuneration in cash as well as in kind at the time of harvest.

Cobblers.—The cobblers or *mochis* recondition old, wornout or defective footwears to make them serviceable. The experienced leather cutters, lasters and sewers make complete foot-wears like shoes, *chappals* and *sandals*. Some of them have small establishments. But their business in the district has been adversely affected in recent times with the availability of mechanized footwears manufactured in bigger industrial concerns.

Self Employed Persons.—In this category of service are included weavers, shoe-makers, potters, sweepers, hand-cart pullers, porters at railway stations and bus stands, etc. They are spread over the whole district with varying number depending upon their requirements. In the rural areas, most of them also help their families to perform agricultural operations, social ceremonies, etc. Generally, they reside in the slums and live from hand to mouth and are almost below poverty line.

Domestic Services.—Though the practice of employing domestic servants, both in urban and rural areas, has decreased considerably, yet the domestic servants are still employed in certain houses. Some

well-to-do families employ such servants on permanent basis and some have begun the practice of engaging domestic servants on part-time basis instead of full-time. These part-time servants work as utensil cleaners washermen/washer-women and *malies* (gardeners), etc. The wages of domestic servants in whole-time employment vary from Rs 75 to 100 per mensem in addition to free meals and clothing.

In urban areas, female domestic servants *(mais)* are engaged on full-time or part-time basis. Generally, women belonging to poor families adopt this profession to supplement their income. They are employed to do specified jobs, such as washing of clothes or sweeping of houses or cleaning of utensils, etc. Such part-time female servants are paid Rs 45 to Rs 65 per mensem in addition to sundry facilities provided by their employers.

(d) Miscellaneous Services

Transport Services.—Transport has paramount importance in the economic and social life of the people. Since Independence, especially for the last two decades, transport services have considerably increased in the district as well as in the State. Every village, one way or the other, has been linked with the main road or railway station in the district. On 31 March 1989, there were 71 registered private transport companies operating in the district, besides the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda I and II and Budhlada depots. The persons employed by the different depots of the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation and the private companies include drivers, conductors, mechanics and cleaners, etc. In addition to the bus services, the other modes of transportation like taxis, three-wheelers, tongas and cycle-rickshaws also render such services.

During 1988-89, there were 1,929 trucks, 144 three-wheelers, 124 taxis, 623 jeeps and 3,374 cars operating in the district providing transport facilities to the public.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

The economic development is a process in which the real per capita income increases alongwith the decrease in the inequalities in the distribution of the income. The economic trends reflect the economic conditions of the people. The positive trends indicate the progressive nature of the economy, whereas negative trends that of economic depression.

The population of a region plays an important role in its economic development, because the human beings are not only responsible for production but are also the final consumers of the produced goods. Whereas the labour force makes a positive contribution in the development of the region, at the same time the rapid growth of population slows down the pace of development. Capital accumulation, which is a basis of economic development can only be promoted if output exceeds consumption.

(a) Livelihood Pattern and General Level of Prices and Wages & Standard of Living

Livelihood Pattern.—Bathinda being predominantly an agricultural district, a large chunk of its population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture for its livelihood. According to 1981 Census, 35.4 per cent of the population in the district is engaged in various economic pursuits, of which cultivators and agricultural labourers alone account for 60.1 per cent of the total working force. Other workers form 25.2 per cent followed by 1.8 per cent of the household industry. Marginal workers also account for 12.9 per cent of the total working force.

On the basis of the economic activity pursued, the workers are classified into nine categories as under :

Classification of Workers in the Bathinda District according to the 1981 Census

Classification of workers according to their profession	Number of persons according to the 1981 Census						
	Rural		Urban		Total		Persons
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
1 Cultivators	1,77,534	629	8,002	50	1,85,536	679	1,86,215
2 Agricultural Labourers	82,330	3,187	5,464	201	87,794	3,388	91,182
3 Household Industry (manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs V(a)	5,788	451	2,126	195	7,914	646	8,560
4 Other Workers (III, IV, V(b) and VI to IX)	40,445	2,321	68,428	5,251	1,08,873	7,572	1,16,445
Total Main Workers (I to IX)	3,06,097	6,588	84,020	5,697	3,90,117	12,285	4,02,402
Marginal Workers	5,724	51,855	601	1,216	6,325	53,071	59,396
Non-Workers	2,28,573	4,09,952	74,860	1,29,483	3,03,373	5,39,435	8,42,808
Total Population	5,40,334	4,68,395	1,59,481	1,36,396	6,99,815	6,04,791	13,04,606

(*Census of India*, 1981 *Series-17 Punjab, Part II-A and Part II-B, General Population Tables and Primary Census Abstract*, pp. 226 to 229)

The table indicates that out of a total population of 13,04,606 of the district, 4,02,402 were engaged in various types of economic activities, whereas the number of non-workers was 8,42,808 The ratio of workers to non-workers was 35.4 : 64.6, which indicates that roughly two persons depended upon a worker for their livelihood.

To accelerate the pace of development in the rural areas, especially to create better living conditions, the Model Village Scheme was introduced in the district alongwith the other districts of the State during 1969-70. The scheme envisaged the allround development of villages regarding pavement of streets, construction of drains, metalling of approach roads, construction of *phirnis* (circular roads) and establishment of kitchen gardens.

In the Bathinda District, 56 villages were selected under the scheme and work in all these villages has since been completed.

In order to make further improvement in the living standard of rural people, the Government of India launched the Integrated Rural Development Programme with effect from the financial year 1978-79. At the instance of Government of India, the Punjab Government have also started this programme in the State. Under this programme, a cluster of 5 contiguous villages in each of the blocks has been selected to effect increase in agricultural production. Local resources are fully developed to provide full and gainful employment within a period of five years. In due course, more and more villages will be covered under this programme. These clusters will ultimately become focal growth centres and the cluster based growth centres will encompass the whole of the rural district.

The farmers in the district are changing their traditional tools and methods of farming for mechanised tools and modern.

Under the programme, 5,887 persons were given loan worth Rs 137.01 lakhs, out of which Rs 61.02 lakhs was granted as subsidy during the year 1988-89 in the Bathinda District. The old wooden ploughs and bullocks have been replaced by tractors, threshers and seed-cum-fertilizer drills, etc. Besides,

being regarded by the farmers as a status symbol, the modern equipments have helped in increasing farm production to a very large extent.

Prior to the setting up of the District Industries Centre at Bathinda, the district did not make much headway in industry although the district was declared industrially backward and various incentives were provided to the entrepreneurs by the Government. The State Government have also drawn various schemes to provide incentives in the shape of subsidies, interest-free loans and training facilities to develop industries in the district. The banking sector is also contributing to the growth of industries.

Prices and Wages.—In order to assess the economic condition of the people belonging to a particular region, the comparative study of prices and wages is important. Prices affect the allocation of the economy's resources, income and costs and production and determine the profit margin. As such, these influence the attitude of investors, determine the course of foreign trade, and lead to changes in wages. The volume and character of government expenditure also depends on the level of prevailing prices.

The table below indicates the fluctuating trend in the wholesale prices of the main agricultural commodities in the Bathinda District between the year 1984-85 and 1988-89 :-

(Per Quintal)

Year	Wheat (Rs)	Gram (Rs)	*Bajra* (Rs)	Barley (Rs)
1984-85	157.00	380.00	150.00	125.00
1988-89	240.00	600.00	180.00	195.00

(*Source* : District Statistical Officer, Bathinda)

Wages are the remunerations paid to a worker in lieu of the work done by him. In the early days, wages, especially in the agricultural sector, were determined by customs and traditions. The agricultural labourers and artisans were paid either in cash or in kind or in both. But with the passage of time,

the payment of wages in cash has become more and more prevalent, especially in the case of labourers.

The rates of pay fixed for the Class IV Government employees, working in different offices in the Bathinda District, during 1988-89 are given in Appendix I on pages 292--295.

Standard of Living.—The study regarding the standard of living of the people in a district is necessary to know the economic prosperity of its inhabitants. An accepted method of knowing the standard of living in any locality is to survey the income and expenditure of various people engaged in different occupations. The size and composition of the family, its tastes and preferences also determine the standard of living.

The Economic and Statistical Organization, Punjab, during 1987-88 conducted a survey[1] regarding family budgets of selected cultivators in the State with bullock-operated holdings as well as tractor-operated holdings. During the survey, family budgets of forty-five peasant proprietors having bullock-operated holdings and forty-six tractor-operated holdings were studied. The aim of the survey was to find out the returns accruing to the cultivators and find out the extent to which the goods consumed were produced in the farm or purchased from outside. The families of four villages (bullock-operated), viz. Gulabgarh (tahsil Bathinda), Ralla Kothe (tahsil Mansa), Mandi Kalan (tahsil Rampura Phul) and Chinarthal (tahsil Talwandi Sabo) in the Bathinda District were selected for the survey.

The findings of the bullock-operated cultivators survey pertaining to income and expenditure are shown in the following table :—

[1] *Family Budgets of Selected Cultivators in the Punjab for the year 1987-88* (Publication No. 593, issued by the Economic Adviser to Government, Punjab, Chandigarh, in 1989)

Name of the family/ village	Net income from all sources (Rs)	Net expenditure (Rs)	surplus/ deficit (Rs)
Gulabgarh	84,904	75,799	+ 9,105
Ralla Kothe	50,069	35,290	+ 14,779
Mandi Kalan	1,26,433	41,606	+ 84,827
Chinarthal	58,013	33,449	+ 24,564

The above figures show that the families of the villages, Gulabgarh, Ralla Kothe, Mandi Kalan and Chinarthal had a surplus Budget. The survey also revealed that on an average, a peasant proprietor's family in Punjab spent 50 per cent of its income on food, 8 per cent on fuel, 12 per cent on clothing, 13 per cent on housing, 5 per cent on social, 2 each on lighting, medicine, travelling, education and amusement and luxuries, 1 per cent each on religion and miscellaneous.

The goods consumed by the families in the four villages were as under :

Name of the family/ village	Total expenditure (Rs)	Supplied by the farm (Rs)	Percentage	Purchased from outside (Rs)	Percentage
Gulabgarh	75,799	30,228	40	45,571	60
Ralla Kothe	35,290	16,163	46	19,127	54
Mandi Kalan	41,686	18,784	45	22,822	55
Chinarthal	33,449	16,682	50	16,767	50

During 1987-88, the families of four (tractor-operated), viz. Sema (tahsil Bathinda), Kourewala (tahsil Mansa), Raiya (tahsil Rampura Phul), Bhagwanpura (tahsil Talwandi Sabo) in the Bathinda District were selected for the survey.

The findings of the tractor-operated cultivators

survey pertaining to income and expenditure are shown in the following table :

Name of the family/village	Net income from all sources (Rs)	Net expenditure (Rs)	Surplus/ deficit (Rs)
Sema	5,66,709	43,272	+ 5,23,437
Kourewala	1,41,846	53,631	+ 88,215
Raiya	95,789	37,152	+ 58,637
Bhagwanpura	1,96,299	56,898	+ 1,39,401

The above figures show that the families of surplus villages, Sema, Kourewala, Raiya and Bhagwanpura had surplus budget.

The survey also revealed that on an average, a peasant proprietor's family in Punjab spent 58 per cent of the income on food, 10 per cent on fuel, 9 per cent on clothing, 13 per cent on housing, 2 per cent each on lighting, medicine, travelling, social, amusement and luxuries and miscellaneous, 1 per cent each on education and religion.

The goods consumed by the families in the four villages were as under :

Name of the family/ village	Total expenditure (Rs)	Supplied by the farm (Rs)	Percentage	Purchased from outside (Rs)	Percentage
Sema	43,272	10,799	25	32,473	75
Kourewala	53,631	24,497	46	29,134	54
Raiya	37,152	18,489	50	18,663	50
Bhagwanpura	56,898	24,565	43	32,333	47

The Economic and Statistical Organization, Punjab conducts surveys from time to time to find out the standard of living of the people in all districts of the State. The district-wise figures regarding the

per capita income for the year 1988-89 are given below :

Serial No.	District	Income per head (Rs)
1	Gurdaspur	4,838
2	Amritsar	6,297
3	Kapurthala	6,589
4	Jalandhar	6,145
5	Hoshiarpur	5,479
6	Rupnagar	6,083
7	Ludhiana	7,037
8	Firozpur	6,776
9	Faridkot	6,714
10	Bathinda	6,275
11	Sangrur	6,629
12	Patiala	6,290
	Punjab State	6,274

The above figures show that in 1988-89, the per capita income of Bathinda District at the then current prices was Rs 6,275, as compared to Rs 6,274 for the Punjab State as a whole. The district ranked 8th in comparison with other districts and its per capita income was higher to Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Rupnagar and Jalandhar districts.

(b) Employment Situation

The major objective of the economic planning is the optimum utilization of human resources. Allround expansion in various sectors, particularly in the agricultural one has led to increased employment avenues. In the agricultural sector alone, employment opportunities have expanded enormously as a consequence

of the increase in farm production on account of mechanisation of agricultural practices, expansion in marketing and storage and transportation of agricultural produce. Additional employment opportunities, in the secondary as well as in tertiary sectors are also becoming available in the district.

As already discussed, the inhabitants of Bathinda District are primarily engaged in agriculture. As per 1981 Census, 60.1 per cent of the total working force was engaged in agricultural pursuits. The development in agricultural practices has also contributed in the increased avenues in agricultural sector as well, leading to a farm surplus which further contributes in the setting up of agro-based industries. The major section of the female workers is also engaged in agriculture in the district.

The number of persons waiting for employment in the district as on 31 March 1989 was 28,304 as compared to 39,900 in 1984-85. A total of 9,136 persons got themselves registered for employment in the employment exchanges during 1988-89, whereas 259 persons were given employment during the same year by the employment exchanges of the district. It clearly indicates that there is an increase in unemployment in the district.

Employment Exchanges.—After the merger of Pepsu in Punjab in 1956, a District Employment Exchange was set up at the district headquarter at Bathinda in 1957 to cater to the needs of employment seekers belonging to the whole district. Later on, a Town Employment Exchange was set up at Mansa on 1 October 1976. After that, another Town Employment Exchange was started at Rampura Phul on 12 January 1979 to solve the problem of employment seekers in the district. The District Employment Exchange, Bathinda was upgraded to that of Sub-Regional Employment Exchange w.e.f. 1 April 1979.

The main functions of an employment exchange are : to register applicants and to provide employment assistance; to impart vocational guidance to the youth and adults to choose a better career; to elicit employment market information to assess the employment trends, impact of Government Plans on the employment situations and to collect employment statistics for the Planning Commission of India.

The work done by the employment exchanges of Bathinda District has been shown in appendix II at the end of this Chapter on page 296.

Employment Market Information Scheme.—The aim of this scheme is to watch the trends of employment in the State so as to make available to the Government and to the Planning Commission, information on the periodical expansion and contraction of employment in various industries and occupations in each district and in the State as a whole. The information, thus collected is also utilized to assist the Government in determining the location of certain training institutes and the trades to be taught therein. It enables the Government to assess the impact of developmental plans on employment.

This scheme was introduced in the State in 1957-58, and is operated under the guidance of the Director of Employment, Punjab, Chandigarh. Initially, it covered only the public sector, but from 1960-61, it was also extended to the private sector.

Under the scheme, the employment exchange is responsible for collecting regular infromation about the employment situation in the private as well as in the public sectors. All establishments in the public sector and selected establishments in the private sector engaged in non-agricultural activities are asked to give details regularly about the number of persons they are employing, the vacancies those have occurred and the type of persons they find to be in short supply. The information is collected from all establishments in the public sector and those employing 25 or more persons in the private sector under the provision of the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, which makes it obligatory on them to submit it to the local employment exchange. Information from smaller establishments in the private sector is, however, collected on voluntary basis. The information which is processed at the district level is finally tabulated at the State and National level to know precisely the employment potential at these levels.

The following table clearly shows the changes in the volume of employment, both in the private

and public sectors in the district, as on 31 March 1988 and 31 March 1989 :

Industrial Division	Number of establishments		Number of employees	
	31 March 1988	31 March 1989	31 March 1988	31 March 1989
1 Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying	7	7	614	655
2 Manufacturing	72	71	5,993	6,203
3 Electricity	14	14	3,909	3,956
4 Construction	27	29	2,367	2,291
5 Trade and Commerce	27	28	415	540
6 Transport Communication and storage	19	16	1,984	1,948
7 Public Services	376	385	22,481	22,779
Total :	542	550	38,173	38,372

(Source : Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Bathinda)

Vocational Guidance Scheme.—The scheme aims to giving vocational guidance and employment counselling to school leavers and fresh entrants to the labour market and to help them to choose vocations in accordance with their interests, aptitudes and abilities. It is conducted in close collaboration with the guidance services in schools under educational authorities. The programme is jointly operated by the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Union Ministry of Labour and Employment, and Directorate of Employment in the State. The Ministry of Labour and Employment, through the Director of Employment Exchanges is responsible for the general policies and procedure which are devised in collaboration with the State Governments through the National Working Group of the Employment Services. The State Directorate of Employment administers the service through the employment exchanges and coordinates with the guidance service of the Education Department of the State Government.

The officer in charge of the employment Exchange, Bathinda is responsible for the efficient working and general supervision of this scheme in the district. The functions of a Vocational Guidance Unit are to provide vocational guidance and employment counselling to youth (boys and girls) and adults (men and women) in groups as well as individually; assist in the placement of youth in institutions or training centres or in entry jobs; follow up and review the progress of guided youth and adults; review the records of applicants on the live register and to give them such guidance as would lead to early and suitable placement; assist other sections of the exchanges in improving the quality of registrations and submissions to assist in the collection and compilation of up-to-date information on occupations, training facilities; educational sources, employment trends and employment outlook for youth and adults, scholarships and sources of financial assistance. Its other functions include maintenance of regular information for the use of applicants and visitors seeking information; maintenance of up-to-date library on occupation and vocational literature; and educating the public by undertaking publicity measures in vocational guidance principles with a view to encouraging community consciousness. The guidance procedure at an employment exchange with a vocational guidance unit, consists of group guidance comprising invitational talks, group discussions and invitational talk-cum-group discussions according to the needs of the groups; individual guidance; and giving information, individually.

A Vocational Guidance Unit was started in the district in 1957. It has been steadily disseminating occupational information and vocational guidance to the deserving cases, especially to the young student community. Efforts are made to carry the facilities

to all corners of the district through career talks in educational institutions.

The following table shows the work done by the Vocational Guidance Unit, Bathinda from 1979-80 to 1988-89 :

Year	Number of individual provided			
	Group guidance talks	Individuals given group guidance	Individual guidance cases	Indidivuals given occupational information
1979-80	75	350	5	25
1980-81	282	1,719	314	1,334
1981-82	95	423	52	112
1982-83	131	667	22	619
1983-84	125	733	20	593
1984-85	41	207	39	1,624
1985-86	249	1,128	88	739
1986-87	115	612	72	970
1987-88	89	336	151	520
1988-89	147	852	228	1,597

(Source : Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Bathinda)

Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM).—For the promotion of self employment opportunities in the rural area, Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) Scheme was initiated by the Central Government in July 1979. The main thrust of the scheme is equipping the rural youth with necessary skills and technology to enable them to seek self-employment. The training courses have a practical bias and the concept of learning by doing is followed. The area of training has been restricted to agriculture, animal husbandry, dairying, rural industries, small business, service establishments, etc. Only youth belonging to the families of the target groups of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans and others below

the poverty line are eligible. Normally, persons between 18 to 35 years of age are covered and the training is imparted by existing Central and State training institutions/organizations.

The Scheme providing self-employment to educated unemployed youth is being implemented by the District Industries Centre in the Bathinda District. All educated unemployed youth in the age group of 18--35 having Matriculation qualification and above are entitled to the benefits of the scheme. The applicants are free to opt for any activity like industry, business and services. Under the scheme, the District Industries Centre provides assistance up to Rs 25,000. In the year 1988-89, 813 cases involving Rs 160.58 lakhs were financed by the District Industries Centre, Bathinda.

TRYSEM Scheme was introduced in Bathinda District during 1980-81. The number of persons trained under the scheme during 1980-81 to 1988-89 in the district is given in the following table :-

Year	No. of persons trained			No. of trained persons who set up their units			No. of persons who got employment after training		
	Total	Scheduled Castes	Women	Total	Scheduled Castes	Women	Total	Scheduled Castes	Women
1980-81	298	110	159	43	15	23	--	--	--
1981-82	579	468	540	380	305	380	--	--	--
1982-83	1,480	621	969	575	316	561	147	11	--
1983-84	1,241	524	762	451	199	407	146	44	--
1984-85	981	526	755	115	41	72	--	--	--
1985-86	796	477	586	796	477	586	796	477	586
1986-87	1,175	705	900	1,175	705	900	1,175	705	900
1987-88	540	324	540	540	324	540	540	324	540
1988-89	1,149	709	860	1,149	709	860	1,149	709	860

(Source : District Rural Development Agency, Bathinda)

Short Term Relief Measures for Unemployed.—Mitigating the hardships to the educated unemployed has been the primary concern of the Government. The scheme of paying Rs 40 per mensem

to matriculates and under-graduates and Rs 50 per mensem to graduates and above as unemployment allowance was initiated in 1978-79. This allowance was admissible to persons whose names had been on the live register continuously for five years. However, the period of continuous unemployment for eligibility to such allowance was reduced to three years and rates of allowance were doubled and fixed at Rs 80 per mensem for matriculates and under-graduates and Rs 100 per mensem for graduates and post-graduates with family income up to Rs 3,600 per annum with effect from 1 April 1981. As many as 784 unemployed persons were disbursed Rs 1,88,346 as allowance during 1981-82 as against Rs 1,83,060 disbursed to 646 such persons in 1980-81 in the Bathinda District. During the year 1988-89, allowance of Rs 3,80,450 was disbursed to 450 unemployed persons.

(c) Planning and Rural Development

Planning.—Planning is an important means for achieving the economic and social advancement of the people by formulating definite schemes by setting up targets of progress in various sectors of economy and by achieving them within a stipulated period. After Independence, a comprehensive programme of planned economic development has been undertaken in the country for the social and economic uplift of the people through successive Five-Year Plans. Within the framework of National Plans, the State and District Plans are formulated keeping in view the concept of Welfare State and implemented through the district administrative machinery. For each scheme of development, there are fixed targets and estimates of expenditure have been worked out to achieve the desired social and economic goals.

Rural Development.—The Rural Development Programme, previously known as the Community Development Programme, was launched in Punjab as in the rest of the country on 2 October 1952. It was inaugurated in the district by starting the first development block at Bathinda on 2 October 1953.

The main emphasis of the programme is on improvement of agriculture and ancilliary services like animal husbandry and irrigation, which employ about

70 per cent of the rural population. The development of small-scale industries also received increasing attention for creating more employment opportunities. Other features of the programme include the provision of basic amenities like those of drinking water, village primary schools, communications, adult literacy, social education and promotion of community organisations.

The programme covers the entire district of Bathinda comprising 9 blocks, as per particulars given below :

Serial No.	Subdivision	Block	Date of starting	
1	Bathinda	Bathinda	2 October 1953	
		Sangat*	1 April 1956	*Out of 48 villages of Sangat Block, 29 villages fall in Bathinda and remaining 19 in Talwandi Sabo Subdivision.
		Nathana	1 April 1961	
2	Talwandi Sabo	Talwandi Sabo	1 April 1956	
3	Rampura Phul	Phul	1 April 1958	
		Rampura	1 April 1957	
4	Mansa	Mansa	2 October 1961	
		Jhunir	1 April 1955	
		Budhlada	1 April 1954	

(Source : Director, Rural Development and Panchayats Department, Punjab)

APPENDIX I

(Vide page 280)

Rates of pay for different types of labourers/workers/Class IV Government servants per day/month fixed in the Bathinda District during 1988-89

Serial No.	Category of Labourers/workers	Rates of Pay	
		Per day (Rs)	Per month (Rs)
1	Dak Munshi	20.80	541.10
2	Dak Runner	20.80	541.80
3	Waterman/Water Carrier	20.80	541.80
4	Sweeper	20.80	541.80
5	Mali	20.80	541.80
6	Chowkidar	20.80	541.80
7	Pankha Coolie	20.80	541.10
8	Boatman/Ferry-man	25.90	675.85
9	Coolie	20.80	541.10
10	Bahishti	26.75	693.20
11	Chainman/Flagman	20.80	541.10
12	Mazdoor/Labourer (Agricultural Labourer also)	20.80	541.10
13	Khalasi	23.10	600.80
14	Survey Khalasi	23.10	600.80
15	Mate	23.10	600.80
16	Beldar	20.80	541.10
17	For drinking water, Office duty by Class IV employees	20.80	541.10
18	Gangman	20.80	541.10
19	Oilman	21.65	563.20
20	Barber	23.85	--
21	Mochi	23.85	--

Serial No.	Category of Labourers/workers	Rates of Pay	
		Per day (Rs)	Per month (Rs)
22	Tailor	23.80	619.40
23	Dhobi/Washerman	26.75	693.20
24	Cook (without food and lodging)	--	689.05
25	Cook (with free food 2 meals and 2 teas and lodging)	--	498.95
26	Assistant Cook	20.80	541.10
27	Man with camel	46.15	1,201.60
28	Man with pair of bullocks	46.15	1,201.60
29	Hiring charge of cart with a pair of bullocks and a man	46.15	1,201.60
30	Carpenter Ist Class	46.15	1,201.60
31	Carpenter IInd Class	36.10	938.75
32	Cartman	21.65	563.20
33	Tinsmith	20.20	525.70
34	Blacksmith Ist Class	46.15	1,201.60
35	Blacksmith IInd Class	36.10	938.75
36	Mason Ist Class	41.85	1,088.90
37	Mason IInd Class	36.10	938.75
38	Painter Ist Class	41.85	1,088.90
39	Painter IInd Class	36.10	938.75
40	Road Roller Driver	27.45	713.40
41	Man without donkey	28.90 Rs extra donkey	9.66 for each
42	Pipe fitter	38.90	752.00
43	Polisher	26.75	693.20
44	Luggage porter	20.80	541.10

Serial No.	Category of Labourers/workers	Rate of Pay	
		Per day (Rs)	Per month (Rs)
45	Lamp man	20.80	541.10
46	Aya	20.80	541.10
47	Sweeper Cattle Pound	20.80	541.10
48	Fitter/Turner	34.10	886.75
49	Driver for heavy vehicles	28.90	751.00
50	Driver for light vehicles	24.50	642.70
51	Pump Operator	23.85	619.65
52	Labour unskilled	20.80	541.10
53	Labour skilled	25.55	664.20
54	Tent Master	23.85	--
55	Halwai	46.15	--
56	Welder	25.90	675.85
57	Moulder	25.90	675.85
58	Aligner	20.80	541.10
59	Mazdoor for spray	21.65	--
60	Mazdoor for Military	20.80	541.10
61	Mazdoor female for Military	20.80	541.10
62	Cane Weaver	23.10	675.85
63	Kitchen servant	--	109.80
64	Trollyman	15.85	--
65	Hammerman	23.10	600.80
66	Frash	--	541.10
67	Retired patwari	31.75	851.75
68	Sewerman	20.80	541.10
69	Peon	20.80	541.10
70	Plumber	34.10	886.75

Serial No.	Category of Labourers/workers	Rate of Pay	
		Per day (Rs)	Per month (Rs)
71	Sawyer	25.30	656.15
72	Motor and Pump-Attendant	25.30	656.15
73	Oil Engine Driver	25.30	656.15
74	Assistant Photographer	28.00	727.90
75	Pipe Fitter	34.10	886.75

(*Source* : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

APPENDIX-II

Work done by the Employment Exchanges of Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89

(Vide page 285)

Year	No. of registrations during the year	No. of vacancies notified	No. of applicants placed in employment during the year	Applicants on Live Register at the end of the year	Monthly No. of employers using the Exchanges	No. of vacancies carried over the year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1977-78	16,844	4,139	2,083	23,190	529	1,236
1978-79	21,223	3,277	1,808	23,457	537	702
1979-80	17,384	3,425	1,634	27,263	538	966
1980-81	17,871	2,749	1,576	32,134	378	963
1981-82	17,207	2,659	1,606	32,958	352	978
1982-83	15,601	2,096	1,206	32,029	298	880
1983-84	17,061	1,554	942	36,881	291	925
1984-85	16,199	1,849	750	39,900	211	812
1985-86	11,695	1,037	221	30,110	132	385
1986-87	9,531	856	214	28,675	125	456
1987-88	11,316	1,745	532	30,151	115	671
1988-89	9,136	599	259	28,304	121	427

(*Source* : Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Bathinda)

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

(a) Historical Background and Divisions of the District

The district as an administrative unit has occupied, since Mauryan times, a unique position in a State. The district is the most important administrative unit and the main underlying idea in its organisation is to ensure maintenance of law and order, collection of revenue, development and welfare of people. It is a pivot on which the civil administration as well as other development and nation building activities like education, public health, welfare, rural development evolve.

The district of Bathinda, as constituted at present, consists of four tahsils with subdivisional headquarters at Bathinda, Mansa, Rampura Phul and Talwandi Sabo. Prior to Independence, these areas were administered by the erstwhile princely states of Patiala, Faridkot, Jind and Nabha. The Nathana area of the present district was under the control of the British regime. In 1956 when the PEPSU was merged with the Punjab State, the area of the Bathinda District became a part of Punjab.

The princley states were divided into various *nizamats* or districts and these *nizamats* were further subdivided into a number of tahsils. Patiala State was divided into 5 *nizamats* and Govindgarh or Bathinda was a tahsil of the Ananadgarh or Barnala *Nizamat*. The present tahsil of Mansa was also a part of the Patiala State. Faridkot was an independent princely state. The area of Jaito and Phul was part of erstwhile Nabha Princely State. The Bathinda District came into existence on 20 August 1948 on the formation of the Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU). The district then comprised 3 tahsils, namely, Bathinda, Mansa and Faridkot with its headquarters at Faridkot, which were shifted to Bathinda in 1953.

Although the present district of Bathinda includes areas of princely states of Patiala, Jind, Nabha and Faridkot, yet most of the area formed part of Patiala Princely State. The system of administration followed in the then Princely State of Patiala as given on pages 139-140 of *Phulkian States Gazetteer* (Patiala, Jind and Nabha), 1904 is described below :

There were four high departments of the Patiala Princely State, the Finance Department *(Diwani M.I)*; the Foreign Office *(Munshi Khana)* the Judicial Department *(Adalat Sadr)*, and the Military Department *(Bakshi Khana)*. The Finance Minister-*Diwan*- in the early days of the State had full powers in all matters connected with the land revenue and the treasury. He decided land cases and was sometimes allowed to form the land revenue. Maharaja Karam Singh put a stop to this practice and organised the Financial Dapartment. The *Diwan* was made the Appellate Court in revenue cases, and all matters of revenue and finance were submitted to him. The Foreign Minister-*Mir Munshi*- transacted all business with other governments, signed agreements, contracts, etc. and conducted the external affairs of the State. The Judicial Minister-*Adalati*-was appointed, during the reign of Maharaja Karam Singh. The Commander-in-Chief-*Bakshi*-formerly combined the duties of Paymaster with his own, but the office then was purely military. Maharaja Rajinder Singh created a Chief Court of three members to hear appeals against the decisions of the Finance, Judicial and Foreign Minister.

The headquarters staff of each *nizamat* consisted of a *Nazim*, two *Naib Nazims* and a Tahsildar, in charge of the headquarters tahsil. The *Nazims* dated from the reign of Maharaja Narinder Singh, when under the name of *Munsarim hadbast*, they were appointed to introduce cash assessments. The *Nazim* was practically a Deputy Commissioner with the powers of Sessions Judge in addition. He heard all the appeals of his *Naib Nazims* and Tahsildars, whether civil, criminal or revenue. The *Naib Nazims* were the court of original jurisdiction, both civil and criminal and the Tahsildar had criminal jurisdiction in a few petty cases only. The Tahsildar was the court of original jurisdiction in revenue cases and had criminal powers in cases falling under Sections 425 and 441 to 447 of the Indian Penal Code.

After the partition of the country, all the princley States formed a Union called PEPSU and Bathinda became a district of PEPSU. It then comprised the Bathinda, Faridkot and Mansa tahsils. In 1954, Phul, which was a sub-tahsil of Barnala District, was added to it. As many as 37 villages of Nathana Sub-tahsil of

Firozpur District were added to this district in 1959. In 1971, Bathinda and Phul were made subdivisions and 2 sub-tahsils, viz. Budhlada and Talwandi Sabo came into existence. The district again underwent a change with the creation of Faridkot District on 7 August 1972 and its Faridkot Tahsil was transferred to the newly created district of Faridkot. On 15 August 1974, Sardulgarh was made a sub-tahsil and Talwandi Sabo was made a subdivision on 12 April 1979.

The administrative set-up of the Bathinda District on 31 March 1989 is described as under :

Administrative Divisions.--For administrative purposes, the district of Bathinda forms a part of the Firozpur Division, Firozpur. The district comprises four tahsils, viz. Bathinda (including sub-tahsil Nathana), Mansa (including sub-tahsils Budhlada and Sardulgarh), Rampura Phul, and Talwandi Sabo, all of which have been made subdivisions. Bathinda was upgraded to a subdivision in 1971. Mansa was a subdivision when the district was formed in 1948. Rampura Phul and Talwandi Sabo were made subdivisions in 1971 and 1979, respectively.

The administrative machinery of the district consists of a hierarchy of officers headed by the Deputy Commissioner, also known a District Magistrate as head of criminal administration of the district and as District Collector, as head of the revenue administration in the district. The number of Sub Divisional Officers (Civil), Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars posted in the district, as on 31 March 1989 is given in the following table :--

Subdivision	Number of Posts		
	S.D.O.(C)	Tahsildar	Naib-Tahsildar
Bathinda	1	1	5 (including 3 at headquarter)
Mansa	1	1	3
Rampura Phul	1	1	1
Talwandi Sabo	1	1	1
District Bathinda	4	4	10

(b) District Authorities

Deputy Commissioner.—The Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda represents the State Government as head of the district administration. He functions under the administrative control of the Divisional Commissioner, Firozpur Division, Firozpur. He has wide powers and manifold responsibilities. He is the chief custodian authority of law and order and the pivot on which the local administration runs. He performs his functions as Deputy Commissioner, District Collector and District Magistrate on different occasions. His role in each of these capacities is described as under :

(i) As Deputy Commissioner, he is the executive head of the district with numerous responsibilities in the sphere of civil administration, development, panchayats, local bodies, etc.

The Deputy Commissioner has an Office Superintendent, Grade I, Superintendent Revenue, Grade II and Superintendent General Grade II under him to supervise the work of the clerical staff. Each branch is headed by an Assistant and is functionally known after him. For example, the branch looked after by Establishment Assistant is known as the EA Branch, the one under Miscellaneous Assistant is known as the MA Branch, etc. etc. An Assistant has to perform two types of functions, supervisory and dispositive, i.e. he has to supervise the work of officials working under him, and also to dispose of many cases either at his level or by putting them up to his senior officers. An Assistant has one or more clerks under him.

The number of branches in the office of the Deputy Commissioner differs from district to district depending upon the requirements of the district concerned. The important branches existing in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda are: Establishment Branch— *Nazarat* Branch, Sadr Kanungo Branch, Development Branch, Miscellaneous Branch, Licensing Branch, Complaints and Enquiries Branch, Local Funds Branch, District Revenue Accounts Branch, Flood Relief Branch, Revenue Records Branch, Records and Issue Branch, *Sadr* Copying Branch, Registration Branch, *Peshi* Branch, etc.

(ii) As the District Collector, the Deputy Commissioner is the highest officer of revenue administration in the district. As such, he is responsible to the government through the Divisional Commissioner and the Financial Commissioner, Revenue. He is responsible for the collection of land revenue, other kinds of government taxes, fees, and all dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue, and for ensuring the maintenance of accurate and up-to-date records of rights as regards the land. He is also the appointing authority for Patwaris and Kanungos as well as Peshi Kanungo, Sadr Kanungo and ministerial staff posted in the tahsil offices and in the offices of Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) and Deputy Commissioner except in the case of Superintendent of his office and for most of the subordinate revenue staff in the district. He is the highest revenue judicial authority in the district.

(iii) As District Magistrate, he is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. As head of criminal administration in the district, he supervises all Sub Divisional Magistrates and Executive Magistrates in the district and controls/directs the actions of the police. He also supervises the administration of jails and lock-ups in the district.

Besides his above mentioned duties as Deputy Commissioner, District Collector, and District Magistrate the Deputy Commissioner enjoys the powers of Chief Settlement Commissioner and Chief Sale Commissioner under the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954 and the Punjab Package Deal Properties (Disposal) Act, 1976, respectively. In this capacity, his duties are : hearing revisions/appeals against the orders of the Settlement Commissioner and Chief Sales Commissioner, regarding allotment of land, disposal of urban/rural evacuee properties/land in the district.

The position of the Deputy Commissioner as head of district administration has become one of expanding responsibilities. As he is the executive head of the civil administration, all departments in the district, which otherwise have their own officers, look towards him for guidance and co-ordination. He plays an important role in the administration of municipal committees, market committees, panchayats, panchayat samitis, community development blocks and the zila parishad, which came into existence with the

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decentralisation of authority and expansion of the Panchayati Raj. He is also responsisble for the execution of rural development schemes. Besides, as the District Election Officer, he conducts peaceful and orderly elections held in the district from time to time. For elections to Lok Sabha constituency/constituencies of his district, he functions as Returning Officer. He renders active help during decennial census. He controls and regulates the distribution of the scarce essential commodities, etc. He keeps liaison with military authorities in his jurisdiction and is the competent authority for aquisition of land for military purposes. In any matter of public importance which does not fall specifically in the sphere of any government department, State or Central, he, as a general administrator, is required to take cognizance of the matter in public interest and take it to its logical conclusion with the help of some government department or by processing the matter in his own office. In short, nothing of importance takes place in the district with which he is not directly or indirectly associated.

Sub Divisional Officers (Civil).—The Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) is a miniature Deputy Commissioner in his subdivision. In fact, under many revenue legislations, he is invariably vested with powers of Collector to be exercised within his jurisdiction. He also hears appeals, as Collector of the subdivision, against the orders of Assistant Collectors, Grade II (Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars) and Assistant Collector, Grade I (Tahsildars in partition cases). He is either a junior member of the Indian Administrative Service or a Senior member of the State Civil Service who has had extensive experience in various subordinate positions. He exercises direct control over the Tahsildars and his staff in his subdivision. He is the normal channel of correspondence between the Deputy Commissioner and the Tahsildar in his subdivision.

The powers and responsibilities of the Sub Divisional Officer relating to revenue, magisterial, executive and development matters are analogous to those of the Deputy Commissioner, within his jurisdiction. His revenue duties includes supervision and inspection of all matters from assessment to collection of land revenue, co-ordination of work of all officials in the subdivision, particularly in the departments of

Revenue, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Public Health, etc. within the subdivision. His magisterial duties are liasion and co-ordination with the police in the subdivision to keep a watch over the relations between various communities and classes; special precautions and actions in emergency especially connected with festivals; and recommendations to District Magistrate, where he himself is not competent, for grant of arms licences. He has ample powers under the Criminal Procedure Code, the Punjab Police Rules, and the laws to exercise effective supervision over the law and order situation in his area.

In his executive capacity, the Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) can call for any of the records and registers which deal with crime from a police station and can call the Station House Officer of the police station to explain the matters. He can bind down anti-social elements for peaceful conduct over a period. He commands closer contacts with public and has intimate association with the local bodies and market committees.

The Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) plays an important role in the rural development programmes. He gets co-operation and help from other government officials in the subdivision for smooth running of administration and successful implementation of development schemes. On important policy matters, however, he is required to route the matters through the Deputy Commissioner.

For elections to the Vidhan Sabha/Lok Sabha, he is generally appointed as Returning Officer/Assistant Returning Officer for the constituencies in his jurisdiction.

Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.—The officer in charge of a tahsil is called a Tahsildar. The number of Naib-Tahsildars in a tahsil varies from tahsil to tahsil depending upon the requirements therein. A Naib-Tahsildar is in charge of the sub-tahsil falling in the tahsil. However, there is no substantial difference in the revenue and magisterial duties of a Tahsildar and a Naib-Tahsildar. In revenue matters, both exercise the powers of Assistant Collector, Grade II, in their circles as Circle Revenue Officer. Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars are appointed as ex officio Executive Magistrates in

the district of their posting provided they have passed the respective prescribed departmental examinations in Criminal Law Paper by the Lower Standard as well as in the Language Paper. However, a Tahsildar is vested with powers of Assistant Collector, Grade I, with regard to the partition cases, the power which he exercises in whole of the tahsil, a power which the Naib-Tahsildars on the other hand are not vested with. Also, as Senior Revenue Officer in the Tahsil and as overall in charge thereof, a Tahsildar has powers of co-ordination and can recommend the distribution of work among Circle Revenue Officers--the Naib-Tahsildars and himself. He is a Class II gazetted officer of the State Government while a Naib-Tahsildar is not. In this regard, a Tahsildar is competent to make and issue certificates as a gazetted officer. All recommendations in lambardari cases, even in the revenue circles of Naib-Tahsildars, are routed through him to the Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) and to the Deputy Commissioner. For elections to the Vidhan Sabha, a Tahsildar is, invariably appointed as Assistant Returning Officer for the constituency/constituencies falling in his tahsil.

The Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars are responsible for collection of land revenue and other dues payable to the government, to remain in touch with the subordinate revenue staff, to observe the seasonal conditions and condition of crops, to listen to the difficulties of the cultivators and to distribute the *taccavi* loans. The Tahsildar and the Naib-Tahsildars extensively tour the areas in their jurisdiction. They decide urgent matters on the spot, like correction of entries in the revenue record, provide relief to the people effected with natural calamities, etc. On their return from tour, they prepare reports and recommend to the government for the remission or suspension of land revenue and bring the records up-to-date. They also sit in the courts to settle disputes of tenancy, arrears of rent, ejectment of tenants, entries in revenue record, etc. besides doing other kind of work.

In the performance of above functions, the Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars in Bathinda District are assisted by a Sadr Kanungo who is in charge of revenue records at the district headquarter, 2 Naib Sadr Kanungos, 4 Office Kanungos (one each at tahsil headquarters) 8 Assistant Office Kanungos, 19 Field Kanungos,

1 District Office Kanungo and 289 Patwaris.

Kanungos.—The duties of a Kanungo are to supervise the work of the Patwaris. He is an important link between the Tahsildar/Naib-Tahsildar and the Patwari. Each Tahsildar is assisted by an Office Kanungo, besides a number of Field Kanungos. The main duty of an Office Kanungo is to consolidate the information on different aspects of revenue administration. Similarly, in the Deputy Commissioner's Office, there is a Sadr Kanungo who is also in charge of Patwaris' and Kanungos' establishments and carries out inspections of patwar circles and kanungos.

The post of Special Kanungo or Patwar Moharrir has been converted as Kanungo at *Sadr* Office who makes available the information to the litigating public and to the courts, by preparing extracts from the revenue records. He assists the courts of law in the examination of revenue records by giving evidence and by putting the records before the court and by drawing attention to those parts of the records which the court ought to examine.

Patwari.—Whereas, the Deputy Commissioner is regarded as a pivot of the district administration, the Patwari is the representative of government at the village level. Upto 1906, he was paid by the village itself, but now he is a salaried government servant. He has usually one or two villages in his charge. His local knowledge is so extensive that there is hardly any information about the village and its occupants which he is not aware of or which he cannot guess. As such, he is viewed as the eyes and ears of the Collector in the rural areas.

The duties of the Patwari include conducting surveys, field inspections, recording of crops, revision of maps, preparation of reports relating to mutations, partitions, revenue or rents, etc. Under orders of the Collector, he prepares the records of rights. He also assists in providing relief to agriculturists in distress and renders basic service in the decennial census operations. He reports crimes and prepares spot maps to assist the police inquiries. His special duty is the preparation of *dhal bachh* (papers regarding distribution of revenue over holdings of various landowners).

Lambardars.—The Lambardar is the most important

functionary amongst the people in the village. His main function is to keep a watch over the law and order situation in his area and report the matter to the nearest police station in case of breach of law. It is also his duty to collect the revenue dues for government from various sources and to remit these to treasury. He is given 5 per cent of land revenue collection which is called *pachotra*. He is the custodian of all government properties in the village. He also reports to the Tahsildar about the deaths of assignees and pensioners and their absence during the year. He also assists the Patwaris in crop inspections conducted by them at the time of *girdawaries*, i.e. harvest inspections during the year and other revenue functions carried on by the revenue agency. Above all, he is the representative of Government in the village. He is assisted by a village Chowkidar. In the eventuality of a Lambardars' post becoming vacant, the District Collector appoints a new Lambardar after considering various claims of candidates who apply for the same.

(c) Development Organisation

For ameliorating the lot of the rural masses, the Community Development Programme was launched in the State on 2 October 1952 on a project basis. The programme has been introduced with a view to enlisting popular participation in the implementation of socio-economic programmes in the villages. The rural folk have been fully associated with all the development works of the government carried for their betterment through different development agencies. Presently, the Community Development Programme has been extended to every nook and corner of the rural life.

For the execution of development schemes, the Bathinda District has been divided into 9 development blocks, viz. Bathinda, Nathana, Sangat, Talwandi Sabo, Mansa, Budhlada, Jhunir, Phul and Rampura. In each block, there is a Block Development and Panchayat Officer, who is under the control of Chairman of the Panchayat Samiti, the Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) of the subdivision, and the District Development and Panchayat Officer of the district, besides being under the overall control of the Deputy Commissioner and the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development).

The Block Development and Panchayat Officer is

responsible for the successful implementation of development schemes of the government in his block. He also guides and co-ordinates the development work of other departments in his block. He is assisted by a Social Education and Panchayat Officer, a Mukhya Sevika, an Overseer, a Sectional Officer, a number of Gram Sevaks and Gram Sevikas, besides other ministerial Class III and Class IV staff. The Inspectors or Extension Officers belonging to the Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation and Industries Departments also assist and advise him in their respective spheres. This was done after the introduction of Panchayati Raj in the State to enable him to coordinate the activities of various departments engaged in developmental work.

(d) General Arrangement for Disposal of Business

In addition to the Sub Divisional Officers (Civil), Tahsildars and Block Development and Panchayat Officers, the Deputy Commissioner, is also assisted by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, General Assistant to Deputy Commissioner, District Officer, Removal of Grievances, Executive Magistrates, mostly Punjab Civil Service Officers, in day to day duties concerning law and order and other functions. The Deputy Commissioner is also assisted by the District Revenue Officer in revenue work, whereas the District Development and Panchayat Officer assists him in the development work. The District Transport Officer looks after the transport work. At the subdivisional headquarters, the Tahsildars as well as the Naib-Tahsildars work under the direct supervision of the Sub Divisional Officer (Civil). In Mansa Tahsil, one post of Executive Magistrate is also held by a PCS officer, who assists the Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), Mansa in his administrative duties. The functions being performed by these officers are detailed in the following paragraphs :—

Additional Deputy Commissioner.—The post of Additional Deputy Commissioner was created with a view to providing relief to the Deputy Commissioner. The powers delegated to the Additional Deputy Commissioner are to sanction earned leave to Kanungos and Patwaris; to sanction medical reimbursement to the staff of the office of the Deputy Commissioner; to entertain revision petitions under Section 16(2) of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, and under Section 84 of the Punjab Tenancy Act, and

review petitions under Section 15 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act and under Section 82 of the Punjab Tenancy Act; to entertain transfer applications under Section 12 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act; to approve rent rolls under para 12 of the Financial Commissioner's Standing Order No. 31 and to sanction other *Kistbandis* of additional land revenue, mutation fee, record fee, *taccavi,* etc. under paras 594 and 606 of the Punjab Administration Manual; to sign recovery certificates received from other districts; and to exercise the power of Chief Sales Commissioner.

General Assistant.—He is the Deputy Commissioner's personal executive officer and assists him in all his executive and administrative functions. As such, he is the principal administrative officer and attends to routine correspondence, attestation, complaints, etc. He does little or no touring, as he has to keep a vigilant eye on the office. Most of the branches of the Deputy Commissioner's office are under his supervision. He is competent to correspond with the Punjab Government and other departments in routine matters. He is an Executive Magistrate, but, since the separation of judiciary from the executive on 2 October 1964, he has been trying only security cases.

Formerly, the General Assistant used to hold the additional charge of Civil Defence Officer of the district which is now held by the District Development and Panchayat Officer, Bathinda. As Civil Defence Officer, he is responsible for the defence of civilian population in times of war or aggression. He is also responsible for the maintenance of fire-fighting equipment, the proper functioning of sirens, digging of trenches, first-aid, extension of hospital facilities, laying of additional beds, electricity, water facilities, etc.

District Revenue Officer.—With the abolition of the posts of Revenue Assistants, the duties are now being performed by the District Revenue Officers. The District Revenue Officer, Bathinda is responsible for the proper and correct maintenance of revenue records; revenue accounts, *muafis,* assignments, *jagirs,* etc. and service records of the Patwaris and Kanungos, District Revenue Accountant, Registration and Land Acquisition branches of the Deputy Commissioner's

office. He is required to watch the progress of the recovery of all government dues in the district and to keep the Deputy Commissioner informed about the pace of recovery. He assists the Deputy Commissioner in carrying out the inspection of tahsils, sub-tahsils, acts on his behalf for organizing special *girdawaris* for crop cess and special *girdawari* for natural calamities, floods, etc. Besides, he co-ordinates his activities with various departments, such as Irrigation, Public Works (B&R), Co-operation and Agriculture, so as to ensure the smooth implementation of various development schemes in which revenue work is involved. He collects information regarding agrarian reforms in the district from Collectors (Agrarian) and other officers and after compiling them, he submits them every month to the Commissioner, Firozpur Division, Firozpur. He is also responsible for pursuing the progress of land reforms cases in various courts and watches the interest of the State. On behalf of the Deputy Commissioner, the D.R.O. is responsible for the submission of the statements regarding the disposal of miscellaneous revenue work in the district every quarter to the Commissioner of the Division and half-yearly to the Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Punjab.

District Officer, Removal of Grievances.— He is a Class I Officer who primarily deals with the complaints made by the public regarding Revenue Department as well as other State Government Departments. He submits the reports to the Deputy Commissioner, after making enquiries into the complaints made by the people to him, or to the Deputy Commissioner or other higher authorities. He convenes the monthly meetings of Public Grievances Committee of the District as the Secretary. These meetings are attended by the officers/officials as well as non-official representatives, besides all MLA's and MP's who are ex-officio members of the Committee. He is also responsible for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Chairman of the Public Grievances Committee and ensures that the agenda as well as proceedings of the monthly meetings are issued well in time. He has also been given some branches of D.C's Office, apart from the complaints and enquiry branch which is under his supervision. He is also Executive Magistrate and deals

with the security proceedings. He is also entrusted with some revenue work as Assistant Collector, Grade I.

District Transport Officer.—He is Executive Magistrate and is a member of the Punjab Civil Service. His duties and functions are: to realise road tax in respect of all types of vehicles; to regulate the operation of vehicles of all categories covered under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939; to issue and renew the driving licences and conductor licences; to issue authorisation to drive public service vehicles; to issue special passes for stage carriages/taxi cars for marriage and tour parties; to inspect transport vehicles and to grant certificate of fitness in respect of such vehicles for which technical assistance is provided by the Motor Vehicle Inspector (MVI), to enforce traffic rules etc; to conduct special traffic checking and survey of routes in Bathinda and Sangrur districts in the third week of every month. The District Transport Officer is the Chairman of Condemnation Board, which condemns the vehicles of all government departments. He issues full and half paid concession passes to blind and physically handicapped persons, on behalf of Deputy Commissioner.

Executive Magistrates.—Executive Magistrates normally belong to the State Civil Services. They help the Deputy Commissioner in the maintenance of law and order. They also deal with the security/revenue cases and are responsible for criminal work of various police stations falling within their respective jurisdiction. As on 31 March 1989, there were two Executive Magistrates functioning in the district, one each at Bathinda and Mansa. The Executive Magistrate, Bathinda supervises the work of some of the branches of Deputy Commissioner's Office and also deals with revenue work of one kanungo circle as Assistant Collector, Grade I, while the Executive Magistrate at Mansa assists the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mansa in security/revenue cases apart from assisting him in law and order duties.

District Development and Panchayat Officer.—He co-ordinates the activities of all departments in the district which are engaged in development activities. The Development Branch of the Deputy Commissioner's Office, which deals with the development programme

and agricultural production, functions under his supervision. All the Block Development and Panchayat Officers in the district are under his control and he is required to see that the Community Development Programme is implemented in right earnest in the district.

Registration.—The Deputy Commissioner is the Registrar for the district under the Indian Registration Act, 1908 and in that capacity, he is responsible for registration work in the district. In the Bathinda District, the Registrar is assisted by 4 Tahsildars, as Sub-Registrars, one each in the tahsils of Bathinda, Mansa, Rampura Phul and Talwandi Sabo. The Naib-Tahsildar in the tahsil is the ex-officio Joint Sub-Registrar and he undertakes the registration work only when the regular Sub-Registrar is on leave or away from the headquarters. The Sub-Registrar and the Joint Sub-Registrar do registration work in addition to their own duties for which they get monthly honorarium.

The Sub-Registrar registers the documents pertaining to the properties situated in his jurisdiction. The Registrar is however, empowered to register any document from any tahsil of his district. He hears appeals and applications referred to him under Sections 72 and 73 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, against refusal to register documents by the Sub-Registrars under him.

A Head Registration Clerk assists the Registrar at the district headquarters and Clerks/Readers assist the Sub-Registrar/Joint Sub-Registrars in the tahsil in performing the registration work.

Under Section 17 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908), registration is compulsory for—

(a) Instruments of gift of immovable property;

(b) Other non-testamentary instruments which purport or operate to create, declare, assign, limit or extinguish whether in present or in future, any right, title or interest, whether vested or contingent, of the value of the hundred rupees and upwards, to or in immovable property;

(c) Non-testamentary instruments which acknowledge the receipt of payment of any consideration on account of the creation, declaration, assignment, limitation or extinction of any such right, title or interest;

(d) Lease of immovable property from year to year or for any term exceeding one year, or reserving a yearly rent;

(e) Non-testamentary instruments transferring or assigning any decree or order of a court or any award when such decree or order or award purports or operates to create, declare, assign limit, or extinguish, Whether in present, or in future, any right, title or interest, whether vested or contingent, of the value of the hundred rupees and upwards, to or in immovable property.

Oath Commissioners.—An Oath Commissioner is a practising lawyer who is authorised, on application, by the Punjab and Haryana High Court to make attestations of affidavits. There were 45 Oath Commissioners in the district on 31 March 1989 : 27 at Bathinda, 13 at Mansa, 3 at Rampura Phul and 2 at Talwandi Sabo. They charge Rs 2 as attestation fee for an affidavit.

Notary Public.—Notary Public is also generally a practising lawyer who is authorised by the government, for a period of 3 years, to function as Notary Public for attesting documents like wills, special power of attorneys and copies of all documents on specified charges. He is also authorised to translate documents on payment approved by the government. There were 6 Notary Publics functioning in the district on 31 March 1989 (5 at Bathinda and 1 at Mansa).

District Attorney.—Formerly designated as Public Prosecutor/Government Pleader, District Attorney is appointed by the Home Secretary to Government, Punjab, on the recommendations of the Legal Remembrancer and Director, Prosecution and Litigation, Punjab. He represents the State in the cases pending in the court of the District and Sessions Judge. He is under the administrative control of the Director,

Prosecution and Litigation, Punjab. He is assisted by 5 Assistant District Attorneys, Grade I, 11 Assistant District Attorneys, Grade II (6 at Bathinda, 3 at Mansa, 1 at Rampura Phul and 1 Assistant District Attorney (Legal) at district police headquarters), besides other ministerial staff. In addition to this, one Assistant District Attorney, Grade I assists the District Attorney in representing the State in the Special Court set up at Bathinda.

(e) District Committees

The following District Committees have been constituted in order to accelerate the disposal of business. Their meetings are held at the district headquarters under the chairmanship of the Minister/ Deputy Commissioner:—

1	District Public Grievances Committee	(Presided over by a Minister Designate)
2	District Agriculture Production Committee	(Presided over by Deputy Commissioner
3	District Industrial Advisory Committee	Ditto
4	District Food Advisory Committee	Ditto
5	District Hospital Advisory Committee	Ditto
6	District Planning Committee	Ditto
7	District Child Welfare Committee	Ditto
8	House Allotment Committee	Ditto
9	District Advisory Committee	Ditto
10	Land Reforms Committee	Ditto
11	Committee to review distribution of Essential Commodities	Ditto

(f) State and Central Government Officers

The following State and Central Government Officers are posted in the Bathinda District:—

Punjab Government Officers

1 Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda

2 Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda
3 General Assistant to Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda
4 Executive Magistrates (A) & (B), Bathinda
5 Executive Magistrate, Mansa
6 District Officer Removal of Grievances, Bathinda
7 Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), Bathinda
8 Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), Mansa
9 Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), Rampura Phul
10 Sub Divisional Officer (Civil), Talwandi Sabo
11 Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Bathinda
12 District Transport Officer, Bathinda
13 District Development & Panchayat Officer, Bathinda
14 District Revenue Officer, Bathinda
15 Secretary, Zila Parishad, Bathinda
16 Tahsildar, Bathinda
17 Tahsildar, Mansa
18 Tahsildar, Rampura Phul
19 Tahsildar, Talwandi Sabo
20 Treasury Officer, Bathinda
21 District and Sessions Judge, Bathinda
22 Special Judge, Bathinda
23 Additional District and Sessions Judges I and II, Bathinda
24 Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bathinda
25 Senior Sub Judge, Bathinda
26 Additional Senior Sub Judge, Bathinda
27 Sub Judge, Ist Class, Bathinda
28 District Attorney, Bathinda
29 Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda
30 Superintendent of Police (headquarters), Bathinda

31 Superintendent of Police (DD), Bathinda
32 Superintendent of Police (Operation), Bathinda
33 Deputy Superintendent of Police (Vigilance), Bathinda
34 District Commander, Punjab Home Guards, Bathinda
35 Superintendent, District *Sudhar Ghar*, Bathinda
36 District Probation Officer, Bathinda
37 Superintending Engineer, PWD, B&R, Bathinda
38 Executive Engineer, PWD, B&R (Construction Division), Bathinda
39 Superintending Engineer, PWD, Public Health, Bathinda
40 Executive Engineer, PWD, Public Health Division No. I, II & III (RWS), Bathinda
41 Executive Engineer, PWD, Public Health (G.W.), Bathinda
42 Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Bathinda
43 Executive Engineers, Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Division No. I & II, Bathinda
44 Superintending Engineer, PWD, Irrigation Lining Circle, Bathinda
45 Executive Engineer, PWD, Irrigation Construction Division, Bathinda
46 Executive Engineer, PWD, Irrigation, Sirhind Canal Division, Bathinda
47 Chief Engineer, Guru Nanak Dev Tharmal Plant, Bathinda
48 Superintending Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Bathinda
49 Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, Sub-Urban Division, Bathinda
50 Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, R.E. Division, Bathinda

51 Executive Engineer, Punjab State Electricity Board, City Division, Bathinda

52 Superintending Engineer, Housing Board, Bathinda

53 Superintending Engineer, Tubewell Corporation, Bathinda

54 Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj, Bathinda

55 Chief Agricultural Officer, Bathinda

56 Deputy Director (Pulses), Bathinda

57 Project Officer, I.C.D.P., Bathinda

58 District Training Officer, Bathinda

59 Senior Marketing Enforcement Officer, Bathinda

60 Election Tahsildar, Bathinda

61 District Forest Officer, Bathinda

62 District Horticulture Development Officer, Bathinda

63 Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry, Bathinda

64 Dairy Extension Officer, Bathinda

65 Assistant Director, Fisheries, Bathinda

66 Divisional Soil Conservation Officer (East), Bathinda

67 Divisional Soil Conservation Officer (West), Bathinda

68 Divisional Town Planner, Bathinda

69 District Education Officer (Primary), Bathinda

70 District Education Officer, Bathinda

71 District Language Officer, Bathinda

72 Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda

73 District Food and Supplies Controller, Bathinda

74 District Public Relations Officer, Bathinda

75 District Sports Officer, Bathinda

76 Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Bathinda

77 Assistant Employment Officer, Mansa

78 Assistant Employment Officer, Rampura

79 Deputy Economic and Statistical Adviser, Bathinda

80 District Welfare Officer, Bathinda

81 District Social Welfare Officer, Bathinda

82 Civil Surgeon, Bathinda

83 District Family Planning Officer, Bathinda

84 General Manager, District Industries Centre, Bathinda

85 Senior Technical Officer, Government Industrial Development Centre (Engg.), Bathinda

86 Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda

87 Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda

88 Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Mansa

89 Lady Circle Superviser, Bathinda

90 Audit Officer, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda

91 Assistant Director (Poultry), Bathinda

92 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Bathinda

93 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Nathana

94 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sangat

95 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Talwandi Sabo

96 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Mansa

97 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Budhlada

98 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Jhunir

99 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Phul

100 Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Rampura

101 Secretary, District Sailors and Soldier's Board, Bathinda

102 Manager, State Seeds Corporation, Bathinda

103 District Manager (MARKFED), Bathinda

104 District Manager (PUNSUP), Bathinda

105 District Manager (WAREHOUSE), Bathinda

106 Manager, Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, Bathinda

107 General Manager, Milk Plant, Bathinda

108 Depot Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda-I

109 Depot Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bathinda-II

110 Depot Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Budhlada

Central Government Officers

1 Assistant Commissioner, Income Tax (Appeals), Bathinda

2 Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Bathinda

3 Divisional Engineer (Telephones), Bathinda

4 District Manager, Food Corporation of India, Bathinda

5 Commanding Officer, N.C.C., Bathinda

6 Manager, Cotton Corporation of India, Bathinda

7 Superintendent, Post Offices, Bathinda Division, Bathinda.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

(a) Land Revenue Administration

(i) History of Land Revenue Assessment Management

The present district of Bathinda was created on the formation of PEPSU on 20 August 1948 from the territories of Patiala, Nabha, Jind and Faridkot princely states and part of the Firozpur District, which was then a British territory. The land revenue system of the district adopted in the past is complicated, there being different revenue systems prevailing in each of the princely states and the British territory. The following paragraphs contain the history of land revenue as prevalent in the different princely states of Patiala, Jind, Nabha and Faridkot.

Land Revenue system in the areas of former Patiala Princely State.—The earliest history of Patiala State is that of Phulkian States, and its history as a separate ruling state normally dates from 1762 when Ahmad Shah Durrani conferred the title of Raja upon Ala Singh, its chief. But it may more justly be regarded as dating from 1763 when the Sikh confederation took the fortress of Sirhind from Ahmad Shah's governor and proceeded to partition the old Mughal province of Sirhind.

Bathinda and Mansa tahsils of the Patiala Princely State were merged completely in the Bathinda District in 1948. The revenue of the Patiala Princely State from Akbar to the times of Ala Singh and his successors was being collected in kind up to 1862. It was known as being collected in kind (*kham*) system. This arrangement was only occasionally replaced by cash assessments made for a period of one or two years, but these rare and irregular assessments or contracts were not based on any fixed rule or established principle, for whenever there was a good crop the *Diwan* expected to realize more by collection in kind than by adhering to a fixed cash assessment, he atonce cancelled the agreement without the slightest scruple and did not wait for its term to expire. As a consequence of this shortsighted policy, the zamindar never put his heart into his work and made no effort to bring the waste lands under

cultivation. Instead of improving the existing revenue administration and adopting a more sympathetic, honest and fixed policy, the State officials tried to increase the State revenue, but it could not be increased in spite of their ill-judged efforts of which the only possible result was a slow but steady loss to the community as land went out of cultivation. The cash assessments too, even if honestly maintained could not be regarded as a boon to the people. The notorious assessment of Diwan Sedha Singh, who assessed all land of whatever description at an alround rate of 8 annas per *kachcha bigha*, was such a veritable ordeal that even to this day, the descendants of the owners of that time regard the fact of having successfully passed through it as a proof of their right and produce it as evidence in law suits.

The share of the produce taken by the State differed in different *parganas*; it was mostly one-third, but one-fourth and two-fifth was also taken, and there was a large number of extra dues called *abwab*. A cash rate per *bigha*, called *zabti* was charged on crops that could not be easily divided. The State's share of grain was realized either by actually dividing the produce (*batai* or *bhawali*) or by appraisement, *kankut*, *kan* or *kachh*. *Batai* was, with rare exceptions, usually resorted to in the *rabi* and appraisement as a rule in the *kharif*. The officials who made the *batai* were called *Batwas* and those who made the appraisements, were known as *Kachhus*.

At each harvest, the Tahsildar divided the *parganas* into a number of suitable circles, and two *Kachhus* or measurers and two *Batawas* were appointed for each circle, two *Muharrirs* called *Likharis* being also sent with them. One out of each pair of *Kachhus*, *Batawas* and *Likharis* was the Tahsildar's nominee and the other, called "*sarkari*", was appointed by the *Diwan*. Both were servants of the State, but they were appointed in different ways, the idea being that their mutual jealousy, rivalry and dependence on two different superiors would be a check on dishonesty.

When the crop was ready for the sickle, one or two *Muhassals* or watchmen were appointed in each village to watch the crop and the grain before division. The zamindar himself was not allowed to

touch his crop or take a single handful of grain for his cattle. The *Muhassal* used to get 1½ annas a day, of which an anna was paid by the village and half an anna by the State. This establishment was temporary. It was employed at each harvest and dismissed as soon as the work was done. In the reign of Maharaja Narinder Singh, the *Diwan* used to assemble all the *Kachhus* in front of the Maharaja's palace, and after having saluted the Maharaja they started to their respective villages, each of them being tyranny and dishonesty personified. They would occupy the best house, take the best clothes for their beds, and utensils for their use, sent for all the *kamins* to serve them, and get the best food and supplies for themselves and their houses. Early in the morning, they started on their work in the fields. They only rode round each field measuring it by the horse's paces, while the *Likhari* sat waiting at some convenient place. They returned to the *Likhari* after having inspected ten or twenty fields and dictated the *Khasra* or appraised amount of the State's portion of the outturn. After having finished one village and before starting for another they sat down in an open space outside the village and read out the *khasra* entries to the zamindars. A great deal of clamorous haggling ensued till at last, after deducting ten or fifteen per cent, a bargain was struck, largely with the aid of bribes. This was known as *nawen pakana*, that is, making the entries pukka. So far everything depended on the *Kachu's* will and pleasure, but after the entires had been thus made pukka none could change them and *khasra katna*, i.e. cutting in the *khasra* entry was considered a serious crime. In a similar way, the *Batawas* got the produce weighed by the village banian called, the *Dharwai* who deducted 15 per cent as *kamin's* dues, divided the rest at the *pargana* rate of *batai* and recorded in the same way *(nawen pakana)* the amount due from each man against his name in the *khasra*. The Diwan's men sent their findings to the *Diwan* and the Tahsildar's men to the Tahsildar, and the papers were checked by comparing them.

Owing to negligence or dishonesty on the part of the *Batawas*, the delay in effecting the *batai* often caused great damage to the grain, as it deteriorated

from exposure to rain and moisture and sometimes the *batai* was made after the proper time for sale had passed. In the *rabi* harvest, if the produce was small or the grain had deteriorated in any way, then the State's portion too was forced back on the zamindars and its price realised from them at a rate *(bhan pharna)* fixed by the *Diwan* at each harvest with reference to the current rate, or the amount of grain collected was stored to be sold at a time of high prices. When the grain was brought out of the granaries for sale and was found to be less than its known amount as shown in the papers prepared at the time of collection, the zamindars were forced to pay for one-half of the deficiency, as the deficiency, was attributed as much to the dishonesty of the zamindars as to that of the revenue officials. This was the system of *kham* collection that prevailed up to 1862.

Revenue farming, existed only to a very moderate extent. The *Diwan* himself often used to contract for a good many *parganas*. This system pressed heavily upon the people, and on account of the general mismanagement and corruption of the mercenary revenue staff, the State, on the whole incurred great losses and the zamindars were ruined, both by the various troubles and harassment they had to suffer and the bribes they had to pay as well as by the heavy fines and punishments inflicted upon them by the *Malbakhana*[1] if they tried to escape from the oppression by propitiating the greedy and rapacious revenue officials with bribes. The account books of the village banians were taken from them and kept in the office for months and sometimes for years, and were often destroyed or lost; the harm thus resulting may well be imagined.

Maharaja Narinder Singh, seeing these defects in the revenue system, made up his mind to abolish it

[1]This *Malbakhana* was a kind of office of control started in the time of Maharaja Karam Singh to enquire into and punish the wrong doing of the revenue establishment and zamindars who tried to profit by bribing them at the time of collection. As the bribes were generally paid out of the *Malba* or included in the *Malba* expenses under fictitious items of expenditure, and as this necessitated the examination of the *Malba* accounts by the office, it came to be known as the *Malbakhana*.

altogether and to fix a cash assessment. Several high officials of conservative ideas, and specially the *Diwan*, vehemently opposed this innovation and on account of their opposition, there was but little hope of success. For this reason, the Maharaja abolished the office of the *Diwan* for a short time, and an officer with limited powers called *Munsarim Diwan* was appointed in his place. The Maharaja then divided the State into four divisions, an officer called *Munsarim-i-hadbast* being appointed for each division. The name of this officer was after some time changed to *Mohitmam Bandobast* and afterwards into *Nazim*. These four officers carried out a boundary survey or *hadbast* measurement, and made a summary settlement for one year based on an estimate of the existing capabilities of a village and the average *kham* collection of the last 22 years. The average of 22 years was about Rs 23 lakhs and the new assessment (1861-62) amounted to Rs 30,87,000. After the lapse of this term, another settlement on the same basis for three years by which the revenue was reduced to Rs 29,39,000. It was cheerfully accepted by the people to whom an assurance was given in a general proclamation that the demand would not be altered during the term of settlement. This last settlement remained in force only from 1862 to 1865. Afterwards summary settlement was made every ten years.

A regular settlment of the whole State including the Bathinda and Mansa tahsils now forming part of Bathinda District was commenced in 1901 by Major Popham Young, C.I.E. The revenue assessment for the whole State was Rs 41,48,155, but including cesses and all the miscellaneous dues, the total demand amounted to Rs 44,80,359 of which Rs 4,71,136 was assigned revenue, leaving a balance of Rs 40,09,223.

Land Revenue System in the areas of former Jind Princely State.—The earliest history of Jind State begins from 1762 when Raja Gajpat Singh seized a large tract of country including Jind and Safidon districts (now in Haryana) on the disolution of Mughal empire and obtained the title of Raja under an imperial *farman* in 1772. By this *farman*, he assumed the style of an independent prince. Afterwards, he obtained the *pargana* of Sangrur alongwith *Balanwali* (now in

Haryana). Before the settlements made by Raja Sarup Singh, the assessment of land revenue was a fluctuating one. In some villages, a system of *batai* for one crop and of *kankut* for the other was in vogue, while in others cash rates were fixed on crops at the beginning of the *kharif* in consultation with the zamindars.

First (Summary) Settlement of Sangrur Tahsil, 1861—1865

The first summary settlement of tahsil Sangrur was effected by Sardar Daya Singh, *Nazim* of the Jind State, during 1861--65. There were 83 villages in the Sangrur Tahsil with an area of 63,196 hectares (cultivated 45,479 hectares, uncultivated 17,717 hectares) and a revenue *(jama)* of Rs 1,63,897.

Second (Regular) Settlement of Sangrur Tahsil

The summary settlement was followed by a regular settlement made by Sardar Kahan Singh during 1866--1875. At this settlement, area of the tahsil increased from 1,56,095 acres (63,196 hectares) to 1,61,337 acres (65,319 hectares). The number of villages increased from 83 to 92 and revenue *(jama)* amount was raised from Rs 1,63,897 to 1,82,539 under the same terms and conditions of revenue realization system as per first summary settlement.

From this settlement of Sangrur Tahsil, the *tappa* system was discontinued. *Muamla* (cash rent) was realised for the *kharif* and *batai* of one third for *barani* soils and one-fourth for *chahi* ones was taken for the *rabi*.

Third settlement of Sangrur Tahsil

The third settlement of tahsil Sangrur was effected by Lala Kanhiya Lal during 1877--1886. In this settlement also, there was enlargement in area and increase in revenue *(jama)*. Due to enlargement, the total area of the tahsil was 1,61,767 acres (65,492 hectares), cultivated 1,22,728 acres (49,687 hectares), uncultivated 39,039 acres (15,805 hectares) and the revenue was raised to Rs 2,09,115. In this settlement, there was also a change in the realization of revenue system. The *batai* and *kankut* were converted into cash rents for both crops in the *ilaqas* of the Sangrur and Kularan and into cash rents for *kharif* and *batai* for *rabi* in Balanwali.

Fourth Settlement of Sangrur Tahsil, 1899--1919

This was done by Lala Ram Kishan Das during 1899--1919. In this settlement, cash rents were fixed in the whole Sangrur Tahsil for the welfare of the zamindars. In this last settlement, the total area of tahsil measured was 1,61,154 acres (65,245 hectares) cultivated 1,30,568 acres (52,862 hectares), uncultivated 30,586 acres (12,383 hectares). It was 613 acres (248 hectares) less than in the previous settlement and the revenue assessed was Rs 1,86,828 which was also less by Rs 22,287 and villages rose from 95 to 97. This reduction in revenue was owing to cash assessment instead of *batai*. The shrinkage of 613 acres (248 hectares) of land was due to the expansion of the villages in the tahsil.

Settlement in former Nabha State Areas.--In the area falling in the then Nabha Princely State, the ancient system of levying the revenue in kind remained in force up to 1860. However, since 1860 the system of cash assessment was introduced in the princely State except Lohat Badi (Malerkotla Tahsil) in which it was introduced in 1875. After the summary assessment, a regular settlement was initiated in 1891 and completed in 1902. This assessment was conducted on the lines of the British Revenue Law of 1884, the land was measured and the record of rights prepared as in a British District.

Land revenue system in Faridkot Princely State.--As far back as 1838, there had been a rough attempt at measuring certain villages in the Faridkot *ilaqa*. This was known as *ghore kacch* or measurement on horseback, and was as its name implies very superficial. In Kot Kapura, rough boundaries had been laid down and areas recorded by Mr Daniell before that tract was restored to Raja Pahar Singh for his services in the Satluj campaign. The first real attempt at Settlement took place during the years 1860--65 under the direction of Lala Moti Ram. No regular assessment was announced at that time. Most of the revenue was paid in kind. The usual rate being 1/5 share of the crop, but useful papers were compiled showing the occupants of the land with the period for which they had then been cultivating it. As a general rule, founders of villages who had settled before 1844 were recorded as

inferior proprietors under the Raja, while villages founded after that year were held to be the property of the Raja. These operations cannot be classed as anything but a summary settlement, and little was settled as to the rights of tenants and owners. In 1880 commenced what is known as Lala Daulat Ram's Settlement. The operations of this settlement dragged of interminably and were never satisfactorily completed; measurements were completed in 1885, but areas were not computed and the revenue assessment was not announced till 1889. Records of rights were not ready till 1900 and it was not till then that *malkana* was assessed; even at that date, the records of rights of three large villages were not completed, their preparation continuing till 1907.

In this settlement, the *utar* and *hithar* circles were distinguished, soils were classified for the first time, customary law was discussed, and occupancy tenants were classed in accordance with the Punjab Tenancy Act (this last not being done till 1891).

Rates varying from 10 to 13 annas a *ghumaon* were adopted in the *hithar*, whilst in the *utar* they varied between annas 11-6 and 14. But revenue in kind was retained in 13 or 14 villages and not finally abolished till 1904.

The total land revenue assessed was just over three and a half lakhs of rupees. In addition to this, rules were framed for the collection of various dues connected with land such as succession fees; *dharat*, *tirni* and mud *mudakheri*, whilst the State was recorded as having various rights over trees, fuel, etc.

The length of the operations was mainly caused by delays and interruptions in the work of the staff. These naturally led to faulty incomplete work; great dissatisfaction was felt with the way rights in the land had been recorded and this led to the passing of a Special Act (4 of 1907) creating a right similar to a right of occupancy which was conferred on various tenants previously recorded as tenants at-will, and ultimately to the operations of the present settlement which were started in the same year.

The settlement which was prevalent in 1915 was

carried out during the year 1907 to 1910 by Chaudhri Kesar Ram. The term of Lala Daulat Ram's Settlement which was for 12 years had expired in 1901, but the new settlement was started with a view to determining the true rights in the land rather than with the idea of an increase of revenue. The State was again divided into two assessment circles, the *utar* and *hithar*.

Measurement was done on the square laying system, the original five foot *karm* of the previous settlement was retained, the measures of area being:

1 square *karm*	= *1 sarsahi*
9 sarsahis	= *1 marla*
20 marlas	= *1 kanal*
8 kanals	= *1 ghumaon*

The following circle rates were adopted for the different classes of soil:--

Soil		*Hithar* Rs	annas	Paise	*Utar* Rs	annas	Paise
Karar	I	0	15	0	1	0	0
Karar	II	0	14	0	0	15	0
Gasra	I	0	13	0	0	14	0
Gasra	II	0	11	6	0	12	6
Tibbi		0	10	0	0	10	0
Banjar		0	4	0	0	5	0

No *khush haisiyati* or water advantage rate was charged on account of canal irrigation, this being the custom throughout the lands served by the Sirhind Canal.

The resulting assessment amounted to Rs 3,89,985 which entailed an increase of Rs 37,493 and was announced for a term of 30 years. The total expenditure on the Settlement was estimated at Rs 95,970.

In the areas relating to erstwhile Jind State, when a new village was settled, the founder, his

relations, and childern who broke up the land for cultivation naturally had great influence and authority. The revenue was imposed in a lump sum on the *tappa*, of which they formed the heads, and its distribution rested with them. Gradually they became headmen, and the State looked to them for the realization of the revenue, their numbers increasing with the population. At the first regular settlement, they were allowed *pachotra* or 5 per cent of the land revenue.

In the areas relating to erstwhile Nabha Princely State, now forming part of the Bathinda District, the ancient system of levying the revenue in kind was in force up to 1924 *Bikrami* (1867 AD) when a cash assessment was introduced in all the *parganas* except that of Lohat Badi (now in district Sangrur), in which it was not introduced till 1932 *Sambat* (1875 AD).

(ii) Collection of Land Revenue

In the areas relating to the erstwhile Patiala State, land revenue was collected by the lambardars in the supervision of *Kachhus*, *Batawas* and *Muharirris* under the *kham* system. Being a defective system, it was abolished by Maharaja Narinder Singh. Since the regular settlement commenced in 1901, *lambardari* cess of 5 per cent was levied and a small sum called *panchai* or *pachotra* began to be paid to lambardars out of the State revenue.

In Jind State, *zaildari* system was not in vogue, while it prevailed in the Patiala and Nabha states.

Keeping in view the evils of *zaildari* system, these posts were abolished after the achievement of Independance. But after 1948, certain factors such as the introduction of Panchayati Raj and political awakening made the ruralites more conscious increasing thereby the incidence of the evasion of land revenue. This affected the position of the lambardar considerably. In order to strengthen the revenue work, superior posts of Zaildars and Inamdars were recreated but those were reabolished in 1964 leaving the Lambardar alone to collect revenue.

The Lambardar is responsible for the collection of revenue on payment of *pachotra* (5 per cent of the land revenue), and in this work he is assisted by the

Chowkidar, another village worker and the Patwari, a government official. Now, the lambardar also collects *abiana*, for which he is paid 3 per cent as collection charges.

(iii) Income from Land Revenue and Special Cesses

Land Revenue.--In the Punjab, the area to be assessed is generally divided into a group of villages called the assessment circles which are sufficiently homogeneous to admit of a common set of rates being used as a general guide, in calculating the land revenue to be recovered. It is based on net-assets which according to the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, means the estimated average annual surplus produce as ascertained after deduction of all the ordinary expenses of cultivation including payment, if any, which the land owner customarily bears whether in kind or cash, either in whole or in part in respect of water rates, maintenance of means of irrigation, maintenance of embankments, supply of seeds, etc. Land revenue rates differ from assessment circle to assessment circle. In each circle, different rates are levied for different types of soils. Land revenue is not levied upto 5-standard acres. This has been abolished from the *rabi* of the agricultural year 1966-67 under the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment Act, 1968). This concession is available to the landowner as and when he is covered under this category of owner holding 5 standard acres of land or less. In Bathinda District, the following rates of land revenue are levied:--

Dry (Unirrigated) Land		Wet (Irrigated) Land	
Barani (Rainfed) *Rabi*, Sailard, etc. (per *bigha*)		Government/private canal irrigated and well irrigated (per *bigha*)	
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
0.01	0.48	0.17	0.97

(*Statistics of Public Finance Punjab, 1985-86*, issued by the Economic Adviser to Government Punjab, Chandigarh)

Land revenue is realised twice a year, i.e. for *kharif* by 31 January and for *rabi* by 30 June. It is not collected from all those lands which are rendered unculturable on account of *thur* and *sem* under the provision of Punjab Land Revenue (*Thur, Sem, Chos* and Sand) Remission and Supervision Rules, 1961.

The following table gives the details of income from land revenue and remission in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:--

Year ending *rabi*	Recovery (Rs)	Remission (Rs)
1977-78	6,82,884	—
1978-79	7,05,400	—
1979-80	6,92,516	—
1980-81	6,97,547	8,204
1981-82	7,05,779	—
1982-83	7,28,066	—
1983-84	7,01,536	—
1984-85	7,31,133	—
1985-86	7,39,973	—
1986-87	7,43,164	—
1987-88	7,32,552	—
1988-89	7,37,277	—

(*Source* : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Additional Land Revenue.—Additional Land Revenue has been imposed under the Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 1974 with effect from the *kharif* crop of the agricultural year 1974-75. It is payable by all the landowners paying land revenue exceeding Rs 20 per year. It is a progressive type of tax. The rate of additional land revenue are as under:

1 Where the total land revenue exceeds twenty rupees but does not exceed fifty rupees annually.	Two hundred per cent of the amount by which the total land revenue exceeds twenty rupees.
2 Where the total land revenue exceeds fifty rupees but does not exceed one hundred rupees annually	Sixty rupees plus two hundred and fifty per cent of the amount by which the total land revenue exceeds fifty rupees.
3 Where the total land revenue exceeds one hundred rupees but does not exceed two hundred rupees annually	One hundred and eighty-five rupees plus three hundred per cent of the amount by which the total land revenue exceeds one hundred rupees.
4 Where the total land revenue exceeds two hundred rupees annually	Four hundred and eighty-five plus three hundred and fifty per cent of the amount by which the total land revenue exceeds two hundred rupees.

The surcharge on the land revenue and the special charge on the land revenue levied under the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge Act, 1954) and the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charge) Act, 1958, respectively have been abolished. Both these Acts have been repealed with effect from the *kharif* crop of agricultural year 1974-75.

The following table shows the details of income from additional land revenue in Bathinda District during 1977-78 to 1988-89:--

Year	Income from additional land revenue (Rs)
1977-78	37,157
1978-79	39,649
1979-80	38,425
1980-81	38,756
1981-82	38,256
1982-83	32,078
1983-84	29,428

Year	Income from additional land revenue (Rs)
1984-85	28,588
1985-86	31,764
1986-87	28,115
1987-88	34,553
1988-89	31,647

(*Source* : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Special Cesses.—Besides the land revenue, following cesses are levied on the landowners in the Bathinda District :—

Village Officers' Cess

Previously, the Village Officers' Cess was included in *patwar* cess in the area relating to Bathinda District of the erstwhile Patiala State. But in Jind and Faridkot states, the land revenue was collected as a fixed share of the crop and the *patwar* cess was not collected as a separate item with the land revenue. In the erstwhile Patiala State, since the regular settlement commenced in 1901, the cesses levied in the State included *patwar* cess i.e. 2½ per cent. After the formation of PEPSU and with the abolition of *zaildari* and *sufedposhi* agencies in 1964, only *pachotra* at the rate of 5 per cent of land revenue is being charged as the Village Officers' Cess.

Local Rate

Local rate is levied under Section 61 of the Punjab Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishad Act, 1961 at the rate of 50 per cent of the land revenue. It has grown from small beginnings. It was usual in early settlements to levy an extra cess or local rate cess on land revenue to maintain schools, hospitals, roads, etc. In the beginning of the 19th century, in erstwhile Jind State, it was derived from the levy of an extra cess of 5 per cent on the land revenue in small villages,

and 2½ per cent in large ones. Menial tribes had to pay an *atraf* of Re 1 to Rs 2 on each hearth of house (*khudi*). Similarly, it was levied at the rate of 4 per cent (1 per cent road cess, 1 per cent school cess, 1 per cent hospital cess and 1 per cent postal cess) in erstwhile Patiala State.

Local rate in princely states was raised from time to time. At the time of Independence, local rate in these states was not at par and varied from *chak* to *chak* even in one State. In most of the *chaks* of the Patiala State, it was levied at the rate of 11 per cent. Similarly in Nabha State, it was levied at 18 per cent in *chak* Phul, at 7 per cent in *chak* Dhanaula (now in Sangrur District), 10 per cent in *chak* Nabha (now in Patiala District). In Jind State, in most of the *chaks*, local rate was 11 per cent, but in *chak* Sangrur, it was 9 per cent.

Later on, when PEPSU was merged in the Punjab State, local rate in the whole district was brought at par and was levied at the rate of 50 per cent of the land revenue.

The following table shows the collections from local rate in Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:—

Year	Income from Local Rate (Rs)
1977-78	4,15,433
1978-79	4,15,651
1979-80	4,15,968
1980-81	4,15,757
1981-82	4,14,886
1982-83	4,24,708
1983-84	4,29,052
1984-85	4,26,777
1985-86	4,26,777
1986-87	4,22,416

Year	Income from Local Rate (Rs)
1987-88	4,22,416
1988-89	4,22,416

(Source: Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Abiana

The *abiana* or water rates are charged on the area irrigated by canals. These charges vary from canal to canal and from crop to crop. The income from this source in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below:

Year	Income from *abiana* (Rs)
1977-78	1,57,54,892
1978-79	1,66,09,769
1979-80	1,76,11,958
1980-81	1,80,63,268
1981-82	1,83,24,095
1982-83	1,86,38,607
1983-84	1,79,67,162
1984-85	1,98,36,670
1985-86	1,99,12,121
1986-87	1,99,72,079
1987-88	2,09,11,881
1988-89	2,03,31,352

(Source: Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Cess on Commercial Crops.—Cess under the Punjab Commercial Crops Act, 1974, has been levied with effect from the *Kharif* crop of agricultural year 1974-75.

It is levied on commercial crops, viz. chillies, cotton, mustard seeds, potatoes, sugarcane, tomatoes, orchards including vineyards at the rate of Rs 6 per acre, in case of irrigated land and Rs 3 per acre in case of unirrigated land under these crops. This cess is applicable and payable by the landowners growing these crops on their lands irrespective of the fact whether they are assignees of land revenue or not. During the last twelve years, i.e. 1977-78 to 1988-89, the collections by way of a cess on commercial crops is given below.

Year	Income from Cess on Commercial Crops (Rs)
1977-78	25,81,524
1978-79	26,04,735
1979-80	35,29,360
1980-81	8,55,299
1981-82	37,48,589
1982-83	40,58,516
1983-84	108,56,770
1984-85	33,24,907
1985-86	38,11,919
1986-87	38,21,276
1987-88	42,49,853
1988-89	39,48,794

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

(b) Land Reforms

Prior to the introduction of land reforms, the tenants had no hereditary cultivating rights; they cultivated at the will of the owners, who could eject them whenever they chose, after a harvest, unless they were admitted to the *maurusis*. In some areas, the cultivators had hereditary cultivating rights, and were called *muzarian-i-maurusi*. They were not deemed to hold any proprietary rights, but paid a fixed rent in cash or grain as *malikana* to the owner. The owner

had the further advantage that he used to obtain possession of the land of his hereditary cultivator in the event of his death without male issue or next of kin within three generations. Most of the tenants were suffering on account of the non-conferment of ownership rights and they did not take serious interest in cultivation as they were fed up with exploitation of the landowners.

To improve the lot of the exploited tenant, major step taken in the direction of land reforms was the abolition of intermediaries like zamindars, jagirs, *inams*, etc. Consequently, tenants of former intermediaries have come into direct relationship with the State and have become owners of their holdings. To better the lot of tenants and in pursuance of the PEPSU Government Policy "Land for the tiller,' the following laws (both in PEPSU and Punjab State) were enacted:—

1 The East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949
2 The Punjab Occupancy Tenant (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952
3 The Punjab Abolition of Ala Malkiat and Talukdary Rights Act, 1953
4 The Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953
5 The PEPSU Abolition of Ala Malkiyat Rights Act, 1954
6 The PEPSU Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1954
7 The PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955
8 The Punjab Bhudan Yagna Act, 1955
9 The Punjab Resumption of Jagir Act, 1957
10 The Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961
11 The Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972.

Under the East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949, which was made applicable to this district from 1956 when PEPSU was merged with the Punjab State, the Collector can take into possession and lease out any land which is cultivable, but has not been cultivated for the last six harvests. Under the PEPSU Abolition of Ala Malkiyat Rights Act, 1954, the superior landowners were given five times the amount of rent

they got from the inferior landowners. Under the PEPSU Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1954, the occupancy tenants were made full-fledged landowners liable to Government for paying land revenue, while the landowners were compensated for this loss. This measure not only ended an anachronism by eliminating an outmoded class but also made the land secure for the landowner who was the actual tiller, and brought him in direct relationship with Government. Besides the classes of cultivators mentioned above, a large area was cultivated by the tenants-at-will who were at the mercy of landlord and they had no security of tenancy. The amount of rent was not fixed and they had no remedy to seek in case of distress. To better their lot, the PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955, was enacted, which not only gave security of tenancy to the tenants but also laid down the maximum amount of rent that could be charged from them and prescribed the specific grounds on which tenants alone could be ejected and not otherwise. Besides, the maximum area that could be cultivated by a landlord himself was prescribed. Thus a large area was released for the tenants. However, later on it was considered necessary that these provisions should be further modified and on the basis of national guidelines, the Punjab Land Reforms Act, 1972, was drafted and passed on 14 December 1972.

In order to carry out the objectives of the Act, the Punjab Land Reforms Rules, 1973, were framed under the Act. A scheme, viz. the Punjab Utilization of Surplus Areas Scheme 1973, was also introduced under the provisions of the Act for utilization of surplus areas.

In order to implement the land reforms programme in the State, an Advisory Committee at the State level and similar committees at the district levels were constituted. Surplus land is being distributed to landless agricultural workers, members of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, and tenants who own no land or have an area less than two hectares of the first quality land.

The distribution of land among various classes of cultivators/landholders in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given in the following statement:—

Distribution of land among various classes of cultivators/landholders in the Bathinda District, 1977-78 and 1980-81 to 1988-89

(Area in hectares)

Class of cultivators/ landholders	Year 1977-78	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Total cultivated area	5,05,149	5,02,540	5,08,460	--	5,00,263	4,80,244	4,72,790	4,72,791	4,72,597	4,70,389
Tenants at will	2,94,336	2,68,695	2,81,366	2,82,436	2,82,564	17,879	17,819	17,820	17,946	20,141
Owners	2,10,813	2,33,845	2,27,093	2,27,187	2,27,202	564	558	560	560	570
Tenants with rights of occupancy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Source : Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Security of Land Tenures.--The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, was passed to provide for the security of land tenure and other incidental matters. Two years later, the PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act 1955, was enacted, because relationship between the landlords and tenants in PEPSU area were strained. Both the Acts were enacted with the primary object of ensuring security of land tenure to the tenants. Under the Punjab Act, no landowner can own or a tenant can hold more than 30 standard acres and where such 30 standard acres are being converted into ordinary acres, exceed 60, such 60 acres. However in the case of allotted land, the permissible limit is 50 standard acres or 100 ordinary acres. Similarly under the PEPSU Act, permissible limit is 30 standard acres, but it is 80 ordinary acres and in the case of allotted land, it is 40 standard acres and the 100 ordinary acres. Under the PEPSU Act, once the area is declared surplus, it vests in the Government but under the Punjab Act, it remains with the landlord till it is distributed amongst the landless. In the meantime if the landlord dies, his each successor is entitled to retain 30 standard acres. Therefore, the whole area is to be redistributed amongst them and in case any of them still possesses more than the permissible limit only then it becomes surplus. The area in excess of the permissible limit is utilised for the resettlement of tenants ejected or to be ejected as a consequence of landlord reserving land for himself equal to the permissible area. Under the PEPSU Act, the whole of the surplus area is vested in the Government which may utilise the same for allotment to tenants who are willing to cultivate land personally or to landowner or to tenants owning or holding land not exceeding 5 standard acres, or to landless agricultural workers or for the development of co-operative farms or seed farms, etc. Besides, the PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act 1955, provides for the security of land tenure. According to the provisions of the Act, no tenant can be ejected from his cultivated holdings except in cases of default of payment of rent; or the tenant is using such land or part thereof in a manner which is likely to render the land unfit for the purpose for which it was leased to him; or the tenant on demand in writing by the landowner, has refused to

execute a *kabuliyat* agreeing to pay rent in respect of his tenancy.

The main objectives of the Act are to provide a ceiling on individual land holdings, to give certain security of tenure to tenants, to provide for resettlement of tenants lawfully evicted and, to give a right to certain tenants to purchase land of their tenancy.

By 31 March 1989, 2,219 cases of surplus area had been decided and about 3,194 standard acres of land was declared surplus in the district. By the same date, 1,070 eligible tenants were rehabilitated on 2,363 standard acres of surplus area.

Utilization of Land.—Prior to the enforcement of the East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949, there were some areas in the district which were not brought under cultivation. In pursuance of government policy to utilize every inch of available culturable land for growing more food and other essential crops, the above Act has been enforced, under which a notice is served on every landowner who allows his land to remain uncultivated for six or more consecutive harvests and the land thus taken over is leased out to some other person for term ranging from 7 to 20 years, priority being given to Harijans. This type of land is generally not available.

Consolidation of Holdings.—Prior to the formation of PEPSU, the consolidation of holdings was started in the villages of the district, relating mainly to the erstwhile princely State of Nabha, by the Co-operative Department. At that time, it was taken up in old villages at the request of the people. The consent of each holder was necessary before any scheme of redistribution could be implemented in the village. The progress was consequently slow. The Government of Patiala and East Punjab States Union, therefore, passed the Patiala and East Punjab States Union Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 2007 (BK). The Act provided for the consolidation of agricultural holdings and for preventing the fragmentation of agricultural holdings in the State of Patiala and East Punjab States Union.

The Act provides for the consolidation of holdings in any estate or group of estates or any part

thereof for the purpose of better cultivation of lands therein. The Government may of its own motion or on application made in this behalf, declare by notification and by publication in the prescribed manner in the estate or estates concerned its intention to make scheme for the consolidation of holdings in such estate or estates or part thereof as may be specified. On such publication in the estate concerned, the Government may appoint a Consolidation Officer who shall after obtaining in the prescribed manner the advice of the landowners of the estate or estates concerned, prepare a scheme for the consolidation of holdings in such estate or estates or part thereof as the case may be.

The Act further provides that the transfer or partition of any land contrary to the provisions of the Act shall be void. No land in any notified area shall be transferred or partitioned so as to create a fragment. No owner of fragment who intends to sell it can sell without the prior approval of the Collector concerned. The owner shall in the first instance offer the fragment for sale to the owners of contiguous survey numbers or recognised subdivisions of survey numbers, and in case of their refusal to purchase, the owner may transfer it to the Government on payment. The Act provides compensation to any owner who is allotted a holding of less market value than that of his original holding.

After the merger of PEPSU in the Punjab, the consolidation of holdings of the district is undertaken under the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948.

By 31 March 1989, land measuring 5,49,304 hectares was consolidated in the Bathinda District.

Rural Wages and Condition of Agricultural Labour.—The daily wages paid to agricultural and skilled workers (men) in one selected village, viz. Bhagta in Rampura Phul Tahsil of the district, during 1979–1989 are given in the following statement:

Daily wages paid to agricultural and skilled labourers (men) in village Bhagta (tahsil Rampura Phul) in Bathinda District, 1979 to 1989

Year ending 30 June	Agricultural Labour				Skilled Labour	
	For ploughing (Rs)	For sowing (Rs)	For weeding (Rs)	For harvesting (Rs)	Blacksmith (Rs)	Carpenter (Rs)
1979	14.00	14.50	13.33	14.67	21.33	21.33
1980	13.18	13.22	13.29	13.00	23.00	23.00
1981	13.58	13.78	13.28	14.75	23.10	23.00
1982	13.58	13.37	13.57	13.71	25.83	30.00
1983	14.86	15.24	15.17	15.45	33.88	34.13
1984	16.14	15.50	15.61	17.13	32.65	32.71
1985	19.00	19.23	17.90	21.80	38.50	38.04
1986	20.06	20.06	20.00	24.17	40.56	41.10
1987	21.00	21.00	19.55	27.40	40.92	40.11
1988	25.00	25.00	25.55	28.85	46.35	66.33
1989	31.67	31.00	30.56	33.75	56.25	56.00

Year ending 30 June	For* picking of cotton (Rs)	For* other agricultural operations (Rs)
1979	—	14.00
1980	—	13.18
1981	9.25	13.58
1982	11.50	14.50
1983	9.85	15.67
1984	15.35	15.85
1985	18.50	19.81
1986	19.30	18.16
1987	—	21.08
1988	25.00	25.00
1989	30.00	31.25

*For Female worker

(*Statistical Abstracts of Punjab*, 1979 to 1989)

(c) Other Sources of Revenue, State and Central

(i) Other Sources of State Revenue

Besides land revenue, other sources of State revenue are; Stamp Duty, Registration Fee, Excise Tax, Motor Spirit Tax, Urban Immovable Property Tax, Sales Tax, Passengers and Goods Tax, Entertainments Tax, Entertainments Duty, Central Sales Tax, Electricity Duty and Copying Fee.

Stamp Duty.—Prior to Independence, in the Patiala Princely State, all deeds were executed on plain paper till 1857. But Maharaja Narinder Singh introduced the use of stamp paper and entrusted the State seal to the special officer in the same year.

The State Stamp Act was introduced in *Sambat* 1924 (1867 AD) by Diwan Lala Kulwant Rai. Process fees *(dastakana)* at the rate of 2 per cent were introduced in *Sambat* 1929 (1872 AD). Up to that time, the parties produced their own witnesses. A special stamp was used to realise arrears of land revenue. In *Sambat* 1959 (1902 AD), the Stamp Department was transferred to the Accountant General on deputation, who reorganised the system of issue. The new rules provided for supply of stamps being kept in the charge of the Treasury Officer, who issued them to *nizamat* treasuries on receipt of quarterly indents. Stamps were only sold by licensed stamp vendors. The Patiala Stamp Act dealt with stamps and court-fees. From the Ist of *Magh Sambat* 1960 (1903 AD), fiscal stamps on water marked paper were introduced. The court-fee stamps differed from the general stamps. The stamps were manufactured in the fort at Patiala.

The State Act 1875, was in force in the Jind Princely State. Distinction between judicial and non-judicial stamps was that the stamps used in criminal cases bore the coat-of-arms in red, while those used in civil courts in civil suits and non-judicial cases bore it stamped in blue. The stamps of the denominations of *annas* 1, 2, 4, 8 and 12 and Rs 1 to 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 and 100 were in circulation. These were manufactured in the *Sadr* Jail at Sangrur. The system of issue was that sheets of paper were first sealed with the mark of lion in the *sadr* treasury and then

handed over to *mohtotamin* in charge of the stamping work. The British Stamp Act and Court Fees Act were not recognised in the State. The State Act of 1875 with its modified form was applicable in the State.

In Faridkot Princely State, judicial and non-judicial stamps, *hundis* and receipt stamps of various denominations were printed in the state press and sold through the state treasurer who sold them to licensed vendors only for sale to the public. *Hundis* and receipt stamps were purchased by the public direct from the treasury. In the Faridkot State, British Court Fee Act with some modifications was in force. All applications, etc. submitted to the State Courts were required to be written on the State Darbar paper which bore the State coat-of-arms. It was sold at the treasury at the rate of 3 pies per sheet.

In Nabha Princely State, impressed non-judicial sheets of foolscap size were issued by the State. The value of sheets being annas 1, 2, 4 and 8 and Rs 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 500.

At present, the Indian Stamp Act (No. II) of 1899 amended by the Punjab Act VIII of 1922 and the Indian Stamp (Punjab Second Amendment) Act (No. 34) of 1960 is applicable in the whole of the Punjab State including the Bathinda District.

The Court Fee Stamps also known as judicial stamps are sold under the Court Fees Act 1870. This Act requires that the Collector (Deputy Commissioner) should ensure that all the documents are properly stamped as per the Schedule* appended with the Act.

Stamp Revenue (duty) is derived from the sale of non-jucicial stamps or revenue stamps.

The following table shows the amount realised from sale of non-judicial stamps and miscellaneous stamps in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89:--

*The Schedule forms part of the Act.

Year	Miscellaneous Stamps (Rs)	Non-Judicial Stamps (Rs)	Total (Rs)
1977-78	66,87,943.00	1,50,57,786.00	2,17,45,729.25
1978-79	81,34,173.45	1,70,36,843.25	2,51,71,016.70
1979-80	87,66,436.35	2,26,55,125.50	3,14,21,561.85
1980-81	85,18,567.61	2,25,34,961.75	3,10,53,529.36
1981-82	80,40,674.45	3,46,26,285.25	4,26,66,959.70
1982-83	75,65,341.65	2,40,72,527.00	3,16,37,868.65
1983-84	1,03,83,103.65	2,64,44,006.00	3,68,27,109.65
1984-85	1,11,65,305.65	2,28,78,002.00	3,40,43,307.65
1985-86	1,44,96,970.85	3,58,45,833.75	5,03,42,804.60
1986-87	1,63,77,852.70	3,92,83,945.25	5,56,61,797.95
1987-88	1,67,54,966.35	4,98,36,020.50	6,65,90,986.85
1988-89	1,59,45,096.90	4,98,61,469.75	6,58,06,566.68

(Source: Treasury Officer, Bathinda)

Registration Fee.—The Indian Registration Act, 1908, requires compulsory registration of all documents pertaining to immovable property and provides optional registration in case of other documents. The chief items of receipts collected by the Registration Department are in respect of registration of documents, making or granting of copies, searching of registers, power of attorney, etc.

The following statement shows the number of registered documents, value of property transferred and receipts in the district, from 1977-78 to 1988-89:

Number and description of registered documents and value of property transferred in Bathinda District, 1977-78 to 1988-89

Year	No. of Registration Officers	No. of Registrations of Property				Aggregate Value of Property Transferred (000' Rs)			Total Receipts (000 Rs)
		Immovable Property			Movable Property	Immovable Property	Movable	Total	
		Compulsory	Optional	Total					
1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	11
1977-78	8	21,875	4	21,879	—	2,53,846	—	2,53,846	2,718
1978-79	8	21,851	-	21,851	1,069	2,51,159	2	2,51,161	2.832
1979-80	8	21,485	-	21,485	1,378	3,11,796	—	3,11,796	2,347
1980-81	8	26,698	-	26,698	—	5,33,182	—	5,33,182	2,404
1981-82	8	27,297	-	27,297	1,802	4,51,106	—	4,51,106	3,355
1982-83	8	25,491	8	25,499	1,682	4,91,951	—	4,91,951	2,807
1983-84	8	25,213	-	25,213	1,428	3,35,207	—	4,01,307	3,185
1984-85	13	24,247	-	24,247	1,004	4,04,916	447	4,05,363	2,576
1985-86	13	22,952	-	22,952	1,324	4,38,018	580	4,38,598	3,345
1986-87	13	25,556	-	25,556	1,407	5,63,813	220	5,64,033	3,527
1987-88	8	28,397	-	28,397	1,740	7,18,987	1,108	7,20,095	4,539
1988-89	8	30,509	1	30,510	1,946	8,51,544	683	8,52,227	5,355

(Source : Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1979 to 1989 and Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda)

Excise Tax.—The State and Central Excise Acts enforced in the Punjab are: The Punjab Excise Act 1914; The Punjab Local Option Act, 1923; The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930; The Punjab Molasses Control Act, 1948; The Indian Power Alcohal Act, 1948 and the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955.

General Sales Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, which repealed the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1941.

Passengers and Goods Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952, on all fares and freights in respect of passengers carried and goods transported in public vehicles in the State. The rate of tax has been increased from time to time. As on 31 March 1989, the passengers tax was levied at the rate of 45 per cent of the fare[1], rate of tax per truck was 1,100 in the plains and 155 per annum in the hilly areas in the Punjab[2].

Show Tax.—It is levied under the Punjab Entertainment Tax (Cinematograph Shows) Act, 1954, for every show on the number of occupied seats of a cinema. According to Punjab Government Notification[3], the tax shall not exceed Rs 150 per show in any case and shall be charged proportionately for a fraction of 100 seats. The rate of show tax differs with the category of municipality in which cinema is located.

Entertainments Duty.—It is levied under the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1955, which repealed the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1936. The duty is levied on the admission to any entertainment to which persons are ordinarily admitted on payment. The duty is also payable on complimentary tickets.

The rate of entertainment duty with effect from 3 May 1978 is 125 per cent of the admission charges except 40 per cent of the total number of seats in the

1 Vide Punjab Government Notification No. 3-Feg/86, dated 1 April 1986

2 Vide Punjab Government Notification No. CSR 34/P.A. 16/52/Ss, 22 and 4/Amd. (16)/82, dated 21 June 1982

3 No. S.O./P.A. 8/54/S.3/78, dated 3 May 1978

cinema hall nearer the screen which are subject to duty at the rate of 100 per cent.

Central Sales Tax.—The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, came into force in January 1957, enabling the State Government to tax inter-state sales of goods. The States have been authorised to administer this tax on behalf of the Government of India. The entire collection of the tax is being appropriated by the states.

Electricity Duty.—It is levied under the Punjab Electricity (Duty) Act, 1958 to meet the additional financial burden undertaken by the State on account of introduction of free education and provincialization of local body schools. The duty is levied on the energy supplied by the Punjab State Electricity Board to a consumer or a licensee and it is collected by the Board along with the bills for the energy thus supplied.

Copying Fee.—It is charged under the Punjab Copying Fee Act, 1936, for copies of orders, etc. supplied to the public. The charges vary from supplying copies on ordinary and urgent basis.

The collections from the taxes mentioned above, in the district, during 1977-78 and 1980-81 to 1988-89, are given in the following statement:—

Collections from other sources of State revenue in Bathinda District, 1977-78 and 1980-81 to 1988-89

(Figures in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of Tax	1977-78 (Rs)	1980-81 (Rs)	1981-82 (Rs)	1982-83 (Rs)	1983-84 (Rs)	1984-85 (Rs)	1985-86 (Rs)	1986-87 (Rs)	1987-88 (Rs)	1988-89 (Rs)
1	Punjab General Sales Tax	3,36.00	5,34.57	6,11.52	6,26.06	7,53.52	7,56.03	10,15.73	13,57.31	14,65.10	19,44.27
2	General Sales Tax	2,10.33	4,21.25	5,20.50	4,86.02	3,77.56	3,94.00	4,34.55	4,81.22	7,04.19	11,57.57
3	Punjab Motor Spirit Tax	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
4	Punjab Passengers and Goods Tax	96.98	1,78.60	2,27.68	2,46.30	2,48.27	2,32.92	2,15.83	1,84.50	3,34.68	4,23.42
5	Punjab Entertainment Duty	28.11	37.59	42.32	47.15	41.83	36.45	44.56	45.44	40.74	27.90
6	Show Tax	1.92	2.71	3.31	3.93	3.16	2.49	3.53	3.29	2.30	1.96
7	Excise Tax	5,67.90	7,71.31	10,00.10	11,82.10	12,33.01	13,31.94	16,06.74	20,22.43	23,62.38	29,57.67
8	Electricity Duty	23.66	71.98	29.47	53.46	54.48	123.30	247.74	285.36	367.78	305.12
9	Copying Fee	0.28	0.37	0.58	0.28	0.24	0.21	0.22	0.26	0.24	0.25

(*Source* : Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda, Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda and Chief Electrical Inspector to Government Punjab, Patiala)

(ii) Central Sources of Revenue

Central Excise Duties.—The Assistant Collector, Central Excise Division, Moga, is the overall in charge of the Bathinda Range with headquarters at Moga. He is assisted by an Inspector, Central Excise, Bathinda.

The main sources of Central Excise Duty in the Bathinda District are: cotton yarn, iron and steel and products thereof, cellulosic spun yarn, P.P. food, paper, V.M.E. Oils, chewing tobocco, etc.

Income Tax.—It is levied under the Income Tax Act, 1961, which replaced the Indian Income Tax Act, 1922, on 1 April 1962. The rate of income tax varies from year to year in accordance with the Finance Act passed by the Parliament every year.

Wealth Tax.—It is levied under the Wealth Tax Act, 1957, which came into force from 1 April 1957. It is chargeable on the net wealth of an individual and Hindu Undivided Family (HUF).

Gift Tax.—The tax is levied under the Gift Tax Act, 1958 on all gifts made after the date of the enforcement of the Act, i.e. 1 April 1958, if the total value of the gift (movable or immovable) exceeds the limit specified by the Finance Act passed by the Parliament in a particular year.

Estate Duty.—The Estate Duty Act, 1953 came into force on 15 October 1953. The duty is leviable on the estates of persons dying after this date. The Bathinda District falls under the jurisdiction of Assistant Controller of Estate Duty, Bathinda.

The collections from the Central sources of revenue in the district from 1979-80 to 1988-89 are given in the following table :—

Collections from Central sources of revenue in Bathinda District, 1979-80 to 1988-89

Year	Central Excise Duties (Rs)	Income Tax (Rs)	Wealth Tax (Rs)	Gift Tax (Rs)	Estate Duty (Rs)
1979-80	19,62,442	2,41,98,000	12,92,000	1,13,000	2,20,000
1980-81	33,68,345	1,98,04,000	10,57,000	1,50,000	3,18,000
1981-82	33,99,823	1,64,65,000	12,34,000	2,15,000	5,98,000
1982-83	57,65,816	1,55,98,000	11,31,000	2,41,000	12,70,000
1983-84	64,74,272	1,13,31,000	11,82,000	1,46,000	14,50,000
1984-85	47,30,376	83,03,000	8,49,000	1,34,000	9,40,000
1985-86	2,95,69,595*	1,74,61,673	13,26,898	2,09,729	12,07,000**
1986-87	3,81,13,986*	2,19,89,481	8,52,511	2,01,221	6,66,000
1987-88	5,20,34,012*	3,56,17,254	8,54,890	45,063	4,42,000
1988-89	6,08,43,000*	3,84,41,896	5,35,854	76,096	3,05,000

(Source : 1 Inspector, Central Excise, Bathinda and Assistant Controller of Estate Duty, Bathinda)
2 Commissioner of Income Tax, Bathinda Range, Bathinda)

*These figures include the collections of Mukatsar, Abohar and Fazilka areas also.
**This scheme was discontinued in 1985-86 and after that only arrears are collected.

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

(a) Incidence of Crime in the District

The criminal tendencies of the people of Bathinda District are not much different from the people living in adjoining districts of Faridkot and Sangrur. In the year 1989, there were 105 cases of murder reported in the Bathinda District. Cases of dacoity and rioting are almost nil in the district. During 1977--89, only 8 cases of dacoity, 4 cases of rioting and 1 case of traffic in women were reported in the district. There were few cases of robbery, cattle-lifting and cheating in the district. However, the cases of burglary and theft were 102 and 174, respectively in the district during 1989. The offences under Local and Special Laws are on the decrease. The total number of offences under these laws were 1,122 in 1989, as compared to 2,888 in 1977. Carrying of weapons is a status symbol for the rural masses of the district. The rural people are generally seen carrying with themselves lethal weapons. Bathinda is a border district and its proximity to Haryana and Rajasthan states is perhaps one of the reasons for the people having criminal tendencies. Many criminals escape to these bordering States making it difficult for the police to pursue them effectively. Moreover, the rich harvest, particularly of cotton is another reason for the rural people of the district to indulge in the criminal activities.

The following table indicates the frequency of various crimes committed in the Bathinda District during 1977--89:--

Number of reported cases relating to various crimes in the Bathinda District, 1977--89

Year	Murder	Dacoity	Robbery	Burglary	Rioting	Theft	Cattle lifting	Traffic in Women	Cheating	Offences under Local and Special Laws	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1977	64	1	3	131	-	148	5	-	7	2,888	3,247
1978	55	-	3	108	-	114	8	-	36	2,813	3,137
1979	63	-	2	77	-	115	10	-	19	3,270	3,556
1980	60	-	3	91	1	119	10	-	26	3,549	3,859
1981	65	-	1	113	-	171	2	-	21	3,903	4,276
1982	68	-	2	79	1	130	2	-	35	4,385	4,702
1983	57	-	3	70	2	93	2	-	23	4,089	4,339
1984	70	1	15	68	-	65	1	-	22	4,121	4,363
1985	64	-	5	90	-	109	3	-	27	2,227	2,525
1986	82	-	13	119	-	127	4	-	17	1,675	2,037
1987	101	5	33	117	-	130	6	-	22	1,723	2,137
1988	89	1	27	119	-	102	4	1	27	1,456	1,826
1989	105	-	22	102	-	174	-	-	20	1,122	1,545

(Source: Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda)

Incidence of Motor Vehicle Accidents.—With the expansion of vehicular traffic, incidence of road accidents in the Bathinda District has been on the increase. In 1984, 49 accidents took place in which 29 persons lost their lives as against 88 accidents in 1988 in which 53 persons lost their lives.

Road Traffic.—Road traffic is regulated not only under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, but also under certain provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, and the Municipal Bye-laws, the State Carriage Act, 1861, the Police Act, 1988, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1890; the Punjab Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1925 and the Hackney Carriage Act, 1879.

The prosecutions launched in the district under the above Acts, during 1977 to 1989, are given in the following statement:--

Prosecutions launched under various Acts in Bathinda District, 1977 to 1989

Name of the Act	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Indian Penal Code	391	453	683	517	503	545	999	933	725	911	1,021	917	918
Municipal Act and Municipal Bye-laws	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Carriage Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Act	16	23	30	33	27	7	8	10	13	25	16	—	—
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab Motor Vehicles Taxation Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,723	735	1,185	1,688	617
Hackney Carriage Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Source: Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda)

(b) History and Organisation of Police

Bathinda was siezed by Maharaja Ala Singh with the aid of Sikh Confederacy in about A.D. 1754. Accordingly, most of the areas of the present Bathinda District became part of the princely State of Patiala. Hence it came under the police system prevalent in the then Patiala State, the salient features of which are described below:

The *thana* has always been a unit of police administration in the State, but formerly the *thanedars* possessed judicial powers also. They were mostly illiterate men and each had *amin* under him to carry on clerical work, and to act for him generally in his absence. Outlying posts, at a distance from *thana*, were under *silladars* who were selected from amongst the constables or *chomars* and chowkidars as they were then called. Till the reign of Maharaja Karam Singh, these *thana* functionaries were under the direct orders of the *Adalati* in all police and judicial matters. As the clerical work in *thanas* had increased, an assistant clerk or *madad mahrrir* was added to their establishment. In 1861, the office of *naib-i-adalat* was abolished and that of *Nazim* created instead. At the same time, Tahsildars were given magisterial powers authorising them to pass sentences of imprisonment up to three years. The *Nazims* were made Sessions Judges, and their Courts were made appellate courts for the decisions of appeals from the findings of the *Naib-Nazims*. In 1870, Maharaja Mohinder Singh found that judicial work was interfering with the Tahsildars' legitimate duties connected with revenue and finance, and he appointed separate officers as *Naib-Nazims* to carry on that work. The *thana* functionaries were then placed under *Naib-Nazims*.

In 1882, the Council of Regency organized the Police Department on the British model. District Superintendents of Police were appointed at salaries ranging from Rs 80 to Rs 100 a month. The *munshis* and *sepoys* were called sergeants and constables, while Inspectors and Court Inspectors were appointed in every district. A police code was issued closely modelled on the Code of Criminal Procedure, and British Indian Criminal Law became the law of the State. The final step was the appointment of an Inspector-General of

Police with an adequate headquarters staff in 1886. All departmental powers, formerly vested in the magistrates and *Nazims*, were then transferred to the Inspector General and the District Superintendent of Police. There were 36 *thanas* in the Patiala State. As far the present Bathinda District is concerned, Bhikhi, Bathinda, Sardulgarh and Boha were the *thanas* of the Patiala State. A small force of mounted police had also been organised.

With the merger of Pepsu with Punjab in 1956, Bathinda District became part of the Punjab State and as such it came under the Punjab Police system. As most of the territory of the Bathinda District is bordered by the states of Haryana and Rajasthan, an efficient police system in the district had become all the more important. Because of the geographical situation of the district, utmost vigilance is required for checking the anti-social elements. At present, the head of the police force, at district level, is the Senior Superintendent of Police, who works under the control of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Firozpur Range, Firozpur. The Senior Superintendent of Police maintains law and order in the district under the general guidance and the supervision of the District Magistrate. He is assisted by 3 Superintendents of Police, 7 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 16 Inspectors, 46 Sub-Inspectors, 125 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 253 Head Constables and 1,180 Constables. The strength of police force in the district, as on 31 March 1989 is given in the following table:—

Police strength in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

	Senior Superintendent of Police	Superintendents of Police	Deputy Superintendents of Police	Inspectors	Sub-Inspectors	Assistant Sub-Inspectors	Head Constables	Constables
1 Civil Police								
Permanent	1	-	5	7	34	87	202	1,035
Temporary	-	3	2	9	12	36	42	78
2 Armed Police (1st, 2nd and 3rd Armed Reserves)								
Permanent	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	48
Temporary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Prosecution Staff								
Permanent	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	19
Temporary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	3	7	16	46	125	253	1,180

(Source: Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda)

The number of police stations, police posts and S.P.O's (Special Police Officers) Pickets in each subdivision in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989 is given below:

Subdivision	No. of Villages	Police Stations	Police Posts	S.P.O. Pickets
Bathinda	125	1 Kotwali Bathinda	(i) Civil Station, Bathinda	
			(ii) Railway Colony Bathinda	
			(iii) Spinning Mill, Bathinda	
		2 Sadr Bathinda	(i) Balluana	
			(ii) Kot Shamir	
		3 Cantonment Bathinda		
		4 Thermal Bathinda		
		5 Sangat	Nandgarh	
		6 Nahianwala	Killi Nihal Singh Wala	(i) Akkia
				(ii) Zeeda
Mansa	247	1 Sadar Mansa		
		2 City Mansa		
		3 Bhikhi		
		4 Bareta		
		5 Boha		
		6 Sardulgarh		
		7 Budhlada		
		8 Jhunir		
		9 Joga		
Talwandi Sabo	88	1 Talwandi Sabo		
		2 Maur		
		3 Raman		
		4 Kot Fatta		
		5 Jaurkian		
Rampura Phul	76	1 Phul		Ghanda Banna
		2 Rampura	Choke	(i) Kahangarh
				(ii) Kotha Guru
		3 Dialpura	Bhagta	(iii) Maluka
		4 Nathana		(iv) Siriewala
		5 Balianwali		(v) Kesar Singh Wala
				(vi) Hakam Singh Wala

(Source: Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda)

Civil Police.—The Civil Police is posted at the police station/police posts in the district. The Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda, is the head of Civil Police force in the district. There are 25 police stations, 9 police posts and 9 S.P.O. Pickets in the district. The Station House Officer is in charge of each police station. He is normally assisted by one or more Assistant Sub Inspectors, a Head Constable, a Moharrir and a number of constables. The Station House Officer is responsible for maintaining peace and investigation of offences occurring in the area of his police station.

Vigilance Police.—The main function of the Vigilance Police is to make enquiries into the complaints of corruption and other irregularities committed by government employees. It takes speedy action where corruption and misconduct have come to notice. Moreover, it also assists the other administrative departments to rid the administration of anti-social evils. For the effective functioning of its policy and programme, the Vigilance Bureau have been set up in the districts. One such Vigilance Bureau is functioning at Bathinda. The staff posted in the district comprises 1 Deputy Superintendent of Police, 2 Inspectors, 2 Sub Inspectors, one Head Clerk and 10 Constables.

The unit of Vigilance Bureau at Bathinda functions under the Vigilance Bureau, Punjab. It collects intelligence reports regarding corruption amongst public servants. It conducts enquiries into the complaints of curruption against public servants and also investigates criminal cases involving corruption. It also assists in prosecution of cases against the dafaulting public servants before the enquiry officer or the court and keeps a watch on the departmental proceedings on charges of corruption. It conducts raids to catch corrupt government servants. Moreover, the Vigilance Bureau suggests measures to check corruption in various departments.

Railway Police.—The Railway Police force functioning in the Bathinda District, as in other districts of the State, works under the Deputy Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, Punjab, with headquarters at Patiala. It is not allotted to any district in particular. The circles of the Railway Police are formed according to the sections of the railway lines in which they control crime committed in railway trains

and within the railway premises.

The main functions of the Railway Police are to protect travellers from injury to person or loss to property; to maintain law and order at railway stations and in trains; to attend the arrival and departure of passengers trains at station and to bring to the notice of the proper authorities all offences under Railway Act and breaches of bye-laws, and all cases of fraud, oppression, etc. on the part of railway officials; to render all possible assistance to passengers and VIP's; to keep railway platforms clear of idlers and beggars and to keep a watch over suspicious persons; smugglers, and persons travelling with arms without licences; to search all empty carriages for property left behind by the passengers; to control the hackney carriages plying for hire at the railway stations and to enforce the regulation of railway passengers entering railway stations on occasion of fairs, festivals etc. Besides, the railway police patrols all passenger trains and provides escort to important night trains.

In the Bathinda District, there is one Railway Police Post at Bathinda. The staff posted in the district consists of 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 6 Head Constables and 35 Constables.

Excise Police.—The main functions of the Excise Police are to accompany the Excise Staff while conducting raids to check the activities of moonshiners and bootleggers. It comprises 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 Assistant Sub-Inspector, 5 Head Constables and 24 Constables, who are on deputation from the Police Department. These officials are posted with Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda.

Village Police.—The Chowkidar is at the lowest rung of the police organization. He helps the village Sarpanch in the maintenance of law and order. He also helps in the detection of crimes. It is his duty to report the occurrence of any crime in the village to the concerned authorities.

Punjab Home Grards.—The Punjab Home Guards Act of 1948 empowers the State Government to raise on voluntary basis a disciplined and self-reliant force of citizens, known as Home Guards, with a view to supplementing the police force in the maintenance of law

and order and other essential services during emergencies and providing relief in the event of natural calamities like flood, fire, etc.

The Home Guards volunteers of both the wings assist the local police in the maintenance of law and order at the time of need. It also guards various strategic points such as railway lines, power station., etc. in the district, as and when required.

The Punjab Home Guards was set up in Bathinda District on 23 October 1963. The District Commander, Punjab, Home Guards, Bathinda, is the head of this organization at the district level. He is assisted by 4 Company Commanders, 8 Platoon Commanders, 9 Havaldar Instructors, 6 Corporal Instructors, besides other Class III and Class IV staff.

(c) Jails and Lock-ups

With the passage of time, the institution of jails has undergone a lot of change. Previously, these were known as cells for giving deterrent punishments to the criminals. No efforts were made to change the mental attitude of prisoners. However, after the Independence of the country in 1947, revolutionary changes have taken place in the administration of prisons. More emphasis is now given to change the mental attitude of the prisoners. As the basic function of a prison has changed from punishment to reformation, it is now called a *sudhar ghar* or reformatory, which is indeed the appropriate nomenclature.

In the recent years, the State Government has taken effective steps to improve the conditions of prisoners in the *sudhar ghars*. Much care is taken in respect of diet, health, educational and emotional requirements of the prisoners. The unique feature of the modern administration of *sudhar ghar* is that effective steps are taken to enable the prisoners to earn their livelihood and to adjust themselves with society on release.

There is a Central Jail *(sudhar ghar)* at the district headquarters at Bathinda. Besides, there was a Sub-Jail *(up-sudhar ghar)* at Mansa which functioned upto 20 October 1984. Thereafter the staff and the prisoners of this sub-jail were transferred to the Central Jail, Bathinda. Besides, there are lock-ups attached to each police station, which are controlled by the police

Department. The jail administration in the district functions under the administrative control of Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab.

Central Jail, Bathinda.—The Central Jail, Bathinda was set up as District Jail on 30 July 1960 and it was upgraded as Central Jail on 1 August 1970. It is situated on the Bathinda-Mansa Road. It has a capacity to accommodate 498 prisoners. It is under the charge of the Superintendent of Jail, who is assisted by 1 Deputy Superintendent, Grade I, one Deputy Superintendent, Grade II, 4 Assistant Superintendents, 2 Welfare Officers, one Office Superintendent, Grade III, one Accountant, one J.B.T. Teacher, 7 Head Warders, 67 Warders, besides other ministerial Class III and Class IV staff.

The Central Jail, Bathinda is having a female ward with a capacity to keep 10 female prisoners. In the female barrack, 8 women can be housed. In addition to this, there is a cell where two violent or mentally retarded women prisoners can be locked up. One female matron looks after these women prisoners. Besides, a juvenile section for the minor prisoners also exists in the Central Jail, Bathinda.

The total admissions during the year, average daily population and maximum population on any day in a year in the Central Jail, Bathinda during 1977--89 are given in the following table :--

Year	Total admissions during the year	Average daily population	Maximum population on any one day during the year
1977	2,043	439.78	576
1978	3,697	468.14	1,269
1979	2,212	542.15	747
1980	2,349	533.65	574
1981	3,460	647.69	869
1982	5,388	845.19	1,619
1983	4,698	831.02	1,350
1984	5,429	836.48	1,211

Year	Total admissions during the year	Average daily population	Maximum population on any one day during the year
1985	5,287	751.51	1,009
1986	4,025	780.41	872
1987	3,830	857.40	985
1988	3,241	810.21	895
1989	3,120	636.98	727

(Source: Superintendent, Central Jail, Bathinda)

The number of convicted prisoners released on different grounds such as parole, bail, transfer, remission, etc. during 1977–89 is given Below :–

Year	Number of prisoners released
1977	3,381
1978	3,871
1979	2,880
1980	2,747
1981	3,739
1982	5,415
1983	4,778
1984	5,139
1985	999
1986	147
1987	683
1988	837
1989	761

(Source : Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Educational, Recreational and Medical Facilities

All facilities are being provided to the prisoners for learning three R's and for improving their educational qualifications up to University level. There is a paid J.B.T. teacher who looks after the adult literacy scheme under the supervision of two Welfare Officers.

To break the boredom of prison life, certain recreational facilities are provided to the inmates of the jail. A stage has been set up in the Central Jail, Bathinda for entertaining the prisoners with variety shows which are organised in collaboration with the Public Relations Department and other voluntary social service organisations from time to time. Nine television sets have been installed in different barracks and all the prisoners confined in the jail daily watch the same.

In the Central Jail, Bathinda, there is also a library which contains 1,260 books in Punjabi, Hindi, English and Urdu on different subjects. The literate prisoners make use of these books and develop their mental horizon. Besides, daily newspapers in adequate numbers are also supplied to them. There is also an arrangement for sports in the jail and the prisoners daily play volley-ball and badminton, besides some indoor games. Moreover, a canteen has also been set up for providing various commodities to the prisoners at reasonable prices.

Medical facilities are available for the prisoners within the jail premises. There is a hospital which is being looked after by a whole-time Medical Officer assisted by a Pharmacist, besides one additional Medical Officer and one more Pharmacist lent by Civil Surgeon, Bathinda. This hospital has a 12-bedded general ward, besides a 6-bedded special ward for T.B. patient. Moreover, when there is a necessity for special consultation, the expert doctors from the Civil Hospital, Bathinda are called in to examine the ailing prisoners.

Panchayat System

As in other jails of the State, panchayat system has also been introduced in both the jails of this district. The members of the panchayat are elected by the prisoners themselves to look after their betterment.

They assist the convicts working in the kitchen to draw their rations from the store and also supervise the cooking and distribution of food. This system has created a sense of responsibility and trust among the prisoners and has been of great value in maintaining discipline.

Official and Non-Official Visitors

Visits to a jail by the official and non-official visitors are regulated under the Punjab Jail Manual. These are helpful both to the prisoners and the jail authorities. The official visitors personally take notice of the problems of the prisoners and also see whether provisions of the Prisons Act, 1894 and all rules, regulations, orders and directions made or issued thereunder are fully observed by the prison management or not. The visits of the non-official visitors are also useful, as they provide a community touch to the prisoners which give them a realization that the society has not forgotten them.

District Probation Officer, Bathinda.—The Probation of the Offenders Act, 1958 came into force in the Bathinda district in 1966 when a District Probation Officer was posted there. He is under the control of the Chief Probation Officer, Chandigarh, who supervises and directs the work in the entire State under Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The Probation of Offenders' Act is a reformative measure for the juvenile offenders (below the age of 21 years) and for first offenders, irrespective of their age to save them from the confines of the jail. The Act provides for the release of offenders on bail after entering into a bond with one surety for the amount considered sufficient and for a period up to three years, as desired by the court, keeping in view the degree of crime. The Act does not cover these offenders who have committed an offence for which they can be sentenced to death or life imprisonment. Whenever, a juvenile or first offender is brought before the court with some charges for which the benefit of Probation of Offenders' Act, 1958, can be given to the offender, and as soon as the challan is put up by the police in the court, the latter asks for pre-sentence report from the District Probation Officer.

The District Probation Officer enquires about the offender's character, antecedents, socio-economic and environmental background and other particulars which the court directs him to enquire. Keeping in view the intensity of the crime and the report submitted by the District Probation Officer, the offender is released on probation with or without supervision.

Those offenders who are released on conditional supervision are kept under the supervision of the District Probation Officer who acts as a friend, philosopher and guide to all the probationers. He looks into their personal problems and tries to solve them. He impresses upon the probationers through personal advice, persuation and warning, the necessity for keeping good conduct during probation. The Probation Officer also tries to improve the behaviour, attitude, habits, character and morale of the probationers so that they may not revert to crime. All this is done by arranging meetings with the probationers in their villages and in the office of the Probation Officer. The Probation Officer makes enquiries about the character and behaviour of the probationer from respectable persons of the village like sarpanch, members of panchayat and lambardars, etc.

The following table shows the number of prisoners released on probation on various grounds during the year 1977-78 to 1988-89 :--

Year	Prisoners released on probation			
	Under Supervision	Without Supervision	Released u/s 3 of the Probation of Offenders Act after admonition	Social investigation report
1977-78	187	310	--	41
1978-79	401	639	--	26
1979-80	217	709	--	6
1980-81	98	544	--	12
1981-82	62	567	--	13
1982-83	79	759	--	7
1983-84	59	1,083	--	4
1984-85	78	870	--	7
1985-86	43	594	--	3
1986-87	43	762	--	2
1987-88	27	455	--	1
1988-89	24	292	--	--

(Source: District Probation Officer, Bathinda)

(d) History and Organisation of Civil and Criminal courts

As already mentioned, Bathinda was conquered by Maharaja Ala Singh with the aid of Sikh confederacy around A.D. 1754. Consequently, most of the areas of the present Bathinda District became part of the princely State of Patiala. The judicial system prevailing in Patiala State as given in *Phulkian State Gazeteer* (Patiala, Nabha and Jind), 1904 (pp-141-42) is described below :

Before the time of Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala, the administrative and judicial work of the State was in the hands of the *Thanedars (faujdars* of the *(Ain-i-Akbari)*, the Collectors of revenue *(ugraha)* being under them. There was no treasury and no court. In each *pargana*, there was a *thanedar*. The offences, of whatever nature, were disposed of after verbal enquiry. No record of evidence was made and no judgement prepared. Final orders were given by word of mouth. The people acquiesced in the decisions and seldom appealed to the *Diwan* or *Wazir*. There was no regular law in force; the custom and usages of the country were followed in deciding cases, and had the force of law. The panchayat system was generally in vogue and boundary disputes specially were referred to arbitration. The administering of oaths *(nem)* to the litigants was a great factor in bringing cases to an amicable settlement. The offenders were generally fined, but habitual and grave offenders were imprisoned without any fixed term of years and were released at the pleasure of the presiding officer. In murder cases, the offender's relations were ordered to pay the price of blood to the heirs of the deceased by offering either a *nata* (female relative in marriage) or some culturable lands or some cash, and thus to bring about an amicable settlement of the case; otherwise the perpetrator was hanged, generally on a *kikar* tree, in some conspicuous place where the corpse was left hanging for many days. Barbarous punishment such as maiming and mutilation, were in force to some extent. Sometimes, the face, hands and feet of an offender were blackened and he was proclaimed by beat of drum, mounted on a donkey through the streets of the city.

Maharaja Karam Singh began the work of reform

by appointing an *Adalti*, (Judicial Minister), but no line of demarcation was drawn between his powers and those of the *thanadars*. Orders in criminal cases were still given verbally, but in civil cases files were made and judgements written. Cases of proprietorship in land were decided by the *Adalti* though they were transferred subsequently to the *Diwan*. During the time of Maharaja Narinder Singh, five *nizamats* were marked off and *Nazims* appointed to each. One tahsil comprised two *thanas*, and sixteen Tahsildars were appointed who, in addition to their revenue work, dealt with criminal and civil cases. Maharaja Karam Singh introduced a Manual of Criminal Law, "The Law of Sambat 1916," for the guidance of criminal courts. In most respects, it was similar to the Indian Penal Code. In the reign of Maharaja Mohinder Singh, Tahsildars were deprived of their judicial and criminal powers and two *Naib-Nazims* were appointed in each *nizamat* to decide civil and criminal cases and to superintend the police. A code of civil procedure, compiled from British Indian Act (VII of 1859 and Act XXXIII of 1861) with suitable modiiications, was introduced.

A Tahsildar could give three months' imprisonment and Rs 25 fine and a *Naib-Nazim* three years' imprisonment and Rs 1,000 fine. Appeals from the courts of Tahsildars and *Naib-Nazims* all went to the *Nazim*. The *Nazim* was a Sessions Judge with power to pass sentences of 14 years' imprisonment and Rs 1,000 fine. From the *Nazims'* decision, appeals could be made to the *Adalti* in civil and criminal and the *Diwan* in revenue cases, with further appeals to the Chief Court and the *Ijlas-i-khas* (the court of the Maharaja). At the capital, there was a Magistrate and a Civil Judge with *Naib-Nazim* powers. Appeals from these courts went to the *Muawan Adalat*, the court of the Additional Sessions Judge, who assisted the *adalat* and had the powers of a *Nazim*. The Chief Court was competent to pass any sentence authorised by law. Capital punishments and imprisonment for life, however, needed the confirmation of the *Ijlas-i-khas*. In murder cases, the opinion of the *Sadr Ahlkars* was taken before the sentence was confirmed. Special jurisdiction in criminal cases was also exercised by certain officials. The Foreign Minister had the powers of a *Nazim* in cases where one party or both were not subjects of Patiala,

Jind or Nabha. Cases under the Telegraph and Railway Acts were decided by an officer of the Foreign Department subject to appeal to the Foreign Minister. Certain Canal and Forest Officers had magisterial powers in cases falling under Canal and Forest Acts and the Inspector General of Police exercised similar powers in respect of cases which concerned the police. During the settlement operations, the Settlement Officers were invested with powers to decide revenue cases with an appeal to the Settlement Commissioner.

Powers of revision *(nigrani)* could be exercised by the *adalti* and the Sessions Courts; review *(nazarasani)* by the Chief Court and *Ijlas-i-khas* only.

With the merger of Pepsu with Punjab in 1966, Bathinda District became part of Punjab State and as such it came under the judicial system of Punjab.

The judiciary at the district level functions under the supervision and administrative control of Punjab and Haryana, High Court, Chandigarh. As in other districts of the State, judiciary in the Bathinda District is headed by a District and Sessions Judge, with two Additional District and Sessions Judges at the district headquarters. A brief description of civil and criminal justice in the Bathinda District is given below :

Civil Justice

The administration of civil justice in the district is controlled by the District and Sessions Judge Bathinda, who is assisted by two Additional District and Sessions Judges and one Senior Subordinate Judge, at Bathinda. Besides, there are 5 Subordinate Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrates (one at Bathinda, three at Mansa and one at Phul), who also assist in the administration of civil justice in the district.

The civil courts try all kinds of cases of civil nature upto the extent with which each Senior Subordinate Judge has been vested. The main functions of different judges working in the civil courts in the district are described, in brief as under :

District Judge.—He is the senior-most judge in the district and controls the administration of civil justice in the district. His jurisdiction as head of the civil court in the district is very wide. As Civil Judge of the district, he has both types of jurisdiction, original and appellate. The matters decided by him in exercise of his original jurisdiction are appealable to the High Court. As Appellate Civil Court, he hears appeals against the judgement and decrees of subordinate judges up to Rs 5 lakhs.

In the administration of civil justice, he is assisted by other Civil Judges as mentioned above. On administrative side, he is the competent authority for appointments, postings and transfers, etc. in respect of the ministerial staff working in all the courts in the district. For deciding civil cases, he and the Additional District Judges have concurrent jurisdiction. All cases, however, are instituted first in the Court of District Judge and then he decides as to whether a case or a category of cases is/are to be decided by him or by one of the civil judiciary at district level, he is competent to transfer any case from one court to another in one district.

Additional District Judges, Bathinda.—Additional District and Sessions Judges, Bathinda, work as Additional District Judges on the civil side. Appeals against the judgements and decrees of Subordinate Judges up to Rs 20,000 and cases under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, are heard by them.

Senior Subordinate Judge, Bathinda.—The Senior Subordinate Judge hears cases of rents, succession certificates, insolvency, guardianship and appellate work upto a certain limit, suits under the Torts and the Indian Contract Act, 1872.

Subordinate Judges.—All Subordinate Judges have been vested with the powers of unlimited jurisdiction of civil nature in their areas including rent cases, succession certificates and others. The following statement shows the number of cases tried by civil courts in the district from 1978 to 1989 :—

Number of Civil Cases tried by the District Judges' Courts in the Bathinda district from 1978 to 1989

Year	Pending from the previous year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposal during the year	Balance at the close of the year
1978	790	1,796	2,586	1,295	1,291
1979	1,291	2,190	3,481	2,255	1,226
1980	1,226	1,222	2,248	1,608	840
1981	840	1,104	1,944	833	1,111
1982	1,111	2,138	3,249	803	2,446
1983	2,509	1,579	4,088	1,062	3,026
1984	4,494	6,584	11,078	6,324	4,754
1985	4,754	6,751	11,505	5,748	5,757
1986	5,757	8,901	14,658	7,005	7,653
1987	7,653	7,864	15,517	6,802	8,715
1988	8,715	7,702	16,417	5,930	10,487
1989	10,487	9,338	19,825	8,068	11,757

(Source: Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and District Judge, Bathinda)

Tne number of cases tried by the Civil Courts relating to the Courts of Subordinate Judges in the Bathinda District from 1978 to 1989 is given in the following table :--

Year	Pending from the previous year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposed of during the year	Balance at the close of the year
1978	2,520	3,712	6,232	3,948	2,284
1979	2,284	3,493	5,777	3,283	2,494
1980	2,494	3,969	6,463	3,680	2,783
1981	2,783	5,058	7,841	4,521	3,320
1982	3,320	5,365	8,685	5,098	3,587
1983	3,635	5,788	9,423	5,529	3,894
1984	4,494	6,584	11,078	6,324	4,754
1985	4,754	6,751	11,505	5,748	5,757
1986	5,757	8,901	14,658	7,005	7,653
1987	7,653	7,864	15,517	6,802	8,715
1988	8,715	7,702	16,417	5,930	10,487
1989	10,487	9,338	19,825	8,068	11,757

(Source: Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and District Judge, Bathinda)

Criminal Justice

The Judicial Officers have both civil and criminal jurisdiction. The same Judicial Officer functions as a civil court when adjudicating upon civil matters and as a criminal court while deciding criminal cases. The main functions of different criminal courts in the district are described in brief, as under:

Sessions Judge.--The District and Sessions Judge, Bathinda acts as Sessions Judge of the district while exercising his powers in respect of criminal jurisdiction. The administration of criminal justice, both in original and appellate jurisdiction is controlled by him. The cases decided by him are appealable in the High Court. As the appellate criminal court, he hears appeals against the judgements and orders of the Judicial Magistrates. On the administrative side, he has the same powers as in the capacity as the District Judge.

The District and Sessions Judge, Bathinda, is assisted by 4 Additional Sessions Judges, a Chief

Judicial Magistrate and 8 Judicial Magistrate-cum-Subordinate Judges (4 at Bathinda, 3 at Mansa and one at Phul).

Additional Sessions Judges, Bathinda.— The Additional District and Sessions Judges, Bathinda work as Additional Sessions Judges on the criminal side. They hear appeals against the judgements and orders of Judicial Magistrates.

Chief Judicial Magistrate.—On the criminal side, the powers exercised previously by District Magistrate have been vested in the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bathinda, who functions under the supervision and control of the District Sessions Judge, Bathinda.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate and Judicial Magistrates deal with all types of criminal cases except security cases. The Chief Judicial Magistrate is vested with the powers of a 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, i.e. the power to try juvenile offenders, to ascertain delivery of letters, telegrams, etc; to issue search warrants for documents in custody of postal or telegraph authorities; to release persons imprisoned for failing to give security under Section 106 Criminal Procedure Code; to order police investigation into cognizable cases; to entertain cases on complaints; to transfer cases to a Subordinate Magistrate; and to report certain cases to High Court, etc.

Judicial Magistrates.—All Judicial Magistrates try cases under the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and other Special Acts relating to the police stations under their jurisdiction. They have the powers under Section 78 of the I.P.C. to direct warrant to land-holders, to issue search warrant for discovery of persons wrongfully confined; to record statements and confessions during police investigation, to recover penalty on forfeited bond, etc. All criminals apprehended by the police are produced before the Judicial Magistrate in whose jurisdiction the criminals may have been apprehended or in whose jurisdiction the crime has been committed.

After investigation, the police puts up *challans* in the courts of Judicial Magistrates who, also act as *Illaka* Magistrates and watch the investigation of criminal cases. The Judicial Magistrates have also

been vested with the powers of Subordinate Judge with varying jurisdiction.

Security Cases.—Besides their executive functions, the Sub Divisional Officers are also entrusted with certain judicial duties. Cases of security for keeping peace and security for good behaviour under the Criminal Procedure Code are tried by the Sub Divisional Magistrates of Bathinda, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo and Rampura.

The following statement shows the number of cases tried by the criminal courts in the district during 1978 to 1989 :—

Number of cases tried by the Criminal (Judicial) Courts in Bathinda District from 1978 to 1989

Year	Cases brought forward from previous year	Cases reported during the year	Cases admitted	Cases tried (decided)	Cases convicted (persons)	Cases untraced	Balance
1978	6,073	10,511	9,849	11,223	6,340	—	5,357
1979	5,357	9,307	10,162	10,591	7,968	—	4,073
1980	4,073	14,286	13,234	13,234	10,065	—	4,318
1981	4,318	13,905	12,055	14,041	10,065	—	5,335
1982	5,335	12,373	11,309	12,275	8,100	—	5,433
1983	5,433	14,346	—	13,199	10,184	—	5,680
1984	740	617	1,357	1,049	987	—	308
1985	308	425	733	415	656	—	318
1986	318	759	1,077	415	1,125	—	662
1987	662	896	1,558	1,020	1,945	—	538
1988	538	815	1,353	579	1,090	—	774
1989	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Source: Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and District Judge, Bathinda)

Number of cases tried by the Criminal (Sessions) Court in the Bathinda District from 1978-1989

Year	Cases Brought forward from previous year	Cases reported during the year	Cases admitted	Cases tried (Decided)	Cases convicted (Persons)	Cases untraced	Balance
1978	114	124	238	157	111	—	81
1979	81	176	257	189	143	—	68
1980	68	215	283	159	92	—	124
1981	124	253	377	197	122	—	180
1982	180	198	378	244	192	—	134
1983	734	965	1,700	929	173	—	771
1984	15,803	12,909	28,712	12,041	10,228	—	16,671
1985	16,671	10,784	27,455	11,229	12,738	—	10,226
1986	16,226	8,587	24,793	9,579	5,790	—	15,214
1987	15,214	10,313	25,527	10,046	4,720	—	15,481
1988	15,481	10,298	25,779	10,042	10,505	—	15,737
1989	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Source: Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and District Judge, Bathinda)

Prosecuting Agency.—The Prosecuting Agency was separated from the Police Department with effect from 1 April 1974. The posts of Prosecuting Deputy Superintendents of Police, Prosecuting Inspectors and Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors in the Police Department were abolished and Directorate of Prosecution and Litigation was set up in the State under the administrative control of the State Home Department.

In the district, the Prosecuting Agency is divided into two wings, namely, District Prosecuting Agency, and Legal Advisory Agency. The head of Prosecuting Agency in the district is the District Attorney who is assisted by Assistant District Attorneys Grade-I, and Assistant District Attorneys Grade-II, who have been appointed as Additional Public Prosecutors and Assistant Public Prosecutors, respectively, under the Code of Criminal Procedure and are also appointed as Government Pleaders under its Code of Civil Procedure. Thus, the District Attorney, with the assistance of Assistant District Attorneys Grade-I and Assistant District Attorneys Grade-II, conducts criminal and civil cases of the State and its officers in the various courts in the district. The District Attorney works in the court of Sessions Judge, the Assistant District Attorneys Grade-I works in the court of Additional Sessions Judge, whereas the Assistant District Attorneys Grade-II work as Assistant Public Prosecutors in the courts of the Magistrates. They also advise the District Magistrate and other Heads of Officers in the district on matters involving legal points. The District Magistrate in the district supervises and controls the functioning of the Prosecuting Agency.

With the abolition of the posts of Prosecuting Deputy Superintendents of Police, Prosecuting Inspectors and Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors, the Police Department was left with no law Officers who could guide them in legal matters. The District Attorney (Legal) is posted in the Police Department to render legal advice to the Senior Superintendent of Police and other police officers in the district. The Assistant District Attorney (Legal), in charge of Legal Advisory Agency is on the cadre strength of the Directorate of Prosecution, and Litigation Punjab, but is posted in the Police Department under the direct control of the Senior Superintendent of Police. The Assistant District Attorney in the Legal Advisory

Agency is liable to be shifted to the Prosecuting Agency after two or three years and *vice versa*.

The District Attorney, Bathinda, as in charge of the Prosecution Agency, is assisted by 5 Assistant District Attorneys Grade I and 11 Assistant District Attorneys Grade II, besides allied Class III and class IV staff at the district headquarters. In addition to above, 4 Assistant District Attorneys Grade II at Mansa and I Assistant District Attorney Grade II at Rampura Phul are working in this Agency.

Apart from the above functions, the Prosecution and Litigation Department, Punjab also provides free legal aid to the poor persons as defined in the Punjab State Grant of Free Legal Service and Advice to the Poor Rules, 1977. For this purpose, Legal Aid Bureau has been set up throughout the State. Three such Bureaus are functioning in the Bathinda District, one each at Bathinda, Mansa and Rampura Phul. Each of the Legal Aid Bureau is headed by an Assistant District Attorney Grade II. These Legal Aid Bureaus make adequate arrangements for providing free legal service and advice to the poor and weaker sections of the people with a view to bringing the system of justice within their reach and thereby making the legal process surer means to social and economic justice. The aims and objectives of this programme are to secure the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society in the field of justice. The Legal Aid Bureau maintains a list of lawyers who offer aid for the working of the Scheme. No Legal Practitioner on the list of any Bureau of any Law Officer shall charge any remuneration from an aided person in any form whatsoever.

Since the inception of the Scheme in the Bathinda District, i.e. 1 June 1979, an amount of Rs 5,88,462 had been spent by the close of the financial year 1988-89. The number of beneficiaries under the Scheme in the district upto 31 December 1989 was 730.

Gram Panchayat Courts

Under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, certain civil, criminal and revenue powers are vested in the panchayats. Petty cases of various categories are disposed of by the panchayats. This has been done to decentralize authority to strengthen the roots of

democracy and lessen the burden of heavily occupied courts. The entrusting of judicial powers to the panchayats has enhanced their prestige. Under Section 47(1) of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, the panchayats are competent to grant bail to an individual against a surety of not exceeding Rs 500.

The criminal jurisdiction of a gram panchayat is confined to the trial of offences specified in Schedule 1-A and 1-B of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952. The panchayats are also competent to take cognizance *suo-moto* of cases falling under Sections 160, 228, 264, 277, 289, 290, 294 and 510 of the Indian Penal Code and under Sections 3 and 4 of the Punjab Juvenile Smoking Act, 1918 or under any other Act in force at the time of decision.

With regard to civil and revenue judicial functions, the panchayats are competent under Section 52(1) of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, to try suits for recovery of moveable property or the value of such property, suits for money or goods due on contracts or price thereof, suits for compensation for wrongfully taking or injuring moveable property; and suits mentioned in Clauses (j), (k), (l) and (n) sub-Section (3) of the section 77 of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887 or under any other Act applicable at that time. The panchayat while trying such suits is deemed to be a civil or criminal or revenue court as the case may be.

The following statement shows the judicial work done by the panchayats in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 :--

Judicial work done by the panchayats in the Bathinda District, 1977-78, 1979-80 to 1988-89

	1977-78	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-39
Revenue Cases											
1 Cases pending at the beginning of the year	15	10	—	8	7	9	9	6	2	7	--
2 Cases instituted	17	15	29	2	4	26	11	8	5	--	--
3 Cases received by transfer	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
4 Cases transferred from panchayats and returned for presentation to courts and panchayats	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5 Cases decided	28	17	29	4	2	29	11	12	--	7	--
6 (a) Cases dismissed	24	--	2	--	--	6	--	2	--	3	--
(b) Cases compounded	1	14	23	4	2	23	9	10	--	4	--
(c) Cases decreed	3	3	4	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--
7 Cases pending at the end of the year	4	8	8	7	9	6	6	2	7	--	--

(Criminal)

Judicial work done by the Panchayats in the Bathinda District, 1977-78, 1979-80 to 1988-89

	1977-78	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Criminal Cases											
1 Cases pending at the beginning of the year	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	3	3	—	—
2 Cases instituted	3,135	3	4	2	3	7	6	3	—	—	—
3 Cases received by transfer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Cases transferred from panchayats for presentation to courts and panchayats	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 Cases decided	—	5	4	1	3	7	3	3	3	—	—
6 (a) Cases dismissed	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Cases compounded	—	5	4	—	3	4	—	3	3	—	—
(c) Cases convicted	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
7 Cases pending at the end of the year	3,135	—	—	1	1	—	3	3	—	—	—

(Source: Director, Rural Development and Panchayats, Punjab, Chandigarh and District Development and Panchayat Officer, Bathinda)

(e) Bar Associations

Bar Associations look after the interest of their members and render useful service to the cause of legal profession. Their main objective is to uphold the dignity of the legal profession, besides promoting harmony between the Bench and the Bar. Bar Associations also endeavour to help courts in the administration of justice and inculcate a sense of respect for law and order in the public mind.

There are four Bar Associations in the district, one each at subdivisional headquarters, viz. Bathinda, Rampura Phul, Mansa and Talwandi Sabo. The Bar Association, Mansa is the oldest one in the district and was formed in about 1929. Its strength as on 31 March 1989 was 172. The Bar Association, Bathinda is one of the biggest Bar Associations in Punjab. It was formed in the year 1950 and its strength on 31 March 1989 was 375. It maintains a library from where member-advocates get books for consultation and reference purposes. The Bar Association, Phul was formed on 8 September 1981 and it had 32 members on 31 March 1989.

The smallest Bar Association in the district is that of Talwandi Sabo (Damdama Sahib). It was formed on 9 May 1979 and had only 15 members on 31 March 1989.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The organizational set-up, strength of staff (as on 31 March 1989), jurisdiction and functions of the departments not mentioned earlier in the Gazetteer, are briefly given hereunder:

(a) Public Works Department

Public Works Department is one of the important departments of the government as various developmental works are executed through it. The activities of the Public Works Department may be divided mainly into construction and maintenance of buildings, bridges and roads, rural water supply works, drainage works, irrigation channels, etc. The jurisdiction of the circles/divisions of the department is not necessarily confined to one district. It can extend to more than one district. The circles/divisions, which have jurisdiction over the Bathinda District, are briefly mentioned below:

(i) Superintending Engineer, Canal Lining Circle, Canal Circle, Bathinda.—This circle was opened on 23 March 1976 at Chandigarh. Its headquarters were shifted to Bathinda on 30 September 1977 and it started functioning at Bathinda on 7 October 1977. This circle has three divisions, viz. Canal Lining Division No. 1, Bathinda; Canal Lining Division, Rampura Phul; Canal Lining Division No. II, Bathinda.

The Superintending Engineer is under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer Lining, Irrigation Works, Punjab, Chandigarh. He is assisted by 1 Assistant Design Engineer, 1 Superintendent, 1 Circle Head Draftsman, 4 Draftsmen, 1 Superintendent Grade II, 3 Accounts Clerks, 1 Stenographer, 2 Sub Divisional Clerks, 11 Clerks and 2 Tracers, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

In addition to above, 1 Sub Divisional Officer, 1 Assistant Research Officer, 4 Research Assistants, 4 Silt Analaysts and 4 Laboratory Attendants from the quality control and research side assist the Superintending Engineer.

The main function of this circle is to provide

lining to channels for irrigation, with a view to conserving water from seepage, etc.

Executive Engineer, Canal Lining Division, Rampura Phul.—This division was set up on 27 June 1980. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Accounts Clerks, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has five subvdivisions, viz. Canal Lining Subdivision No. V, Rampura; Canal Lining Subdivision No. VI, Rampura; Canal Lining Subdivision No. VII, Rampura; Canal Lining Subdivision No. VIII, Barnala, district Sangrur and Canal Lining Subdivision No. XVI, Bathinda. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted in each subdivision by 5 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Canal Lining Division No. I, Bathinda.—This division was set up in December 1980. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Accounts Clerks, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

There are four subdivisions under the control of this division, viz. Canal Lining Subdivision No. II, Bathinda; Canal Lining Subdivision No. X, Bathinda; Canal Lining Subdivision No. XI, Bathinda; Canal Lining Subdivision No. XII, Bathinda. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted by 5 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk, besides miscelleneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Canal Lining Division No. II, Bathinda.—This division was set up on 1 September 1980. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Accounts Clerks, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 1 Ziledar, 1 Assessment Clerk, 1 Assistant Revenue Clerk, 5 Irrigation Booking Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has four subdivisions, viz. Canal Lining Subdivision No. XIII, Bathinda; Canal Lining Subdivision No. XIV, Bathinda; Canal Lining Subdivision No. XV, Bathinda; and Canal Lining Subdivision No. IV, Bathinda. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer. Each Sub Divisional Engineer is assisted by 5 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

(ii) Superintending Engineer, Bathinda Circle, PWD, B&R, Bathinda.—This circle was opened in February 1972. It deals with the construction/maintenance of State roads/district roads, etc. and bridges of Bathinda, Faridkot and Firozpur districts. This circle has three divisions, out of which one division, viz. State Highway Division, PWD (Roads), Bathinda, falls in the Bathinda District.

This circle is headed by a Superintending Engineer, who is under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer (Plan Roads), PWD, B&R, Patiala. He is assisted by 1 Circle Superintendent, 1 Circle Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Superintendent Grade II, 6 Assistants, 1 Stenographer, 2 Junior Draftsmen, 11 Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

State Highway Division, PWD (Roads), Bathinda.—This division is headed by an Executive Engineer. He is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Assistants, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 2 Junior Draftsmen, 1 Driver, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff. The division deals with roads of Bathinda District.

This division has three subdivisions, viz. Road and Bridges Subdivision No. II, PWD, B&R, Bathinda, Road and Bridges Subdivision, PWD, B&R, No. I, Bathinda, Roads and Bridges Subdivision, Mansa. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk, besides Class IV staff.

(iii) Executive Engineer, Construction Division, P W D, B&R, Bathinda.—This division is headed by an Executive Engineer, who functions under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Central Works Circle, PWD, B&R, Firozpur. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 1 Superintendent, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Junior Draftsman, 1 Research Assistant, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has two subdivisions, viz. Central Works Subdivision No. I, PWD (B&R), Bathinda and Central Works Subdivision No. II, PWD (B&R), Bathinda. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer. Each Sub Divisional Engineer is assisted by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Assistant Sub Divisional Clerk and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of this division are to construct National Highways/stretegic roads, bridges and maintain them.

(iv) Superintending Engineer, Public Health, Rural Water Supply (RWS), Circle, Bathinda.—This circle has been functioning since 1970 and is headed by a Superintending Engineer. This circle has four divisions. viz. Public Health (RWS) Division No. I, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Division No. II, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Division No. III, Bathinda; and Public Health (RWS) Division, Mansa.

The Superintending Engineer is under the administrative contol of the Chief Engineer, PWD, Public Health (RWS), Patiala. He is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Superintendent Grade IV, 1 Circle Head Draftsman, 2 Draftsmen, 1 Stenographer, 2 Tracers, 5 Assistants, 12 Clerks and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The main functions of this circle are to execute rural water supply schemes in the area under its jurisdiction.

Executive Engineer, Public Health (RWS) Division No. I, Bathinda.—This division was opened in 1959. The Executive Engineer is in charge of the division. He is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade III, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 3 Accounts Clerks/Assistants, 1 Steno-typist, 6 Clerks and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

There are four subdivisions under the control of this division, viz. Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. I, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. II, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision

No. III, Bathinda; and Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. IV, Bathinda. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted in each subdivision by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk and Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Public Health (RWS) Division No. II, Bathinda.—Opened in 1971, this division is headed by an Executive Engineer. He is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade III, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 3 Accounts Clerks/Assistants, 1 Steno-typist, 6 Clerks and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has four subdivisions, viz. Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. V, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision Rampura Phul; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision, Maur Mandi; and Public Health (RWS) Subdivision, Sardulgarh. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

Executive Engineer, Public Health (RWS) Division No. III, Bathinda.—This division was opened in December 1984. It is headed by an Executive Engineer, who is assisted by 1 Superintendent, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 3 Accounts Clerks/Assistants, 1 Steno-typist, 6 Clerks and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has four subdivisions, viz. Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. II, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. VI, Bathinda; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. VII, Bathinda; and Public Health (RWS) Subdivision, Talwandi Sabo. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted by 4 Sectional Officers, 1 Senior Clerk, 1 Clerk and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

(v) Sub Divisional Engineer, Drainage, Subdivision (Canal Colony), Bathinda.—This subdivision was set up on 1 October 1977. It is headed by a Sub Divisional Engineer, who functions under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, Drainage Construction Division, Firozpur. He is assisted by 7 Junior Engineers, 2 Clerks, besides Class IV staff.

The functions of this subdivision are reconditioning/desilting of existing drains and construction of new drains.

Executive Engineer, Public Health (RWS) Division, Mansa.—This division was opened in 1976 and is headed by an Executive Engineer. He is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade III, 1 Divisional Accountant, 1 Head Draftsman, 2 Assistant Draftsmen, 2 Tracers, 3 Accounts Clerks/Assistants, 1 Steno-typist, 6 Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

The subdivisions functioning under it, are; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. I, Mansa; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. II, Mansa; Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. I, Budhlada; and Public Health (RWS) Subdivision No. II, Budhlada. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted in each subdivision by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Clerk, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

(iv) Executive Engineer, Bathinda Canal Division, Bathinda.—This division is headed by an Executive Engineer, who functions under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Canal Circle, Ludhiana. The Executive Engineer is assisted by 1 Superintendent Grade II, 1 Divisonal Accountant, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Junior Draftsman, 1 Draftsman, 1 Deputy Collector, 1 Deputy Collector Revenue, 3 Assistants and 3 Senior Clerks, 1 Steno-typist, 8 Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff.

This division has four subdivisions, viz. Raikot Canal Subdivision, Sehna Canal Subdivision, Bathinda Canal Subdivision and Trona Canal Subdivision. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Subdivisional Engineer. Each Sub Divisional Engineer is assisted by 4 Junior Engineers, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 1 Sub Divisional Reader, 2 Ziledars, 2 Assistant Revenue Clerks, 7 Dak Runners, besides miscellaneous Class III and IV staff.

The main functions of this division are maintenance of channels of Bathinda Branch system and supply of water to Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, M.E.S., Fertilizers Plant, etc.

(vii) Executive Engineer, Mansa Division, I.B. at Jawaharke.—This division has been functioning since the opening of Sirhind Canal system. It is headed by an Executive Engineer, who is assisted by 1 Deputy Collector, 1 Superintendent, 1 Divisional Accountant, 2 Assistants, 1 Head Draftsman, 1 Draftsman, 1 Tracer, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

This division has three subdivisions, viz. Bhaini Subdivision I.B., Jawaharke, Talwandi Subdivision, I.B., Talwandi Sabo and Jhunir Subdivision, I.B., Jhunir. Each of these subdivisions is under the charge of a Sub Divisional Engineer, who is assisted by 4 Junior Engineers, 2 to 3 Ziledars, 1 Sub Divisional Clerk, 2 to 3 Clerks and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

(b) Public Relations Department

This department is represented by the District Public Relations Officer, Bathinda. He is assisted by 4 Accountants/Information Centre Assistants, 2 Assistant Public Relations Officers, 3 Tahsil Publicity Organizers, 1 Drama Inspector, 1 Stage Master, 1 Harmonium Master, 1 Tabla Master, 5 Actors, 2 Cinema Operators and other ministerial/technical Class III and Class IV staff. Besides, there is a sub-office at Mansa which was established in 1956. It is manned by an Assistant Public Relations Officer, one Tahsil Publicity Officer and one Information Centre Assistant.

The main functions of the District Public Relations Officer are to maintain liaison between government and public, to publicize government policies and programmes through press and mass media of plays, cinema shows, and to convey to the government the reactions of the public. Besides, he handles the distribution of government publicity literature and press publicity for the coverage and publication of government news. He also organises public meetings, *Kavi darbars* (poetic symposia), exhibitions and variety programmes. Two Information Centres, one each at Bathinda and Mansa are also functioning under him.

(c) Co-operative Department

The department is represented in the district by the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda, whose office was established on 5 November 1973. He

is under the control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab, Chandigarh. Two Assistant Registrars, one posted at Bathinda and the other at Mansa, work under his control. The jurisdiction of the Assistant Registrar, Bathinda extends to Rampura Phul and Bathinda tahsils, whereas the jurisdiction of Assistant Registrar, Mansa extends to Mansa and Talwandi Sabo tahsils in the districts.

The office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bathinda was established in 1954. He is assisted by 37 inspectors and 44 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Superintendent, 1 Accountant, 1 Statistical Assistant, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

The office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Mansa was established in 1973. He is assisted by 31 Inspectors, 35 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Superintendent, 1 Statistical Assistant, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the department are to ensure proper growth and development of the co-operative movement, registration of co-operative societies and to exercise supervision over them; and to ensure the audit of the accounts of these societies. Besides, loans are advanced to the members of the co-operative societies for stepping up agricultural production. Loans are also advanced in the form of fertilizers, seeds and agricultural implements.

(d) Food and Supplies Department

The department is represented at the district by the District Food and Supplies Controller, Bathinda. He is under the administrative control of the Director, Food and Supplies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The office of the District Food and Supplies Controller, Bathinda was established on 1 April 1957. He is assisted by 4 District Food and Supplies Officers, 11 Assistant Food and Supplies Officers, 1 Superintendent, 1 Senior Auditor, 21 Junior Auditors, 3 Accountants, 1 Accounts Officer, 1 Statistical Assistant, 48 Inspectors, 68 Sub-Insppctors, 1 Head Analyst, 1 Junior Analyst, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the department are: procurement of foodgrains; distribution of sugar, rice,

kerosene, wheat-flour and vegetable ghee through fair price shops and the branches of co-operative/consumer's stores in urban as well as rural areas; issue/renewal of brick-kilns and fire-wood licences, allotment of coal/coke and cement; and checking of licences of foodgrains, rice-hullers, rice-shellers, kerosene, ghee, rice, sugar, yarn, etc. The department also maintains its own godowns for the storage of foodgrains.

In the Bathinda District, on 31 March 1989, there were 70,654 ration cards with 3,62,389 units in urban areas. However, in rural areas, there were 1,96,649 ration cards with 11,89,101 units. There were 666 fair price shops including co-operative stores, etc., functioning in the district.

(e) Finance Department

The department is represented in the district by the Treasury Officer, Bathinda, who is in charge of the District Treasury. This office was established by the Pepsu Government in 1948 with its headquarters at Faridkot. The headquarters of the District Treasury were shifted from Faridkot to Bathinda in 1954. The District Treasury Officer is assisted by 5 Assistant Treasury Officers (in charge of the Sub-treasuries at Mansa, Phul, Budhlada, Talwandi Sabo and Sardulgarh). 1 District Treasurer, 5 Assistant Treasurers, 2 Superintendents, 13 Assistants, besides ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of Treasury Officer and Assistant Treasury Officers are to make receipts and payments on behalf of government; to maintain the accounts of the government; and storage of stamps, valuables, etc. They are also responsible to the Accountant General, Punjab for the regular submission of monthly accounts and allied returns, etc.

(f) Planning Department

The department is represented at the district level by the Deputy Economic and Statistical Adviser, Bathinda. This office was established in 1957. He is assisted by 1 District Statistical Officer, 1 Research Officer, 3 Technical Assistants, 5 Statistical Assistants, 11 Investigators, 1 Assistant, besides other ministerial and Class IV staff.

The main functions of the Deputy Economic and Statistical Adviser are : to co-ordinate the statistical activities of various offices at the district level and to publish statistical data; to improve the quality of the statistical work done at the district level; to conduct socio-economic surveys; to collect price data for supplying to the different Central and State agencies; to collect weekly retail prices; and to act as store of statistics for government institutions and interested public. Besides, this office helps the Planning Board in preparing district plans under the 20-Point Programme and arranges meetings in this respect every month.

(g) Language Department

The Language Department is represented at the district level by the District Language Officer, Bathinda, whose office was established on 2 October 1962. He is assisted by an Instructor, a Clerk, besides Class IV staff.

The main functions of the District Language Officer are : to inspect, help and guide the district offices regarding the introduction of official language, i.e. Punjabi; to hold classes for teaching Punjabi, Hindi to government employees; to impart training in Punjabi type-writing and short hand; to hold examinations in Punjabi and Hindi at district level; to assist the government offices in translating pamphlets/books in Punjabi; to organise literary seminars, dramas and *Kavi darbars* (poetic symposia), etc. This office also functions as a sales depot for the books published by the Language Department, Punjab.

(h) Soil Conservation and Engineering Department

The department is represented in the district by the Divisonal Soil Conservation Officer, Bathinda, who is under the administrative control of the Chief Conservator of Soils, Punjab, Chandigarh. His office was established in the year 1974 by shifting the headquarters of the Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, Malout to Bathinda to take up the work of lining of common canal water courses in the district. He is assisted by 4 Assistant Soil Conservation Officers with headquarters at Bathinda, Rampura Phul, Talwandi Sabo and Mansa. Each Assistant Soil Conservation

Officer is further assisted by 5 Soil Conservation Inspectors/Sectional Officers alongwith the suporting staff required for surveying, designing and execution of works of Soil and Water Management.

The main functions of the Department are to survey, investigate and to propose suitable soil and water conservation treatments such as reclamation of dunes, land levelling, land development, modernisation of irrigation conveyance system in the field both for the private watercourses and the tube-wells. To popularise the water conservation concept by providing sprinkler, drip irrigation, construction of field sub-surface drainage for reclamation of waterlogged areas and to guide the farmers in applications of irrigation to the crops for efficient use of the available water. Upto the year 1988-89, 4,241 hectares of land had been levelled in Bathinda District. Besides, the department had laid 45.49 km of underground conveyance system for irrigation, and 1,469 km of common watercourses had been lined in the district by the department.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

(a) Evolution of Local Self-Government in the District

Urban local bodies are primary agencies for meeting social, cultural and physical needs of the citizens. They provide for a variety of services and public utilities for the convenience, healthy living and welfare of the individuals and the community residing within their jurisdiction. The growth of trade and industry and of the city in general also to a great extent depends upon the efficient performance of municipal services.

Local self-government in the Punjab as in other States of India, is of two kinds, namely urban local government and rural local government. The units of urban local government are municipal committees, improvement trusts and notified area committees. The units of the rural local government are the zila parishad, panchayat samitis and gram panchayats. These institutions act within the frame-work evolved by the State Government. These are manned and managed by persons drawn from amongst the public and are designed to create harmonious co-ordination in running the administration smoothly. In many respects, these institutions are autonomous, though they work under the constant vigilance and guidance of the State Government.

Historical Retrospect.—When the Gazetteer of Phulkian States was published in 1904, the local self-government system was being introduced in the princely State of Patiala. The major area of the present Bathinda District was a part of the then princely State of Patiala. Initially, small town committees were constituted in the princely states from the date as shown in portion (b) of this chapter.

Bathinda District was carved out as a separate unit in 1948 out of the territories of the erstwhile princely states of Patiala, Nabha, Jind and some portion of the former British territory of Firozpur District. Before the constitution of the small town committees/ municipal committees in the district in the first half of the 20th century, the functions of the local bodies were performed by the government departments of the

erstwhile princely states. The small town committees/ municipal committees functioned under the Patiala Small Town Act, 1995 BK (AD 1938). In the beginning, these committees were formed as small town committees in the princely states which were later on converted into Class III municipal committees. The municipal committees in PEPSU, were functioning as government departments and their employees were governed under the common laws of the State Government. Even in these days, the employees who were recruited in those days in these municipal committees, are being given all the benefits available to the Punjab Government employees. The services to the Executive Officers of the municipal committees were governed by the Patiala Executive Officers' Act and the Punjab Municipal (Executive Officers') Act, 1931 in their respective territories. Under the Punjab Municipal (Executive Officers') Act, the municipal committees used to appoint the Executive Officers subject to the approval of the government. In 1951, when the Faridkot Tahsil of the present Faridkot District was part of the Bathinda District, there were four municipal committees in the district at Bathinda, Faridkot, Kot Kapura and Mansa, besides 7 small town committees at Raman, Sangat, Kot Fatta, Maur, Bareta, Jaito, Goniana and Budhlada. From 1972, the municipal committees of Faridkot, Kot Kapura and Jaito were transferred to the newly created Faridkot District.

Prior to the merger of PEPSU in Punjab in November 1956, the functioning of the municipal committees was governed by the Patiala Small Town Act. On the integration of these states with Punjab, the provisions of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 were extended to the PEPSU area and hence also to Bathinda District. Since 1955, the small town committees constituted in the Punjab area had acquired the status of Class III municipal committees. On the merger of PEPSU with Punjab, the small town committees of these areas also acquired the status of Class III municipal committees. All enactments relating to the municipal administration in the Punjab State became applicable to the municipalities of Bathinda District also. Thereafter, elected bodies came into being under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, which was in force in the Punjab. Provision was made for the appointment of official advisers who were

empowered to participate in the meetings of the municipal committees but were not entitled to vote. In this way, popular control over the local bodies was encouraged and powers were granted with regard to the functions and capacities of the popular representatives. Zila Parishads were also strengthened with delegation of large powers and responsibilities of the local bodies. New election rules were framed to provide for election on the basis of universal adult franchise. Under the Punjab Municipal (Amended) Act, 1956, reservation was made for the members of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the services of municipal committees. The term of office of a Municipal Commissioner was fixed as five years. The Patiala Executive Officers' Act, as well as the Punjab Municipal (Executive Officers'), Act have been repealed, with effect from 6 April 1976 and certain categories of services of the municipal bodies including the post of Executive Officer, have been provincialised. With the setting up of the Directorate of Local Bodies in April 1966, the activities of these bodies are governed by the Director, Local Bodies, Punjab.

(b) Organization and Structure

Functions and Duties of Municipal Committees.— Statutorily, the Punjab Municipal bodies have two types of functions, viz. obligatory and optional. Obligatory functions are those functions which every municipal committee ought to perform. These include public safety and convenience, medical relief, public works, public health etc. These functions include such activities as regulating or preventing the abetment of offensive or dangerous trades, removing obstructions and projections in public streets, lighting and cleaning of public streets, extinguishing of fires, making provision for and regulation of slaughter-houses, maintenance of burial and cremation grounds, picnic spots, drains and sewers and toilets, registration of births and deaths, arrangement for public vaccination, inoculation, primary education, etc. If a municipal committee does not make sufficient provisions in its budget for the performance of these obligatory functions, the State Government may compel it to do so; and if the committee still fails to perform these functions satisfactorily, the State Government may even supersede the committee and place it under the charge of its own officer.

The list of optional functions is comprehensive and includes construction and maintenance of public streets, public parks, gardens, libraries, museums, *dharamshalas,* rest-houses, lunatic asylums; furtherance of educational programmes other than primary education; planting and maintaining of roadside trees, killing of stray dogs, maintenance of dairy farms, breeding studs, holding of fairs, exhibitions, etc.

There are 11 municipal committees in Bathinda District, viz. Bathinda, Goniana, Bhucho Mandi, Kot Fatta, Sangat, Mansa, Budhlada, Bareta, Raman Mandi, Maur Mandi and Rampura Phul. Out of these, 2 are Class I, 4 are Class II and 5 are Class III municipal committees. All these Municipal Committees have been superseded since 1985 and are functioning under the Administrators appointed by the State Government. The income and expenditure of each municipality are given in Annexure at the end of the chapter. The sources of income of the different municipalities include house tax, octroi and toll tax, water rate, cinema show-tax, slaughter house tax, *Tahbazari* fee, licence fee on articles of food and drink, dangerous and offensive trades licence fee, carts and vehicle licence fee, building application fee, etc.

Budhlada Municipality

The Municipal Committee, Bathinda was first constituted in 1945 as a Small Town Committee in the erstwhile Patiala State. It was later on converted into a Class III municipal committee. At present, a Class I municipality is functioning in the town.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 20.72 sq. km. and its population was 1,27,363 persons.

The civic amenities being provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. The committee does not maintain any library of its own, but during 1988-89, it contributed Rs 20,000 to the Public Library, Bathinda. Although the municipality is not running any dispensary, yet it has been paying Rs 1,570 per month as rent of 3 government dispensaries functioning in the town at Amarpura Basti, Parsram Nagar and Ganesa

Basti. The municipality has a well organized fire-fighting service. The water supply scheme was introduced in the town in 1954. For supplying drinking water to the expanding population of the city, the municipality during 1988-89 was operating 6 tube-wells. Besides, some canal water is also being supplemented for drinking purposes. The drains in most of the city area have been constructed within the municipal limits. The committee maintains 91 km of roads within the municipal area.

Bareta Municipality

In the beginning, a small town committee was constituted in 2002 BK (AD 1945) and its status was changed to municipality in 1956. At present, a Class III municipality is functioning in the town.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.59 sq. km. and its population was 9,494 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. The water supply scheme was introduced in 1980. One tube-well has been installed by the municipality for supplying water regularly. The drainage system was introduced in 1957 in the town. The electricity is being supplied in the municipal area since 1962. It also maintains 6 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Bhucho Mandi Municipality

The municipality was constituted on 21 July 1908 and at present, a Class III municipality is functioning in the town.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 0.44 sq. km. and its population was 7,820 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangments for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. It maintains one library known as Gandhi Library, one reading room and one dispensary.

The water supply scheme was introduced in 1963 and upto March 1982, a population of 7,200 out of 7,820 persons was covered under this scheme. For supplying water regularly, the municipality has installed 3 tube-wells. The drainage system was introduced in the town in 1966 and upto 31 March 1989, 20 km of area of the town was covered under it. Since 1966, regular electricity has been supplied in the town area. The municipality maintains 8 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Budhlada Municipality

In the beginning, a small town committee was constituted in the area which was converted into a Class III municipality on 1 September 1983. Its status was raised to Class II municipality in 1969-70.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.59 sq. km. and its population was 15,968 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. It maintains one library and one reading room. The water supply scheme was introduced in 1963 in the town. The municipality has installed one tube-well. The drainage system was introduced in 1954 and 90 per cent of the area of the town had been covered by 31 March 1982. The electric supply was introduced in the town area in 1958. The municipality maintains 6.74 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Goniana Municipality

The municipality was first constituted as small town committee on 13 April 1949. The status of the committee was later on changed to that of a Class III municipal committee.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.59 sq. km. and its population was 8,596 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and

the disposal of the refuse. It maintains a library and a reading room. The water supply scheme was introduced in 1962, but only canal water is supplied for the purpose of drinking. The drainage system was introduced in 1955 and upto 31 March 1989, 2 km drains were constructed. The electric supply was introduced in the municipal area in 1956. It also maintains 4.29 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Kot Fatta Municipality

In the beginning, a small town committee was formed at Kot Fatta and in 1956-57, its status was changed to a Class III municipality, which at present is functioning in the town.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town, within the municipal limits, was 0.39 sq. km. and its population was 4.973 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. The drainage system was introduced in the town in 1970-71 and upto 31 March 1989, 14,800 feet drains were constructed. The electric supply was introduced in the municipal area in 1961. It also maintains 2 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Mansa Municipality

Initially, it was constitued as a small town committee and later on it was converted into a Class III municipality. The status of the committee was raised to Class II in 1953, which was further raised to Class I in 1977.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 12.95 sq. km. and its population was 43,289 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. It maintains a library and a reading room. The water supply as well sewerage system were introduced in the town in 1969. The sewerage has been laid in about 75 per cent area of the town. The water supply to the town is made

through canal water. A well organised fire-fighting service exists in the town. Besides, it maintains 27 km roads within the municipal limits.

Maur Municipality

A small town committee was constituted in the town in the beginning. It was converted into a Class III municipal committee in 1956. The status of the municipality was raised to a Class II municipality in 1971.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.59 sq. km. and its population was 18,853 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. It maintains a library and a reading room. The electric supply in the municipal area was introduced in 1956. The water supply scheme was introduced in 1964. There are more than 1,956 water connections. The sewerage system was started in the town in 1978-79. The municipality maintains 11 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Raman Municipality

The municipality was constituted in Kartik 2002 BK (AD 1945) as a small town committee which was later on converted into a Class III municipal committee. The status of the committee was raised to a Class II municipality on 28 May 1970.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.36 sq. km. and its population was 14,378 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. The municipality has a well organized fire-fighting service. The water supply scheme was introduced in 1963. The canal water is also supplied for drinking purposes in the town. The sewerage system was started in 1981 in the municipal area and about 20,104 sq ft area had been covered under the scheme till March 1989. The electric supply

was started in the municipal area on 12 January 1959. It also maintains 15 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Rampura Phul Municipality

A Class II municipal committee was constituted in the town on 13 April 1949. According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 2.18 sq. km. and its population was 31,890 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include water supply, street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. The water supply/sewerage system was introduced in the town in 1966. The committee was operating 4 tube-wells during 1988-89. The municipality maintains 25 km of drains in the town. The electric supply was introduced in the municipal area in 1937. The municipality runs a library. Besides, it maintains 17 km of roads within the municipal limits.

Sangat Municipality

The municipality was first constitued as a small town committee which was converted into a municipal committee in 1955-56. At present, a Class III municipality is functioning in the town.

According to 1981 Census, the area of the town within the municipal limits was 3.88 sq. km. and its population was 2,859 persons.

The civic amenities provided by the municipality include street-lighting, surface drains and arrangements for the cleanliness of the town and the disposal of the refuse. It maintains a library. The pipes for the supply of drinking water have been laid in most of the town. Water supply is being provided. Under the drainage system, it has constructed 5,200 feet drains. The electric supply was introduced in the town in 1960. Besides, it maintains 3,725 feet of roads within the municipal limits.

(c) Town and Country Planning and Housing

The department of Town and Country Planning is the government agency for the planning, programming

and monitoring of projects and schemes in urban areas. It is also a service agency for all the local/state agencies engaged in the improvement of the urban areas, viz. Town Improvement Trusts, Municipal Committees and Housing and Urban Development Department. The activities of this department include the preparation of master plans for important towns, development plans of controlled areas, preparation of urban development projects, preparation of layout plans and schemes of Improvement Trusts, Municipal Committees and Urban Estates, etc.

The office of the Divisional Town Planner, Bathinda was opened on 4 January 1972, with jurisdiction over the districts of Bathinda and Sangrur. This office advises all the departments of State/Central Government as well as the local bodies in the district on matters relating to siting various projects and also co-ordinates the activities of various departments in this connection. Besides, it tenders technical advice on road alignments, location of new grain markets, siting of hospitals, colleges, schools, residential colonies, industrial areas, defence projects, etc.

This office has prepared the Master Plans of Bathinda, Talwandi Sabo, Mansa and Rampura Phul towns. These Master plans help the local bodies to control the haphzard development and guide them for a planned development of the towns. The Master Plans of these four towns cover an area of 7,764 hectares under proposed urbanizable area and about 26,253 hectares under planning area. Besides, this office has prepared the layout plans of 13 Development Schemes of Improvement Trust, Bathinda which cover an area of about 451 acres. Out of these schemes, 9 have been executed or are being executed by the Improvement Trust, Bathinda, where all type of modern amenities are being provided.

In addition to the above, this office has also prepared layout plans of 6 Development Schemes of Improvement Trust, Mansa, out of which 2 Development Schemes of Harchand Singh Longowal Nagar and Development Scheme of 6 acres have been sanctioned by the Government. This office has prepared the layout plans of 50 town planning schemes in various towns of the district, out of which, 26 have already been sanctioned

by the Government till March 1990. These schemes cover an area of 4,070 acres, out of which 35 town planning schemes are in Bathinda town covering an area of about 3,134 acres. Out of which, 15 main town planning schemes have been sanctioned covering an area of 1,215 acres. In Goniana Mandi, 4 town planning schemes were sanctioned by 1983 which cover an area of about 538 acres. There are 4 town planning schemes in Rampura Phul, out of which 2 are sanctioned which cover an area of about 48 acres out of total 102 acres. Besides the above, the layout plans of 2 town planning schemes of Budhlada Municipal Committee have been prepared.

This office has also prepared Development plans of 5 controlled areas around various towns in Bathinda District covering an area of about 6,076 acres. This office has prepared development plans of 8 villages under the 'Model Village Scheme' of Panchayati Raj Department under the programme of 'Housing for Rural Landless Workers'. Layout plans of 108 sites have been prepared by this office alongwith the standard design of the houses. This office has also prepared the layout plans of 15 Focal Points Villages under the Integrated Rural Development Programme of Panchayati Raj Department. Besides, the layout plans of 5 Community Centres and layout plans of 2 Veterinary Hospitals have been prepared by this office as per the demand of Panchayati Raj Department.

In addition to above works, this office has also tendered technical advice to government for siting of number of big projects inside or around the municipal limits of Bathinda, such as site of Government Engineering College, Government Polytechnic, Industrial Focal Point Industrial Estate, Milk Plant, Spinning Mill of Spinning Federation, Punjab Cement Factory and Sulphuric Acid Factory, etc.

Improvement Trusts

An improvement trust is an *ad hoc* body constituted for the development of a town/city. It generally acquires land for development schemes and allots/ auctions plots to the general public including the weaker sections of the society. The major functions of the improvement trust include clearance of slums, provision

of water supply, sewerage, street light, widening of existing roads and roundabouts, construction of markets and residential colonies with all basic amenities, beautification of the town/city and provision of open space for parks, schools and orderly expansion of the town.

The members of an improvement trust are appointed from amongst the public men by the State Government, besides a few *ex-officio* members. The term of office of a member of an improvement trust is three years.

The main financial sources of the improvement trust are municipal contributions, government grants, income from trust property, *nazool* property, fees and returns from investments, etc.

There are two improvement trusts in the district, viz. Bathinda Improvement Trust, Bathinda and Mansa Improvement Trust, Mansa. The Mansa Improvement Trust was abolished on 7 April 1981, but it was reconstituted on 23 December 1983. The activities of Bathinda Improvement Trust are detailed below:

Bathinda Improvement Trust, Bathinda.—The Improvement Trust, Bathinda was constituted on 2 March 1973 under the Punjab Town Improvement Trust Act, 1922. In 1979-80, it had 3 members including the Chairman. In February 1983, the Improvement Trust was superseded and the Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda was appointed as its administrator. The Trust was again constituted, vide Notification No. 579-4SLG-II-83/25399, dated 23 December 1983. The Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda was appointed Chairman with 8 other trustees. Again, vide Notification No. LG-UII-84/4996, dated 12 February 1984, the Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda was appointed Chairman in place of Additional Deputy Commissioner. The schemes prepared by the Trust are mentioned below:

Ahatta Pritam Singh Sidhu.—This scheme covers an area measuring 3 acres and is in the heart of the commercial centre of the city. It has 90 plots (75 commercial and 15 residential). Under the scheme, shop-cum-flats, shops and booths have been provided to the people.

Ahatta Purbian Scheme.—The area of this scheme is 3.23 acres. The land (except one *bigha*) has been acquired. The scheme has been completed with the provision of all public amenities. In the scheme, a park with a fountain has also been provided. After the completion of the scheme, it has been handed over to the Municipal Committee, Bathinda for maintenance.

Amrik Singh Road Scheme.—This scheme covers an area measuring 25.21 acres. The civil amenities such as construction of roads, sewerage, drinking water supply, besides street lighting have been provided. A number of parks have been provided in the area. One fountain has been installed in a big park. After the completion of the scheme, it has been handed over to the Municipal Committee, Bathinda for maintenance.

Kamla Nehru Nagar Scheme.—This scheme covers an area measuring 33.05 acres. It is residential-cum commercial scheme. The scheme has proved useful for the development of the town.

Besides, the Trust has acquired 1.36 acres of land under development schemes, 25.21 acres of land in front of the Alankar Theatre and 16.44 acres of land in front of the Rose Garden for development. The Trust has installed a statue to perpetuate the memory of late Jamadar Nand Singh in Bibiwala Chowk, and the same has been handed over to the P W D B&R Department for its maintenance.

The Trust has also constructed an open air theatre, cinema houses, restaurants and parks, etc. in the city.

The income and expenditure of the Improvement Trust, Bathinda during 1988-89 were Rs 1,63,85,000 and Rs 1,48,05,000 respectively.

(d) Panchayati Raj

With a view to providing bold and imaginative leadership for allround development of the village community, Panchayati Raj was introduced in the State on 2 October 1961. The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 and the Punjab Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishads Act, 1961 as amended to date form the basis of the institution of Panchayati Raj in the State. The

structure consists of three tiers, viz. a panchayat at the village level, a panchayat samiti at the block level and a zila parishad at the district level. All these institutions are organically linked with each other by means of indirect elections. They are one superior to the other but do not constitute a heirachy, placing one subordinate to the other. They have clearly defined spheres of activities and have independent and distinct sources of revenue. This enables them to function without losing their initiatives and self-reliance.

Gram Panchayats.—On the formation of PEPSU in 1948, PEPSU Panchayati Raj Act was passed in 1951. Under the Act, *niyaya* panchayats were constituted separately for a group of 5 or 6 villages. On the merger of PEPSU in the Punjab on 1 November 1956, the provisions of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 became applicable to the panchayats of this district also. The PEPSU Panchayat Raj Act, 1951 was repealed by the Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, which was amended in 1960. Under the Act, a gram sabha may be constituted for any village or group of contiguous villages with a population of not less than 500[1] and a gram panchayat is elected for the gram sabha area and not for each village. The government, of course, has the power to relax the restriction. Every male or female who is entered as a voter on the electoral roll of the State Vidhan Sabha is a member of the gram sabha. The members of the gram sabha elect the members of the panchayats from amongst themselves. If no woman is elected as a panch, the woman candidate securing the highest number of votes amongst the women candidates in that election is co-opted by the panchayat as a panch, and where no such woman candidate is available, two women are co-opted as panches by the competent authority. Similarly, it has been provided that every panchayat shall have one or two members of the Scheduled Castes depending upon the ratio of their population in the village.

The number of panches and the mode of election of sarpanch of a panchayat has been changing from time

[1]The Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, has been amended to allow the constitution of a panchayat for a village having population of 100.

to time. In 1960, a gram sabha could elect 5 to 9 panches including the sarpanch and a lady panch. In 1971, the number of panches was raised from 5 to 11, but the mode of election of sarpanch was made indirect, i.e. the panches of a panchayat were to elect the sarpanch from amongst themselves. In 1972, election of the sarpanch was again made direct, i.e. the members of a gram sabha were to elect the sarpanch in addition to electing the panches, the number of panches remaining the same. The election of sarpanch was again made indirect in 1978 with no change as to the number of panches. From 1982, the election of sarpanch has again been made direct without altering the total number of panches.

The panchayat may remove a sarpanch by a motion of non-confidence passed by atleast two third of the panches. Members of the panchayat may be removed by the government on specified grounds. Removal entails disqualification for re-election for a period up to five years.

Under the Act, a gram panchayat is to meet at least once a month at a place within the gram panchayat area. Majority of the panches holding office for the time being form quorum. All decisions of a panchayat are taken by majority and, when the voting is in equality, the sarpanch has an additional or casting vote. At the block level, the Block Development and Panchayat Officer and at the district level, District Development and Panchayat Officer co-ordinate and supervise the working of the panchayats in the block and in the district, respectively.

According to the last elections held in 1983, there were 516 panchayats in the Bathinda District with a total membership of 3,876. It inluded 877 Harijans and 1,014 lady panches. It is worth mentioning that in these elections out of 516 panchayats, elections in 54 panchayats were held unanimously. Moreover, 7 Harijan and 7 lady sarpanches were also declared elected.

Functions

The panchayats have been vested with judicial and executive powers under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952. Besides, they are an important agency for

the development of the villages. They are also expected to provide inexpensive and ready justice. On the criminal side, they have been given powers to try certain minor offences like petty thefts, hurt, affray, and commission of public nuisance. They are under the control of the District Magistrate who can hear appeals against their orders, and transfer cases from one panchayat to another. On the civil and revenue judicial cases within specified pecuniary limits, they are under the control of the District Judge and the Collector, respectively.

A healthy feature of the functioning of panchayats is that most of the cases coming up before them are compromised, promoting thereby harmony among the village community.

Besides, the panchayats look to the requirements of their respective areas in regard to agriculture, education, animal husbandry, public health and sanitation including water-supply, works of public utility, games and sports, industries, medical health and relief to the poor. They are expected to arrange 50 per cent of the cost of the local development works sponsored by Development Department in cash, kind or labour with the help of the concerned departments. The panchayats have been responsible for starting a number of single teacher primary schools, construction of new school buildings and repairing and remodelling of old ones, raising of aided libraries, provision of community listening sets, construction and repairing of panchayat *ghars*, building of dispensaries, planting of trees, arranging playgrounds and children parks, construction of village approach roads, repairing and levelling of public parks, construction of drains and culverts, pavement of streets, construction, repair and remodelling of wells for drinking water and the maintenance of ponds.

The village common land now vests in the panchayats. They receive a percentage of land revenue collection in the village under their charge and grants from government and sometimes from local bodies. They levy house tax and professions tax and raise voluntary contributions. The fines and penalties they impose are also transferred to their funds. In 1988-89, the total income from all sources of the panchayats in the

district was Rs 3,03,15,222 and their total expenditure on education and libraries, public works, health, agriculture and veterinary services, administration and other miscellaneous items amounted to Rs 2,81,75,422.

Sources of Revenue

The main sources of income of the panchayats are: grants-in-aid from the government, a percentage of land revenue collection, donations, taxes, duties, cesses and fees, income from the village common land, sale proceeds of dust, dirt and dung, etc. The fines and penalties which the panchayats impose are also transferred to their funds.

The income and expenditure of the panchayats in the Bathinda District, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given below:

Year	Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)
1977-78	57,21,732	61,69,502
1978-79	64,73,385	51,25,176
1979-80	96,98,344	72,54,266
1980-81	76,82,519	72,98,108
1981-82	1,52,04,019	1,33,99,253
1982-83	1,25,16,078	1,69,05,013
1983-84	1,60,76,112	1,69,47,919
1984-85	1,44,29,153	1,32,54,901
1985-86	2,01,42,356	1,68,11,688
1986-87	2,57,41,529	2,31,31,429
1987-88	26,19,634	23,45,941
1988-89	3,03,15,222	2,81,75,422

(*Source:* Director, Rural Development and Panchayats, Punjab)

Achievements

During 1988-89, the panchayats in the district constructed 26 new school buildings and repaired 72 including extension in 58 existing ones. They also provided playgrounds, children parks and established some libraries, besides constructing panchayat *ghars*, hospitals/dispensaries, buildings, etc. During the same year, the panchayats laid 153.3 km drains as well as paved 1,87,836 sq. metres of streets.

Panchayat Samitis.—Panchayat Samitis in the State are constituted under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, at block level under the Community Development Programme. A panchayat samiti constitutes the second tier of the Panchayati Raj and serves as a bridge between the zila parishad and the village panchayats. There are 9 panchayat samitis in the district, i.e. one in each block. According to the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, each panchayat samiti comprises 16 members elected by the panches and sarpanches from amongst themselves; two members elected by the co-operative societies and one member elected by the market committees. Besides, every MLA whose constituency falls in part or in full in the block works on the panchayat samiti as an associate member[2]. Two women interested in social work and four persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, if not elected otherwise, are co-opted as members. The Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) and the Block Development and Panchayat Officer of the block work as *ex-officio* members without the right to vote. The chairman and the vice-chairman are elected from amongst the elected members of the samiti and their term of office is five years.

The panchayat samitis play an important role in the development of the villages by providing and making arrangements for the requirements of the area within their jurisdiction in respect of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, health and rural

[2]Prior to the abolition of the Punjab Vidhan Parishad in 1969, the membership of a panchayat samiti also included such members of the Punjab Vidhan Parishad, as the Government might by order specify

sanitation, communications, social education, co-operation, etc. Besides, they also endeavour towards the development of cottage and small-scale industries and other local development activities. A panchayat samiti is also the agent of the government for the formulation and execution of rural development programmes.

The main sources of income of the panchayat samitis are; local rate, fees derived from schools and markets, fees from fairs and shows, rents and profits accruing from properties vested in them and such money and grants as the government may place at their disposal. Under Section 65 of the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, subject to the general direction and control of the government, a panchayat samiti may, with the prior permission of the zila parishad concerned, impose any tax which the legislature of the State has power to impose under the Constitution of India. Provided that no tax under this section shall be imposed in respect of any property subject to local rate. Besides, under Section 66 of the Act, the government may empower the panchayat samiti to impose any tax without such permission.

The panchayat samitis of the Bathinda District were superseded, vide Punjab Government Notification No. S.O.47/P.A.3/61/S. 105/78, dated 10 October 1978 and the concerned Sub Divisional Officers (Civil) were appointed their administrators. These administrators have been empowered to exercise and perform all the powers and functions of panchayat samitis till these are reconstituted.

Zila Parishads.—Prior to the formation of the zila parishads in the State, their functions were performed by district boards. The district boards used to attend to the development activities of the rural areas just as the municipality looked after the urban areas.

As Bathinda District was prior to the Independence of the country, a part of princely states, the functions of the district boards were performed by the respective departments of the States. The Zila Parishad, Bathinda was constituted on 1 August 1962 under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961.

A zila parishad comprises Chairman of every panchayat samiti; all MPs and MLAs, representing the district or any part thereof, and the Deputy Commissioner of the district. Two women and five members belonging to the Scheduled Castes, if not elected otherwise, are co-opted as members. The MPs, MLAs and the Deputy Commissioner do not have the right to vote. A zila parishad has a chairman and a vice-chairman elected by the primary members, Chairman of the panchayat samitis and co-opted members, from amongst themselves. The Secretary of the zila parishad is appointed by the Government.

The zila parishad consolidates and co-ordinates the plans prepared by the panchayat samitis and advises the Government in regard to panchayats and panchayat samitis and keeps a watch over the agricultural production programmes and construction works. Previously, the zila parishads used to maintain certain roads which have now been transferred to the State Public Works Department.

The income of the zila parishad accrues from the Central or the State Government funds allotted to it, grants from all-India bodies and institutions for the development of cottage and small-scale industries, share of the land cess, State tax or fees, income from endowments and such contributions as the zila parishad may levy on the panchayat samitis.

The income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad, Bathinda, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below:

Year	Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)
1977-78	31,28,281	22,94,203
1978-79	29,95,808	36,94,957
1979-80	37,52,362	39,68,478
1980-81	17,53,848	13,14,808
1981-82	5,17,274	14,97,681
1982-83	12,72,164	13,63,403

Year	Income (Rs)	Expenditure (Rs)
1983-84	7,42,244	13,74,053
1984-85	23,02,454	20,71,658
1985-86	23,20,109	17,09,684
1986-87	27,86,606	32,31,327
1987-88	35,41,016	32,34,112
1988-89	24,76,355	30,72,170

(Source: Secretary, Zila Parishad, Bathinda)

The Zila Parishad, Bathinda was superseded by the State Government on 12 October 1978 and the Deputy Commissioner was appointed its administrator to exercise and perform all the powers and duties of Zila Parishad till the same is reconstituted.

APPENDIX

Income and Expenditure of Municipalities in the Bathinda District, 1977-78, 1981-82 to 1988-89 (000 Rs)

	Name of Municipality	Particulars	Years									
			1977-78	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	
1	Bathinda	Income	78,07	1,55,05	21,509	26,151	32,885	42,014	59,113	60,207	66,401	
		Expenditure	81,13	1,43,47	23,182	23,790	28,146	37,158	45,202	63,589	72,100	
2	Bareta	Income	3,38	7,42	736	691	953	1,076	1,844	1,633	2,611	
		Expenditure	3,27	7,29	708	697	892	1,091	1,674	1,652	1,828	
3	Bhucho Mandi	Income	6,29	18,63	1,975	1,670	1,994	2,949	2,726	2,001	2,647	
		Expenditure	6,16	13,73	2,477	1,830	1,863	2,791	2,526	2,144	2,602	
4	Budhlada	Income	11,29	16,40	1,672	1,924	2,094	2,893	3,250	3,863	5,661	
		Expenditure	10,38	14,54	1,822	1,919	2,126	2,901	4,555	4,419	5,229	
5	Goniana	Income	6,48	12,11	1,281	1,536	1,878	2,764	3,651	2,466	2,923	
		Expenditure	7,02	4,58	1,203	1,594	1,843	2,819	3,599	2,334	2,943	
6	Kot Fattah	Income	28	65	57	182	332	899	536	163	506	
		Expenditure	25	1,08	55	174	319	921	546	161	438	
7	Mansa	Income	31,30	38,06	5,029	4,525	5,000	7,953	12,093	10,092	12,193	
		Expenditure	26,37	37,70	5,105	4,265	4,982	7,613	11,483	10,725	12,305	
8	Maur Mandi	Income	7,68	13,85	1,845	1,601	1,889	2,675	3,452	2,683	4,127	
		Expenditure	8,40	13,27	1,740	1,681	1,862	2,403	3,337	2,868	4,149	
9	Raman Mandi	Income	17,07	20,99	1,204	1,473	1,642	2,042	2,845	2,546	4,424	
		Expenditure	13,49	19,24	1,342	1,608	1,566	1,917	2,653	2,894	4,484	
0	Rampura Phul	Income	16,32	30,95	4,114	4,261	4,661	4,836	5,472	5,810	6,931	
		Expenditure	15,55	31,65	4,224	4,265	4,493	4,776	5,564	9,986	6,885	
1	Sangat	Income	79	2,95	152	241	392	568	772	317	477	
		Expenditure	2,56	2,94	175	250	351	500	795	405	474	

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab, 1978 to 1989)

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(a) Historical Background

Prior to Independence, the area of the present Bathinda District, was administered by the erstwhile princely states of Patiala, Faridkot, Jind and Nabha. The Nathana area of the present district was under the control of the British regime. Most of the present area of the district formed part of the Patiala princely State. The system of education prevailing in these princely states is briefly described below :

Before the reign of Maharaja Narinder Singh, there was no system of State-controlled education in Patiala, though private schools were numerous in the capital, and in these Persian, Arabic, Sanskrit and Gurmukhi were taught. The first State School was opened in Patiala itself in 1860 and in this all the three classical languages mentioned were taught. In 1862, the scope of the school was enlarged and provisions were made for teaching English and Mathematics, but Persian remained the most popular study. In 1870, Maharaja Mohinder Singh created a regularly organised Educational Department, under a Director assisted by an Inspector. A Managing Committee, consisting of all the principal officials, was also appointed to promote the spread of education. The teachers in the indigenous schools were taken into the service of the State. New schools were opened among other places at Talwandi and Bathinda.[1] Similarly, untill 1889, only indigenous system of education continued in Jind State. In 1889, the State adopted the Punjab educational system. A supervising and inspecting officer was appointed called the *Munsarim* of schools. In 1891, primary schools were opened among other places at Balianwali and Dialpura in present Bathinda District.

There was no regular system of education in the Nabha State. All official correspondence was conducted in Persian, which was taught in *maktabs* by masters *(mianji)* who received no fixed salaries. Well-to-do people also had private teachers. The first attempt to modernize education in the State dates back to 1863,

[1] *Phulkian State Gazetteer*, 1904 (Lahore, 1909), p. 177

when Raja Bharpur Singh established a school in Nabha itself with one teacher for English and another for Arabic and Persian and a third being added in 1864. Urdu, Persian and Sanskrit were, however, the main subjects and were taught on the old system. In 1885, the students first went to the Punjab University from the State. In 1886, a Gurmukhi teacher was added to the staff of the school at Phul and in the ensuing year, Gurmukhi schools were opened among others at Jalal and Bhai Rupa in Phul *Nizamat* (now in Bathinda District), under a special superintending officer. In 1899, the State opened middle schools at village Chotian (now in Bathinda District). Primary schools were established among others at Phul, Mandi Phul and Bhai Rupa (now in Bathinda District) open to all castes, but in which fees were only levied from non-agriculturists, the sons of cultivators being exempt. The middle school at Chotian three miles (about 5 km) from the town of Phul, was a *zimindari* school opened in 1898. Only the sons of agriculturists were admitted in this school with the Raja's sanction. No fees were levied and boys were entirely supported and lodged in a boarding-house attached to the school, which was maintained from the school cess levied with the revenue. This school ranked as an anglo-vernacular middle school, but Gurmukhi was also taught in it.[1]

On the eve of the formation of PEPSU in 1948, the above mentioned system of education continued. In 1956, the PEPSU was merged in the Punjab and the educational pattern of Punjab became applicable to the Bathinda District too.

After Independence, the national government gave priority to the expansion of education with an avowed policy of arranging free and compulsory education. The number of educational institutions increased rapidly and the Punjab took a bold step of provincializing the schools maintained by the local bodies on 1 October 1957. This step was a landmark in the post Independence history of education. Education has been made free in all the government schools up to the middle standard. Similarly to provide facilities of higher education, even small town such as Budhlada, Rampura Phul, Damdama Sahib, Mansa, etc. have been given the privilege of starting

[1] Ibid, pp 380-381

degree colleges. The number of educational institutions in the district as on 30 September 1988 included, 9 colleges, 24 higher secondary schools (old pattern)/ senior secondary schools (10+2 pattern), 167 high schools, 100 middle schools and 661 primary schools.

(b) Literacy and Educational Standards

In the field of education, Bathinda is one of the most backward districts of the State. The literacy rate of the district as per 1981 Census was 27.73 per cent (34.16 for males and 20.29 for females), as compared to 40.86 per cent (47.16 for males and 33.69 for females) of the Punjab State. According to 1971 Census, it was 22.38 per cent (29.0 for males and 14.6 for females) as compared to 33.67 per cent (40.4 for males and 25.9 for females) of the Punjab State. The literacy rate of the Bathinda District is the lowest among all the districts of the State according to 1981 and 1971 Censuses. The literacy rate, however, has shown an increase of 5.35 per cent during 1971-1981 decade. This has been on account of opening of more educational institutions especialy in the rural areas within short distances from one another. Efforts have also been made for universalization of primary education by enrolment of students in schools. As a result of the State's initiative, the number of educational institutions is rapidly increasing in the district.

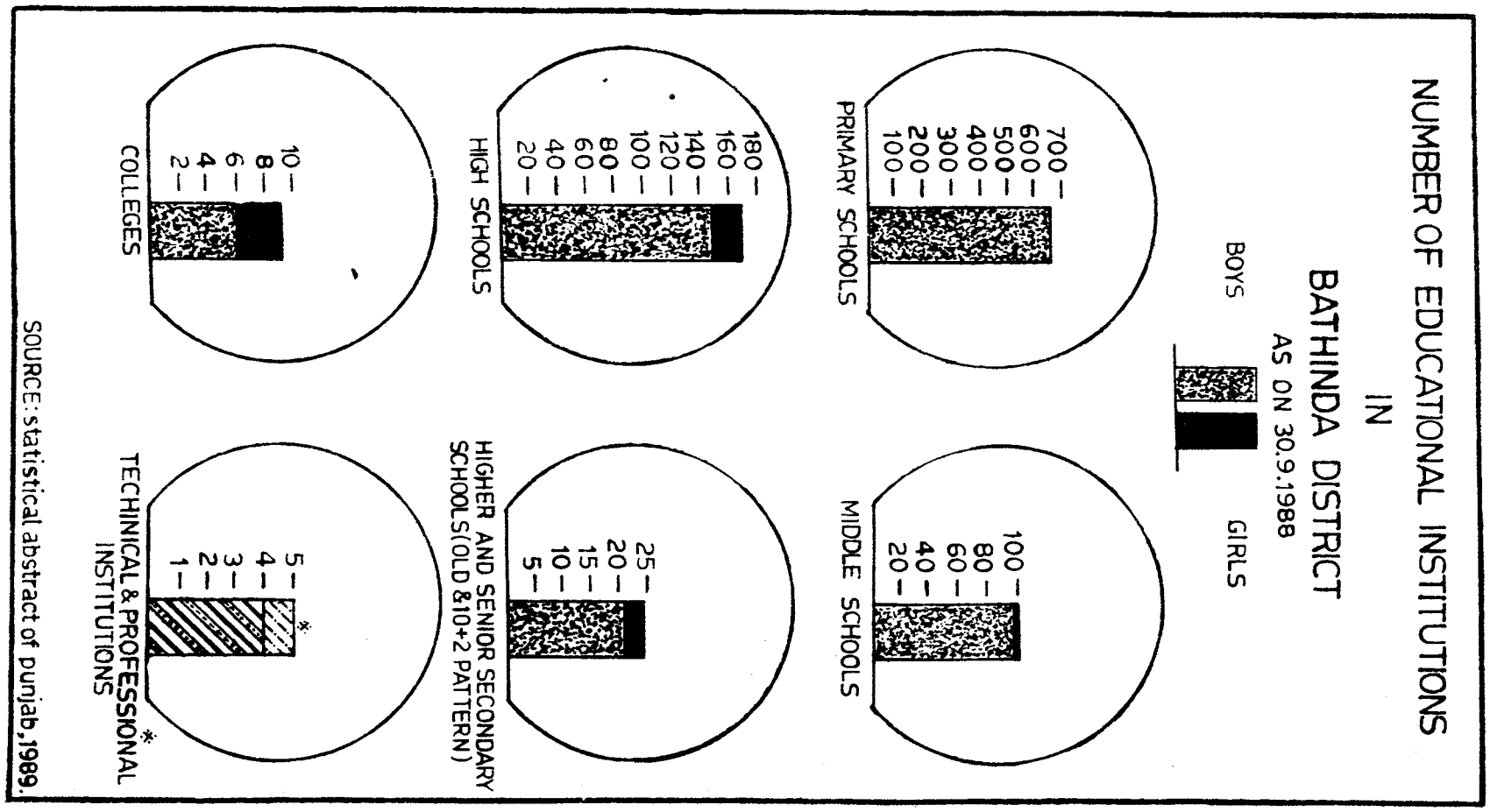
The table on the next page shows the progress of school education in the district during 1968, 1977 and 1986 to 1988 :—

Progress of School Education in the Bathinda District, 1968, 1977 and 1986 to 1988

(As on 30 September)

Sr. No.	Type of Schools	Number of Institutions														
		1968			1977			1986			1987			1988		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Primary Schools	534	-	534	391	-	391	631	-	631	634	-	634	661	-	661
2	Middle Schools	62	10	72	115	6	121	102	2	104	96	2	98	98	2	100
3	High Schools	57	9	66	102	17	119	142	21	163	155	21	176	147	20	167
4	Higher Secondary Schools (old pattern)/ Senior Secondary Schools (10 + 2 Pattern)	12	9	21	5	2	7	11	2	13	13	2	15	21	3	24
	Total	665	28	693	613	25	638	886	25	911	898	25	923	927	25	952

(Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1968, 1978 and 1987 to 1989)



SOURCE: statistical abstract of punjab, 1989.

Educational Societies Rendering Service in the Field of Education

Though the main responsibility for providing the people with educational facilities rests on the state, yet the various educational societies, missions and philanthropic endowments are also rendering valuable service to the people in the field of education in the district. Those important among such societies are mentioned below :

Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha.—This society is rendering useful service to the people in the field of education in the district. It is a registered body and is running a number of educational institutions in the district.

Arya Samaj.—The Arya Samaj has been playing a vital role in the educational, social and religious spheres. D.A.V. Mata Gunawanti College, Bathinda was opened in July 1969 by the Arya Samaj. All the D.A.V. institutions are rendering commendable service to the nation in dispelling ignorance and superstition, spreading knowledge, service and renunciation. The Arya Samaj Sabha runs four high/higher secondary schools, two at Bathinda proper and one each at Rama Mandi and Rampura in the district.

Dev Samaj.--This society has also done excellent work in the spread of education and social uplift of women in the district. It is running Dev Samaj Girls High School at Rampura in the district.

Singh Sabhas and other Sikh Societies.—These societies have played a vital role in the promotion of education in the district. A large number of educational institutions right from the middle to the degree level are being run at various places in the district. These societies are running five high/higher secondary schools, two at Bathinda and one each at Talwandi Sabo, Maur Mandi and Mansa, and a middle school at Goniana.

Christian Mission.—The Christian missionaries have done a pioneer work in the field of education in the district. The Christian mission is running Saint Joseph Convent High School at Bathinda. It is an English medium school.

Jain Sabha.--This society is also rendering useful service to the people in the sphere of education in the district. Jain Girls High School, Mansa is being run by the society in the district.

Besides the above bodies, a number of other societies and philanthropic and religious associations are also running educational institutions at various places in the district.

Women's Education

Spread of female eduction did not make much headway during the princely rule, because the parents did not favour sending their female wards to the school. The girls used to learn cooking, sewing and embroidery from other women. They learnt reading and writing from the indigenous institutions according to their religion. With the dawn of Independence, the outlook of the parents has changed in favour of female education. The parents have become conscious of the importance of education so much so that they have begun to consider the education of their daughters as important as that of their sons to get them settled in life. The Compulsory Elementary Education Act, 1960 has also contributed towards the increase in female education, as it has made obligatory on the parents to send their wards of the age group of 6 and above to schools. The changing social order and the efforts of various religious societies and voluntary orgnizations have brought about much progress in the sphere of women's education. As on 30 September 1988, there were 3 colleges, 3 senior secondary schools, 20 high schools and 2 middle schools for girls in the district. To make good deficiency in the number of schools for girls, all the primary schools for boys were thrown open to girls. The middle, high/higher secondary schools and colleges at places having no separate schools/colleges for girls also became co-educational.

According to the 1981 Census, the literacy rate among females, as a percentage of the total population in the district, is 20.29 as against 33.69 for the State, which is the lowest in the State. As on 30 September

1988, there were as many as 96,912 girls studying in I to senior secondary classes in the district.

Education of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.—According to 1981 Census, Scheduled Castes formed 27.02 per cent of the total population of the district, as against 26.87 per cent for the State. Before 1947, no special attention was paid to the spread of education among the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. These people were too poor to afford the benefits of education and too backward to be alive to its need. There was a tendency to employ young children on odd jobs to supplement the family income. After Independence, the government has been vigorously directing its policy towards raising the general level of literacy among these classes. In deference to the special provisions laid down in the Constitution, a number of facilities were extended by reserving seats in professional and technical institutions, exempting Harijans and others from tution fees, reimbursing the examination fees and giving financial assistance to deserving students. The Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes students, whose parents' income does not exceed Rs 6,000 are provided free education up to M.A. level. Besides, the following schemes are run by the Education Department for the benefit of students belonging to these classes for their studies at college level :—

(1) Government of India Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme

(2) State Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme

(3) State Harijan Welfare Scheme

(4) Special Grant to Scheduled Castes Girl Students

(5) Scholarship to Vimukt Jatis

(6) Special Grant to the Scheduled Caste Students studying in engineering/medical colleges

(7) Lower Income Group Scholarship Scheme

To prepare them for I A S, I P S and other allied examinations, a Coaching Centre is functioning in the Punjabi University, Patiala, where free board and lodging are provided.

The financial assistance given to the students belonging to the scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below :

Year	Stipends (Rs)	Number of students benefited
1977-78	8,87,830	11,110
1978-79	9,55,884	11,187
1979-80	12,34,792	10,532
1980-81	12,56,604	12,361
1981-82	12,20,806	12,678
1982-83	14,40,022	12,923
1983-84	13,83,514	11,854
1984-85	13,73,733	11,588
1985-86	12,39,547	11,860
1986-87	20,33,083	19,711
1987-88	16,45,995	16,030
1988-89	17,10,362	15,885

(*Source* : District Education Officer, Bathinda)

The financial assistance given to the students belonging to the Vimukt Jatis in the district during 1977-78 to 1988-89 is given below :

Year	Stipends (Rs)	Number of students benefited
1977-78	3,239	151
1978-79	3,888	155
1979-80	900	38
1980-81	3,960	165
1981-82	3,000	93
[illegible]	2,000	32

Year	Stipends (Rs)	Number of students benefited
1983-84	2,000	29
1984-85	2,000	34
1985-86	1,944	81
1986-87	1,992	83
1987-88	2,556	94
1988-89	950	29

(*Source* : District Education Officer, Bathinda)

The following table shows the number of students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes studying in different schools in Bathinda District as on 31 March, 1989 :--

Type of Institution	Number					
	Scheduled Castes Students			Backward Classes Students		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Schools	23,063	14,555	37,618	10,720	8,547	19,267
Middle Schools	1,261	647	1,908	926	575	1,501
High Schools	5,736	2,352	8,090	4,146	2,780	6,926
Higher Secondary Schools	1,758	890	2,648	1,271	980	2,251
Grand Total	31,818	18,444	50,264	17,063	12,882	29,945

(*Source* : District Education Officer, Bathinda)

Role of Local Bodies in the field of Education

Since October 1957, all schemes maintained hitherto by the local bodies have been provincialized in the State. There was no educational institution controlled by any Municipal Committee/District Board in the Bathinda District before provincialization.

Medium of Instructions

With a view to solving the language problem in the State, the government worked out the Three-Language Formula to satisfy all sections of the people,

replacing the Sachar Formula of 1949. Under the Three Language Formula, Punjabi has been made the first language and the medium of instruction in government schools at all levels, while Hindi has been made compulsory from the third class. The English Language has been made compulsory from the sixth class onward. The privately managed schools have been given option to retain Punjabi or Hindi as medium of instruction. The schools which adopt Hindi as the medium of instruction are required to teach Punjabi as a compulsory language. This solution evolved by the government has gone a long way in solving the language problem in the State. It has ensured compulsory instruction in Punjabi in all the schools and has enabled the Hindi medium schools to continue teaching through that medium and, as such, the entire school-going population in the State has become conversant with both the languages. The status of English has also been recognized as an international language.

Educational Set-up.—With the reorganization of educational set-up in 1963, the District Education Officer was made the overall in charge of educational activities upto the high and higher secondary level in the district. But with effect from 1 April 1978, the primary wing has been separated. Now the District Education Officer is controlling and supervising all middle, high and higher secondary schools in the district. He functions under the control of the Director of Public Instructions (Secondary Schools), Punjab, through Circle Education Officer, Nabha (district Patiala). He is assisted by 2 Deputy District Education Officers, 1 District Science Supervisor, 1 Administrative Officer, One Section Officer, 2 Superintendents, 8 Assistants, 14 Clerks and other Class IV staff. The primary schools are looked after by the District Education Officer (Primary), who is assisted by 2 Deputy District Education Officers, 12 Block Education Officers, 1 Superintendent, 6 Assistants, 5 Junior Assistants, 13 Clerks and other miscellaneous staff. He functions under the administrative control of the Director of Public Instructions (Primary Schools), Punjab. Both the District Education Officers are also assisted by 1 District Science Supervisor, 1 Assistant Education Officer (Sports) and 1 Vocational Guidance Councellor.

Pre-Primary Schools

In these days, public is becoming more and more conscious of its value for little children, and, therefore, pre-primary education has gained a tempo. Previously, pre-primary education in the district was not organized. Only few schools were started by some retired teachers, educationists and voluntary organisations. Systematic pre-primary education is of recent origin. This education is highly desirable for the physical intellectual, emotional mental and social growth of the children in the age-group of 3—6 years. Education is imparted through playway activities of kindergarten and montessory methods.

Primary and Basic Schools

The course of primary education covers a period of five years. Primary education was made compulsory during the Third Five-Year Plan (1961—66), starting with the age group of 6-7 in 1961-62, extended one higher class in each subsequent year, so that by 1965-66 the age group 10-11 was also covered by it. Since then, education at the primary stage is imparted free. Each village in the district has got atleast a primary school. Special incentives such as supply of free text books and mid-day meals are provided to the children belonging to weaker sections of the society.

The total number of primary/basic primary schools, both government and private, in the district, as on 30 September 1988, was 661 with 1,37,325 (76,926 boys and 60,399 girls) students. Most of the primary school teachers are basic trained. The number of teachers in the primary schools in the district, as on 30 September 1988, was 3,078 (1,709 males and 1,369 females).

Secondary Schools

There is an alround expansion in the field of education in the district. The increase in the number of children/scholars in primary schools due to the introduction of free and compulsory education has encouraged the enrolment drive in the middle and high schools. To attract more children of the age group of 11—14 and 14—17 years to these schools, middle and high schools have been opened within short distances. Besides, some new subjects such as music and dancing

have been introduced in some of the government girls high schools. The teaching of domestic sciences and agriculture has also been started in various government high schools in rural areas of the district.

At the secondary stage, there were 100 middle schools, 167 high/post basic schools and 24 senior secondary schools in the district as on 30 September 1988. The total number of scholars studying in these schools was 92,500 (55,987 boys and 36,513 girls) and from IX to XI Classes 16,000 (10,000 boys and 6,000 girls) as on 30 September 1988. The number of teachers on the same date in these schools was 3,726 (2,076 males and 1,650 females) and 1,339 (895 males and 444 females), respectively.

Higher Education

In 1950, there was only one college in the district. Another college was opened in 1964. During these years, the pace of higher education remained very slow. However, the number of colleges swelled to 9 by 1988. Of these, 3 colleges are meant for women, whereas remaining 6 are co-educational. All these institutions are affiliated to Punjabi University, Patiala The colleges functioning in the district, as on 31 March 1989 are briefly described as under :

(1) Government Rajindra College, Bathinda.—It is an old and famous educational centre south of Malwa. It is mentioned in *Encyclopedia Brittanica* on page 564. The institution was started in 1904 as a primary school. It was raised to an intermediate college in 1940 and to the level of a degree college in 1950. The college provides instruction in 10+1 and 10+2 (Arts, Science and Commerce Groups), Three Year Degree Course (Arts, Science and Commerce) and M.A. (Political Science). The College is housed in a grand building with a well equipped library, reading rooms, laboratories, hostel and extensive playgrounds. It is a co-educational institution. A number of societies, clubs and associations function in the college. There is a provision for training in the National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. Scholarships/Stipends are awarded by the Central and State governments to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, economically poor and other backward classes. The college brings out a magazine entitled *'Rajindra'* annually. The college

has outstanding achievements in university examinations and extra-curricular activities. A number of shields and trophies are won by the students in cultural fields every year.

A Regional Centre of the Punjabi University, Patiala has been functioning in this college since 1984. The number of students on the rolls of the college during 1988-89 was 2,395 (1,750 boys and 645 girls).

(2) Guru Kashi College, Damdama Sahib (Talwandi Sabo).—The college was founded in 1964 in fulfilment of the blessings of Guru Gobind Singh who spent several weeks here. It offers instruction in 10+1 and 10+2 (Arts and Science) and degree course (Arts and Science). The college is also running diploma course in Computor Science. The college has a library, a reading room, laboratories, hostel and extensive playgrounds. There is provision for training in National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. A number of cultural and literary societies function in the college. The government, the university and other scholarships, including those meant for the Scheduled Castes are available at the college. The college also brings out annually a magazine, viz. *Kiran Sarot.*

The number of students on the rolls of the college during the year 1988-89 was 351 (314 boys and 37 girls).

(3) Nehru Memorial Post-Graduate College, Mansa.—Started in 1965, the college is situated on Mansa-Barnala road. It offers instruction in the 10+1 and 10+2 (Arts, Commerce and Science Groups), Three-Year Degree Course in Arts and Commerce and M.A. (Political Science).

The College has a well stocked library. There is a provision for training under National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. There are a number of cultural and literary societies functioning in the college. Scholarships/stipends are awarded by the Central and State governments to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, economically poor and other backward classes. The college brings out a magazine entitled *'The Ideal'* annually.

The number of students on the rolls of the college, during 1988-89 was 1,125 (1,052 boys and 73 girls).

(4) Shri Sanatan Dharam Girls College, Bathinda.--With the opening of this college in 1966, a long felt need for an exclusive girls' college in this region was met. The college imparts instruction in the 10+1 and 10+2 and Three-Year Degree Course in Arts. There is a provision for training in the National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. A number of clubs and societies are also functioning in the college. All the scholarships and stipends from the Central and State governments are available at the college. The college brings out a magazine entitled *'Praja-Chakshu'* annually. The college has a library, a reading room, hostel and playgrounds. Honours classes in Sanskrit, Hindi and Political Science were started after 31 March 1982.

In 1988-89, the number of students on the rolls of the college was 770.

(5) T.P.D. Malwa College, Rampura Phul.--In response to the persistent demand of the people of the area, this college was started in July 1968 to commemorate the memory of Tapassavi Puran Dass. It offers instruction in 10+1 and 10+2 (Arts and Science) and the Three-Year Degree Course in Arts. It is a co-educational institution. The college provides training in National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. It has well equipped laboratories, a library and a reading room. A number of societies, clubs and associations function in the college. The government, the university and other scholarships, including those meant for the Scheduled Castes, are available at the college. The college also brings out annually a magazine, named *'The knowledge'*.

In 1988-89, there were 617 students on the rolls of the college.

(6) DAV (Mata Gunawanti) College (Bathinda).--This college was founded in July 1969 and shifted to the present building on 3 January 1977. On 20 May 1979, the college was renamed as Mata Gunawanti D A V College, Bathinda. The College prepares students for the 10+1 and 10+2 (Humanities, Commerce and Science Groups), Three-year Degree Course in Arts, Commerce and Science. It is a co-educational college. It has well-equipped laboratories, a library, reading room and playgrounds. The college

also provides training in National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. The students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are entitled to get the benefit of fee concession and stipends. A number of cultural and literary societies are also functioning in the college. The college brings out a magazine entitled *'Sandeep'* annually.

In 1988-89, there were 1,217 students on the rolls of the college.

(7) S.D. Kanya Mahavidyala, Mansa.--Owing to the need for a college for girls in this backward area, S.D. Kanya Mahavidyala, Mansa was started in November 1969. The College offers instruction in 10+1 and 10+2 and Three-Year Degree Course in Arts. Besides, there is a provision for training in National Cadet Corps and National Service Scheme. A number of societies, associations and clubs function in the college. The students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are entitled to get the benefit of fee concessions and stipends. It publishes its magazine named *'Sudhansha'* once a year.

The number of students on the rolls of the college, during 1988-89 was 330.

(8) Guru Nanak College, Budhlada.--This college was established in 1970. It prepares students in Science and Arts for 10+1 and 10+2 classes and in Arts up to the degree level. A number of societies, clubs and associations function in the college. The National Service Scheme was introduced in the college during 1973-74. Besides, Physical Education was introduced as a compulsory subject during 1978-79. Scholarships/ stipends are awarded by the government to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

The number of students on the rolls of the college, during 1988-89 was 491.

(9) Bhai Assa Singh Girls College, Goniana Mandi.--The college was founded in 1973 by late Mahant Assa Singh with a view to serving the needs of women folk of the area of higher education. The college provides instruction in 10+1 and 10+2 (Humanities Group) and Three-Year Degree Course in Arts. It has a library, a reading room, hostel and playgrounds.

Besides, there is a provision for training in National Service Scheme. A number of cultural and literary societies function in the college. Scholarship/stipends are awarded by the government to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. The college brings out a magazine entitled *'Ass Kiran'* annually.

The number of students on the rolls of the college, during 1988-89 was 149.

Technical Education

Technical education plays an important role in the industrial development of the country. Keeping in view the importance of the technical education, the Directorate of Industrial Training and Technical Education, Punjab, runs a number of Technical Institutes and Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (both for boys and girls) in the State. During 1988-89, there were two Industrial Training Institutes at Bathinda and Budhlada in the district, one Industrial Teachers Training Institute for Women at Bathinda and one Industrial School for Women at Rampura Phul. Besides, there is a Government Polytechnic Institute functioning at Bathinda. It prepares students for 3 year diploma courses in Electronics, Industrial/Producation Engineering, Architechture Assistantship and 2 year courses in Pharmacy. Every year, it takes 210 trainees who are awarded diplomas.

The detailed particulars of these Industrial Training Institutes/Centres in the Bathinda District have been given in Chapter V on 'Industries'.

(e) Physical Education

The main object of imparting physical education is to make the child physically fit, mentally alert and morally sound. In order to improve physical efficiency of the youth, the Punjab Government has introduced Physical Education Scheme in all the districts. To create ambition among the students to attain physical fitness right from the early schooling, physical education has been made a compulsory subject in the middle and high/higher secondary schools since 1974. Physical education and games are included in the school curriculum as a subject for examination. Under this system, one Physical Training Instructor is

attached to each of the middle and high/higher secondary schools. In the colleges also, physical education is directed and guided by the Director of Physical Education. The development of sports in the State is the responsibility of the Department of Sports, the Punjab State Sports Council and the Panchayati Raj Khed Parishad. To co-ordinate the activities of these organisations, an apex body, viz. Punjab State Sports Development Board was set up in June 1982.

The Assistant Education Officer for Physical Education, Bathinda helps both the District Education Officers to promote physical education in the district. He supervises and guides physical education in the schools. Inter-school tournaments and special rallies are organized at various places in the district. There is also a provision for medical inspection in the schools, and the students with physical defects are given the necessary treatment.

Besides, the following schemes, under separate departments, promote physical education in the district:—

1 Promotion of Sports and Games by the State Sports Department

2 National Cadet Corps

3 Bharat Scouts and Guides

4 National Service Scheme, sponsored by Government of India

(1) Promotion of Sports and Games.—Keeping in view the importance of sports, the Punjab Government created the Sports Department in 1961 and appointed players of national and international fame as Sports Officers. At the district level, the department is represented by the District Sports Officer, Bathinda, who is assisted by 10 Sports Officers, 1 Junior Sports Officer, one Handball Coach, besides ministerial and Class IV staff. With the merger of Sports Department into the Education in November 1966, the scope of the activities of the former increased manifold.

The main functions of the Sports Department are to provide training facilities in sports to the students and sportsmen of colleges, schools, private institutions, etc. according to their requisitions. The Department is

making strenuous efforts to promote sports talent in all parts of the State. It organizes season conditioning camps and teams are put on special training before they participate in inter-university, national and international competitions. The department also awards scholrships to the outstanding players, besides giving grant for the development of playgrounds.

At Bathinda, 1 Gymnastic, 1 Athletic, 1 Hockey, 1 Volleyball, 1 Kabaddi, 1 Juddo, 1 Handball and 1 Boxing, Coaching Centres are functioning at the new stadium. Besides, there are two sub-centres functioning each at Mansa and Talwandi Sabo which provide coaching in volleyball and athletic.

Apart from the above, the following associations are functioning which promote games and sports in the district :—

1 The District Wrestling Association, Bathinda
2 The District Athletic Association, Bathinda
3 The Table-Tennis Association, Bathinda
4 The District Basketball Association, Bathinda
5 The District Gymnastic Association, Bathinda
6 The District Shooting Association, Bathinda
7 The District Juddo, Association, Bathinda
8 District Cricket Association, Bathinda
9 District Kabaddi Association, Bathinda
10 District Badminton Association, Bathinda
11 District Hockey Association, Bathinda
12 District Handball Association, Bathinda
13 District Boxing Association, Bathinda
14 District Swimming Association, Bathinda

These associations organize tournaments in the district and select players for the inter-State and inter-district competitions.

There are two sports wings, i.e. Hockey and Athletics in Rajindra College, Bathinda and students of the wing are allowed free board and lodging. During 1984-85, two athletes of this college participated in

junior athletics and won three medals, viz. one gold, one silver and one bronze. Besides, a student of Guru Kashi College, Damdama Sahib participated in the World University Championship at Kobe (Japan).

(2) **National Cadet Corps.**—The National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.) was introduced in the educational programme in 1948 to develop the qualities of leadership, unity and discipline among the youth. After the Chinese aggression, it was made compulsory for all able bodied under-graduate boy students at college level in July 1963. The aims of the National Cadet Corps are to develop character, comradeship, ideal of service and capacity for leadership in youth, men and women, to give service training to young men and women so as to stimulate interest in the defence of the country and to build up a reserve of manpower to enable the Armed Forces to expand rapidly in a national emergency. The scheme was introduced in the Bathinda District in July 1965. N.C.C. is now not compulsory in colleges.

The motto of the National Cadet Corps is 'Unity and Discipline'. The cadets are imparted training in military subjects, viz. rifle-firing, field-craft, foot-drill, civil defence, map-reading etc. Girls are given training in first-aid, operating telephones, telegraphs and wireless, Senior and Junior Divisions cadets are organized into units, each commanded by a regular Army Major or an Officer of equivalent rank in the Air Force. The cadets also attend annual outdoor training camps.

The number of studnets on rolls in the National Cadet Corps in the district, as on 31 March 1989, was as under :

	Boys	Girls	Total
Senior Division	485	--	485
Junior Division	800	--	800

(3) **Bharat Scouts and Guides.**—The Bharat Scouts and Guides is a movement of national, international and universal character. It was a regular movement even in

the erstwhile princely States under different name. On 7 November 1950, all the associations were amalgamated at the national level and termed as Bharat Scouts and Guides. On 15 August 1951, the All-India Girl Guides Associations also joined Bharat Scouts and Guides. After the formation of PEPSU in 1948, this association continued till 1956 when with merger of the former with Punjab in 1956 its scope was widened.

The Bharat Scouts and Guides, Punjab, has its State headquarters at Chandigarh. There are three training centres at Tara Devi (Shimla Hills), Jalandhar and Chandigarh where training camps are organised.

The District Association, Bathinda organises scouts and guides rallies, social service camps at the time of *melas*, and gives training to young boys and girls in cooking and handicrafts, tent-pitching, etc. Besides, the association inculcates and develops loyalty, patriotism, and sense of service in the cause of the nation among the members. As on 31 March 1989, the number of registered Scouts/Guides in the district was 3,500.

(4) National Service Scheme.--The National Service Scheme, orginally contemplated as an alternative to the N.C.C. and NSO to cover all university students, was started during the Fourth Five-Year Plan as a pilot scheme by selecting college students on the voluntary and selective basis. Its object is to enable the students to participate, during their studies, in various programmes of social service and national development to help the community and at the same time to provide them with an opportunity to understand and appreciate the conditions, a sense of social consciousness and dignity of labour, thus leading to a fuller and more balanced development of the personality of students. Participation in the N.S.S. enables the students to discharge at least partially their social obligations towards the community, bring the educated youth closer to the community and enable them to contribute to the national development.

Under the programme, any student studying in a college or in a university, who has opted and is selected for the National Service Scheme is expected to remain under the programme for a continuous period of

two years and is required to render social service for a minimum of 120 hours per annum, besides, participating in the special camps.

The National Service Scheme is being implemented through the colleges and universities and other institutions of higher learning. The States are also participating financially and administratively in the operation of the scheme. The union Ministry of Education and Culture provides policy guidance, co-ordination, and finances on a sharing basis. Fifteen Units of National Service Scheme are functioning in various colleges of Bathinda District. As on 31 March 1989, there were 2,650 N.S.S. volunteers in the district.

(f) Cultivation of Fine Arts

There is no such institution in the district for imparting training in fine arts, such as music, dancing and painting, etc. However, there is a provision for teaching these subjects in some of the high/higher secondary schools and colleges of the district as part of the curriculum.

(g) Adult Literacy, Social Measures for the Diffusion of Education and Culture among the masses

A Scheme of Social (Adult) Education Programme for spreading literacy and diffusing culture among the masses was introduced in the district in 1954-55. It is organised by the Circle Social Education Officer, Patiala Circle, Patiala, who is under the overall charge of the Director of Public Instruction (Secondary Schools), Punjab, Chandigarh. For this purpose, the whole State of Punjab is divided into two Circles, viz. Patiala Circle and Jalandhar Circle. Each Circle has three mobile squads which are shifted from one place to another, from time to time. The adult education centres are located in villages where the panchayats agree to provide facilities like accommodation, etc. The duration of the centre is for six months. After a period of six months or one year or more, as the situation may demand, the centres are shifted to new villages. To popularise the social education drive among the masses, each circle has a mobile cinema van, which occasionally arranges film shows in the villages where such centres are located. Prior to

1980-81, 30 Adult Education Centres were functioning in the Bathinda District. Each Centre was required to educate atleast 30 adults per year. In 1980-81, the Government of India sanctioned another scheme, named Rural Functional Literacy Scheme. It was started in Punjab in the year 1981.

Rural Functional Literacy Scheme.—Under this Centrally Sponsored Scheme, during 1988-89, 300 centres, 85 for men and 215 for women, of age group 15-55 were functioning in the district. In these centres, the rural people are taught reading, writing and simple arithmetic. In the women centres, apart from reading and writing, the women of age group of 15-31 are also provided training in knitting, sewing and embroidery. During 1988-89, there were 12,000 adults on the rolls in these centres.

Non-Formal Education Scheme.—Under this Scheme, the children between the age group of 11-14 years, who had left their studies earlier, due to one reason or the other, are taught non-formally for two hours daily from the stage where from they discontinued their studies. At the end of the academic year, some of them take examination in the regular schools in the class for which they complete their studies in the non-formal education centre. During 1988-89, there were 100 such centres functioning in the district with 3,403 students on rolls.

(h) Cultural and Literary Societies and Periodicals

All colleges/schools have different types of societies and clubs which aim at spreading cultural activities among the students. The schools and colleges also draw up cultural programmes and participate in the national functions. The cultural and literary societies, functioning in the Bathinda District are given below :

Cultural Societies.—The main activities of cultural societies include plays, dances, songs, music, etc. During the *Navratra* days, *Ram Lila* is staged by these societies with great enthusiasm at important places in the Bathinda District. These societies aim at promoting Punjabi culture, create national unity through cultural programmes, and publicise development schemes, through songs, dramas, etc. The following

cultural societies are functioning in the Bathinda District :—

1 Railway Dramatic Club, Bathinda
2 Venus Art Theatre, Bathinda
3 Ajanta Art Circle, Bathinda
4 United Art Theatre, Bathinda
5 Forward Theatre, S.S.D. Higher Secondary School, Bathinda
6 Preet Nagar Arts Theatre, Bathinda
7 Lok Kala Manch, Mansa at Bathinda
8 Samrang Kala Manch, Mansa at Bathinda
9 Pandu Kala Manch, Mansa at Bathinda
10 Ram Natak Club, Rama Mandi
11 Ram Natak Club, Bathinda

Literary Societies.—Among the literary societies functioning in the district, the following deserve mention :—

Indian Peoples Theatre Association, Bathinda (IPTA).—It was established on 21 December 1978. The object of this Association is to promote cultural and literary activities in the district by organising literary and cultural programmes. It aims at publishing literary work of high merit produced by younger writers. This Association is affiliated to the Indian People's Theatre, Association, Punjab.

Sahitya Sangam (Regd.) Bathinda.—With a view to projecting the literary and cultural activities of Malwa region, Sahitya Sangam, Bathinda was established in 1979. It is making useful contribution to the development of literature and language. The main activities of Sahitya Sangam include encouragement to the budding writers and poets by organising literary seminars. It also inculcates and develops the habit of reading healthy literature and organise painting, musical shows, etc.

Besides the above, the following literary societies also contribute to the promotion and

encouragement of literary activities in the district :--

1 Punjabi Sahitya Sabha, Bathinda

2 Sahitya Sabha, Rampura Phul

3 Likhari Sabha, Mansa

4 Likhari Sahitya Sabha, Budhlada

5 Pandu Sahitya Sabha, Balianwali

6 Punjab Sahitva Sabhiacharak Manch, Bhucho Mandi

Periodicals

For particulars regarding the periodicals, etc. published in the district, refer to Chapter XVIII, 'Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations'.

(i) Libraries

The libraries are the temples of learning which enshrine wisdom of all ages and throw open wide vistas of knowledge to the seekers. They help the people to develop their latent faculties and promote and spread education among themselves. With the spread of education, more libraries have been set up. Generally, every panchayat in the district maintains a library for the promotion of education and general knowledge among the masses in the rural areas. All the high/higher secondary schools and colleges in the district have also their own libraries meant for the use of students and teachers. The municipalities in the district, viz. Bhucho Mandi, Maur Mandi, Sangat, Budhlada, Goniana maintain their libraries and reading rooms for public use. Of these, Bhucho Mandi Municipal Library is quite old and was established in 1908. It has a good collection of books on various subjects. These libraries also subscribe to a number of daily newspapers weeklies, fortnightlies and monthly magazines.

In addition to above, there is a District Library at Bathinda which was set up in 1974. It is under the control of Education Department. The library remains open for seven hours daily. It has a number of reference books to give adequate reference service to its readers. It subscribes to 29 periodicals and 11 dailies. It contains about 11,000 printed volumes.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times

In the ancient times, people in India mainly depended on Ayurvedic system of medicine for cure of various diseases. This system was developed by Indian physicians who made extensive use of herbs for preparation of various medicines. However, after the Alexander's invasion of India in 326 B.C., the Unani system of medicine was also introduced in this country. During the Muhammadan rule, the official patronage was given to Unani system and as a result, Ayurvedic system suffered a set back. But the Ayurvedic system of medicine continued to be popular with the rural people, whereas the Unani system of medicine became more popular in towns and cities. Further, with the coming of the British into this country, the Allopathic system of medicine was also introduced, and in course of time, it became more popular than the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine.

During the British rule in India, most of the area of Bathinda District was part of the princely State of Patiala. Hence the Allopathic system of medicine was introduced in the present Bathinda District by the rulers of Patiala. A regular Medical Department was organised by Maharaja Mohinder Singh in 1873 and placed under Surgeon-Major C.M. Calthrop, the first Medical Adviser to the State, who also had charge of the vaccination work. The Medical and Sanitary institutions and establishments of the Patiala State were under the direction of a Medical Adviser, who was an officer of the Indian Medical Service, lent by the British Government. There was an outlying dispensary in charge of Assistant Surgeon at Bathinda. Besides, there was a dispensary in charge of Hospital Assistant at Bhikhi in Bathinda District. There was also a dispensary at Talwandi Sabo in charge of Hospital Assistant in connection with the Irrigation Department.[1]

In the past, people were mostly illiterate and backward, and as such they depended much on the methods of faith cure and quackery for the cure of

[1] *Phulkian States Gazetteer, 1904* (Lahore, 1909), p. 182

various ailments. But with the advancement of scientific education, people have now developed faith in scientific treatment.

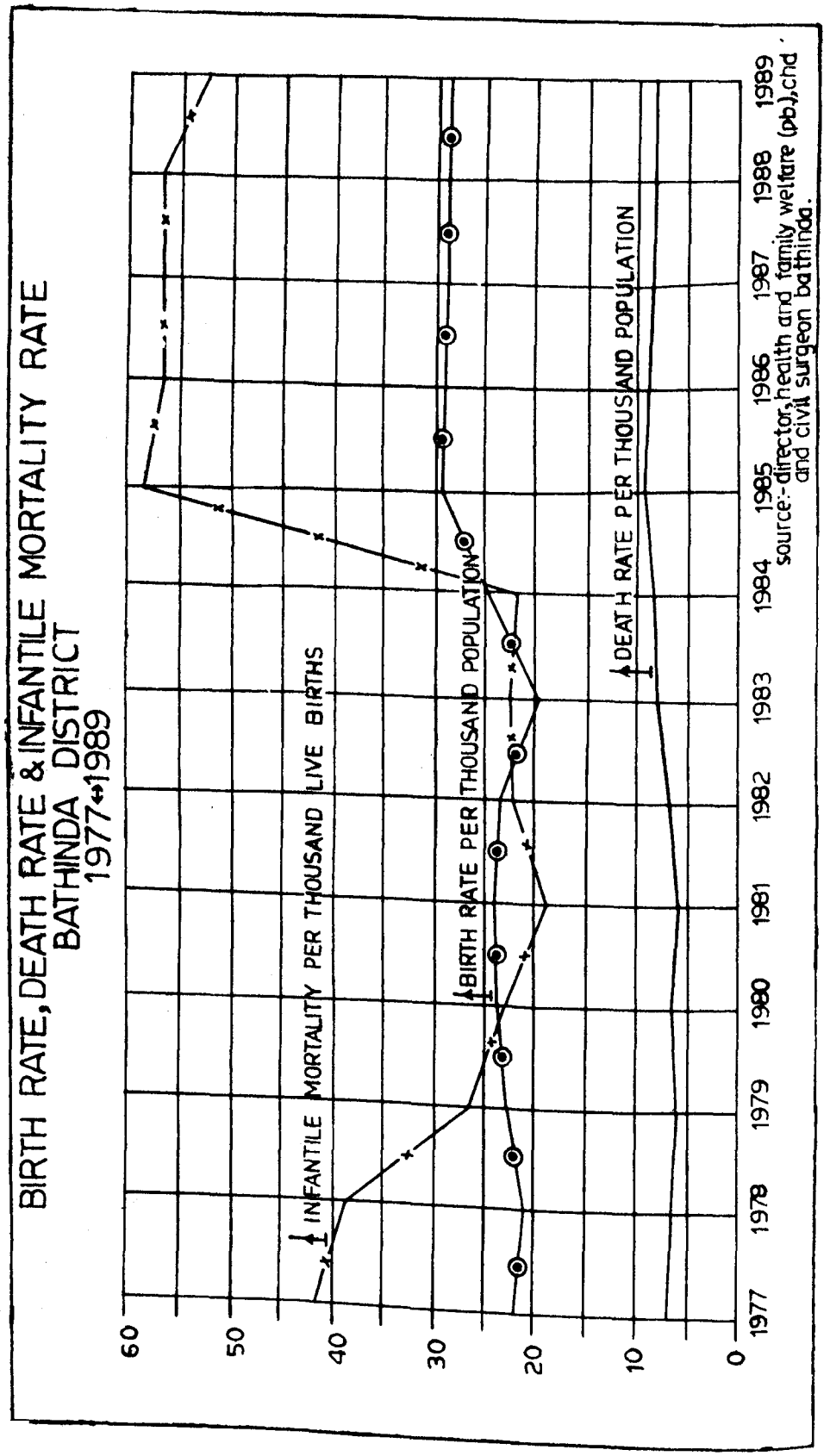
Of all the systems of medicine, today Allopathy is more popular on account of government patronage enjoyed by it during the past more than a century and a half. On 1 April 1989, there were 175 Allopathic Institutions in the district comprising 18 hospitals; 5 community health centres; 35 primary health centres and 117 subsidiary health centres and clinics.

The Ayurvedic and Unani systems are, however, liked by the people because of the simpler and familiar medicines prescribed. The government is also giving due recognition to these systems. On 31 March 1989, there were 38 Ayurvedic and 2 Unani dispensaries in the district. Each Ayurvedic dispensary is under the charge of a *Vaid*, assisted by an *Up-Vaid* and 1 *Dai*, who is under the administrative control of the Director, Ayurvedic, Punjab. During 1988-89, an expenditure of Rs 34,74,567 was incurred under the Ayurvedic and Unani systems.

Homoeopathic system of medicine is also becoming popular and the government is encouraging this system and is setting up dispensaries at different places in the State. At present, 7 such dispensaries are functioning in the district, one each at Bathinda, Phul, Mansa, Goniana, Bhokhra, Jalal and Ghanda Banna. During 1988-89, an expenditure of Rs 5,15,636 was incurred under the Homoeopathic system in the Bathinda District.

(b) Vital Statistics

The satisfactory results achieved by the Health Department are reflected in reduced incidence of diseases, lower mortality both in case of infants and adults, longer expectation of life and alround better health of the community. The birth rate, death and infantile mortality rate in the Bathinda District from 1972 to 1989, are given hereunder:



Year (Calendar year)	Birth rate per thousand population	Death rate per thousand population	Infantile mortality rate under one year of age against per thousand live births
1972	23.84	7.41	49.05
1973	23.04	7.47	51.30
1974	22.31	7.20	43.68
1975	22.73	6.08	37.49
1976	24.51	6.81	41.57
1977	21.94	6.78	38.55
1978	20.76	6.42	26.27
1979	22.32	5.96	23.32
1980	23.50	6.20	22.86
1981	23.60	5.86	18.82
1982	23.12	6.79	26.84
1983	19.99	7.80	22.36
1984	24.20	8.10	21.50
1985	29.6	9.8	58.5
1986	29.2	9.4	56.2
1987	28.9	8.9	56.7
1988	28.7	8.7	56.6
1989	28.1	8.2	52.5

(Source: Director, Health and Family Welfare, Punjab, Chandigarh and Civil Surgeon, Bathinda)

The registration of vital statistics is compulsory. In the rural areas, the Chowkidars maintain the birth and death registers. Similarly, these records are maintained by the municipalities in the urban areas. In addition to many other advantages, the procedure

provides a dependable record of the growth of population and, at the same time helps to visualise the scope of measures to be taken to check the mortality rate and also to devise ways and means to use family-welfare measures. The Civil Surgeon, Bathinda, compiles the data in the district.

Important Causes of Mortality.—The important causes of mortality in the district are typhoid group of fevers, dysentery and diarrhoea, respiratory diseases and injuries. The statistics regarding some of the important causes of death in the Bathinda District, during 1977 to 1989, are given in Appendix I at the end of the Chapter.

(c) Diseases Common to the District

(i) Fevers.—Fevers are the main cause of deaths. They include ordinary fevers, typhoid, influenza and other seasonal fevers, including malaria. These fevers are the result of infections, unhealthy living and imbalanced diet, leading to low resistance. These fevers have become almost chronic and it is extremely difficult to eradicate them totally. In the past, these fevers were cured with various medicines, including quinine. But, at present, the sulpha drugs and antibiotics are becoming popular, as they are found to be very effective.

Owing to effective measures employed to prevent fever, there are now less deaths as compared to past. As compared to 3,880 deaths due to fever in 1977, there were only 29 deaths in 1984 in the district. However, 1,311 deaths took place in 1989 in the district.

(ii) Respiratory Diseases.—Respiratory diseases, which are next in importance only to fevers, are also responsible for deaths in the district. These are caused by different types of smokes, fumes, vapours of chemical gases released by the burning of charcoal, coke, etc. These gases pollute the surrounding atmosphere all the time, thus affecting the health of the people. Smoke irritates the eyes, the throat and the lungs constantly. The insanitary conditions in the slums also cause the outbreak of these diseases.

In order to check the spread of such diseases, the Factories Act, 1948, lays down that there should be

proper disposal of gases entering the atmosphere and any harmful effluent should be removed to far-off places, so that they do not adversely affect the health of the people.

The diseases are also on the decrease owing to better and modern medical treatment available in the district. As compared to 907 death cases due to respiratory diseases in the district in 1977, there were only 515 cases in 1985 and 614 in 1989. This comparison clearly illustrates that modern system of medicine has been able to control these diseases to a large extent.

(iii) Malaria.—This epidemic develops during the years of excessive wet monsoon when a large number of stagnant pools are formed. Malaria is caused by a blood parasite called 'Plasmedium' which is present in a malaria patient's blood. It was a dreadful disease for years together and took heavy toll of lives in the district. Quinine was distributed in the rural areas through many agencies. It, no doubt, lowered the incidence, but it could not eradicate the disease totally. It was only after the Independence that steps were taken to control and completely eradicate malaria.

In the year 1980, Anti Larval Scheme was incorporated in the Malaria programme at Bathinda Town to minimise the disease by attacking the larvae of the mosquito. The town was divided into two sectors and each sector was sudivided into 8 wards. The scheme is under the control of the District Epidomiologist and is manned by two Senior Malaria Inspectors, 16 Field Supervisors and 48 Field Workers.

For malaria purposes, Civil Surgeon, Bathinda is head of the district. At district headquarters, he is assisted by District Health Officer, District Epidomiologist and Assistant Malaria Officer. There is also a Malaria Laboratory at district headquarters for examination of fever patient's slides, examination of back-log of slides from primary health centres, preparation of stains used in examination of slides and distribution of the same to all primary health centres. The Senior Laboratory Technician checks the laboratory work at the primary health centres and guides the laboratory staff in the maintenance of records and confirmation of doubtful slides.

Malaria Clinics.—There are 19 malaria clinics in the district. The blood slide of every fever case is prepared and is examined immediately. If found positive for the presence of malaria parasite, then radical treatment is given immediately on the same day. Data regarding surveillance and spray for the years 1979 to 1989 is given below:

Year	Blood slides collected and examined	Found positive		
		P. Vivex	P. Faleiparum	Total
1979	2,09,655	14,633	18	14,651
1980	1,97,566	9,302	12	9,314
1981	1,90,331	9,332	16	9,348
1982	2,04,975	7,537	397	7,934
1983	2,66,720	11,352	2,971	14,323
1984	3,46,603	17,526	5,393	22,919
1985	3,42,606	23,368	2,307	25,675
1986	2,35,846	11,788	786	12,574
1987	1,82,017	6,234	73	6,307
1988	1,43,478	1,501	1	1,502
1989	1,28,127	767	3	770

(Source: Director, Health and Family Welfare, Punjab and Malaria Officer, Bathinda)

(iv) Communicable Diseases.—Cholera, plague and small-pox are regarded as the main communicable diseases. Due to improvement of medical system, all these diseases have been completely eradicated in the district. Not a single case of cholera, small-pox and plague has been reported in the district since 1977.

Tuberculosis.—Tuberculosis is a very serious disease and government have been making all-out efforts to control it. The B.C.G. is an effective vaccination against tuberculosis.

The District T.B. Officer supervises the whole set-up to eradicate tuberculosis from the district. There are 9 X-Ray Centres, 30 Microscopic Centres and 162 Referal Centres in Bathinda District which give treatment to T.B. patients and distribute anti T.B. drugs free of cost. All cases having cough/fever for more than 15 days are examined in these centres. During 1989, there were 1,799 T.B. patients under treatment in the district.

The District T.B. Association, Bathinda also plays an important role in preventing the spread of tuberculosis in the district. Mass meetings are held to apprise the people of the ill effects of this disease. Masses are also advised to take necessary precautions to prevent this dangerous disease. The Association also makes arrangements for supply of medicines to T.B. patients.

(d) Medical and Public Health Services

Previously, medical services were divided into two wings, viz. medical and health. The Civil Surgeon was responsible for the functioning of hospitals and dispensaries, medical and surgical work in the district, besides being government medico-legal expert. The District Medical and Health Officer was in charge of the health wing and was responsible for sanitation, prevention of diseases and health promotion services in the district. He was also to advise the municipalities on public health matters. Both the wings worked under the administrative control of the Director of Health Services, Punjab, Chandigarh.

In April 1964, the two wings of the health and medical services were merged and the Chief Medical Officer was made in charge of both these wings. The post of Chief Medical Officer was redesignated as Civil Surgeon in June 1974. The Medical Officer and the staff employed by the Zila Parishad, Bathinda also work under his control, but they draw their salaries from the Zila Parishad.

On the health side, Malaria Officer, Vaccinators and Medical Officers (in charge of dispensaries) also assist the Civil Surgeon. Similar functions are performed by the zila parishad dispensaries. The municipalities also assist the Civil Surgeon in the public health field. In order to check the adulteration of foodstuffs, the Civil Surgeon has delegated powers to the Medical Officer of hospitals/dispensaries for taking samples of the foodstuffs.

Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Dispensaries, etc.

The expenditure incurred by the State Government on Allopathic hospitals, health centres, dispensaries

and other health services in the district, during 1988-89, was Rs 4,64,85,801.

Allopathic Medical Institutions.—As on 1 April 1989, there were 175 medical institutions in the district. Their tahsil-wise and area-wise break-up is given below:

Tahsil	Rural	Urban	Total
Bathinda	51	18	69
Mansa	54	5	59
Rampura Phul	23	5	28
Talwandi Sabo	15	4	19
District Bathinda	143	32	175

(Source : Civil Surgeon, Bathinda)

A list of hospitals, primary health centres and dispensaries in the district is given in Appendix II of page 455--460.

The particulars regarding the family planning units/clinics in the district is given in Appendix III on page 461.

Ayurvedic and Unani Medical Institutions.--As on 1 April 1989, there were 38 Ayurvedic and 2 Unani dispensaries in the district. Out of these, 8 were functioning in urban areas, while the remaining 32 in rural areas. Their tahsil-wise and area-wise break-up is given below:

Tahsil	Rural	Urban	Total
Bathinda	7	2	9
Talwandi Sabo	8	3	11
Rampura Phul	7	1	8
Mansa	10	2	12
District Bathinda	32	8	40

(Source : Director, Ayurvedic, Punjab, Chandigarh)

All these institutions are managed by the government. Their detailed list is given in Appendix IV on page 462-463.

Homoeopathic Medical Institutions.—As on 1 April 1989, there were 7 Homoeopathic dispensaries in the district, one each at Bathinda, Bhokhra, Phul, Mansa, Goniana, Jalal and Ghonda Bana. These dispensaries are functioning under the administrative control of the Joint Secretary, Health who is head of the Homoeopathic Department, Punjab. In each of these dispensaries, there is one Physician in charge, one Dispenser and one *Dai*, besides Class IV staff. During the year 1988, the number of patients given treatment in these dispensaries was 32,243.

(a) Government and Private Hospitals

Civil Hospital, Bathinda.—The hospital was opened in 1888 near the Railway Station, Bathinda. Later on, the town developed and expanded at a fast rate. The old building of the hospital could not accommodate the rush of patients and there was no space available for expansion at the site. So a new site opposite to the Police Lines was selected for the hospital. The new hospital was inaugurated on 8 August 1975. It is located in a three-storey building and has 14 special wards. The hospital has 100 beds, 60 for females and 40 for males.

The hospital provides surgical, medical, paediatrics, gynaecological and obstetric, eye and ENT, dental, X-ray, blood transfusion, E.C.G. and physiotheraphy services. A post-partum unit for Family Planning and MCH Services is also attached to the hospital.

The hospital is manned by 1 Senior Medical Officer, 1 Gynaecologist, 1 Medical Specialist, 1 eye Specialist, 1 Paediatician, 1 Radiologist, 1 Anaesthetist, 1 Blood Transfusion Officer, 3 Emergency Medical Officers, 2 Medical Officers (P.P. Unit), 1 Matron, 2 Nursing Sisters, 21 Staff Nurses, 1 Superintendent, 1 Dark Room Assistant, 1 Optholomasic Assistant, 1 Assistant Dential Mechanic, 2 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, 1 Chief Pharmacist, 4 Pharmacists, 3 Laboratory Technicians Grade I, 2 Laboratory Assistants

Grade II, 1 Radiographer, besides other allied and miscellaneous Class IV staff.

District T.B. Hospital, Bathinda.—The hospital has 25 isolation beds. It was opened in 1965 and is situated in the Old Civil Hospital Complex. It is manned by 1 District T.B. Officer who is in charge of the hospital and National T.B. Control Programme. He is assisted by 1 Medical Officer, 1 Nursing Sister, 1 Staff Nurse, 1 Senior Laboratory Technician, 1 Laboratory Technician, 2 Pharmacists, 1 Radiographer, 2 T.B. Health Visitors, 2 Statistical Clerks, besides miscellaneous Class IV staff. An X-ray plant has been installed for the T.B. patients. Facilities for laboratory examination are also available.

Civil Hospital, Mansa.—The hospital has 100 beds. It is manned by 1 Senior Medical Officer, 11 Medical Officers, 1 Dental Surgeon, 1 Matron, 2 Staff Nurses, 2 Laboratory Assistants, 5 Pharmacists, 2 Nursing Sisters, 1 Radiographer, 1 Superintendent, 1 Assistant, 7 Clerks, besides other allied and miscellaneous Class IV staff. The hospital provides medical, surgical, gynaecological and obstetric, eye and ENT, dental, X-ray, laboratory and blood transfusion facilities. There is also a blood bank in the hospital. During 1984, a post-partum unit was also established in the hospital.

Civil Hospital, Maur.—The hospital has 25 beds. It is manned by 1 Senior Medical Officer, 1 Medical Officer, 1 Radiographer, 1 Laboratory Assistant, 1 Nursing Sister, 3 Staff Nurses, 3 Pharmacists and 1 Clerk, besides other allied and miscellaneous Class IV staff. It provides medical, surgical, X-ray and laboratory facilities.

Civil Hospital, Rampura Phul.—The hospital has 50 beds. It is manned by 1 Senior Medical Officer, 8 Medical Officers, 1 Dental Surgeon, 3 Pharmacists, 12 Staff Nurses, 1 Laboratory Assistant, 1 Radiographer, 3 Clerks, besides other allied Class IV employees.

Facilities for X-ray, laboratory work and blood transfusion are available in the hospital.

Civil Hospital, Raman.—The hospital is manned by 1 Senior Medical Officer, 3 Medical Officers, 1 Staff Nurse, 1 Pharmacist, 1 Clerk and a Driver. ENT and X-ray facilities are also available in this hospital. It has 10 beds.

S.D. Mahavir Dal Hospital, Bathinda is the only leading private hospital in the district. A brief description of the hospital is given hereunder:

S.D. Mahavir Dal Hospital, Bathinda.—The hospital was established in 1974. It is situated near the old Bus Stand, Bathinda. It is manned by 3 doctors and 12 nurses. Medical facilities are provided to the indoor and outdoor patients. Food is given free to the indoor needy patients.

The expenditure incurred on the hospital is met by S.D. Mahavir Dal, Bathinda. The number of indoor and outdoor patients treated in the hospital during 1988-89 was 1,485 and 32,000, respectively.

Blood Banks

The use of blood as a therapeutic measure is on the increase in all branches of medicine and surgery. A blood bank is functioning in Civil Hospital, Bathinda. Blood donation camps are organised in the district and people are persuaded to donate blood liberally for the suffering humanity. A blood bank grid has been built and is being run by the District Red Cross Society, Bathinda.

Prevention of Adulteration of Foodstuffs

The Punjab Government passed the Prevention of the Food Adulteration Act in 1954 for checking the adulteration of foodstuffs. This Act replaced the Punjab Pure Food Act, 1929. The concerns dealing in sale, stock and preparation of edible articles are subject to inspection by the Food Inspectors, Medical Officers and Civil Surgeon. In order to ensure preparation and sale of pure foodstuffs, edibles and drinks, special powers have been entrusted to the inspecting staff to seize samples. These samples are sent to the Food and Health Laboratory at Chandigarh for chemical examination and analysis. Those found guilty of adulteration are prosecuted.

In the Bathinda District, the number of samples seized during 1989 was 260. The number of prosecutions

launched in this behalf during the year was 16.

(f) Sanitation

(i) Public Health and Sanitation in Urban Areas.—Public Health services are rendered in two ways. Firstly, it is incumbent on the District Health Officer to take preventive measures to check the occurrence and reoccurrence of epidemics and seasonal fevers. Secondly, the functions performed by the Public Health Department, municipalities and zila parishad are directed to promote the well-being of the people, there by preventing the outbreak of diseases.

Water-supply schemes have been introduced in many of the towns of Bathinda District. The municipal committees have kept tractors-trollies and refuse carts to remove the rubbish. Besides, they have engaged a number of scavengers and sweepers for sanitation and disposal of sewage, etc.

(ii) Rural Sanitation and Water Supply.—In the second decade of the present century, rural sanitation in the district was in deplorable condition. Consequent upon the poor sanitation, epidemics appeared and spread. These epidemics were considered to be either the wrath or the acts of God. Occurrence of small-pox was considered as appearance of Goddess Sitla. The occurrence of such diseases was kept secret. It was in the beginning of the third decade of the present century that the Health Department started making extensive propaganda and publicity through the audio-visual aids regarding rural sanitation, disposal of refuse and sewage in the manure pits and dumping debris-grounds. The people were vigorously persuaded for vaccination against small-pox. These efforts did not achieve desirable ends. The opening of maternity centres in the rural areas helped in reducing infantile mortality. The preventive measures taken by the Health Department considerably decreased the occurrence of infectious diseases like plague, cholera and small-pox.

After Independence, considerable progress has been made in the improvement of rural sanitation. The people have become conscious of personal hygiene. In most of the villages of the district, streets and

lanes have been paved and drains constructed for the disposal of rain and sullage water. The houses, which are now constructed, are well ventilated and sunny.

The panchayats look after the sanitation of the villages. The zila parishad gives 50 per cent grant-in-aid to those panchayats who engage regular scavenging staff for cleanliness in the villages. The panchayats disinfect the drinking water wells, whenever necessary.

Water Supply

With a view to improving the environmental sanitation, the Government of India launched a National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme in 1954. This programme caters to the needs of the rural as well as urban areas. In the case of rural water supply schemes, entire cost of these is met by the government and the beneficiaries have to provide land free of cost required for the requisite scheme. In Bathinda District, there are 517 villages having a population of 8.40 lakhs where the underground water contains a high concentration of flourides and other salts. This spoils the teeth of people in young age. In many cases, there is a complaint of stiffness of the back and difficulty in performing natural movements. Out of 517 villages, 501 villages in the district have been given the benefit of safe drinking water upto 31 March 1990. Now, there are 12 problem villages (2 have been vacated for the establishment of cantonment and 2 have been covered by the municipal limits) and these will be provided potable water supply facilities by 31 March 1991.

APPENDIX I

Death Registered by Causes in the Bathinda District, 1977—89 (Vide page)

Cause of death	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fevers	3,880	3,038	1,432	2,242	2,462	1,785	8	29	1,249	1,412	1,618	1,519	1,311
Dysentery and Diarrhoea	45	26	—	6	133	24	—	—	847	937	1,012	985	852
Respiratory Diseases	907	923	567	450	302	818	1,504	851	515	637	745	705	614
Injuries	181	169	116	75	182	157	205	167	132	121	201	189	101
Other Causes	3,071	3,669	5,325	5,155	4,579	7,502	8,925	8,947	6,140	5,144	4,543	5,176	4,762
Total	8,071	7,825	7,440	7,928	6,658	10,286	10,642	9,994	8,883	8,251	8,119	8,574	7,640

(Source: Director, Health and Family Welfare, Punjab, Chandigarh and Civil Surgeon, Bathinda)

APPENDIX II

List of Hospitals/Primary Health Centres/Community Health Centres/ Health Centres/Sub-Health Centres/Dispensaries/Clinics in the Bathinda District as on 1 April 1989 (Vide page 448)

Sr. No.	Name of the Institution	Tahsil	No. of beds Male	No. of beds Female	Rural/ Urban	Type of Management
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Shaheed Bhai Mani Singh Civil Hospital, Bathinda	Bathinda	40	60	Urban	State Public
2	Children Hospital, Bathinda	Do	50	50	Do	Do
3	Dr Inderjit Singh Gill Memorial Government Civil Hospital, Mansa	Mansa	50	50	Do	Do
4	Women Hospital, Mansa	Do	1	12	Do	Do
5	Civil Hospital/C.H.C., Rampura Phul	Rampura Phul	40	10	Do	Do
6	Women Hospital, Phul Mandi	Do	..	6	Do	Do
7	Civil Hospital, Maur Mandi	Talwandi Sabo	15	10	Do	Do
8	Women Hospital, Raman Mandi	Do	..	10	Do	Do
9	Urban Slum Area Dispensary, Paras Ram Nagar, Bathinda	Bathinda	2	2	Do	Do
10	Urban Slum Area Dispensary, Basti Ganeshan, Bathinda	Do	2	2	Do	Do
11	Urban Slum Area Town Dispensary, Bathinda	Do	2	2	Do	Do
12	School Health Clinic, Bathinda	Do	..	..	Do	Do
13	T.B. Clinic, Bathinda	Do	15	10	Do	Do
14	Civil Dispensary, Bhucho Mandi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
15	Civil Hospital, Phul Mandi	Rampura Phul	2	2	Do	Do
16	Urban Slum Area Dispensary, Rampura Phul	Do	2	2	Do	Do
17	Urban Slum Area Dispensary, Rampura Mandi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
18	Civil Dispensary, Raman Mandi	Talwandi Sabo	9	3	Do	Do
19	Urban Slum Area Dispensary, Maur Mandi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
20	Railway Hospital, Bathinda	Bathinda	4	..	Do	State Special
21	E.S.I. Dispensary No. I, Bathinda	Do	..	..	Do	Do
22	E.S.I. Dispensary No. II, Bathinda	Do	..	..	Do	Do

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	E.S.I. Dispensary No. III, Bathinda	Bathinda	..	..	Urban	State Special
24	Jail Dispensary, Bathinda	Do	10	..	Do	Do
25	Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant Dispensary, Bathinda	Do	..	..	Do	Do
26	Canal Dispensary, Bathinda	Do	..	..	Do	Do
27	S.D. Mahavir Dal Eye Hospital, Bathinda	Do	40	25	Do	Vol. Org.
	Block Bathinda					
28	Rural Hospital, Wirk Kalan	Bathinda	15	10	Rural	State Public
29	P.H.C., Goniana	Do	4	4	Urban	Do
30	P.H.C., Kot Shamir	Do	2	2	Rural	Do
31	S.H.C., Jandanwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
32	P.H.C., Baluana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
33	S.H.C., Baho Sibbian	Do	2	2	Do	Do
34	S.H.C., Behmin Diwana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
35	S.H.C., Bir Bahman	Do	2	2	Do	Do
36	S.H.C., Burj Maihma	Do	2	2	Do	Do
37	S.H.C., Jassi Pauhuwali	Do	2	2	Do	Do
38	S.H.C., Deor	Do	2	2	Do	Do
39	S.H.C., Ganga	Do	2	2	Do	Do
40	S.H.C., Gulabgarh	Do	2	2	Do	Do
41	S.H.C., Aklia Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
42	P.H.C., Jeeda	Do	2	2	Do	Do
43	S.H.C., Maihma Sawai	Do	2	2	Do	Do
44	S.H.C., Khemuana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
45	S.H.C., Ablu	Do	2	2	Do	Do
46	S.H.C., Sardargarh	Do	2	2	Do	Do
47	S.H.C., Nahianawala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
48	S.H.C., Baho Jatri	Do	2	2	Do	Do
49	S.H.C., Naruana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
50	P.H.C., Teona	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Sangat					
51	Rural Hospital, Chak Atar Singhwala	Bathinda	15	10	Rural	State Public
52	P.H.C., Sangat	Do	4	4	Urban	Do
53	P.H.C., Bandi	Do	2	2	Rural	Do
54	S.H.C., Chak Atar Singhwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
55	S.H.C., Chak Ruldu Singhwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
56	S.H.C., Jai Singhwala	Bathinda	2	2	Rural	State Public
57	P.H.C., Ghudda	Do	2	2	Do	Do
58	S.H.C., Kot Bakhtu	Do	2	2	Do	Do
59	S.H.C., Pakka Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
60	S.H.C., Raika Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
61	S.H.C., Sekho	Do	2	2	Do	Do
62	S.H.C., Sukhladi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
63	S.H.C., Bagga Ruldu	Do	2	2	Do	Do
64	S.H.C., Pathrala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Talwandi Sabo					
65	Community Health Centre, Talwandi Sabo	Talwandi Sabo	15	15	Rural	State Public
66	P.H.C., Talwandi Sabo	Do	..	..	Do	Do
67	P.H.C., Maisar Khana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
68	P.H.C., Nathea	Do	2	2	Do	Do
69	P.H.C., Jodhpur Pakhar	Do	2	2	Do	Do
70	S.H.C., Kalawala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
71	S.H.C., Kot Bhara	Do	2	2	Do	Do
72	S.H.C., Dhan Singh Wala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
73	S.H.C., Malkon	Do	2	2	Do	Do
74	S.H.C., Ram Nagar	Do	2	2	Do	Do
75	S.H.C., Sheikhpura	Do	2	2	Do	Do
76	S.H.C., Jiwansinghwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
77	S.H.C., Ghaso Khana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
78	S.H.C., Singo	Do	2	2	Do	Do
79	S.H.C., Teona Pujarain	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Nathana					
80	Rural Hospital, Nathana	Bathinda	15	15	Rural	State Public
81	C.H.C., Nathana	Do	..	..	Do	Do
82	P.H.C., Mehraj	Do	2	2	Do	Do
83	S.H.C., Fateh Singhwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
84	S.H.C., Ganga	Do	2	2	Do	Do
85	S.H.C., Gobindpura	Do	2	2	Do	Do
86	S.H.C., Bhucho Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
87	S.H.C., Bhucho Khurd	Do	2	2	Do	Do
88	S.H.C., Kaliyan Sukha	Do	2	2	Do	Do
89	P.H.C., Lehra Mohabbat	Do	2	2	Do	Do
90	S.H.C., Lahra Khana	Do	2	2	Do	Do

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
91	S.H.C., Bajuana	Bathinda	2	2	Rural	State Public
92	S.H.C., Lahra Sondna	Do	2	2	Do	Do
93	S.H.C., Sema	Do	2	2	Do	Do
94	S.H.C., Bhaini	Do	2	2	Do	Do
95	S.H.C., Tungwali	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Budhlada					
96	C.H.C., Budhlada	Mansa	15	15	Urban	State Public
97	Rural Hospital Bareta	Do	15	10	Do	Do
98	P.H.C., Budhlada	Do	..	..	Do	Do
99	P.H.C., Boha	Do	2	2	Rural	Do
100	S.H.C., Bichhawana	Do	2	2	Do	Do
101	S.H.C., Bareh	Do	2	2	Do	Do
102	S.H.C., Bakashiwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
103	S.H.C., Borawala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
104	S.H.C., Dhadra	Do	2	2	Do	Do
105	P.H.C., Biroke Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
106	S.H.C., Ailmpur Mandran	Do	2	2	Do	Do
107	S.H.C., Datewas	Do	2	2	Do	Do
108	S.H.C., Gobindpur	Do	2	2	Do	Do
109	S.H.C., Guraddi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
110	S.H.C., Kahangarh Chohan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
111	S.H.C., Kanakwal	Do	2	2	Do	Do
112	P.H.C., Kulrian	Do	2	2	Do	Do
113	S.H.C., Maghanian	Do	2	2	Do	Do
114	P.H.C., Rangharial	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Jhuner					
115	C.H.C., Sardulgarh	Mansa	15	15	Rural	State Public
116	P.H.C., Sardulgarh	Do	..	..	Do	Do
117	P.H.C., Jhuner	Do	2	2	Do	Do
118	S.H.C., Bajewala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
119	P.H.C., Behniwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
120	S.H.C., Bhamakalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
121	S.H.C., Dalewala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
122	S.H.C., Fatta Maluka	Do	2	2	Do	Do
123	P.H.C., Jaurkian	Do	2	2	Do	Do
124	S.H.C., Ahlupur	Do	2	2	Do	Do
125	P.H.C., Karandi	Do	2	2	Do	Do
126	S.H.C., Kusla	Do	2	2	Do	Do

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
127	S.H.C., Makhewala	Mansa	2	2	Rural	State Public
128	S.H.C., Mofar	Do	2	2	Do	Do
129	S.H.C., Sangha	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Mansa					
130	Rural Hospital, Bhikhi	Mansa	15	10	Rural	State Public
131	**Bhai Behlo Government Rural Hospital, Phaphre Bhaike**	Do	15	10	Do	Do
132	P.H.C., Khiala Kalan	Do	4	4	Do	Do
133	P.H.C., Dhapai	Do	2	2	Do	Do
134	S.H.C., Barnala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
135	S.H.C., Makha	Do	2	2	Do	Do
136	S.H.C., Bhaini Bagha	Do	2	2	Do	Do
137	S.H.C., Dalel Singhwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
138	S.H.C., Aklia	Do	2	2	Do	Do
139	S.H.C., Dhalewan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
140	S.H.C., Gehla	Do	2	2	Do	Do
141	S.H.C., Heron Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
142	S.H.C., Hodla	Do	2	2	Do	Do
143	S.H.C., Jassarwal Moharsinghwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
144	P.H.C., Joga	Do	2	2	Do	Do
145	S.H.C., Khokhar Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
146	S.H.C., Pharwain (Kishangarh)	Do	2	2	Do	Do
147	S.H.C., Kotli Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
148	S.H.C., Musa	Do	2	2	Do	Do
149	P.H.C., Nangal Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
150	S.H.C., Ralla	Do	2	2	Do	Do
151	S.H.C., Maujo	Do	2	2	Do	Do
152	P.H.C., Ubbah Burj Dhilwan	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Rampura					
153	Rural Hospital, Badiala	Rampura Phul	15	10	Rural	State Public
154	P.H.C., Balianwali	Do	5	5	Do	Do
155	P.H.C., Kararwala	Do	2	2	Do	Do
156	S.H.C., Bhaini Chuhar	Do	2	2	Do	Do
157	S.H.C., Bhunder	Do	2	2	Do	Do
158	S.H.C., Dhade	Do	2	2	Do	Do
159	S.H.C., Chaoke	Do	2	2	Do	Do
160	P.H.C., Mandi Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
161	S.H.C., Ballo	Rampura Phul	2	2	Rural	State Public
162	S.H.C., Pitho	Do	2	2	Do	Do
163	S.H.C., Jethuke	Do	2	2	Do	Do
	Block Phul					
164	C.H.C., Bhagta	Rampura Phul	15	15	Rural	State Public
165	P.H.C., Bhagta	Do	..	..	Do	Do
166	P.H.C., Bhai Rupa	Do	2	2	Do	Do
167	P.H.C., Dhapali	Do	2	2	Do	Do
168	P.H.C., Bhodipura	Do	2	2	Do	Do
169	S.H.C., Maluka	Do	2	2	Do	Do
170	S.H.C., Raya	Do	2	2	Do	Do
171	S.H.C., Selbrah	Do	2	2	Do	Do
172	S.H.C., Jalal	Do	2	2	Do	Do
173	S.H.C., Dialpura Mirja	Do	2	2	Do	Do
174	S.H.C., Salabatpura	Do	2	2	Do	Do
175	S.H.C., Gumti Kalan	Do	2	2	Do	Do

(Directory of Medical Institutions in Punjab, Publication No. 23, pp 29--34)

APPENDIX III

Family Planning Clinics in the Bathinda District as on 1 April 1989

Sr. No.	Name of Institution and location	Rural/ Urban	Type of management	Tahsil
1	Family Welfare Centre, Shaheed Bhai Mani Singh Civil Hospital, Bathinda	Urban	State Public	Bathinda
2	Family Welfare Centre, Goniana	Rural	Do	Do
3	Family Welfare Centre, Sangat	Do	Do	Do
4	Family Welfare Centre, Nathana	Do	Do	Do
5	Family Welfare Centre, Mansa	Urban	Do	Mansa
6	Family Welfare Centre, Budhlada	Rural	Do	Do
7	Family Welfare Centre, Sardulgarh	Do	Do	Do
8	Family Welfare Centre, Khiala Kalan	Do	Do	Do
9	Family Welfare Centre, Civil Hospital, Rampura Phul	Urban	Do	Rampura Phul
10	Family Welfare Centre, Bhagta	Rural	Do	Do
11	Family Welfare Centre, Balianwali	Do	Do	Do
12	Family Welfare Centre, Talwandi Sabo	Do	Do	Talwandi Sabo

(Director of Medical Institutions in Punjab State Publication No. 23, p. 89)

APPENDIX IV

List of Ayurvedic/Unani Institutions in the Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989

(Vide page 449)

Sr. No.	Name of the Institution	Ayurvedic/ Unani	Rural/ Urban	Tahsil
1	Rampura Phul	Ayurvedic	Urban	Rampura Phul
2	Dan Singh Wala	Do	Do	Do
3	Mehma Sarja	Do	Do	Bathinda
4	Killi Nihal Singh	Do	Do	Do
5	Nandgarh	Do	Do	Do
6	Raike Kalan	Do	Do	Do
7	Pathrala	Do	Do	Do
8	Jhumba Bhai Ka	Unani	Do	Do
9	Dialpura	Ayurvedic	Do	Do
10	Bapiana	Do	Rural	Mansa
11	Amarpura Basti, Bathinda	Do	Do	Do
12	Ayurvedic Hospital, Bathinda	Do	Do	Do
13	Nathpura	Do	Do	Do
14	Maur Chant Singh	Do	Do	Talwandi Sabo
15	Bhagwanpura	Do	Do	Do
16	Shekhpura	Do	Do	Do
17	Kot Fatta	Do	Do	Do
18	Chnarthal	Do	Do	Do
19	Kutiwal Kalan	Do	Do	Do
20	Bhagi Bander	Do	Do	Do
21	Bareta Mandi	Do	Do	Do
22	Rama Mandi	Do	Urban	Do
23	Maur Mandi	Do	Do	Do
24	Jhunir	Do	Do	Do
25	Akanwali	Do	Rural	Mansa
26	Raipur	Unani	Do	Do
27	Karandi	Ayurvedic	Do	Do
28	Gharampura	Do	Do	Do
29	Kishangarh	Do	Do	Do
30	Ubbah Burja Dhillon	Do	Do	Do
31	Chakriana	Do	Do	Do
32	Mansa Mandi	Do	Do	Do
33	Phaphre Bhaike	Do	Urban	Do
34	Ghuman Kalan	Do	Rural	Do
35	Salabatpura	Do	Do	Do

Sr. No.	Name of the Institution	Ayurvedic/ Unani	Rural/ Urban	Tahsil
36	Alike	Ayurvedic	Rural	Rampura Phul
37	Gumti Kalan	Do	Do	Do
38	Kotha Guru	Do	Do	Do
39	Buraj Throad	Do	Do	Do
40	Golewala	Do	Do	Do

(Source : Director, Ayurvedic, Punjab, Chandigarh)

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

In separate chapters of the Gazetteer, elaborate accounts on education and medical and public health services, which concern the entire population of the district have been given. Only those which are relatively less important and concern only a smaller section of the people introducing labour welfare, prohibition, advancement of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes and charitable endowments find mention below :

(a) Labour Welfare

Labour problem and labour legislation, as it were, are akin to the rapid industrial development of a country. Traditionally Bathinda has always been an industrially backward district. Labour welfare implies such services, facilities and amentities as may be established in or in the vicinity of industrial undertakings to enable the persons employed in them to perform their work in healthy and congenial surroundings. It also aims at providing them with amenities conducive to good health and sound morals. Welfare activities also include such activities as may be carried out for improving the health, safety, general well-being and the industrial efficiency of the workers beyond the minimum standards laid down by the Factories Act and other labour legislation. Thus labour welfare also includes housing, medical and educational facilities, nutrition, facilities for rest and recreation, co-operative societies, day nurseries and creches, provision of healthy accommodation, holidays with pay, social insurance measures, etc. undertaken voluntarily by the employers.

The State Government set up the Punjab Industrial Safety Council in May 1969, on the pattern of the National Safety Council. It is a voluntary organization without any political affiliation. Factory owners and associations of workers, government departments, and all other interested in the safety measures in industry can become members of this council. Its functions are to advise, organize, encourage and promote methods and procedures for assuring safety and health of the industrial workers.

Labour Legislation.—Labour legislation is necessary to tackle economic and social problems, as civil laws in general do not deal adequaltely with labour problems. The labour laws are motivated by a humanitarian approach, as propounded by the International Labour Organization and are based mostly on principles of social justice. Labour, under the Constitution of India, is a concurrent subject and as such both Central and State legislatures are empowered to make laws. Accordingly, the State Government has also enacted certain labour legislations to suit the local needs.

The important labour laws (Central and State) in force in the district are: the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; the Trade Unions Act, 1926; the Payment of Wages Act, 1936; the Employment of Children Act, 1938; the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946; the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; the Factories Act, 1948; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Working Journalists' (Conditions of Services and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955; the Punjab Industrial Housing Act, 1956; the Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958; the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961; the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; the Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965; the Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays, Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965; the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972; and the Fair Wage Clause and East Punjab Works Department Contracts Labour Regulations.

The above mentioned labour enactments contain various welfare measures for the labour and *inter alia* provide for regulation of conditions and hours of work, rest intervals, leave with wages, national and festival holidays, casual and sick leave, overtime payment, safety from accidents, health and sanitation, prohibition of employment of children below certain age and of women at night, regular payment of wages, payment of minimum wages, payment of minimum bonus, payment of gratuity, formation of trade unions for the purpose of collective bargaining, certification of standing orders by employers for clearly defining the service conditions of workers, redressal of grievances and settlement of industrial disputes. etc.

Before the Independence, there existed no separate organization in the State to look after the

interests of industrial labour and other workers and to deal with their day-to-day problems. It was only in 1949 that a separate Labour Department was set up under the charge of a Labour Commissioner. The primary functions of the State Labour Department are to maintain peaceful industrial relations in the State, and to further the labour welfare measures, both statutory and non-statutory. Subject to certain limitations, it ensures that the working conditions for labour conform to a certain minimum of safety and comfort; that the wages are adequate and regularly paid; and that injuries sustained during the performance of duties are properly treated and suitably compensated. The department also seeks to provide for medical care and model living covering as many labourers and their dependents as possible. The prevention of industrial disputes and their settlement as and when these arise, is one of the major functions of the department.

The implementation of various labour laws in Bathinda District has been divided between two labour-cum-conciliation officers with headquarters at Patiala and Mansa. The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Patiala is responsible for conciliation work under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. He is assisted, besides other subordinate staff, by one Labour Inspector, Grade I, Bathinda. The Labour Inspector, Bathinda is responsible for the inspection work in the organized sector.

The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Bathinda, with headquarters at Mansa has functional jurisdiction in Bathinda District only. He is responsible for the implementation of various labour laws in unorganised sector, rural areas, construction works, brick-kilns and rice mills located outside the municipal limits with special emphasis for the implementation of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in agriculture sector. He is assisted in inspection work by the Labour Inspector Grade I, Mansa, whose functional jurisdiction extends to the whole of the district. He is also required to check and supervise the work of two Labour Inspectors Grade II, with headquarters at Bathinda and Mansa. The Labour Inspector Grade II, Bathinda is concerned with the implementation of various labour laws in shops and commercial establishments, functioning at Bathinda, Goniana, Raman and Bhucho, while Labour Inspector

Grade II, Mansa performs similar functions in commercial establishments and shops located at Mansa, Rampura Phul, Bhikhi, Budhlada, Maur and Bareta.

The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Patiala, also deals with the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Section 12(1) of the Act casts a duty upon conciliation officers to take steps immediately when there is an apprehension of an industrial dispute. It requires the conciliation officers to move even *suo motu* to get the employer and the representative of workmen together. They are empowered to inspect any document which they think necessary. They have to see that a fair settlement is arrived at between the parties amicably. In case they fail to settle the dispute, the matter is referred to the Labour Court, Patiala, or the Industrial Tribunal, Punjab, Chandigarh, depending on the nature of the case.

The salient features of the Central and State Labour Laws in force in the district are given below :

Central Legislation.—The Factories Act, 1948, provides for health measures, safety from accidents, provision for canteens, shelters and rest rooms, working hours, intervals for rest, leave with wages, etc. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, provides for dealing with industrial disputes through conciliation machinery, works committees, adjudication and arbitration. The payment of Wages Act, 1936, regulates the payment of wages to the workers employed in establishments covered under the Act. The inspectorate staff is required to deal with complaints regarding non-payment of wages, delayed payments and less payments. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, provides for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accident. The Indian Trade Union Act, 1926, provides for registration of trade unions and certain rights and privileges to the registered trade unions. It gives immunity from civil and criminal liability to trade union executives and members for bonafide trade union activities. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, requires the employers, employing 100 or more persons, to define with sufficient precision the conditions of employment and to make the said conditions known to the workmen employed by them. The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, marks an important milestone in the field of labour legislation as it seeks

to regulate and ameliorate the conditions of workers in the transport undertakings employing five or more workers.

The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, contains the provisions regarding the payment of bonus to the employees by the employer from his share of profits. The Employment of Children Act, 1938, prohibits the employment of young children below the age of 15 years in certain risky and unhealthy occupations. The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, contemplates the provision of medical benefits and payment of sickness benefit to insured workers in case of sickness, indisposition, disability, etc. The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, seeks to make a provision for the future of industrial workers after he retires or for his dependents in case of his death before retirement. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, provides for payment of maternity benefit to women workers for a period of 12 weeks. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, provides for a scheme for the payment of gratuity to employees engaged in factories, mines, ports oilfields, plantations, railway companies, shops or other establishments and in the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. For the administration of this Act, the Labour-cum-Conciliation officers are the controlling authority.

State Legislation.—The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1958, regulates the working conditions, hours of work, rest intervals and weekly rest as also holidays, leave and overtime for workers employed in the shops and commercial establishments. The Act also provides for opening and closing hours of establishments and entitles the employees in the event of a violation of any of these provisions, to go to courts to get their grievances redressed. The Punjab Labour Welfare Funds Act, 1965, provides for the setting up of a Labour Welfare Board and appointment of a Welfare Commissioner. The unclaimed wages of the employees and accumulation of fines have to be credited to the Labour Welfare Fund, out of which the Board is to finance its various welfare activities. A Labour Welfare Board is already functioning in the State. The Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh, is the Welfare Commissioner under the Act. The Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays, Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965, provides for the grant of 7 days national and

festival holidays, casual leave on full wages and 14 days sick leave on half wages to all employees covered under the Act.

In order to secure proper benefits under the various labour laws, a full-fledged enforcement machinery works under the Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh. He is assisted at the district level, by Labour-cum-Conciliation Officers, Factory Inspectors, Labour Inspectors and other miscellaneous staff.

Under the 20-Point Economic Programme, a separate rural wing has been set up in the Labour Department for effective enforcement of minimum wages for agricultural labour. The maximum wages for various unskilled workers have been fixed Rs 401 per mensem from 1 January 1985 and it is linked with consumer price index number.

Industrial Relations.—The relations between employees and employers, are governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The object of this Act is to ensure harmonious industrial relations between the workers and employers. The industrial relations machinery set up under the Act is of two types; one for the prevention of disputes by providing works committees within the industrial units; and the other for the industrial relations outside the industry comprising conciliation officers, boards of conciliation, courts of enquiry, labour courts, industrial tribunals and national tribunals.

The relations between the employers and employees remained peaceful during 1978, 1980, 1983 and 1985, as no strike took place in the district. However, during 1979, 1981, 1982, 1984 and 1986 to 1989, 23 strikes occurred.

The following table gives the particulars regarding the industrial disputes in the Bathinda District under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, from 1979 to 1989 :

Year	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Number of workers involved in strikes	Number of mandays lost
1979	1	1,078	3,052
1980	—	—	—
1981	2	2,625	42,743
1982	2	2,023	7,267
1983	—	—	—
1984	1	314	2,512
1985	—	—	—
1986	3	1,726	10,147
1987	10	3,346	1,47,337
1988	3	1,530	4,534
1989	1	40	271

(Source: Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh)

Trade Unions.—Trade unions are voluntary associations of employees formed to promote and protect their interests through collective action and for securing them a better and healthier status in industry as well as in society. These are continued associations of wage earners for the purpose of maintaining and improving the conditions of their working. The trade unions are indispensible because the workers require their help in time of sickness or death, and protection against the suffering and when they are out of job, or when they are too old to work. Further, the trade union provides an appropriate machinery for settling the strained relations between the employers and employees. Trade unions, developed on proper lines, lessen class conflicts and are beneficial to the employers, the employees, the State and the public in general.

Since Independence, there has been a considerable growth of the trade union movement in the district and, as a result, there has been a constant increase in the number of registered trade unions. The particulars of trade unions, registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, functioning in the district, are given in Appendix I on pages 491 to 493.

The Factories Act, 1948.—The Factories Act, 1948, was enacted to provide congenial atmosphere, healthy and clean surroundings to the workers during the working hours and for the improvement of industrial efficiency. The Act was enforced in the State in April 1949. It was amended in 1954 to remove certain practical difficulties in calculation of leave with wages and to bring certain essential provisions relating to employment of women and young persons in factories during night. The Act covers all industrial establishments employing 10 or more workers where power is used or 20 or more workers, where power is not in use. Under the Act, the factory owner is required to send a written notice containing full details regarding the factory to the Chief Inspector of Factories. The Act prescribes certain provisions regarding cleanliness, lighting, ventilation, sanitation, safety measures, prevention of over-crowding precautionary measures against fire, dangerous fumes, explosive or inflamable dust, etc. It also provides for the elimination of dust and fumes, control of temperature, supply of cold drinking water, protection of eyes, etc. in the working premises. The welfare provisions included in the Act provide for adequate canteen facilities creches and shelters or rest rooms. The Act also lays down that every factory employing 1,000 or more wokers shall engage a qualified Safety Officer and every factory employing 500 or more workers shall engage a qualified Labour Welfare Officer to look after the welfare of workers. With a view to ensuring the enforcement of these provisions, the inspectorate staff are required to carry out a minimum number of inspections every month. In case of default, the management is warned and asked to provide the required facilities to the workers and if the violation continues, prosecutions are launched.

In 1987, the number of working registered factories under the Act in the district was 484 and the number of workers employed in these factories during the year was 15,987. To look after the general welfare of the employees, Labour Welfare Officers, have been employed by Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant, Bathinda, National Fertilizer Limited, Bathinda, and Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, Bathinda.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.—The wages of the industrial workers are not sufficient to enable them

to save adequately for their old age. When old age or illness renders them unfit for work, they are forced to lead a life of abject poverty and dependence. In the event of workers' premature death, his dependents are left destitute. The Employees Provident Fund Scheme, framed by the Government of India under the Employees' Provident Fund and Family Pension Funds Act, 1952, attempts to remedy this situation.

This scheme came into force on its entirety from 1 November 1952. Compulsory provident fund has been introduced in certain specified industrial establishments under the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Funds Act, 1952. Every employee of an establishment, to which the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme applies, is eligible for membership of the fund after completion of 3 months' continuous service or 60 days of actual work whichever is earlier. Contribution @ 6¼ per cent (establishment employing between 20 to 49 workers) is deducted by the employer from the wages, dearness allowance (inclusive of cash value of fund concession if any admissible) and retaining allowances for employees who get Rs 2,500 per mensem or less as basic wages and who are otherwise eligible for the membership of the scheme. An amount equal to the workers contribution is contributed by the employer every month. The entire amount is deposited with the State Bank of India in employee' provident fund account. The administrative charges at a fixed rate are contributed additionally by the employer. For the execution of the scheme, the Regional Commissioner, Provident Fund, Chandigarh, is in charge for the states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Union Territory of Chandigarh. He is assisted by a number of Inspectors in the field who executes government policies. The employers are required to maintain contributory cards for each employee in which monthly contribution are recorded. These cards can be seen or inspected at any time.

The number of factories/establishments covered under the Act in Bathinda District, as on 31 March 1989, was 323 and the total number of subscribers to the scheme was 15,057.

The members can draw an advance for payment of premium of their Life Insurance policies, purchase of a building site or house, construction of a house, [illegible] and to defray medical expenses in case of [illegible] illness from their share of contribution.

To afford financial assistance to the nominees/heirs of the deceased members, Death Relief Fund was set up in 1964. A minimum of Rs 500 is disbursed as relief. A non-refundable advance is also granted in case of individuals' retrenchment from service.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme.—The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, is designed to provide security to the industrial worker against sickness, maternity, disablement or death due to employment injury, and to provide medical care to insured persons and progressively to their families. The Act provides protection to the employees working in factories using power and employing 10 or more persons and establishments/shops not using power and employing 20 or more persons. The Employees' State Insurance Scheme was introduced in the Punjab State in 1953.

The worker who is covered under the scheme is entitled to get medical benefits from the day he enters into insurable employment. It consists of free medical treatment in case of sickness, injury and maternity. His family members are also entitled to get free medical care as explained under the Act. Insured women are entitled to get periodical payments in case of confinement, miscarriage or sickness arising out of confinement and premature birth of child. In recent years, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation has been providing additional benefits and protection to the workers suffering from tuberculosis, cancer, leprosy, mental diseases and also provides artificial limbs.

The insured men/women undergoing sterilization under family planning programme are entitled to cash benefits and rest of 7 days for vasectomy and 14 days for tubectomy. This may also be extended to 14 days and 21 days, respectively in consequence of post-operative complications.

In addition to above, the sickness benefit is available to an insured worker in case of certified sickness. It consists of cash payment for 91 days in two consecutive benefit periods in case of sickness duly certified by Medical Officer to compensate the loss of wages suffered on account of their absence from work. In case of long-term diseases, insured persons are entitled to extend sickness benefit at the rate of 25

per cent more than the rate of sickness benefit for additional 124 or 309 days in accordance with the disease. The temporary disablement benefit is given at the rate of 40 per cent more than the standard sickness benefits to insured persons who sustain employment injury. Further if an employment injury results in permanent disablement, the insured person is entitled to permanent disablement benefit proportionate to the loss of his earning capacity as assessed by the Medical Board constituted for this purpose. Artificial dentures, spectacles and hearing-aids are provided to an insured person where loss of teeth, impairment of eyesight and loss of hearing, respectively are caused due to employment injury.

Dependent's benefit is available in the form of pension to the dependents of a deceased worker, in case his death occurs due to an industrial accident or injury. The rates of pension vary depending upon the relationship between the deceased and the dependents.

The Act also provides funeral benefits upto Rs 100, which are payable to the eldest surviving member of the family of the deceased insured persons to meet the expenditure on the funeral of the deceased. Where the insured person does not live with his family at the time of his death, the benefit is payable to the person who actually incurs the expenditure on the funeral of the deceased.

The Scheme is administered by a corporate body called the Employees' State Insurance Corporation which has its headquarters at New Delhi. It is under the administrative control of the Director General, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi. The scheme is executed in the State through the Regional Director, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Chandigarh, who inspects factories, collects contributions and arranges payments of cash benefits. The scheme is financed mainly by contributions from the employees and employers with the State Government sharing a part of the cost of medical care.

In the Bathinda District, the scheme has been functioning since 18 April 1982. Upto 31 March 1989, employees were covered under the scheme in the district.

(b) Prohibition

Probibition implies a ban on the consumption of all intoxicating drinks and drugs dangerous to health except for medical purposes. But excepting opium, prohibition of liquor and other intoxicating drugs, etc. has not been introduced in the district. There were 240 country liquor vends and 30 Indian Made Foreign Liquor vends in the Bathinda District as on 31 March 1989.

The consumption of exciseable articles in the district during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given in the following table :--

Year	Country Spirit (Proof Litres)	Foreign Spirit (Proof Litres)	Wine and Beer (Bulk Litres)	Opium
1977-78	11,06,277	2,80,107	5,62,227	4.00
1978-79	13,92,225	2,09,430	4,96,083	3.00
1979-80	15,20,960	3,20,372	4,78,985	—
1980-81	15,55,960	4,51,288	3,71,382	3.50
1981-82	12,44,767	8,17,306	3,18,821	3.50
1982-83	15,97,000	3,99,540	1,76,624	3.00
1983-84	16,96,658	3,56,724	2,09,815	3.00
1984-85	16,90,750	16,61,888	2,51,247	3.00
1985-86	18,59,000	5,48,984	1,91,970	3.00
1986-87	19,01,537	4,79,589	1,76,097	—
1987-88	23,37,598	4,92,564	2,19,370	3.00
1988-89	28,22,606	6,11,005	2,24,546	—

(*Statistical Abstracts of Punjab 1978 to 1985* and Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda)

Bathinda District falls under the jurisdiction of Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Firozpur. The Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda, administers the Excise and Opium Acts in the district. He is assisted by 2 Excise and Taxation Officers, 15 Excise Inspectors, 1 Sub-Inspector (Excise Police), 2 Head Constables, 14 Constables, besides other miscellaneous staff.

The number of cases detected under the Punjab Excise and Opium Acts in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, is given below :

Year	Number of cases detected		
	Excise Act	Opium Act	Total
1977-78	291	18	309
1978-79	321	25	346

Year	Number of cases detected		
	Excise Act	Opium Act	Total
1979-80	399	18	417
1980-81	295	—	295
1981-82	269	—	269
1982-83	281	9	290
1983-84	447	5	452
1984-85	565	—	565
1985-86	586	668	1,254
1986-87	979	383	1,362
1987-88	739	241	980
1988-89	928	184	1,112

(*Source:* Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Bathinda)

(c) Advancement of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes

The programme for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes was started in Bathinda District in 1949 when the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes was established in the erstwhile PEPSU. After the merger of PEPSU with Punjab in 1956, the interests of these classes are being watched by the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab. The main object of this department is to devise and co-ordinate schemes and programmes to improve the socio-economic status of the members of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes and also to improve their educational standard with a view to improving their overall condition.

Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.—According to the 1981 Census, the number of Scheduled Castes persons in the Bathinda District was 3,52,489 (1,89,659 males and 1,62,830 females) forming 27 per cent of total population of the district. Out of these, 2,94,243 persons (1,58,178 males and 1,36,065 females) lived in rural areas and 58,246 (31,481 males and 26,765 females) in urban areas.

The list of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes inhabiting the district alongwith their main professions is given in Appendix II at the end of this chapter on page 494.

Measures adopted for the betterment of the condition of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.—With a view to improving the general standard of living of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, government have launched various schemes for improving their educational, social, cultural and economic status. The Directorate of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab, is responsible for implementing various schemes of the State Government as well as the schemes sponsored by the Government of India for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in the State.

The Constitution of India provides for the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes in the Parliament and also in the State Assemblies on the basis of their population for a period of 10 years from the date India became Republic (26 January 1950), i.e. up to 1960. This period has been further extended upto 1990. A number of seats have been reserved for these classes in the panchayats, panchayat samities and zila parishads. In order to provide employment to educated boys and girls of these castes, 25 per cent vacancies have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 5 per cent for the Backward Classes in all government departments and establishments at the time of direct recruitment. There is also a provision for reservation in promotion, 20 per cent in Class III and IV posts and 14 per cent in Class I and II posts for the Scheduled Castes.

The District Welfare Officer, Bathinda, is responsible for the implementation of welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes at the district level. He is assisted by 3 Tahsil Welfare Officers, 1 Lady Supervisor, 6 Lady Social Workers, 1 Accountant, 1 Assistant, besides other miscellaneous staff.

The details of various schemes undertaken for ameliorating the lot of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are given below:

Welfare Schemes

The department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes has undertaken the following schemes in the district :

(1) Subsidy for the Construction of New Houses for Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis.—For providing shelter to the homeless members of the Scheduled Castes and Vimukt Jatis, subsidies are granted for the construction of new houses. This scheme was introduced in Bathinda District during the Second Five-year Plan. Upto 1974-75, a subsidy of Rs 900 for construction of a house was given to a person who had no house of his own. However, due to rise in prices, the amount of subsidy has been increased to Rs 2,000 from 1975-76. Unskilled labour and the land for the site is provided by the beneficiary himself. A beneficiary is required to build a house, consisting of one room, one varandah, a kitchen and a courtyard with a total area of 5 to 6 *marlas*. The proprietary rights of house remain vested with the Punjab Government for 20 years and thereafter the house becomes the property of the beneficiary. However, the latter enjoys the free use of the house during this period.

The amount of subsidy granted and the number of beneficiaries under the scheme in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	38,000	39
1978-79	82,000	41
1979-80	1,00,000	50
1980-81	1,32,000	66
1981-82	74,000	37
1982-83	1,32,000	46
1983-84	1,16,000	58
1984-85	78,000	39
1985-86	60,000	12
1986-87	90,000	18
1987-88	90,000	18
1988-89	90,000	18

(*Source:* Director, Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

The Scheduled Castes persons, who are engaged in unclear professions like sweeping, scavenging, leather tanning, flaying, etc. and have no pakka house are given subsidy at the rate of Rs 2,000 for the construction of a house. The amount disbursed and the number of beneficiaries in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, were as under:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	2,16,000	108
1978-79	1,76,000	88
1979-80	2,00,000	100
1980-81	2,00,000	100
1981-82	2,00,000	100
1982-83	2,04,000	102
1983-84	2,16,000	108
1984-85	2,42,000	121
1985-86	30,000	6
1986-87	50,000	10
1987-88	50,000	10
1989-90	70,000	14

(*Source:* Director, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

(2) Drinking Water Facilities.—With a view to providing pure drinking water to the members of Scheduled Castes inhabiting the area where there is scarcity of water, this scheme was introduced in the district in 1952-53. Under this scheme, subsidy of Rs 4,000 for the construction of *diggies* and sinking

of new wells, Rs 1,000 for repair of old wells, and Rs 900 for installation of hand-pumps is given.

The amount of subsidy granted and the number of wells sunk/repaired and hand-pumps installed in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed as subsidy (Rs)	Number of wells sunk/repaired and hand-pumps installed
1977-78	50,000	68
1978-79	28,800	43
1979-80	25,000	36
1980-81	25,000	30
1981-82	40,000	48
1982-83	20,000	23
1983-84	29,000	35
1984-85	29,900	36
1985-86	19,100	23
1986-87	19,900	23
1987-88	18,300	21
1988-89	24,100	30

(*Source:* Director, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

(3) Construction of Dharmshalas/Chaupals.—This scheme was introduced by the State Government in 1969-70. Under this scheme, *dharamshalas* are constructed in *basties* of Scheduled Castes to enable them to derive community benefits from places and arrange social functions, etc. A grant to the extent of Rs 10,000 for the construction of a new *dharamshala/chaupal* and Rs 3,000 for the repair of an old/*kachcha dharamshala* or for completion of an incomplete one is given as subsidy.

The amount disbursed under this scheme and the number of *dharamshalas* constructed/repaired in the district during 1977-78 to 1988-89 are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of *dharamshalas* constructed
1977-78	1,07,000	17
1978-79	64,000	19
1979-80	50,000	10
1980-81	81,000	21
1981-82	1,52,000	24
1982-83	2,40,000	63
1983-84	60,000	6
1984-85	10,000	1
1985-86	—	—
1986-87	1,41,000	15
1987-88	45,000	3
1988-89	5,06,000	134

(*Source:* Director, Scheduled Castes and Backward classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

(4) Environmental Improvement of Harijans Basties.—The majority of Scheduled Castes live in the rural areas and their *basties* lack basic sanitary amenities. To improve the environmental conditions of these *basties,* the State Government introduced this scheme in 1972-73. Under this scheme, grants are given to Harijans for the pavements of streets and construction of surface drains, bathrooms, children parks, removal of *roories* and for improving the stagnant and dirty ponds located within the vicinity of the *basties.*

The amount disbursed, alongwith the number of villages covered under the scheme, during 1977-78 to

1988-89, is given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of villages
1977-78	1,28,621	2
1978-79	4,83,440	4
1979-80	3,11,117	3
1980-81	4,40,798	3
1981-82	5,46,598	5
1982-83	7,79,253	5
1983-84	6,66,000	7
1984-85	9,91,600	4
1985-86	5,50,589	3
1986-87	3,52,369	2
1987-88	4,00,000	2
1988-89	6,00,000	7

(Source: Director, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

(5) Grant for the Purchase of Books and Stationery to Scheduled Castes Students of 6th to 11th Class.—As the financial position of the Scheduled Castes is generally poor, they cannot afford to purchase the books and exercise books for their children. A scheme was introduced in 1976-77 to provide books and stationery free of cost to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes studying in 6th to 11th classes irrepective of the income of their parents. The Welfare Department gets books directly from the Punjab School Education Board and distributes amongst the students through the District Welfare Officer.

The amount disbursed under this scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district, during 1977-78 to 1988-89 are given on the following page:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	33,015	2,323
1978-79	61,542	3,676
1979-80	1,34,454	8,223
1980-81	99,352	5,520
1981-82	1,63,668	5,558
1982-83	1,25,000	4,898
1983-84	1,44,500	5,417
1984-85	1,80,803	5,469
1985-86	3,44,412	5,598
1986-87	4,51,116	7,365
1987-88	9,06,825	33,624
1988-89	14,77,684	45,844

(Source: Director, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Punjab and District Welfare Officer, Bathinda).

(6) Opening of Creches for the Children of Working Mothers (Sweepers and Scavenger).—Introduced in 1976-77, the scheme aims at providing day-care to those children of Scheduled Castes who are in the age group of 0—6 years and whose mothers go out for work. These creches are run under the supervision of trained Lady Supervisors, assisted by two helpers. One such centre was functioning in the district at Bathinda. This centre accommodated 40 children. Free supplementary diet at the rate of Rs 1.25 per child per day is provided in the centre.

(7) Community Centres.—The main object of setting up community centres is to improve the economic and social conditions of weaker sections. Training in stitching and embroidery is imparted in these centres. Apart from holding adult education classes, pre-school training to children of age group 0—6 years is also arranged at these centres. These centres have been set up for persons from other communities including Scheduled Castes.

On 31 March 1989, 4 community centres were functioning in the district at Khemniana, Chathewal, Sada Singh Wala and Samanu.

Other Social Welfare Activities

The Social Welfare Department, which was set up in September 1955, is entrusted with the work of formulation of various welfare schemes for socially and economically weaker sections. Since the department was set up, it has instituted and assisted institutional as well as non-institutional welfare services for children, women and aged and infirm, orthopaedically handicapped, the blind, deaf and dumb and other under priviledged and maladjusted groups. Free board and lodging, education, medical treatment, facilities for vocational training to the inmates, etc. are provided in the institutions, while in the running of most of the non-institutional schemes, help is provided in the form of monetary assistance.

Keeping in view the difficulties of the public, the pension schemes of the department, viz. Old Age Pension Scheme, Financial Assistance to Widows and Destitute Women Scheme and the Financial Assistance to Dependent Children Scheme were decentralised from 1 November 1980. The District Social Welfare Officers have been appointed at each district headquarters of the State under the concerned Deputy Commissioners and the payments are made by the District Social Welfare Officers. The Government has recently taken a decision that the pensions will be disbursed to the beneficiaries through banks. Some of the important schemes together with the amount disbursed and number of beneficiaries are briefly mentioned below:

(1) Old Age Pension Scheme.—Started in January 1964, this is one of the most important schemes of the Social Welfare Department. It aims at providing social security to aged, infirm and destitute persons in the State by way of pension. Under this scheme, persons above 65 years in case of men, and above 60 years in the case of women, with no means of livelihood and no earning sons, are provided monetary assistance at the rate of Rs 50 per month. Persons suffering from permanent disability are allowed the relaxation of 10 years in the lower age-limit.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries, during 1977-78 to 1988-89, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	..	486
1978-79	..	338
1979-80	..	233
1980-81	10,99,964	4,792
1981-82	16,86,013	6,504
1982-83	18,22,206	4,080
1983-84	22,39,576	3,944
1984-85	23,99,961	4,209
1985-86	29,99,900	5,095
1986-87	30,99,914	6,252
1987-88	36,00,000	7,287
1988-89	40,99,819	7,395

(Source: Director, Social Welfare, Punjab and District Social Welfare Officer, Bathinda).

(2) Financial Assistance to Widows and Destitute Women.—This scheme was introduced in the State in January 1968 with a view to providing financial assistance to the needy widows and destitute women below the age of 60 years. The assistance under the scheme is given to those women who are left without any means of subsistance after the demise of their husbands or whose husbands are physically or mentally incapable of earning a livelihood. The financial assistance under the scheme initially was Rs 20 per month per head, but it was increased to Rs 50 per month per head with effect from 1 March 1973 in view of the rising cost of living.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district, during 1977-78

to 1988-89, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	..	95
1978-79	..	98
1979-80	..	84
1980-81	1,89,808	788
1981-82	4,99,731	1,054
1982-83	3,44,767	905
1983-84	5,35,173	1,193
1984-85	9,56,144	1,303
1985-86	9,49,907	1,713
1986-87	11,17,224	1,855
1987-88	8,19,805	1,750
1988-89	10,99,900	1,820

(Source: Director, Social Welfare, Punjab and District Social Welfare Officer, Bathinda).

(3) Financial Assistance to the Depending Children.—Initiated in March 1968, the scheme aims at providing to orphan and destitute children under the age of 16 years, who have either lost their parents or whose parents are unable to maintain them due to some incurable disease or permanent physical disability. In the case of more than one deserving child in a family, preference in the grant of financial assistance, is given to school-going children. The initial financial assistance of Rs 20 per month per child was raised to Rs 50 per month with effect from 1 March 1974.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district during 1977-78

to 1988-89, are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1977-78	..	15
1978-79	..	17
1979-80	..	26
1980-81	69,355	204
1981-82	1,37,346	256
1982-83	1,37,260	197
1983-84	1,74,687	201
1984-85	1,61,605	181
1985-86	2,29,923	338
1986-87	2,31,848	311
1987-88	2,78,500	382
1988-89	2,59,850	363

(Source: Director, Social Welfare, Punjab and District Social Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

(4) Special Nutrition Programme.—Under this programme, protein diet is provided to children in the age of 0—6 years and to expectant and nursing mothers living in urban slum areas of the State. The diet is supplied for 300 days in a year. The rate of diet is 35 paise for children and 60 paise for mothers per day. Ten paise per day per beneficiary for administration is also included in the rate. In Bathinda District, the scheme has been functioning in village Nathana since 1978.

(5) Financial Assistance to Victims of Chronic Diseases.—This scheme was introduced in the State in 1974-75 and was extended to Bathinda District on 2 October 1981. It aims at providing financial assistance up to Rs 100 per month per head to patients of chronic diseases, who have been discharged from hospitals, to enable them to continue treatment and special diet at home. A person who is suffering from chronic diseases like tuberculosis, leprosy, etc. or is mentally ill and is not in a position to bear the cost of medicines is also eligible for the grant of financial assistance on the recommendation of the Civil Surgeon of

the district provided the annual income of the family does not exceed Rs 3,000 per annum from all sources. A sum of Rs 1,70,000 was provided as financial assistance to 126 beneficiaries in the district during 1988-89.

(6) Institution under the East Punjab Children Act.—The implementation of the East Punjab Children Act was taken up by the Social Welfare Department in 1969. Under this scheme, destitute, delinquent and the school drop outs, who due to immaturity commit some crime between the age of 8 to 16 years, are treated and provided congenial atmosphere for their physical and mental development and normalisation in the institutions functioning under this Act. Inmates are provided free board, lodging, clothing, medical assistance, education and vocational training to help them to become normal and law-abiding citizens. One Reception-cum-Observation Home at Bathinda is functioning in the district.

(7) Financial Assistance to Victims of Riots.—This scheme was started in 1985 with a view to providing the financial assistance to the victims of riots for grant of pension to widows. Financial assistance of Rs 250 per month per widow is provided to the widows whose husbands were killed during the riots following the assassination of former Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi on 31 October 1984.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district during 1985-86 to 1988-89 are given below:

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1985-86	8,500	2
1986-87	11,700	3
1987-88	5,000	2
1988-89	6,000	2

(Source: Director, Social Welfare, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(8) Financial Assistance to Widows whose husbands were killed by Terrorists.—This scheme was introduced in the State in August 1982. Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs 250 per month per widow is given.

The amount disbursed under the scheme and the number of beneficiaries in the district during 1986-87 to 1988-89 are given below :

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Number of beneficiaries
1986-87	48,500	7
1987-88	16,000	4
1988-89	12,600	7

(e) Public Trusts, Charitable Endownments and Muslim Wakfs

In every society, there are certain voluntary organizations which endeavour for bringing about improvement in the society in various spheres, such as social, religious, education, etc. Public and charitable endownments fall among these categories of organizations. Many educational institutions, hospitals, *dharamshalas* and other social welfare organizations are either run or materially aided by these endowments. There are certain philanthrophists who make liberal contribution to the funds of these organizations.

A brief description of the public trusts, charitable endowments and Muslim Wakfs which are functioning in the district is given below:

(1) Kundan Lal Jain Ashram Trust, Bathinda.—It was founded by Shri Kundan Lal in 1974. It has 3 members. It also manages the affairs of the *dharamshalas* constructed for the stay of the travellers and visitors to the city.

(2) Seth Bhana Mal Trust, Bathinda.—It was founded by Bhana Mal in 1974. It has also 3 members. It has one *dharamshala* for the stay of the travellers and visitors and is maintained by its devotees.

(3) Shri Ramji Dass Education and Charitable Trust, Bathinda.—It was founded by Sarvshri Sohan Lal, Raj Kumar and Pawan Kumar in 1968. It grants scholarship to the brilliant and poor students. Besides, some medicines are provided by it to the people free of cost.

(4) Chaudhri Roshan Singh Charitable Trust, Bathinda.—It was founded by Chaudhry Partap Singh in

1982. It has four members. It runs a charitable maternity hospital at Bathinda.

Muslims Wakfs.—Besides, there are 569 Muslim Wakfs at different places in the district with properties attached to some of them. These properties were maintained by the Rehabilitation Department, Government of India up to 1961, when their administration was entrusted to the Punjab Wakf Board, with headquarters at Ambala Cantonment. The administration of wakfs is regulated by the Central Government's Wakfs Act, 1954.

The annual income from the wakf properties in the district is spent for the upkeeping of these institutions as well as for various charitable purposes and promotion of education.

The staff of the Punjab Wakf Board posted in the district consists of 4 Aukaf Officers at Bathinda and 2 Rent Collectors, one each at Bathinda and Mansa.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BATHINDA DISTRICT

(Vide page 470)

Sr. No.	Name of the Union	Year/Date of Registration
1	Kalan Wala Iron and Steel Merchant's Association Raman Mandi	1964
2	Bathinda Central Co-operative Bank Employees Union, Bathinda	1966
3	Municipal Sweeper Union, Bathinda	13 January 1966
4	Bhupindra Floor Mill, Labour Union, Bathinda	27 August 1967
5	Punjab State Market Committee and Board Employees' Union, Bathinda	5 October 1967
6	Wholesale Cloth Employees' Union, Bathinda	9 July 1968
7	Punjab Market Committee Secretaries' Union, Bathinda	19 November 1968
8	Cinema Workers' Union, Bathinda	12 March 1970
9	Bhatha Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	20 November 1971
10	Bathinda Eastern Central Co-operative Bank Employees' Union, Bathinda	16 March 1972
11	Thermal Work Charge Staff Union, Bathinda	19 September 1972
12	Imarti Labour Union, Rampura Phul, Bathinda	7 October 1972
13	Punjab Bijli Karmchari Sectional Officers Association, Bathinda	1973
14	District Advocates' Clerk Union, Bathinda	8 September 1974
15	Imarti Labour Union, Bathinda	27 January 1975
16	Punjab State Warehousing Corporation Field Employees' Union, Bathinda	10 November 1976
17	F.I.L. Employees' Association, Bathinda	31 May 1977
18	Retail Cloth Employees' Union, Bathinda	9 September 1977
19	Rickshaw Workers' Union, Bathinda	23 September 1977
20	Garwali Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	1978
21	Bathinda Ammunition Depot, Janta Karmchari Sangh, Bathinda	21 February 1978
22	Punsup Employees' Union, Punjab Bathinda	27 April 1978
23	Chungi Karmchari Union, Nagar Palika, Bathinda	24 July 1978

Sr. No.	Name of the Union	Year/Date of Registration
24	National Fertilzer Officers' Association, Bathinda	19 January 1979
25	National Fertilizer Employees' Union, Bathinda	31 May 1979
26	Thermal Technical Employees' Union, Bathinda	4 May 1979
27	Bhagwanti Oil Mill Worker's Union, Bhucho Mandi	21 August 1979
28	Thermal Employees' Federation, Bathinda	25 September 1979
29	Class IV Employees' Union, PSEB Thermal Unit, Bathinda	25 September 1979
30	Bhagwati Oil Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Bhucho Mandi	15 October 1979
31	Northern India Cotton Brokers' Association (Punjab Haryana and Sri Ganganagar), Bathinda	27 March 1980
32	PRTC Drivers' Union Bathinda	9 July 1980
33	Safai Sewak Union, Guru Nanak Thermal Plant, Bathinda	31 December 1980
34	Western Command, M.E.S. Civilian Drivers' Association, Bathinda	31 March 1981
35	Cotton Mill Workers' Union, Bathinda	26 February 1982
36	Hathreri Union, Bathinda	—
37	State Bank of Patiala Employees' National Union, Mansa	—
38	Warehouse Corporation Workers' Union, Bathinda	—
39	Lal Jhanda NFL Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	25 July 1984
40	Loading and Unloading Workers' Union, Bathinda	3 August 1984
41	Punjab Ceramic Workers' Union, Bathinda	1985
42	Auto Workers' Union Bathinda	1985
43	Moonak Chemical Employees Union, Bathinda	26 July 1985
44	Employeess Union Jindal & Company, Bathinda	26 December 1985
45	Tonga Rehra Mazdoor Union, Bhagta Bhai Ka, Bathinda	28 April 1986
46	Gadda Labour Union, Bareta Mandi	15 May 1986
47	Ussari Mazdoor Union, Gol Chakkar, Budhalada	28 May 1986

Sr. No.	Name of the Union	Year/Date of Registration
48	Punjab Spinning Karamchari Dal, Bathinda	8 August 1986
49	Punjab Ceramic Karamchari Dal, Bathinda	6 September 1986
50	Sarv Punjab Palledar Union, Bathinda	12 September 1986
51	Bathinda Operators Workers' Union, Bathinda	3 October 1986
52	Hindustan Bhawan Ussari Labour Union, Bathinda	25 November 1986
53	Rubicon Steel Worker's Union, Bhucho Mandi	29 December 1986
54	Naveen Punjab Palledar Union, Bathinda	11 January, 1987
55	Budhlada Gadda Rehri Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	18 February 1987
56	Rampura Phul Truck Operators' Union Bathinda	3 March 1987
57	Rama Truck Operators Workers' Union, Bathinda	17 March 1987
58	Chemical and Oil Karamchari Sangh, Bathinda	7 July 1987
59	Sabzi Mandi Fari Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	12 October 1987
60	Stelco Workers' Union, Rampura Phul	21 April 1988
61	Ginning Factories Workers Union, Rampura Phul	9 May 1988
62	Multi Melt Steel Workers' Union, Rampura Phul	10 June 1988
63	Dukan Karamchari Sangh, Rampura Phul	27 June 1938
64	Raj Mazdoor Union, Rampura Phul	7 November 1988
65	Arra Mills Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	12 December 1988
66	Rickshaw Chalak Mazdoor Union, Bathinda	11 November 1988
67	Sewerage Workers' Union, Bathinda	1989
68	Ussari Mazdoor Union, Mansa	7 February 1989
69	Forest Department Field Workers' Union, Mansa	8 February 1989

(Source: Labour Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh)

APPENDIX II

(Vide page 477)

Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and Vimukt Jatis Inhabiting the Bathinda District

Sr. No.	Name of Caste	Main Professions
		Scheduled Castes
1	Ad-dharmi	Shoe-making, labour, weaving, animal husbandry, etc.
2	Ramdasi	Shoe-making, service, animal husbandry, agriculture and labour etc.
3	Mazhabi	Agriculture, agricultural labour, animal husbandry, shop-keeping and labour, etc.
4	Balmiki	Scavenging, service and labour, etc.
5	Dhanak	Labour in factories.
6	Rehgar-Raigar	Shoe-making, leather tanning, labour, animal husbandry, etc.
7	Sirkiband	Making sirkis, labour and rope-making, etc.
8	Bazigar	Labour and animal husbandry, etc.
		Backward Classes
1	Chhimba	Tailoring
2	Lohar	Blacksmithy, making of agricultural implements, etc.
3	Khaty	House Building and wood-works
4	Rai Sikh	Agriculture
5	Goldsmith	Making of golden ornaments and shop-keeping
6	Dacot	Labour and begging
7	Thori	Begging
8	Nayak	Growing and selling vegetables
9	Lubanas	Agriculture and labour
10	Nai	Hair cutting, shaving, labour and agriculture
11	Dhobi	Washing and ironing of clothes
12	Kumhar	Pottery and labour
		Vimukt Jatis
1	Sansi	Labour
2	Deha	Cleaning of ears, making of winnowing baskets
3	Borea	Agriculture and labour
4	Sapela	Snake-charming of begging
5	Singikat	Shoe-polishing and Singian

(Source: District Welfare Officer, Bathinda)

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Representation of the District in the State and the Union Legislature

Historical Retrospect.—Bathinda, formerly a tahsil of the princely State of Patiala, was constituted as a district with the formation of Patiala and the East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) in 1948. The territory of the present Bathinda District comprises parts of the erstwhile princely states of Patiala, Nabha, Faridkot, Jind and some portions of the British territory, then forming part of Firozpur District. Prior to the formation of PEPSU, the princes never countenanced political awakening among their subjects and put down any agitation in the political field with iron hand. The British rulers gave them all support in doing so. But still the patriots in these feudal pockets did raise their heads and contributed their mite in the national struggle for Independence. Many movements were launched under different names, such as Jaitu Morcha, Namdhari Agitation, etc. and scores of patriots laid down their lives in the process of bringing and encouraging political awakening. For this purpose, they organized Praja Mandals whose ideology was the same as that of the Indian National Congress in these princely states.

Under the Government of India Act, 1919, the franchise of the Council of State was very limited, based on a high property qualification. Persons having either an annual income of not less than Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000 or paying land revenue of Rs 750 to Rs 5,000 were entitled to vote for the Council of State. The franchise was also bestowed for special personal qualifications such as past or present membership of a university senate or legislature. The franchise of Legislative Assembly was also based on property qualification and varied from province to province. The payment of municipal taxes which amounted to not less than Rs 15 to Rs 20 per annum or occupation or ownership of a house, which could yield an annual rent of Rs 180 or assessment to income tax on an annual income of not less than Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000

or the assessment of land revenue for Rs 150 per annum varying from province to province, could entitle a person to be a voter for the Assembly. The Government of India Act, 1919 did sow the seeds of communal representation in the country by earmarking constituencies for the Muslims, Sikhs, etc.

Under the Government of India Act, 1935, the right to vote was much more extended. The women and the depressed classes were also made eligible to become voters. In this way, around 15 per cent of the total population of the provinces was enfranchised. The Act not only retained the separate electorates for the Muslims, but also extended them to the Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans. The first general elections of India under the Act were held in January and the second and last in March 1946.

After the general elections in March 1946, a Constituent Assembly was elected by the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies and the same was entrusted with the task of framing of a constitution for the country. The Draft Constitution of India was completed by February 1948. It was approved in November 1949, and enforced with effect from 26 January 1950. The new Constitution made a clean sweep of the postulate of communal electorates and submitted in its place common electorate for all the citizens of India. Under Article 326 of the Constitution, elections to the House of People (Lok Sabha) and to the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) of every State shall be on the basis of adult franchise. Every Indian who is not less than 21 years* of age, is entitled to vote if he is not otherwise disqualified.

The Punjab Vidhan Sabha has 117 seats. An Indian citizen not less than 25 years of age and possessing such other qualifications as prescribed in the Representation of the People's Act, 1951, is eligible to be chosen as a member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha.

On the attainment of Independence, the Praja Mandals of the princely states merged with the Indian National Congress and became its local units. Other political parties have also entered the district and like the Indian National Congress Party established

*Age has now been lowered down to 18 years.

their branches in the district and fought elections enthusiastically, both for the State Assembly and the Parliament.

Till 1985*, 8 general elections have been successfully conducted in the Bathinda District along with that of the country. A brief account of all these elections is given hereunder :

First General Elections, 1951-52.—As in the rest of India, the district of Bathinda of the erstwhile PEPSU went to the polls for the first time when the first general elections were held in 1951-52. Franchise was thrown open to every adult not suffering from any disqualification, otherwise.

Parliamentary Constituency[1]

There was 1 (double-member) constituency in the Bathinda District, viz. Kapurthala-Bathinda. It was created to elect one member from amongst the general and the other from reserved category of candidates. The area of Kapurthala District was also clubbed with it. Both the seats of this constituency were captured by the Akali candidates. The total number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal	3,96,690	45.94
Congress	2,74,815	31.75
Socialist	38,222	4.47
Jan Sangh	37,345	4.37
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	33,613	3.85
Forward Block	31,081	3.65
Independents	51,507	5.97
Total	8,63,273	100.00

*The ninth general elections for the Lok Sabha have been held in November 1989.

[1] *Report on the First General Elections in India, 1951-52, pp 108-109*

Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU)

Vidhan Sabha Constituencies[2]

There were 9 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies consisting of 11 seats in the district, viz. Faridkot, Kot Kapura-Jaitu (double-member), Bathinda Sadr, Nahianwala, Raman, Maur, Mansa (double-member), Sardulgarh and Budhlada-Bareta. From these constituencies, 6 Akali, 3 Congress and 2 Independent candidates were declared elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party was as under:

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal	84,892	31.42
Congress	62,541	23.15
Communist	24,115	8.92
Forward Block (Marxist)	4,975	1.84
K.M.P.P.	3,939	1.46
Socialist	3,191	1.18
Jan Sangh	3,025	1.12
S.C. Federation	1,494	0.55
Independents	82,042	30.36
Total	2,70,214	100.00

Mid-term Elections to the PEPSU Legislative Assembly, 1954.—The first general elections to the Legislative Assembly of the Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) were held in 1951-52, as in the rest of India. Normally, the Assembly should have had a term of five years in accordance with the provisions of Article 172 (1) of the Constitution. It was, however, dissolved by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution prematurely by issuing a proclamation on

[2] *Report on the First General Elections in India, 1951-52*, pp 636—639

4 March 1953. The President assumed to himself all functions of the government and all powers vested in or exercisable by the Rajpramukh of the State. Para (c) (iv) of the Proclamation announced that the general elections for constituting a new Legislative Assembly for the State would be held as soon as possible after the Delimitation Commission had finally delimited the constituencies for elections to the Legislative Assembly of the State. The Delimitation Commission took up the work of delimitation of constituencies in the State with all possible expedition. The number of seats to which PEPSU was entitled in the House of People on the basis of the population figure of the 1951 Census remained the same, namely 5 seats. The number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of the State also remained at the existing figure of 60 (36 single member and 12 two-member) constituencies which was the minimum. The two-member constituencies were formed to provide representation to the Scheduled Castes. The legal framework for these elections was more or less the same as for the first general elections held in 1951-52. The period fixed for holding poll in the State was for 18 February to 28 Februray 1954.

Out of the total population of the Bathinda District numbering 7,86,889 (1951 Census), the number of electors was 5,73,128

PEPSU Legislative Assembly Constituencies[1]

There were 9 constituencies consisting of 11 seats in the Bathinda District (two constituencies being double-member), viz. Faridkot, Kot Kapura, Jaitu, Nahianwala-Raman (double-member), Bathinda, Maur, Mansa, Sardulgarh and Budhlada (double-member). From these constituencies, 5 Congress, 3 Akali (Master Tara Singh Group), 2 Communist and 1 Independent candidates were declared elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each of the contesting parties was as under

[1] *Report on the Second General Elections to the PEPSU and Travancore-Cochin Legislative Assemblies* (New Delhi, 1955), pp 3,5,7, 44--47

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	1,09,772	33.98
Akali Dal (Master Group)	93,475	28.92
Akali Dal (Raman Group)	60,439	18.70
Communist Party of India	25,518	7.90
Jan Sangh	492	0.15
Independents	33,446	10.35
Total	3,23,142	100.00

Second General Elections, 1957.—By virtue of the States Re-organization Act, 1956, the erstwhile State of Punjab and PEPSU were merged together and the new State of Punjab came into existence on 1 November 1956 The Legislative Assembly functioning in Punjab immediately before the merger was elected on the basis of the constituencies delimited in 1951 and that functioning in PEPSU, on the basis of 1953 constituencies, and general elections to the former Assembly were held in 1952 and to the later in 1954. These Legislative Assemblies had 126 and 60 seats in erstwhile Punjab and Pepsu, respectively. On the amalgamation of the Vidhan Sabhas of the erstwhile States, all the erstwhile members of the sitting sabhas became the members of the Vidhan Sabha of the new State. As against that number (186), the seats allocated to the Legislative Assembly of the new State were 154. Consequent upon the change in the number of seats, fresh delimitation became necessary. A Delimitation Commission was accordingly constituted by the Government of India.

Notifications by the President and the Governor of Punjab, under Sections 14 and 15, respectively of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, calling upon the constituencies of the Lok Sabha and the Punjab Vidhan Sabha to elect members were issued on 19 January 1957. In terms of Section 30 of the said Act,

the Election Commission notified the dates from 24 February 1957 to 14 March 1957 for the conduct of the elections. The Election Commission desired that the policy to be followed in regard to the programme of polling should be different from that in 1951-52. In those elections, polling extended over 27 days and most of the constituencies went to poll on a number of days, covering each constituency in piece-meal. This time the Commission considered that the total period of polling, inclusive of the time required for the movement of the polling parties from one constituency to another and from one part of the constituency to another, should not exceed 16 days from 25 February 1957 to 12 March 1957. Moreover, one constituency went preferably to complete the poll in one day instead of polling being spread over to two or more days. The counting of polled votes in the constituency was started from the next day of polling.

Out of the total population of 7,86,889 (1951 Census) of the Bathinda District, the number of electors was 4,55,037. According to the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1956, Lok Sabha constituency consisting of 2 seats (one reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes) and 6 Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituencies consisting of 8 seats (2 reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes) were allocated to the district.

Lok Sabha Constituency[1]

There was one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district and it consisted of 2 seats (one reserved for the members of Scheduled Castes). The extent of the constituency was beyond the revenue jurisdiction of the district and some area of Sangrur and Firozpur districts was also included in it. The Delimitation Commission endeavoured that as far as possible, the Assembly Constituencies should fall wholly in one or the other of the two States. But due to the peculiar geographical formation of PEPSU State, this principle could not be followed, and to make a compact constituency, some area of Punjab territory was also included in it. From this constituency, 2 candidates

[1]*Report on General Elections in Punjab* [illegible] Chandigarh, 1959), p. 95.

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were declared elected. Both the seats were captured by the Congress Party. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each contesting party is given below :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	4,76,434	51.93
Communist	3,30,806	36.07
Jan Sangh	1,10,157	12.00
Total	9,17,397	100.00

Punjab Vidhan Sabha[1]

There were 6 constituencies consisting of 8 seats (including 2 double-member constituencies) for the Punjab Vidhan Sabha in the district, viz. Phul, Faridkot, Jaitu, Bathinda, Pakka Kalan (one reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes) and Mansa (also one reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes). From these constituencies, 7 Congress and 1 Independent candidates were elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party is as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	2,10,067	54.40
Communist party of India	1,11,856	28.96
Praja Socialist Party	1,479	0.38
Independents	62,815	16.26
Total	3,86,217	100.00

[1] *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1957* (Chandigarh, 1959), pp. 127-128.

Third General Elections, 1962.--A major improvement in the matter of elections in the State this time was with regard to the period of poll. While it took nearly 19 days to complete the poll during the second general elections, the poll this time was held and completed on a single day, i.e. on 24 February 1962, throughout the State except in Kulu and Seraj (now in Himachal Pradesh) constituencies where on account of the areas being snow-bound and inaccessible, the poll was deferred and held later towards the end of April. Punjab was the only State which had the distinction of having a single day poll both for the Parliamentary and Assembly elections.

The second general elections were held on the balloting system of voting in completely closed compartments, one for the Parliamentary election and another for Assembly election, and an array of ballot boxes in each of them equal to the number of contesting candidates. This old balloting system was retained only in the remote and inaccessible Kulu and Seraj (now in Himachal Pradesh) constituencies. In all other constituencies in the State, the 'Marking System of Voting' was adopted.

The Parliament passed the Two-member Constituencies (Abolition) Act I of 1961 and abolished two member constituencies for the Legislative Assemblies as well as the House of People. The Election Commission was empowered to divide double-member constituencies into single-member constituencies, delimit the extent, besides reserving seats for the members of the Scheduled Castes.

As a result of the bifurcation of the two-member constituencies, 22 Parliamentary constituencies and 154 Assembly constituencies were formed as against 17 Parliamentry (12 single-member and 5 two-member) and 121 Assembly (88 single-member and 33 two-member) constituencies. The delimitation of the constituencies, effected under the above Act resulted in the carving out of one Parliamentary and 8 Assembly constituencies, including 2 reserved for the members of Scheduled Castes in the Bathinda District. The stupendous task of holding simultaneous general elections, 1962, was completed throughout the State successfully and strictly according to schedule. The counting of votes with

respect to 152 constituencies was started on 25 February and completed on 28 February 1962.

Out of a total population of 10,55,177 (1961 Census) of the district, the number of electors was 5,57,187.

Lok Sabha Constituencies[1]

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Bathinda, which was reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. From this constituency, Akali candidate was declared elected. The number of valid votes polled in favour of each contesting party is as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal	1,64,155	52.78
Congress	1,06,134	34.12
Jan Sangh	40,755	13.10
Total	3,11,044	100.00

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies[2]

There were 8 constituencies (including 2 reserved constituencies) for the Punjab Vidhan Sabha in the district. The constituencies were Pakka Kalan (SC), Talwandi Sabo, Mansa, Budhlada (SC), Phul, Bathinda, Jaitu and Faridkot. From these constituencies, 3 Akali, 3 Congress and 2 Communist candidates were declared elected. The number of valid votes polled in favour of

1 *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1962* (Chandigarh, 1963), p.60
2 *Ibid*, pp 74-75

each contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,40,929	39.12
Akali Dal	96,141	26.70
Communist	71,469	19.84
Swatantra	22,485	6.24
Jan Sangh	19,073	5.30
Independents	10,116	2.80
Total	3,60,213	100.00

Fourth General Elections, 1967.—The general elections held in 1967 were fourth in the country and first in the new State of Punjab which came into being after reorganization of Punjab on 1 November 1966. The delimitation of constituencies was done by the Delimitation Commission of India immediately after the formation of the present State of Punjab. For the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 104 seats were provided under the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966 and equal number of constituencies were delimited. According to the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1966, Bathinda was the only Lok Sabha Constituency in the district. The names of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituencies were Sardulgarh, Budhlada, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan, Bathinda, Phul, Nathana (SC), Kot Kapura and Faridkot (SC).

The poll throughout the State was held on a single day on 19 February 1967. The counting was started on 21 February and completed on 24 Feburary.

Out of a total population of 10,55,177 of the district, the number of electors was 6,09,527.

Lok Sabha Constituency[1]

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Bathinda. From this constituency, Akali

1 *Report on General Elections in Punjab, 1967* (Chandigarh, 1968), p.67

Dal (Sant) candidate was declared elected. The number of valid votes polled in favour of each contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal (Sant)	1,50,415	47.07
Indian National Congress	88,783	27.79
Jan Sangh	23,179	7.25
Akali Dal (Master)	22,576	7.07
Independents	34,598	10.82
Total	3,19,550	100.00

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies[1]

There were 10 Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies (including 2 reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes) in the district, viz. Sardulgarh, Budhlada, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan, Bathinda, Phul, Nathana (Scheduled Castes), Kot Kapura and Faridkot (Scheduled Castes). From these constituencies, 6 Akali Dal, 2 Congress, 1 Communist Party and 1 Independent candidates were declared elected. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting parties in the district was as follows :--

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,45,824	36.57
Akali Dal (Sant)	1,41,501	35.48
Communist Party of India	32,391	8.12
Jan Sangh	13,666	3.43

[1]*Ibid. p. 63*

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal (Master)	9,598	2.41
Swatantra	473	0.12
Independents including unrecognized parties	55,310	13.87
Total	3,98,763	100.00

Mid-Term Poll 1969[1].—In the normal course, the tenure of the constituted Punjab Vidhan Sabha would have been for five years, i.e. upto 19 March 1972, as provided in Article 172 of the Constitution of India. The party position after the Fourth General Elections, 1967, was such that no single political party had absolute majority in the Vidhan Sabha of 104 members. The political parties, viz. the Akali Dal (Sant Group), the Jan Sangh, the Republican Party of India and the Right Communists joined together to form People's United Front, which formed its Ministry on 8 March 1967. After some time, the game of defections started and the then Education Minister, defected alongwith a few other MLAs of the Akali Dal, and formed his Ministry on 25 November 1967, with the support of some indepdendents and the Congress Legislative Party. The relationship between the Ministry and the Congress Party — its main supporter did not, however, continue to be smooth for long and ultimately, the Congress Party withdrew its support from the Ministry. This led to the tendering of resignation by the Chief Minister. As a result, a situation was created in which no single party or workable alliance of parties could provide a stable government. In these circumstances, under the recommendation of the Governor, Punjab, the President of India issued a proclamation on 23 August 1968, under Article 356 of the Constitution of India placing the State of Punjab under the President's rule. Thus, the Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituted in 1967 stood dissolved necessitating a mid-term general elections so as to constitute a new Vidhan Sabha.

[1]*Report on the Mid-term General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1969* (Chandigarh, 1971), pp. 1, 46, 52-53

The poll throughout the State was held on a single day (9 February 1969). The counting was started on 10 February and completed on 11 February. Out of the total population of 10,55,177 (1961 Census) of the district, the number of electors was 6,34,709.

During the mid-term elections also, there were 10 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the district, viz. Sardulgarh, Budhlada, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan, Bathinda, Phul, Nathana (SC), Kot Kapura and Faridkot (SC). From these contituencies, 4 Congress, 5 Akali and 1 Communist candidates were elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Congress	1,92,189	42.66
Akali Dal	1,79,868	39.92
Communist Party of India	43,016	9.55
Independents	35,461	7.87
Total	4,50,534	100.00

Fifth General Elections to the Lok Sabha 1971[1].--The fifth general elections to the House of the People in India were held in March 1971. There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Bathinda, from where candidate belonging to Communist Party of India was declared elected. The total population of the district was 10,55,177 (Census 1961), and the number of electors was 5,31,021. Out of these, 2,75,026 electors cast their votes. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each contesting party in the district was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Communist Party of India	1,38,092	51.46
Shiromani Akali Dal	1,19,769	44.63
Independents	10,501	3.91
Total	2,68,362	100.00

[1] *Report on the Fifth General Elections to the House of People in India* (Delhi, 1973), pp 366, 469

Fifth General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha 1972[1].--These general elections had to be conducted due to the premature dissolution of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituted in March 1969. It was for the second time after the formation of the present State of Punjab that President's rule was imposed in the State. In the wake of President's rule, emergency was declared due to Indo-Pak conflict. The preparation for the conduct of the new general elections had, therefore, to be made under the shadow of emergency. The poll throughout the State was held on a single day on 11 March 1972. The election was held under the marking system of voting. The change in the design of ballot paper which was printed for the first time alongwith counterfoil attached to it, was an additional factor in this connection. The election was held in the same constituencies as were in force at the time of the general and mid-term elections held in 1967 and 1969.

There were 10 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the district, viz. Sardulgarh, Budhlada, Mansa, Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan, Bathinda, Phul, Nathana (SC), Kot Kapura and Faridkot (SC). Out of the total population of 13,18,134 (1971 Census) of the district, the total number of electors in the district was 6,83,839. From these constituencies, 2 Congress, 7 Akali and 1 Communist candidates were elected. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each contesting party is given below :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Akali Dal	2,27,827	47.07
Congress	1,48,049	30.58
Communist Party of India	48,400	9.98
Jan Sangh	3,300	0.68
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1,532	0.32

[1] *Report on General Elections to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1972* (Chandigarh, 1974), pp 1, 2, 5, 53 and 61

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Swatantra	458	0.09
Independents	54,545	11.28
Total	4,84,111	100.00

Sixth General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 1977.— The Fifth Lok Sabha was constituted in March 1971. Prior to the enforcement of Constitution (42nd Amendment) Act, 1976, the duration of Lok Sabha was five years. Thus, normally the sixth Lok Sabha was to be elected in 1976. During the emergency, the tenure of the Lok Sabha was twice extended, each time by one year and its term stood extended to March 1978. However, the Fifth Lok Sabha was dissolved on 18 January 1977 and a general election was ordered within 2 months, which was conducted on 16 March 1977.

The Punjab Vidhan Sabha elected in March 1972 was normally to last upto 20 March 1977. But due to the aforesaid amendment, its term stood extended till March 1978. However, as it was also dissolved on 30 April 1977, the general election was held earlier.

The Lok Sabha poll throughout the State except Firozpur Constituency was held on a single day on 16 March 1977 and the poll to the Punjab Vidhan Sabha was also held on a single day except Anandpur Sahib Constituency on 12 June 1977. The election was held under the marking system of voting and ballot paper with counterfoil was used. The elections to the Lok Sabha and Punjab Vidhan Sabha were held as the constituencies declared delimited by the Delimitation Commission's Order No. 41 of 24 May 1975. According to it, there was no change made in the Lok Sabha constituencies, but the number of Punjab Vidhan Sabha constituencies was raised from 104 to 117 in the State.

Lok Sabha Constituency[1]

There was one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district, viz. Bathinda (SC). The total number of electors in the district was 6,07,613, out of which 4,35,035 electors cast their votes. Shiromani Akali Dal candidate was declared elected from this constituency. The total number of valid votes polled in favour of each of the contesting party in the district was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Shiromani Akali Dal	2,62,864	61.82
Congress (I)	87,553	20.60
Communist Party of India	62,639	14.73
Independents	12,088	2.85
Total	4,25,144	100.00

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies[2]

There were 9 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the district, viz. Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan (reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes), Bathinda, Nathana (reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes), Rampura Phul, Joga, Mansa, Budhlada and Sardulgarh. The total number of electors in the district was 6,30,856, out of which 4,31,663 electors cast their votes. From these constituencies, 6 Shiromani Akali Dal, 2 Janata and 1 Communist Party of India's candidates were declared elected. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party is given below :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Shiromani Akali Dal	1,84,536	43.39
Congress (I)	1,08,007	25.40

1 *Report on the Lok Sabha and Punjab Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1977* (19 July 1979), pp 42, 51

2 Ibid, pp 53, 102, 104

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Communist Party of India	68,148	16.02
Janata Party	48,149	11.32
Independents	16,469	3.87
Total	4,25,309	100.00

Seventh (Mid-Term) General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 1980.—The Sixth Lok Sabha was constituted in March 1977 when the Janata Party; consisting of the Organization Congress, the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the Jan Sangh and Socialist Party contested elections and got majority. The Akali Party also supported the Janata Party and it formed the Ministry in March 1977. The Janata Party could not continue for a long period because, after sometime, defections started and a Cabinet Minister belonging to Janata Party alongwith some other members of Lok Sabha formed his Ministry in August 1979 with the support of Congress (I) Party. But this adjustment could not last long, with the result that the Congress (I) withdrew its support and the Parliament was dissolved by the President under Sub-Clause (b) of Clause (2) of Article 85 of the Constitution on 22 August 1979 for mid-term elections for constituting the new house.

The Seventh (Mid-Term) General Elections throughout the State were held on 3 January 1980. Out of the total population of 11,08,580 (1971 Census excluding Faridkot Tahsil of present Faridkot District) of the Bathinda District, the number of electors was 7,08,507 (Lok Sabha) and 7,16,373 (Vidhan Sabha).

The term of the office of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, constituted on 12 June 1977, was due to expire in 1982, but it was also dissolved by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution on 17 February 1980. The Mid-Term General Elections of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha were held on 31 May 1980 and completed on the same day. In these elections, the Congress (I) Party obtained majority of votes defeating other Akali and Janata candidates. In June 1980, it formed its government in the State.

Lok Sabha Constituencies[1]

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district viz. Bathinda. The Congress (I) candidate was declared elected from this constituency. Out of 7,08,507 electors, 4,15,962 persons cast their votes. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress (I)	1,65,777	40.92
Shiromani Akali Dal	1,48,768	36.72
Communist Party of India	75,994	18.77
Independents	14,516	3.59
Total	4,05,055	100.00

Punjab Vidhan Sabha Constituencies[2]

There were 9 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the district viz. Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan (SC), Bathinda, Nathana (SC), Rampura Phul, Joga, Mansa, Budhlada and Sardulgarh. The number of electors in the district was 7,16,373, out of which 5,00,643 electors cast their votes. From these constituencies, 4 Shiromani Akali Dal, 3 Congress (I) and 2 Communist Party of India candidates were declared elected. The number of valid votes polled by each contesting party is given

1 *Report on the General Elections to the Lok Sabha and Punjab Vidhan Sabha, 1980*, pp 59, 66-67

2 Ibid, pp 69, 74-75 and 114—117

below :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress (I)	2,17,145	44.09
Shiromani Akali Dal	1,49,001	30.24
Communist Party of India	88,852	18.03
Janata Party	2,477	0.51
Indian National Congress (U)	188	0.04
Independents	34,919	7.09
Total	4,92,582	100.00

Eighth General Elections to the Lok Sabha, 1985.—The term of the Seventh (Mid-Term) Lok Sabha constituted in January 1980 was due to expire on 20 January 1985. Consequently, general elections were held in India on 24 and 27 December 1984 to constitute a new (Eighth) Lok Sabha excepting the Parliamentary Constituencies falling in the states of Assam and Punjab. Elections in Assam and Punjab could not be held due to unavoidable circumstances. In order to remove any doubt and to avoid litigation, a new section 73-A was inserted in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, by an Ordinance issued on 20 November 1984. The elections to the Eighth Lok Sabha were held in Punjab on 25 September 1985.

There was only one Lok Sabha Constituency in the district viz. Bathinda (SC). The Shiromani Akali Dal candidate was declared elected from this constituency. Out of 8,42,005 electors, 5,92,839 persons cast their votes. The total number of valid votes polled by each contesting party was as under :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Shiromani Akali Dal	2,60,222	46.01
Indian National Congress (I)	1,76,838	31.27

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Communist Party of India	1,10,749	19.58
Independents	17,779	3.14
Total	5,65,588	100.00

Eighth General Elections to the Vidhan Sabha, 1985.—The Punjab Vidhan Sabha was constituted in June 1980. President's rule was imposed in the State with effect from 6 October 1983 and the Legislative Assembly was kept in suspended animation. Under the 48th Amendment of the Constitution, President's rule could have been continued only upto a period of maximum 2 years, i.e. upto 5 October 1985. Under the circumstances, elections to the Punjab Legislative Assembly had to be held and a new house constituted before that date. In the meantime, on the expiry of 5 years term, the Assembly stood automatically dissolved with effect from 26 June 1985. The elections to the Eighth Vidhan Sabha were held on 25 September 1985.

There was 9 Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the district, viz. Talwandi Sabo, Pakka Kalan (SC), Bathinda, Nathana (SC), Rampura Phul, Joga, Mansa, Budhlada and Sardulgarh. The number of electors in the district was 8,42,005, out of which 5,93,181 persons cast their votes. The Shiromani Akali Dal candidates captured all the nine constituencies of the district. However, the number of valid votes polled by each contesting party is given below :

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Shiromani Akali Dal	2,46,219	43.57
Indian National Congress (I)	1,80,415	31.92
Communist Party of India	73,005	12.92

Name of the party	Total number of valid votes polled	Percentage
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	3,418	0.60
Bhartiya Janata Party	1,757	0.31
Independents	60,358	10.68
Total	5,65,172	100.00

(Source: Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh)

(b) Political Parties and Organizations

Political parties play an important role in the working of modern democratic government. They render a very useful service to the cause of government in formulating, moulding and organizing public opinion, clarifying various issues facing the people and offering solutions to social, economic and political problems. They contest elections and establish the desired link between the government and the people. They also clothe the dry bones of the mechanism of the government with flesh and impart energy and driving force to it.

In India, political parties have been in existence for quite sometime even though they were not well-organized. The adoption of the parliamentary system of government after the Independence, however, was a step to promote the reorganization of party system on sound footing. Before 1947, there existed Praja Mandals in the princely states of which the present district of Bathinda forms a part.

All-India Parties

Indian National Congress.—The political organizations and public bodies, which sprang up in the later half of the nineteenth century may aptly be called the fore-runners of the Indian National Congress. When the idea of the setting up an All India Organization was in the air, Mr A.O. Hume, a retired

member of the Indian Civil Service, took the much-needed initiative. He addressed an open letter on 1 March 1883 to the young graduates of the Calcutta University, in which he made an appeal to form an association for moral, social and political regeneration of the Indians. The Indian National Union was formed towards the end of 1884 and Mr Hume was made in charge of the same. About a year after the formation of the Union, the delegates from all over the country met at Bombay in December 1885 and the Indian National Union was renamed as Indian National Congress. Its first session was held in Bombay on 25 December 1885.

The objects of the Indian National Congress were; "the promotion of personal intimacy and friendship amongst the workers in the cause of country in the various parts of the Empire; the eradiction by direct intercourse of all possible race, creed or provincial prejudices amongst all lovers of the country and the fuller development and consolidation of those sentiments of national unity that had their origin in their beloved Lord Ripon's memorable reign; the authoritative record of matured opinions of the educated classes in India on some of the more important and pressing social questions of the day; and the determination of the lines upon which during the next twelve months it was desirable for native politicians to labour in the public interest".

These objects of the Congress, however, changed with the passage of time. Since Independence, the Congress Party has been making strenuous efforts for the setting up of a socialistic pattern of society; to raise the standard of the downtrodden; to defend secularism; to provide basic requirements to the people and narrow the gap between the rich and poor. In every election manifesto, it makes some additions and alterations to the framed policies according to the changed circumstances and public opinion.

On the attainment of Independence, the Praja Mandals of the princely states merged with the Indian National Congress and became its local units, in the Bathinda District as well. The Indian National Congress

[1] S. L. Sikri, *A Constitutional History of India* (Jalandhar, 1971), pp 387, 389

witnessed two splits since Independence, one in 1969 and the other in 1977. After the second split, the Indian National Congress (I) emerged as the strongest wing of the party. The 1980 General Elections—both to the Lok Sabha and Punjab Vidhan Sabha were contested under its new nomenclature and then party formed the government both in the Centre and in the Punjab State. On 31 March 1985, the Congress Party had its main unit at the district headquarters with branches at the subdivisions and at other important towns in the district.

Out of eight Lok Sabha elections, which took place in the district from 1951-52 to 1985, the Congress Party captured cent per cent seats in 1957 and 1980. In other elections held in 1951-52, 1962, 1967, 1971, 1977 and 1985, it could not win any seat. During the Vidhan Sabha elections conducted in the district after Independence, the party secured nearly one third or above the seats in 1951-52, 1954, 1957, 1962, 1969 and 1980. But in 1967, 1972, 1977 and in 1985, it did not have encouraging performance.

Communist Party of India.—Founded in 1925, the Communist Party of India is one of the well-organized parties in the country. It enjoys larger influence amongst the intellectuals, labourers and the poorer section of the society.

The party enjoys good hold in the district. In PEPSU/Punjab Vidhan Sabha elections held in the district form 1951-52 to 1985, it won 2 seats in the elections held in 1954, 1962 and in 1980. In other elections, held in 1967, 1969, 1972 and in 1977, it captured one seat every time in the Bathinda District.

Communist Party of India (Marxist).—It stands for socialism and communism through the establishment of the State of dictatorship of the proletariat. It is represented in the Lok Sabha and the Punjab Vidhan Sabha from other districts. The party has been contesting elections till 1985, but it has never won any seat in the district either for the Lok Sabha or the Punjab Vidhan Sabha.

Janata Party.—The Janata Party was formed on 1 May 1977 on the merger of major opposition parties, viz. the Organization Congress, the Jan Singh, the

Bhartiya Lok Dal and the Socialist Party. After contesting the elections independently, the Congress for Democracy also merged with the Janata Party. The party won the sixth general elections to the Lok Sabha and gained absolute majority. The Janata Party did not field any candidates in the Bathinda Parliamentary Constituency, rather it extended support to the Akali candidate, who won the seat. The party captured only two seats for the Punjab Vidhan Sabha till 1985, out of 9 seats in the district in the sixth general elections held in 1977.

Jan Sangh.—The Jan Sangh is an all-India party and stands for the maintenance of Indian traditions, culture and heritage. It mainly derives inspiration from ancient Indian policy and traditions. It has been contesting elections held in the district from time to time to the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha. The party has its basis mainly in the urban areas of the district. After Independence, in the first general elections to the Lok Sabha, it got only 4.4 per cent votes and in second general elections 1957, it captured 12 per cent votes in the district. On the formation of Janata Party on 1 May 1977, it was merged into it and lost its identity.

State Parties

From among these, mention may only be made of the following:

Shiromani Akali Dal.—It was founded towards the end of 1920 as the representative body of the Sikhs. During the Gurdwara Reforms Movement 1920—25, it played a significant role in bringing about major reforms in the management of Sikh shrines and bringing them under the control of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee. It actively participated in the national freedom struggle in collaboration with the Indian National Congress and emerged as a vanguard of the non-cooperation movement in the Punjab during 1931-32. It matured into a full-fledged political party in the State during 1936-37 elections, held under the Government of India Act, 1935. The party continues to function as a religious and social organization.

This party is said to have been formed in the Bathinda District around 1924. It has good hold in the

district. Right from Independence, it captured cent per cent seats in the district in the Lok Sabha elections held from time to time except in 1957, 1971 and 1980. In the Punjab Vidhan Sabha elections, the party won half or more seats in 1951-52, 1967, 1969, 1972 and 1977. But in 1985, it won all the nine seats in the district.

The position of the different parties in the Lok Sabha and in the PEPSU/Punjab Vidhan Sabha on the basis of the general elections held from time to time, is given in the following statement:--

Party position in Lok Sabha Elections in the Bathinda District

Name of the party	Number of seats won					
	First General Elections 1951-52	Second General Elections 1957	Third General Elections 1962	Fourth General Elections 1967	Fifth General Elections 1971	Sixth General Elections 1977	Seventh General Elections 1980	Eighth General Elections 1985
ALL INDIA PARTIES								
Indian National Congress	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Communist Party of India	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
STATE PARTIES								
Akali Dal	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Akali Dal (Master Group)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

(Source: Chief Electoral officer, Punjab, Chandigarh and his publications entitled Reports on General Elections, Punjab, 1951-52, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1971, 1977 and 1980)

Party position in PEPSU/Punjab Vidhan Sabha Elections in the Bathinda District

PEPSU Vidhan Sabha

Name of the Party	Number of seats won				
	First General Elections 1951-52	Mid-term Elections 1954	Second General Elections 1957	Third General Elections 1962	Fourth General Elections 1967
ALL INDIA PARTIES					
Indian National Congress	3	5	7	3	2
Communist Party of India	-	2	-	2	1
Janata Party	-	-	-	-	-
STATE PARTIES					
Akali Dal	6	-	-	3	-
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	-	-	-	-	6
Akali Dal (Master Group)	-	3	-	-	-
Independents including un-recognized parties	2	1	1	-	1
Total	11	11	8	8	10

Name of the Party	Number of seats won				
	Mid-term General Elections 1969	Fifth General Elections 1972	Sixth General Elections 1977	Seventh General Elections 1980	Eighth General Elections 1985
ALL INDIA PARTIES					
Indian National Congress	4	2	-	3	-
Communist Party of India	1	1	1	2	-
Janata Party	-	-	2	-	-
STATE PARTIES					
Akali Dal	5	7	6	4	9
Akali Dal (Sant Group)	-	-	-	-	-
Akali Dal (Master Group)	-	-	-	-	-
Independents including un-recognized parties	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10	10	9	9	9

(Source: Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab, Chandigarh and his publications entitled Reports on General Elections, Punjab, 1951-52, 1954, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1977 and 1980)

(c) Newspapers and Periodicals

Periodicals deal with the news items and current affairs besides reflecting popular opinion to a larger extent. Some of these also publish extensive information on science, history, morality, literature and several other subjects. There are six daily publications, viz. *Dagar Express, Pilot (The), Punjab Cotton Bulletin, Bathinda Times, Ranjit* and *Jan Pakh* published from the Bathinda District. The other periodicals such as weekly, monthly, etc. have relatively less publication/circulation in the district than those in other districts of the State.

The particulars regarding the periodicals published in the district, during 1985 are given below:

Sr. No.	Name of periodical	Place of publication	Year when started	Language	Circulation	Classification
			Dailies			
1	*Dagar Express*	Bathinda	1983	Hindi	N.S.*	News and Current Affairs
2	*Bathinda Times*	Do	1981	Do	2,569	Do
3	*Pilot (The)*	Do	1979	Do	2,122	Do
4	Jan Pakh	Do	1978	Do	N.S.	Do
5	*Punjab Cotton Bulletin*	Do	1964	English	668	Market Report
6	*Ranjit*	Do	1984	Hindi	2,489	News and Current Affairs
			Weeklies			
7	*Thunder Blot*	Bathinda	1981	English	N.S.	News and Current Affairs
8	*Pilot*	Do	1965	Hindi	3,150	Do
9	*Bharti Mazdoor*	Do	1982	Punjabi	N.S.	Do
10	*Malwa Post*	Do	1976	Do	N.S.	Do
11	*Dagar*	Do	1977	Urdu	N.S.	Do
12	*Employment and Career for all*	Do	1976	English	N.S.	Advertisement
13	*The Towering Thoughts*	Do	1984	Bilingual	N.S.	Do
			Monthlies			
14	*Simla Law Journal*	Bathinda	1972	English	900	Law

*Not Supplied

Sr. No.	Name of periodical	Place of publication	Year when started	Language	Circulation	Classification
15	*Ved Vigian*	Bathinda	1964	Hindi	200	Religion and Philosophy
16	*Bhullar Ekta*	Do	1977	Punjabi	2,149	Literary and Cultural
17	*Parchand*	Do	1977	Do	N.S.	Do
18	*Ruby*	Do	1971	Bilingual	N.S.	Do
19	*Competition Companion*	Mansa	1982	English	N.S.	News and Current Affairs
		Quarterlies				
20	*Rajindra*	Bathinda	1949	Multi-lingual	200	College Magazine
		Bi-Monthlies and Half yearly, etc.				
21	*Knowledge*	Bathinda	1969	Multi-lingual	N.S.	College Magazine
		Annuals				
22	*Aas Kiran*	Goniana Mandi	1977	Multi-lingual	N.S.	College Magazine

Press in India, 1985 29th Annual Report of the Registrar of Newspapers for India under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, Part II (New Delhi, 1986), pp 648 to 695

(d) Voluntary Social Service organizations

The voluntary social service organizations play an important role in the development of the community life and also help in process of maintenance of social solidarity of the State. These organizations are run by the people and work for the people. The voluntary social service is an activity of a self-governing body of people working together for the betterment of the society in particular and the community life as a whole. In the present era of freedom and equality, the States are speedily marching towards the concept of a Welfare State. These circumstances have paved way for the voluntary organizations to play their significant role. Such organizations are getting enormous scope in these days of busy life.

The needs of the individual are increasing fast keeping in pace with the modern development in various

fields. Day by day, the individuals are relying more and more upon the activities of the State. The State has to step in to solve various problems covering the life of the individuals. Though it is desirable to have State attendance at every walk of life of the individual it has become impossible for the State, owing to the burden of administration, to fulfil its responsibilities. Where the State is unable to look into the demands of the individual, the voluntary social service organizations step in.

There are number of voluntary social service organizations in the Bathinda District serving the social needs of the people in a variety of ways. These organizations play an important role in the educational, social and cultural development of the community. These also provide welfare activities for children, women, aged and infirms, handicapped and other deserving sections of the society. A brief account of the important organizations functioning in the district is given below:

General Welfare Institutions

Parmanand Dham Kusht Ashram (Leprosy Colony), Bathinda.—It was opened on 26 January 1973 for the benefit of leprosy sufferers. Its main aims and objects are to benefit the leprosy patients, to do welfare work and to eradicate leprosy disease and the resultant nuisance of beggary to look after the health and bring up the isolated children from the leprosy sufferers, to set up a primary health centre for the leprosy patients; to procure the assistance of qualified medical practitioners and staff to continue the treatment of patients of the Ashram and other patients who come in the purview of the society; to provide medicines, clothing and ration, etc. to the inmates of the Ashram; to make proper provision for the treatment, education and rehabilitation of the patients and to encourage those who are eligible to take up work available to them, to collect funds from the individual donors, societies and charitable organisations etc; to acquire/maintain property of the Ashram; to collect/supply information in respect of leprosy patients and to keep a liaison with other such societies; to endeavour efforts towards the physical, mental, economic, educational and spiritual upliftment and betterment of the leprosy affected members.

The Ashram owns a plot measuring 3,000 square Yards and 21 rooms constructed by the Lions Club, Bathinda at a cost of Rs 93,000. The institution had constructed 12 rooms at a cost of Rs 25,000 from its resources and a big godown for the inmates of the Ashram. The construction of godown at the cost of Rs 6,500 in addition to the said amount of Rs 25,000 which was received from Central Government through Lions Club was utilized for construction of community hall. The total assests of immovable property of the Ashram is around Rs 1,49,000.

The sources of income of this institution are donations from public, grants-in-aid from the government, public institutions like Lions Club, Red Cross Society and weekly bazar collections. The annual income and expenditure of this institution, during 1988-89, were Rs 80,664 and Rs 80,688, respectively.

Organizations of National or International Repute

There are a number of other organizations of national or international repute which have been established elsewhere, but have their branches in the district.

The Indian Red Cross Society (District Branch), Bathinda

The Indian Red Cross Society was established in 1920 under Act XV of the Government of India. The District Red Cross Branch, Bathinda was started on 2 January 1957.

The Bathinda Branch of the Red Cross Society has an impressive record of service in the district. Tended with care and devotion, it has become a great institution whose primary function is to provide relief to human sufferings. It has constructed eight 25-bedded hospitals at villages, viz. Bikhi, Mandi, Virk Kalan, Mehraj, Matheha, Karandi, Chak Attar Singh Wala and Boha. The Society has constructed 44 buildings for bedded hospitals/dispensaries in various villages and extended hospital buildings in villages, viz. Maisar Khana, Bareta, Goniana, Badiala and Phaphre Bhaike. The construction cost of these buildings includes the contribution of panchayats also. The Society has also constructed 21 residential buildings for Medical Officers near hospitals. It is also running 26 medical stores, where genuine medicines on most reasonable rates are being sold.

The Red Cross Society, Bathinda is running 4 maternity and child health care centres and 8 trained *dai* centres in different villages of the district, where maternity, child health care and family welfare services are provided to the villagers free of cost. It is also running 41 first-aid posts in the villages. It arranged 261 blood donation camps during the last five years and collected 15,959 units of blood on voluntary basis. It holds block level camps for the welfare of the handicapped persons in which pension is got sanctioned from Social Welfare Department. loans, artificial limbs/clippers, tricycles, sewing machines, goggles, walking sticks, hearing aids, employment, financial aid for treatment and for study are provided to the disabled and needy persons.

In 1989, the Red Cross Society constructed a hostel building of 48 sets with attached kitchens and bathrooms alongwith 2 spacious halls for working women at Bathinda. Another hostel for working women having residential accommodation for 90 ladies and a Day Care Centre for their 30 children with a cost of Rs 29.50 lakhs has recently been completed and opened for inmates. The Society has also constructed a building for Senior Citizen House at Bathinda for 30 inmates. Two serais have been constructed for the stay of patients and their attendants one each at Civil Hospitals, Bathinda and Mansa. In order to store relief articles required for natural calamities, viz. floods, cyclones, etc. a Relief Store on warehouse pattern has been constructed by the Society with the financial aid from National Headquarters of the Red Cross. It feeds Bathinda, Faridkot, Firozpur, Sangrur, and Patiala districts. It has constructed a building of Bal Bhawan in Dhiber Colony, Bathinda in order to provide medical, educational and recreational facilities to the Harijans. It has been running a sewing and knitting centre, an adult education centre, a reading room, a free milk distribution centre in this Bhawan. The Society has been running 7 *balwadis* (creches) in this district, with 50 per cent aid of the Social Welfare Department. There are 40 children in each creche in the age group of 1 to 5 years. The furniture, *durries,* crokery, utensils, indoor/outdoor educational and recreational games and other relevant material are provided to these creches by the Society.

The Society is running a Bhojan Bhandar near the District Courts, Bathinda and another Bhojan Bhandar at Bus Stand, Mansa, where inexpensive meals, tea, coffee, cold drinks, sweets, *namkeen,* are being provided to general public on reasonable rates.

A building for Training-cum-Production Centre for Destitute Women has been constructed at Bathinda. Ceiling fans and jute *taats* for schools,generators, medicines and other equipment to hospitals, books and uniforms to poor students, medicines and rich diet to poor patients, sewing machines to poor widows are normal activities of this branch. The Society assisted the Health Department by providing additional incentives to family planning cases and their motivators. Bathinda Red Cross organises free eye operation camps in villages. It has established a Physiotherapy Centre in Civil Hospital, Bathinda for the welfare of orthopaedic patients. A building for Blood Bank Grid has been constructed by the Society in Civil Hospital, Bathinda in order to provide blood to neighbouring districts.

The Society bagged two National awards for enrolling highest number of members of Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association.

The main sources of income of the Society are membership subscription/contributions, collection from lucky bag fund, charity shows, fairs and fetes, donation, etc. The income and expenditure of the Society during 1989 were Rs 1,04,48,693 and Rs 98,67,254, respectively.

St. John Ambulance Association, District Centre, Bathinda

The Association was formed on 2 January 1957. It provides services to the sick, the injured and the victims of natural calamities. After imparting training in first-aid and home-nursing to persons, both male and female, the Association also trains them to render social service to cases of accident, sudden illness and their transportation to hospitals. Forty-nine qualified lecturers in first-aid and home-nursing are imparting St. John training in the district. During the year 1989, it trained 3,772 persons in first-aid and 2,181 persons in home-nursing in the district. The Association is

maintaining 3 ambulance cars at the subdivisional headquarters for carrying the sick and injured persons to the hospitals and attending to such other emergency calls in the district. The sources of income of the Association are membership subscription contribution, donation, etc. The income and expenditure of the Association during the year 1989 were Rs 5,68,656 and Rs 5,32,451 respectively.

Red Cross Hospital Welfare Section, Bathinda.—This Section was established on 2 January 1957. The Lady Social Workers of this Section are serving the humanity by looking after sick and suffering people lying in the hospitals. They visit the patients, give them care and provide succour to ailing persons. They sit with the patients and establish direct contact with them which helps in mitigating their sufferings. Medicines, nutritive diet like milk, eggs and fruit and clothes are supplied to the needy patients free of cost. The Hospital Welfare Section has been divided into 8 groups of ladies. It donates sewing machines to poor widows to enable them to earn their livlihood. During 1989, it donated 383 sewing machines to such needy women. It also provides books, note-books, uniforms, etc. to poor students and a sum of Rs 3,000 was spent during the year 1989. The Section is looking after a colony of 67 lepers at Bathinda. The lepers are being provided with clothes, eatables, etc. It also motivates the Red Cross field staff to educate the public to follow the family welfare gospel. The lady members organise blood donation camps and 117 units of blood were donated by them in 1989 on voluntary basis. The Section provides artificial limbs to poor amputees. During last year, it secured first position in the State for its marvellous charitable activities.

The main sources of income of Hospital Welfare Section are membership subscriptions, donations, charity shows, fairs and fetes, etc. The income and expenditure of the Section during 1989 were Rs 3,07,781 and Rs 1,97,607, respectively.

Indian Medical Association, Bathinda.—The Indian Medical Association was registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860. The Association is the member of the World Medical Association, and is mutually affiliated with the British Medical Association and the Nepal

Medical Association. Its Bathinda Branch came into existence in 1952. The Association aims at the promotion of scientific knowledge in the medical fraternity and in the safeguarding of the interests of the doctors qualified in the modern system of medicine. The main sources of the income of the Association are individual subscription and public donations.

Lions Club

It is an international organization, whose motto is 'Make Your Fellow Man Feel Needed'. It is a type of brotherhood to serve the humanity at large. its activities are dedicated to the needy and the poor. The main sources of income of Club are individual subscription and public donation. The various branches of the Lions Club functioning in the Bathinda District are mentioned below:

Lions Club, Rampura Phul.—Constituted on 22 December 1974, the main activities of the Club are blood donation camps, family planning camps, help to the handicapped and the needy, distribution of shoes, woollen jerseys, books and stationery items to school children. It also organises polio and health camps in the villages.

The ladies wing of the Club, viz. The Lioness Club was formed in January 1982.

Lions Club, Bathinda.—It was formed on 23 May 1965. It has adopted Parmanand Dham Kushat Ashram, Bathinda, where the Club has spent Rs 93,000 by constructing 21 rooms to provide residential accommodation to lepers. It celebrates marriages of poor girls, organises polio and medical camps and extends scholarships to poor students.

Lions Club, Bathinda Greater.—It was constituted in 1981. It organizes medical camps, provides financial aid to the needy, distributes quilts, mats, stationery, etc. to poor persons.

Lions Club, Bathinda Fort.—It was formed on 3 May 1982. The Club organizes medical camps, arranges marriages of poor girls and grants scholarships to the poor and brilliant students.

Lions Club, Bathinda Model Town.—This Club was inaugurated on 10 April 1984. It distributes stationery,

books and school dresses to poor students and organizes *langar* for poor people.

Lions Club, Goniana.—It was constituted on 26 February 1977. It is running a free dispensary and organizes medical camps.

Lions Club, Mansa.—This Club was formed on 17 April 1977. It organizes medical check up camps and distributes books and stationery to the students. It is running a free dispensary.

Lions Club, Jawahar Ke, Mansa.—Constituted in 1982, it grants medicines to poor patients, distributes blankets, woollen jerseys to needy persons and organizes medical camps in villages and slum areas.

Rotary Club

The objects of the Rotary Club are: to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular, to encourage and foster the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service, high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, the dignifying by each rotarian of his occupation and an opportunity to serve society, the application of the ideal of service by every rotarian to his personal business and community life, the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and through a world fellowship of business and professional men unite in the ideal of service. The sources of income of the club are individual subscription, public donations and government grants.

The following are branches of the Rotary Club functioning in the Bathinda District :—

Rotary Club, Bathinda.—Set up on 28 May 1971, it is running two homoeopathic dispensaries with an annual expenditure of about Rs 50,000. It organizes free eye operation camps and provides medicines to poor T.B. patients. It also helps the handicapped strata of the society. It awards stipends to poor and brilliant students. It creates self confidence among the people by holding debates, declamation contests and cultural programmes from time to time.

Rotary Club, Mansa.—It was formed in 1974. The club organizes blood donation camps, medical check up

camps, arranges marriages of poor girls and grants free legal aid to poor and needy persons.

Rotary Club, Budhlada.—It was constituted during 1979. It has adopted poor students for granting assistance to continue their studies. The Club arranges free eye operation camps and medical check-up camps.

Rotary Club, Bhikhi.—It was set up during the year 1981. It assisted Red Cross, Bathinda in organising two blood donation camps. The distribution of medicines to poor patients is their main activity.

Rotary Club, Raman.—This Club came into existence during 1980. It organizes medical check-up camps and distributes books, stationery, uniform, etc. to poor students.

Rotary Club, Goniana.—It was constituted in 1985. It distributes sewing machines and financial aid to the needy and poor persons.

Rotary Club, Bathinda Mid Town.—The Club was formed during the year 1980. The main activities of the Club include holding of eye operation camps and voluntary blood donation programme. It provides medicines to poor T.B. patients. It distributes woollen jerseys, books and note-books in schools to poor students.

Inner Wheel Club, Mansa.—Formed in 1974, the activities of the Club in the district are to arrange gynaecology camps, blood donation camps, eye operation camps, medical check-up camps and distribution of free medicines to poor patients. Besides, it donates electric fans to schools, books, note-books, shoes, clothes, etc. to the poor students. The sources of income of the Club are contribution of members and collections from fund raising projects.

Goodwill Society, Bathinda.—The society was founded on 31 May 1980. In order to provide health services, the society is running a free Goodwill (allopathic) Dispensary. It also holds immunisation and eye operation camps and promotes voluntary blood donation movement and family programmes. It provides basic facilities to schools including construction of

building and providing books and scholarships to needy students. Promotion of national integration, tree plantation, providing drinking water facilities and helping dowryless marriages, are other activities of the society.

The Society raises funds through membership subscriptions, donations from general public and grants from district authorities.

Blood Donors Council, Rampura Phul.—Rampura Phul has earned a great name all over India for its blood donation work. So far the Council has organised 35 blood donation camps and collected 2,360 units of blood on voluntary basis for P.G.I., Chandigarh, C.M.C., Ludhiana, Rajindra Hospital, Patiala and Civil Hospital, Bathinda. In addition to this, it gives about 250 units of blood to meet out emergencies every year.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

The district of Bathinda has hardly any place of tourist attraction, though there are a few places of historical and religious importance. The places having some historical, religious and local importance in the district are described below:

Bathinda

Bathinda, the principal town and headquarters of the district/subdivision/tahsil of the same name, is a big railway junction of Northern Railway on the Firozpur-Bathinda-New Delhi, Bathinda-Dhuri-Ambala Cantt, Bathinda-Hindumal Kot-Sri Ganganagar, Bathinda-Suratgarh, Fazilka-Bathinda Rewari lines. It is also well connected by road with Chandigarh (210 km), Ludhiana (136 km), Faridkot (63 km) and Firozpur (101 km). Its population as per 1981 Census was 1,24,453 persons, as against 65,318 in 1971.

Different versions are narrated on the founding of the town of Bathinda. According to Khalifa Muhammad Hasan's *History of Patiala*, its ancient name was Bikramgarh. Bathinda is said in the Hindu annals to have been Jai Pal's capital of the Hindushahi dynasty. According to another version, it is named after the Rajput ruler Binai Pal and his *wazir* (minister) Thanda Ram, i.e. from Binai's B+Thanda = Bathanda or Bathinda. It is also called Gobindgarh, because Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, is said to have stayed in the Fort of Bathinda. A *gurudwara* in the memory of the Guru was also constructed here by Maharaja Narinder Singh of Patiala State.

The town was conquered by Maharaja Ala Singh with the aid of Sikh confederacy around 1754 and since then it has followed the history of erstwhile princely State of Patiala. With the formation of PEPSU in 1948, Faridkot was first made the headquarters of Bathinda District, which were later shifted to Bathinda in 1953.

The old Fort with the *gurudwara* of Guru Gobind Singh inside it is the principal place of historical interest in the town. It stands as a gigantic sentinal in the heart of the town. The Fort is associated with Razia Sultana (1236—40), the Empress of India, as

she is said to have been imprisoned there by Altunia, the rebel Governor of Bathinda. However, later on Altunia released Razia from the prison and subsequently married her.

The Rose Garden is today one of the attractive spots in the town. It has been developed into a beautiful picnic spot and is visited by a large number of people.

There is also a traffic park for children situated in the heart of the city. Inaugurated on 26 January 1986, it is the fourth of its kind in Northern India and second in Punjab after Ludhiana. The administration has made arrangements to impart regular traffic training to children in this park.

At a distance of 6 km from Bathinda, there is a zoological park called 'Bir Talab Forest and Tourist Complex'. It has a children park and sprawling lawns where the residents go for picnic on weekends and holidays. The zoo has a number of birds and animals, such as *chakor*, parrots, turkey ducks, rabbits, *langur*, saras, cranes, black-buck, deer, monkeys, etc. for the recreation of children. The Bir Talab Forest has also trees like bamboo, *amaltas*, *khair*, teak *holak* and *shisham*. The tourist complex is being jointly managed and looked after by the departments of Wild Life and Forests.

The Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant at Bathinda is another important landmark. Its foundation stone was laid on 19 November 1969, the auspicious 500th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. This historic town was selected for this prestigous thermal power project of the Punjab State for its good railway connections, facility for transportation of coal, availability of canal water and the proximity to load centre. The total installed capacity of this power station is 440 MW with four units of 110 MW each. Amongst the other big industries in the town are the unit of National Fertilizers Limited, and a Milk Plant in the co-operative sector.

There is a historic *gurudwara* known as Gurdwara Haji Rattan named after Haji Rattan, a sadhu who used to meditate here. It is also associated with the visits of Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Hargobind and Guru Gobind Singh. It is said when Guru Nanak Dev during his First Journey *(Udasi)* visited this place, Haji Rattan hurled

a big stone at the Guru to frighten him away. But Guru Nanak Dev picked the same up and hurled it back to Haji Rattan who became unconscious. The Guru brought Haji Rattan to consciousness. Haji Rattan sought the Guru's pardon and requested him to get him rid of the drudgery of life. Guru Nanak Dev is said to have uttered, "I will see you twice more", and the Guru's words came true when Guru Hargobind and Guru Gobind Singh again visited this place. Guru Gobind Singh after his fiercest battles with the Mughals came to Bathinda and camped near Haji Rattan. At that time, the area surrounding Haji Rattan was a dense forest. The residents of Bathinda were fed up with a ghost who used to demolish their houses whenever they constructed them. So they requested Guru Gobind Singh to do something for them and the Guru freed the villagers from the ghost. The building of Gurudwara Haji Rattan was constructed during the time of Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala State when he conquered Bathinda.

There are 3 colleges in the town, viz. Government Rajindra College, Shri Sanatan Dharam Girls College, D.A.V. (Mata Gunwanti) College. Besides, there are 4 higher secondary schools, 6 high schools, 13 middle schools, 23 primary schools, 3 hospitals, 1 T.B. Clinic, 10 dispensaries and 2 public libraries.

Bareta Mandi

Situated at a distance of 51 km from Mansa, its tahsil/subdivision headquarters, Bareta Mandi is a railway station on the New Delhi-Bathinda-Firozpur railway line. It is well connected by road with Bathinda (106 km), Chandigarh (169 km) and Patiala (104 km). Its population, as per 1981 Census was 9,494 persons, as against 8,313 in 1971.

On the outskirts of the town, there is a small place on the bank of a pond where a fair is held every year on the first Sunday of bright-half of *Bhadhon* (August-September) in the memory of two Muslim sisters who are said to have died in the prime of their youth. It is believed that their prophesies proved true. The fair known as 'Mela Beebrian' is mostly attended by women who scoop earth out of the pond with the hope that their wishes will be fulfilled. Offering of only wheat is made before the deities.

The town has a hospital, viz. Guru Nanak Civil Hospital and an Ayurvedic dispensary, two high schools (one for boys and another for girls) and two middle schools. A Class III Municipality has been functioning in the town since 1956. Besides, there is a splendid temple, named as 'Krishna Mandir' which was built around 1936. Bareta Mandi is known for its *desi juties*, made by the artisans.

The town is predominantly inhabited by Chauhans, who trace their origin from Gugga, lord of snakes. It is said that nobody has ever died here on account of snake bite because of the blessings of Gugga, the God of Snakes.

Bhopal

Bhopal falls in the Mansa Tahsil and lies at a distance of 11 km from Mansa on an approach road. Its population, as per 1981 Census was 2,675 persons, as against 2,247 in 1971.

The village is known for fair of Jogi Pir who is said to be the *guru* (preceptor) of Chahal Jats. It is said that during the times of Muslim rule, Jogi Pir fought with the forces of Muslim rulers. During the battle, his head was chopped off, but his headless body kept on fighting until it fell down dead in this village. The people were deeply touched by the sacrifice of Jogi Pir and got a *smadh* constructed here and a fair began to be held. Another story also says that once a few persons were going to some place for business purpose, and night befell them. They stayed under a grove of trees in the premises of the *smadh*. They felt pangs of thirst at night, but there was no source of water wherefrom they could quench their thirst. A heavenly voice which was believed to be that of Jogi Pir was heard: "Why do you die of thirst? Pick out a brick from the pond and take water". They did likewise, found water from underneath the brick they picked up and thus they quenched their thirst.

A fair is held here twice annually for three days on *Bhadon* 28 (August-September) and *Chet* 16 (March-April) at the *smadh* of Jogi Pir. It is attended by both Hindus and Sikhs, Chahal Jats in particular in large number. The people pay their obeisance at the *smadh*, especially after the birth of a son or the

solemnization of marriage. Earth is also scooped out of the tank by the people for invoking the blessings of Jogi Pir.

The village has a primary school and a post office.

Budhlada

Situated at a distance of 16 km by rail from Mansa, its tahsil headquarters, Budhlada lies on the New Delhi-Bathinda-Firozpur railway line. It is 69 km by rail from Bathinda, the district headquarters. It is also connected by road with Bathinda (88 km), Mansa (33 km), Chandigarh (174 km) and Patiala (109 km). It has a Class II Municipal Committee functioning since 1956. Its population as per 1981 Census was 15,968 persons, as against 10,548 in 1971.

Budhlada was earlier a British territory and formed part of the Hisar District now in Haryana. The town has a college, viz. Guru Nanak College, 2 higher secondary/high schools, 1 primary school, a public library, a hospital, a family welfare centre and a primary health centre. The town is known for the manufacture of agricultural implements, shoes and washing soap.

Daliawali

Situated at a distance of about 16 km from Mansa, the tahsil headquarters, Daliawali is connected by an approach road. The nearest town is Maur which is 11 km from here. Its population, as per 1981 Census 1,331 persons, as against 1,034 in 1971.

There is a *gurudwara* built in the memory of Guru Gobind Singh, who is said to have visited this place. A fair known as 'Mela Mithan Sar' is held here on the *amavas* day every month.

The story goes that Guru Gobind Singh, while going from Talwandi Sabo to Kot Dharmu, stayed in Daliawali village at the place where now the *gurudwara* stands. The devotees who accompanied the Guru told him that they were very hungry. Nothing was available near about except two trees-one of *beri* and the other of *kikkar*. The Guru replied that they should shake the trees. The devotees did likewise and were surprised to find sweetmeats falling from the trees. The devotees relished the sweetmeats with added devotion to their Guru. Hence the name Mithan Sar (tank of sweetmeats) has been given to the fair.

Goniana Mandi

It is situated at a distance of 12 km from Bathinda, its tahsil and district headquarters on the Bathinda-Faridkot road. It falls on the Bathinda-Firozpur railway line and is well connected by road with Bathinda, Jaitu, Nathana, etc. It has a class III Municipal Committee. Its population as per 1981 Census was 8,596 persons, as against 6,408 in 1971.

Goniana Mandi is well known for Tikana Bhai Jagta Ji, the *dera* (seat) of the Seva Panthi Addan Shahi Sect. An annual *yag samagam* is held here for three days in January-February in the memory of Bhai Jagta Ji. The Seva Panthi Sect owes its existence to the benignity of Guru Teg Bahadur and its ideal specimen of the beneficence of Guru Gobind Singh. It is said that this sect pioneered by Bhai Ghanaia is an old and supreme institution similar to the International Red Cross Society. Bhai Ghanaia presented an ideal of selfless and unique service of offering drinking water to the friends and foes alike in the battle field. Guru Gobind Singh was much impressed by his service and blessed that his mission would be run after him.

On the annual *yag samagam*, devotees from every nook and corner of India visit the Tikana in thousands to pay their obeisance and listen to the religious preachings of the learned scholars and preachers. Free kitchen *(Guru-ka-langar)* is served round the clock here. There is also arrangement for the stay of the pilgrims. The Tikana runs Bhai Jagta Ji Middle School, Bhai Assa Singh Girls College, Bhai Jagta Ji Model School and Bhai Sohan Ram Giani College. It also runs Ghanaia Charitable Hospital, which provides free medicines to the needy and in general and the poor in particular. It also arranges free eye camps every year with the co-operation of Christian Medical College and Brown Memorial Hospital, Ludhiana. It has about 40 acres farm of fertile land, which is its major source of income.

The town has a market committee, two high schools (one each for boys and girls), a primary health centre, and a police station.

Har Raipura (Bhokhri)

Har Raipura or Bhokhri lies west of Bathinda on the Bathinda-Nathana road. It falls in the Bathinda

tahsil and is about 19 km from the tahsil headquarters and about 5 km from Goniana Mandi. Its population as per 1981 Census was 2,705 persons, as against 2,384 in 1971.

Gurudwara Jand Sahib has been built here in the memory of Guru Har Rai's visit to this place. It is said the Guru who was at that time staying at Kiratpur Sahib (district Rupnagar) had an intution that the inhabitants of the village Bhokhri remembered him. He went there and stayed for a few days under a *jand* tree. The tree still stands in the premises of the *gurudwara*. The issueless women of the area come to this place and tie a thread around the tree with the hope that their desire will be fulfilled.

This place is also said to have been visited by Guru Gobind Singh. A tank has been constructed here. A fair known as Mela Jand Sahib is held in the month of *Phagan* (February-March) for three days, which is attended by a large number of people.

The village has a middle school, a primary school and a post office.

Jassi Bagwali

Jassi Bagwali falls in Bathinda Tahsil and lies about 26 km south of Bathinda on the Bathinda-Dabwali road. The nearest town is Sangat, which is 11 km from the village. Its population as per 1981 Census was 2,405 persons, as against 2,060 in 1971.

Gurudwara Bagsar has been built here in the memory of Guru Gobind Singh, who is said to have visited this place while on his way to Talwandi Sabo. It is said that Guru Gobind Singh stayed here for ten days under a tree. It is also said that a small pond existed at this place. When Guru Gobind Singh riding on his horse crossed through this pond, the horse and the dark brown dress of Guru Gobind Singh, became white. When asked by his followers, the Guru told that it was a sacred *tirath* and had been visited by Lord Rama while fighting with Lav and Kush. The Guru further added that whosoever would take bath in this tank, all his sins would be washed. Another story connected with this place is that one Rama Nand, disciple of Narad also meditated at this place and a *smadh* has been constructed in his memory. The issueless women

who wish to be blessed with a male child visit this place with the belief that their desire will be fulfilled.

A fair is held here on the first *Magh* (January-February) known as 'Maghi fair'. It lasts for three days. Besides, a fair is held on every *Amavas*. People in large numbers visit the place on these occasions and take bath in the sacred tank.

As per 1981 Census, the village had a primary school, a middle school and a post office.

Joga

Situated at a distance of about 19 km from Mansa, the tahsil headquarters, Joga lies on Mansa-Barnala road. Its population, as per 1981 Census, was 7,029 persons, as against 5,661 in 1971.

A fair known as 'Palara Fair' is held here on *Chet Sudi* 14 (March-April), which lasts for three days. It is associated with the Pandavas, who are said to have stayed here. According to another legend, Lord Rama played in a swing *(ping palongra)* here, in whose memory a temple had been constructed. A large number of persons, both Hindus and Sikhs, attend the fair and take bath in the holy tank.

The village has 2 high schools, 2 middle schools, 2 primary schools, a primary health centre, a dispensary and a post office.

Khiala Kalan

Situated at a distance of about 5 km from Mansa, the tahsil headquaters, Khiala Kalan falls on Mansa-Bhikhi-Sunam road. Its population, as per 1981 Census, was 4,506, as against 4,217 in 1971.

There is an old *gurudwara* built in the memory of Guru Teg Bahadur who is said to have visited this place. Nearby, there is an old *beri* tree with which Guru Teg Bahadur is said to have tied his horse. A *gurudwara* has also been raised on this spot. Besides, there is a temple of goddess *(devi)* built by Brahmins of the village. Guru Teg Bahadur is said to have offered milk in a *chhanna* (a big pot made of bronze) by a Brahmin family. This *chhanna* is still kept by Pandit Hari Ram Rikhi, descendant of the family.

The village has a high school, a hospital, a dispensary, a primary health centre and a post office.

Maisar Khana

This village falls in tahsil Talwandi Sabo on the New Delhi-Bathinda-Firozpur railway line and is about 30 km from Bathinda, the district headquarters. It is connected with Maur Mandi, another town of the district and is about 10 km from this place. Its population as per 1981 Census, was 3,043 persons, as against 2,358 in 1971.

About 500 years ago, a Sadhu who was Brahmin by caste used to live in village Maisar Khan. He was a staunch follower of Lattan Wali, goddess of Kangra. Once he asked the people of the village to accompany him to pay homage to the goddess at Kangra. Some of the villagers accompainied him to the place and were so much impressed at the sight of the flames erupting in the temple that they prayed to the goddess for the appearance of similar flames in their own village. Next year, similar flames appeared at the spot in the village, where a temple was constructed by the villagers.

A fair is held here in September-October for one day in the memory of the Sadhu. On this day, offerings of *halwa* and cash are made to the deity. Religious preachers give sermons to the people on the occasion. Ceremony of digging of earth and throwing it on a 35 feet high mound is performed. Some people also perform the *mundan* (first hair-cutting) ceremony of their children here. The fair is attended by a large number of people from far and near. The temple is under the management of Sanatan Dharam Mahabir Dal, Bathinda.

The village has a higher secondary school, a middle school, a primary school, a dispensary, a primary health centre and a post office. Besides, Malwa Prantiya Sanskrit Mahavidyala is being run by Malwa Prantiya Brahman Sabha, Maisar Khana, in which Pragya, Vishard and Shastari classes are held.

Mansa

Mansa is a tahsil and subdivision of the same name. It is situated on the Bathinda-Delhi railway line. It is connected by road with Patiala (110 km), Bathinda, the district headquarters (55 km) and Chandigarh, the State headquarter (175 km).

The town is said to have been founded by Bhai

Gurdas, who hailed from village Dhingar in Bathinda District. He is said to have been married at this place among the Dhaliwal Jats. Once he came to his in-laws to take his wife along with him, but they refused to send her. At this, Bhai Gurdas sat in meditation before the house of his in-laws. After sometime, the parents of the girl agreed to send their daughter with Bhai Gurdas. But he refused to take her along with him, stating that he had now renounced the wordly way of life. In his memory, a *smadh* was constructed where a fair is held every year in March-April. People in large number attend the fair and offer *ladoos* and gur at the *smadh*.

The town has 2 colleges, viz. Nehru Memorial Post-graduate College and S.D. Kanya Mahavidyala, 2 hospitals, 2 dispensaries (one Ayurvedic and one Homoeopathic), 5 higher secondary/high schools, 5 middle schools, 10 primary schools and one Municipal library.

A Class II municipality has been functioning in the town since 1952. The population of the town, as per 1981 Census, was 43,289 persons, as against 31,351 in 1971.

Maur Mandi

Situated on Bathinda-Mansa road at a distance of 42 km from Bathinda, the district headquarters, Maur Mandi is a railway station on the Firozpur-Bathinda-New Delhi railway line. It falls in tahsil Talwandi Sabo, whose headquarters are 18 km from here. It is well connected by road with the state headquarters, Chandigarh (187 km), Patiala (122 km), Talwandi Sabo (18 km) and Bathinda (42 km). It has a class II Municipal Committee. Its population as per 1981 Census was 18,853 persons, as against 13,407 in 1971.

The town is said to have been founded by one Maur, a Jat of Mann sub-caste. There exists a *gurudwara* which is associated with the visit of Guru Teg Bahadur, the ninth Guru of the Sikhs. It is said that the Guru stayed here for a few days and got rid the villagers of a ghost. A fair is held here on every *Amavas*.

The town has a hospital, a dispensary, a family planning centre, 3 higher secondary/high schools, 4 middle schools, 6 primary schools and a public library.

The town is known for the manufacture of agricultural implements and shoes.

Mehma Sarja

This village falls in Bathinda Tahsil and lies west of Bathinda. The nearest town is Goniana Mandi which is 6 km from this place. Its population as per 1981 Census was 5,108 persons, as against 4,233 in 1971.

The historic Gurudwara Lakhi Jangal was built in this village in the memory of Guru Nanak Dev, who is said to have recited Japji Sahib one lakh times at this place. It is also said that Guru Hargobind, Guru Har Rai and Guru Gobind Singh, the 6th, 7th and 10th Gurus, respectively, also visited this place.

A big fair is held here on Baisakhi day. Besides, fairs are held on the occasion of *Maghi* and every *Puranmashi*. People in large number visit the place during these fairs and take a dip in the holy tank.

The village had, as per 1981 Census, one high school, one middle school, two primary schools, one veterinary hospital, one dispensary and a post office.

Patti Karam Chand (Mehraj)

It falls in Rampura Phul Tahsil and is 5 km from Rampura Phul, the tahsil headquarters. Its population as per 1981 Census was 4,353 persons, as against 3,610 in 1971.

A *gurudwara* called 'Gurudwara Gurusar' stands here. It is associated with Guru Hargobind, the 6th Guru of the Sikhs, and his fight with the Muslim Commander, Lalla Beg. A fair is held here on 1 *Magh* (January-February) for one day, which is attended by a large number of people. People take bath in the holy tank on this day.

The village has a primary, a middle and a higher secondary school, a hospital, and a post office.

Phaphare Bhaike

Situated at a distance of 10 km from Mansa, Phaphare Bhaike falls in Mansa Tahsil. Its population, as per 1981 Census, was 3,339 persons, as against 2,687 in 1971.

Phaphare Bhaike is known for Bhai Behlo, who hailed from this village. Bhai Behlo spent his life in

the service of Guru Arjan Dev, the 5th Guru, at Amritsar. The Guru was so much pleased with his devotion and service that he blessed him by saying 'Bhai Behlo Sab Ton Pehlon' (Bhai Behlo, you are the first of all). Bhai Behlo also accompanied the marriage party of the Guru. There is a *smadh* of Bhai Behlo in the village. Nearby, there is also a big *sarover* (tank). A splendid *gurudwara* has been constructed in the memory of Bhai Behlo. A big fair is held on *Asuj* 10 (September-October) every year which lasts for 3 days. People from far and near attend the fair and pay their obeisance. Religious *diwans* (congregations) are also held on the occasion.

The village has a primary school, a middle school, a high school, a hospital, a dispensary and a post office.

Rampura Phul

Headquarters of the tahsil and subdivision of the same name, Rampura Phul is situated at a distance of 26 km from Bathinda, the district headquarters on the Bathinda-Patiala road. It is also a railway station on the Ambala-Bathinda railway line. It is a Class II Municipal Committee. Its population as per 1981 Census was 31,890 as against 23,406 in 1971.

Formerly, the town of Rampura Phul was in the Barnala District of PEPSU. But in 1954, it was transferred to the Bathinda District. These are the twin towns, Rampura and Phul, part of the town was founded by Phul, the ancester of the Phulkian family, in 1770 B.K. (A.D. 1827). Rampura was founded by Rama, the son of Phul. These towns are now called Rampura Phul. Phul was earlier a part of the Nabha State. It was regularly built and divided into 8 *agwars*. Its wall is octagonal, studded with pakka gate ways. The Fort at Phul was constructed by Chaudhri Phul. Even in 1904, there existed a Vernacular Middle School at Phul. The town had, at that time, a garden too.

The town has 2 arts and science colleges, 6 higher secondary/high schools, 7 primary schools, 2 hospitals, 2 dispensaries, 1 family planning centre, and 1 public library. The town is famous for the manufacture of ginning blades, cotton thread and soap. The important agricultural commodities are foodgrain, cotton and oilseeds.

Talwandi Sabo

Headquarters of the tahsil/subdivision of the same name, Talwandi Sabo is situated at a distance of 28 km from Bathinda on the Bathinda-Sardulgarh road. Its population as per 1981 Census was 10,454 persons, as against 7,945 in 1971.

Talwandi Sabo, also popularly known as Damdama Sahib, is named after one Sahabo, a Gujar girl. It is said that in 1149, it was inhabited by Hindu Gujars, who were converted into Muslims during the reign of Shamsh-ud-din Illutmish and given forty-eight villages. Since the head of Gujars did not have any male issue, his daughter Sahabo became the head of these villages and in this way the area came to be known as Talwandi-Sahabo, which is now called Talwandi Sabo. During the Mughal period, Talwandi Sabo was ruled by the Brars. When Guru Gobind Singh came to this place, Rai Dalla (later on Dalla Singh) was Chaudhary of these villages. It is also said that during the ancient period, the river Sarswati was flowing here and some Rishis dwelt here. It is also said that Guru Nanak Dev, the first Guru of the Sikhs, came here during his Second Journey *(Udasi)*. The Guru blessed the place that one day it will emerge as an important pilgrim centre.

The place is also said to have been visited by Guru Teg Bahadur, the ninth Guru of the Sikhs. He bowed before the raised mound and sat beneath it. When asked about it by his followers, he said that this place had been visited by the first Guru, and it will be visited by the tenth Guru and that will develop as a great *tirath* (pilgrim centre).

Talwandi Sabo is one of the five *takhats* of the Sikhs. After his fierce battles with the Mughals at Anandpur, Chamkaur and Muktsar, Guru Gobind Singh retired to the jungles of Malwa. Talwandi Sabo where the Guru took rest *(dam)* came to be known as Damdama Sahib. The Guru stayed here for more than nine months. During this period, he redicated the *Adi Granth*, and made Damdama Sahib a centre for spreading his mission. He called the place *Khalse De Takhat* (throne of the Khalsa). A stamp was prepared bearing the letters 'Akal Sahai, Guru Gobind Singh Ji Ki Jagha, Takhat Damdama Ji' (God may help the place of Guru Gobind Singh, the throne of Damdama). All important documents

issued by the Guru from this place were embossed with this stamp. The stamp even exists to this day.

The original manuscript of Adi Granth compiled by Guru Arjan Dev was in the possession of the Sodhis of Kartarpur. They refused to lend this copy to Guru Gobind Singh and remarked that if he was a real Guru, he should reproduce the scripture himself. On this, Guru Gobind Singh dictated a fresh text of Adi Granth to Bhai Mani Singh. The Guru founded a university for study in religion and named the village Guru Ki Kashi. Baba Deep Singh was appointed the first chancellor of this university.

Damdama Sahib is the headquarters of the Nihangs, a warrior sect among the Sikhs, founded by Akali Phoola Singh. It is the venue of one of the most colourful and biggest Baisakhi fair. The fair dates back to about 250 years and is held every year for three days from 30 *Chet* to 2 *Baisakh* in mid April. It is attended by a large number of people from far and near.

At the Gurudwara Damdama Sahib, some sacred weapons of Guru Gobind Singh are preserved. These are : a rifle, a sword and the stamp. Besides, a sword of Banda Bahadur has also been preserved here. In addition to these weapons, a few articles of the Guru are also lying with the descendants of Chaudhary Dalla. It includes *khanda*, *dastar* (short turban), *chola* (a long wearing apparel) and a copy of *Guru Granth Sahib* of the match-box size.

Besides Gurudwara Damdama Sahib, there are the following *gurudwaras* in Talwandi Sabo :

1 **Manji Sahib of the Ninth Guru.**—The ninth Sikh Guru, Teg Bahadur, visited Talwandi Sabo while on his way to Delhi where he was beheaded. At the place, where he is stated to have stayed, exists a *gurudwara*, known as 'Manji Sahib of the Ninth Guru'.

2 **Manji Sahib of the Tenth Guru.**—Guru Teg Bahadur had predicted that the tenth Guru would also visit the village. At the place where Guru Gobind Singh is said to have stayed, a *gurudwara* known as 'Manji Sahib of the Tenth Guru' has been constructed.

3 **Takhat Shri Guru Kashi.**—It is a tall *gurudwara* where Guru Gobind Singh set up his throne. This shrine is the main centre of attraction for the visitors.

4 **Gurudwara Likhan Sar.**—It is said that the pens used while writing the *Adi Granth*, were thrown in a tank by the tenth Guru. Gurudwara Likhan Sar was constructed here later. Scholars and writers pay obeisance to the shrine so that they may be blessed with superior writing power.

5 **Gurudwara Jand Sar.**—It is stated that the tenth Guru's army of Brars demanded arrears of salary from the Guru; threatening to leave him otherwise. The story goes that the Guru asked them to dig a place near a *jand* tree. They did so and found a treasure-trove lying in the earth. This provided the means for the Guru to pay them their dues. At this place stands Gurudwara Jand Sar.

6 **Gurudwara Mata Sahib Kaur and Mata Sundri.**—The two wives of Guru Gobind Singh, Mata Sahib Kaur and Mata Sundri were separated from him during the Mughal attack near the Sirsa stream. When the Guru settled at Damdama Sahib, he called them back. A *gurudwara* associated with their names now stands at Damdama Sahib.

7 **Gurudwara Ber Sahib Chhaoni Nihangan.**—This *gurudwara* is owned by Nihang Sikhs of the Buddha Dal. The tenth Guru is said to have planted a *ber* tree at this place.

8 **Gurudwara Sant Attar Singh.**—This *gurudwara* was got constructed by Sant Attar Singh of Mastuana (district Sangrur) and is named after him.

9 **Gurudwara Teg Bahadur.**—The 9th Guru initiated the digging of a tank at Damdama Sahib and he himself participated in this work. A *gurudwara* now stands at this spot, and is named after him.

10 **Gurudwara Mahal Sar.**—The Tenth Guru used to play Hola Mohalla after the *diwans* on various *gurparbs* and displayed feats of his martial skill. At this place, there is a *gurudwara* known as Mahal Sar. The Nihangs play Hola Mohalla there on the last day of the Baisakhi festival and display their skills of horse riding and martial art.

In addition to above *gurudwaras*, there is a tank known as Nanak Sar Sarovar. It is associated with Guru Nanak Dev, who is stated to have visited this place in 1510 during his Second Journey *(Udasi)*.

The town has an arts college, known as Guru Kashi College, 3 high schools, 4 middle schools, 5 primary schools, a hospital, a family planning centre and a public library.

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INDEX

A

Abohar	198
Adamke	5
Agraha	74
Ahmad Shah Durrani	319
Ahmadpur	9
Ajmer	38, 43
Ajit Singh Kanwar	50
Akbar	319
Alla Singh	46, 47, 49, 319, 356, 361, 534
Ala-ud-din Khilzi	40, 535
Altunia	39
Amar Singh, Raja	47, 48
Amritsar	195, 545
Anandpur Sahib	45, 46, 49, 546
Aravali	11
Arjan Dev, Guru	86, 545, 547
Assa Singh, Mahant	431
Attar Singh, Sant	548

B

Babar	42, 43, 44
Bagawali	226
Bahram	39, 40
Bahlol Lodhi	42
Balban	40
Balianwali	327, 427
Balluana	226
Banda Bahadur	46
Bangi Nihal Singh	227

Baram	5, 10
Barah	4
Bareta	3, 6, 9, 10, 59, 135, 199, 200, 226, 396, 398, 536
Bariam	44
Barnala	2, 46, 57, 58, 297
Basir	43
Batera	43
Bathinda	1, 2, 3, 26, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 46, 48, 50, 53, 57, 63, 65, 117, 132, 135, 137, 138, 143, 159, 163, 168, 169, 178, 180, 184, 193, 198, 199, 200, 224, 226, 268, 272, 275, 284, 290, 297, 298, 299, 306, 311, 352, 356, 359, 360, 361, 362, 365, 366, 375, 383, 384, 396, 398, 406, 413, 417, 439, 447, 466, 483, 488, 534, 536, 538
Behlo Bhai	545
Behman Diwana	226
Bhadaur	49
Bhagta Bhai Ka	199
Bhagwanpura	281, 282
Bhaini Sahib	53
Bhai Rupa	45, 135, 200, 418
Bharpur Singh, Raja	418
Bharpur Singh, Sodhi	48
Bhakra Main Canal	6
Bhalowan	9
Bhatner	37
Bhatti, Rao	37
Bhidowal	44

Bhikhi	9, 10, 155, 199, 357, 441
Bhokhri	540
Bhopal	537
Bhucho	199, 200, 398, 440
Bhumian Singh	47
Bhupinder Singh, Maharaja	53, 56, 57,58
Bijai Rai	37
Bikramgarh	1, 34, 534
Binaipal	1, 34, 534
Biroke	9, 10
Boha	357
Bombay	60, 517
Budhlada	9, 46, 59, 133, 135, 159, 199, 200, 224, 226, 275, 299, 306, 396, 398, 418, 440, 538
Bughra Khan	40

C

Calcutta	191
Calthrop, C.M. Major	441
Chak Niagaon	3
Chamba	11
Chamkaur Sahib	45, 46, 546
Chandal	45
Chandigarh	1, 156, 158, 195, 366, 384, 472, 534, 538
Chand Bhan	226
Chathewal	484
Chauhan, Prithi Raj	38
Chinarthal	280
Chotian	418

D

Dabwali, Mandi 168
Daljit Rai Bhatti 41
Daliawali 538
Dalla Rai 546
Damdama Sahib 45, 46, 59, 418, 546, 548
Danewalia, Jaswant Singh 57
Daska 3
Datewas 3
Datawal 226
Dault Ram, Lala 326,327
Daya Singh, Sardar 324
Dayal Pura 417
Deep Singh, Baba 547
Delhi 1, 11, 38, 39, 43, 50, 165, 226, 474
Devi Dass 47
Dhalewan 9, 10
Dhanaula 333
Dharmpura 6
Dhaipai 9
Dhirmal 46
Dhingar 542
Doomwali 168

F

Faulad Turkbacha 40
Faridkot 1, 2, 34, 62, 98, 133, 146, 297, 298, 299, 319, 396, 534
Fattoh 47
Firozpur 1, 34, 133, 146, 226, 534

G

Garhi Bhagi 227
Ghanu 45
Ghanaia Bhai 539
Ghaggar, River 5, 6, 10, 138, 146
Ghandu Khurd 10
Giana 3
Gill Kalan 155
Gobindpura 9
Gobind Fort 1
Gobindgarh 1, 297, 534
Gobind Singh, Guru 1, 45, 46, 52, 74, 534, 535, 536, 538, 539, 540, 544, 546, 547, 548
Goniana 135, 170, 199, 396, 398, 440, 539
Gulabgarh 280
Gumti 45
Gurney Kalan 3
Gurthari 9
Gursar Sanehwala 226
Gurdas, Bhai 543
Gurmukh Singh 54

H

Haji Rattan 535-536
Hanumangarh 226
Har Rai Pura 539
Har Rai, Guru 540, 544
Hargobind, Guru 44, 45, 544
Harappa 34
Hardyal, Lala 55

Harnam Singh Wala 106
Hari Ram Rikhi, Pandit 541
Harshvardhan 37
Hemhel 43
Hengna 146
Heerke 6, 10
Heron Kalan 9
Hindu Kush 11
Hingna 6
Hisar 34, 43
Hodla Kalan 9
Hukman, Rani 49
Hume, A.O. 516
Humayun 44
Hussan Khan 45

I

Ibrahim Lodhi 43
Illutmish 39, 43
Imad-ul-Malik 41
Islam Khan 41, 42

J

Jagta Ji, Bhai 539
Jaito 2, 297, 539
Jaipal 34
Jalal 418
Jalal-ud-din Yaqut 39
Jalbehra 9
Jalandhar 195
Jandra 205

Jasrat 42
Jasi Bagwati 540
Jethuke 60, 226
Jasal 42, 43
Jesalmer 42, 43
Jhunir 200, 306
Jhandu 45
Jiwan Singh Wala 106
Jind 34, 49, 50, 58, 62, 297, 319, 370
Jodh Singh Saboke 46
Joga 54, 541
Juglan 6

K

Kahangarh 3, 226
Kahan Singh, Sardar 324
Kalan 43
Kamal Khan 41, 42
Kanhiya Lal, Lala 324
Kanshi Ram, Pandit 55
Kangra 11
Kapur Singh 48
Kapurthala 62
Karamgarh Sattran 221
Karam Singh Maharaja 50, 52, 356, 368, 369, 536
Kashmir 11
Katar Singh Wala 226
Kauloke 47
Kaurewala 281
Kesar Ram Chaudhry 327

Kharak Singh, Baba 56
Khem Kaur, Rani 49, 298
Khemniana 484
Khiwa Khurd 9, 10
Khiwa Kalan 9
Khiala Kalan 541
Khudal Kalan 6
Kirpal Singh 55
Khiva 43
Kiratpur 540, 547
Kishangarh 9, 10
Kinnaur 11
Kot Fateh 135, 200, 226, 396, 398
Kotli Kalan 226
Kot Dharmu 538
Kot Kapura 325, 396
Kulwant Rai, Lala 343
Kularan 324
Kugh 540
Kullan 10

L

Lahore 58
Laihra Khana 226
Laihre Muhabat 226
Lalla Beg 544
Lal Singh 47
Lav 540
Lohat Badi 325, 328
Longowalia, Bhagwan Singh 57, 58
Ludhiana 1, 54, 158, 195, 534

M

Mahavir, Lord 198
Maisar Khana 226, 542
Malaut 198
Malerkotla 49, 54, 58, 198
Malik Yusuf 41
Malik Kalu 41
Mandeli 10
Mani Singh, Bhai 46, 547
Man Singh 48
Mangal Singh 54
Mandi Kalan 280
Manwala Kot 227
Mansa 2, 3, 7, 9, 34, 56, 57, 58 59, 63, 117, 135, 137, 143, 169, 180, 193, 198, 199, 200, 220, 272, 284, 297, 298, 306, 311, 362, 370, 375, 383, 396
Mastan Singh 54
Masfuana 548
Maur 57, 135, 199, 200, 226, 396, 398, 440, 538, 542, 543
Mehraj/Maharaj 44
Mehma Sarja 544
Mirpur Khurd 5
Mirpur Kalan 5
Mohan 44
Mohinder Singh, Maharaja. 52, 53, 356, 369, 417, 441
Moti Ram, Lala 325
Muhammad Ghori 38
Mubark Shah 40, 41

Muktsar 546

N

Nabha 2, 34, 49, 50, 51, 52, 58, 62, 133, 297, 319, 370, 418, 427

Nagpur 195

Nahar Singh, Sodhi 49

Nalagarh 62

Nanak Dev, Guru 73, 86, 535, 536, 544, 546, 548

Nanun Mal, Diwan 49

Narinder Singh, Maharaja 1, 52, 298, 321, 322, 328, 343, 369, 417

Narindra Pura 226

Narauna Jodhpur 226

Nathana 297, 298, 306, 539

Nazur-ud-din-Quabacha 39

P

Pahar Singh, Raja 325

Pan 43

Panipat 42, 43

Partap Singh, Chaudhry 489

Patiala 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 57, 58, 61, 62, 133, 195, 297, 319, 360, 369, 428, 467, 538

Patel, Vallabh Bhai 62

Patti Karam Chand (Mehraj) 544

Payal 101

Pem 43

Pitho 54

Phaphare Bhaike 544

Phoola Singh, Akali 547

Phul, Chaudhri 45, 60, 545

Phul 2, 297, 298, 299, 306, 333, 370, 383

Phus Mandi 226

Popham Young, Major 323

Q

Qutab-ud-din Aibak 38, 39

R

Raiya 281

Raikot 54

Rajpura 53, 226

Rajinder Singh, Maharaja 53, 298

Rajasthan 99, 143

Ralla Kothe 280

Rampura Phul 2, 3, 63, 66, 102, 105, 106, 117, 131, 137, 143, 159, 199, 200, 226, 272, 284, 297, 298, 299, 306, 311, 375, 383, 418, 545

Ram Tirath Jagga 4

Raman/Ram Chand 45, 135, 199, 200, 227, 396, 398

Rampur 45

Ram Singh, Guru 53, 54

Ramanjit Singh 221

Ram Kishan, Lala 325

Rama, Lord 540, 541

Rama Nand 540

Ranjit Singh, Maharaja 57
Ratangarh 227
Ravi Dass, Guru 86
Raziyya 39, 534
Rewari 226
Ripon Lord 417
Rorki 6, 146
Rup Chand 44
Rup Chand, Bhai 45

S

Sadda Singh Wala 226, 484
Sahbo 545
Sahib Singh, Raja 48, 49, 50
Sahib Kaur 46, 548
Salvahan 43
Samerpuri 44
Samanu 484
Sandoha 48
Sangat Khurd/Sangat 4, 106, 155, 199, 226, 306, 440
Sangrehri 9
Sandhali 44
Sanghar 43
Sangrur 324, 333, 343
Sardul Singh 47
Sarwan Singh 55
Sardulgarh 57, 199, 299, 357
Sarswati River 546
Sardulewala 5
Sarup Singh, Raja 324

Satluj, River 38, 82, 101
Sema 281
Shaikh Salim 40
Sherkhan 40
Sherkhan Wala 6
Shah Jahan 44
Shaikh Ali 41, 42
Sham Singh 54
Shamsh-ud-din Illutmish 546
Sher Shah Suri 218
Sheikhpura 218
Shergarh 227
Shimla 60
Sirhind Canal 4, 5, 6, 101, 327
Sirhind 38, 45, 46, 47, 319
Sohan Singh, Bhakna 55
Srinagar 11
Sultan Mahmud 37
Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud 40
Sundri 46, 548
Sukhchen Singh 47, 48
Sunam 49, 57

T

Tabarhindu 1, 34
Tahlian 4, 5
Takhat Mal 45
Talwandi Sabo 3, 49, 59, 117, 131, 143, 155, 272, 297, 306, 311, 375, 383, 417, 441, 545
Teg Bahadur, Guru 86, 539, 541

Teona Pujarian 4
Thaman Singh 49
Thanda Ram 1, 34, 534
Thikriwala, Sewa Singh 56, 57, 58, 59
Tibi Hari Singh 5
Tiloka 45

U

Umbi, Mai 44

V

Vallabgarh 62

W

Wazir Khan 45, 46

Y

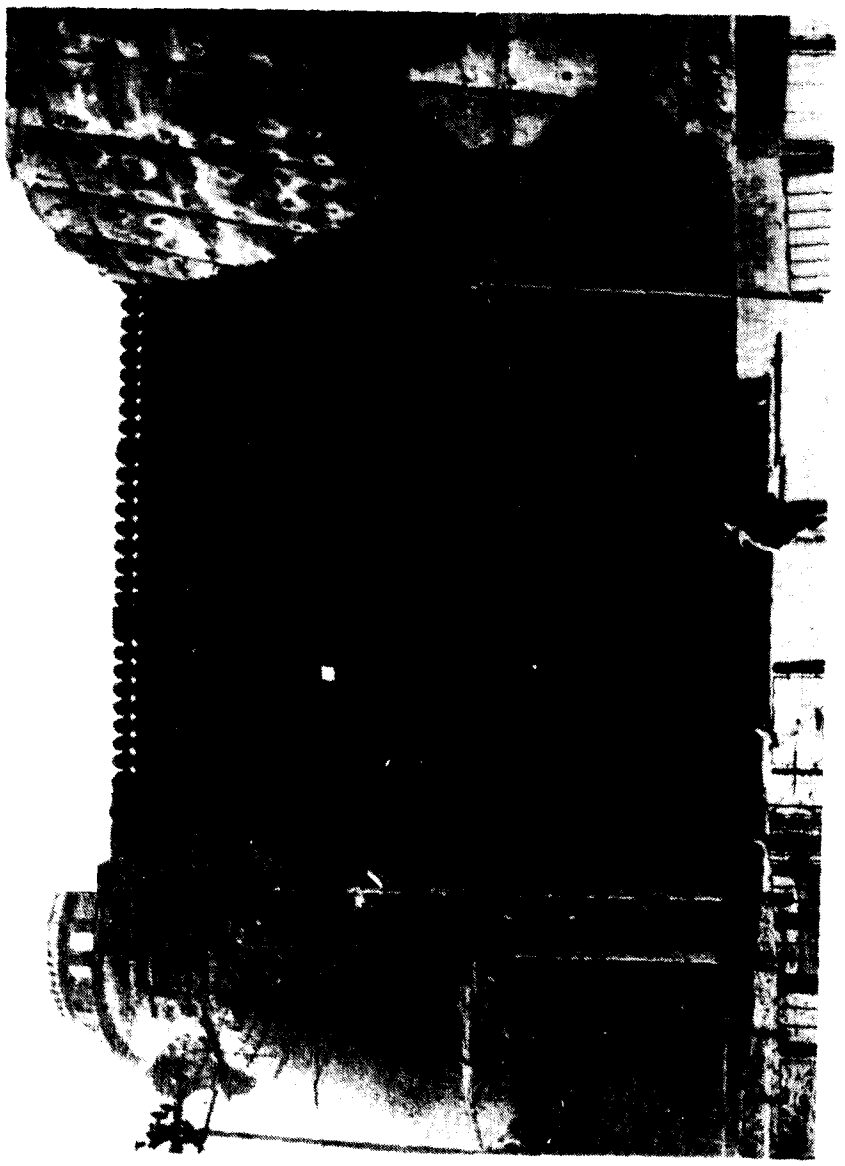
Yadvinder Singh, Maharaja 53, 62

Z

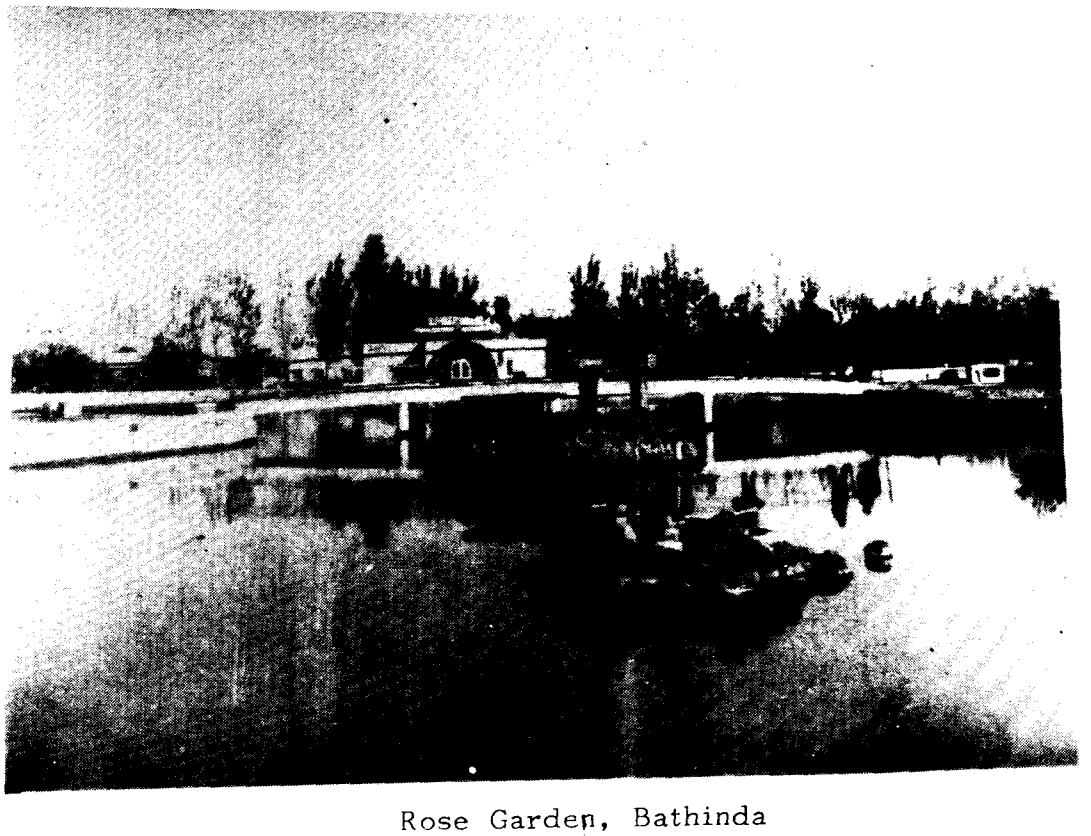
Zia-Ud-din 38
Zirak Khan 41

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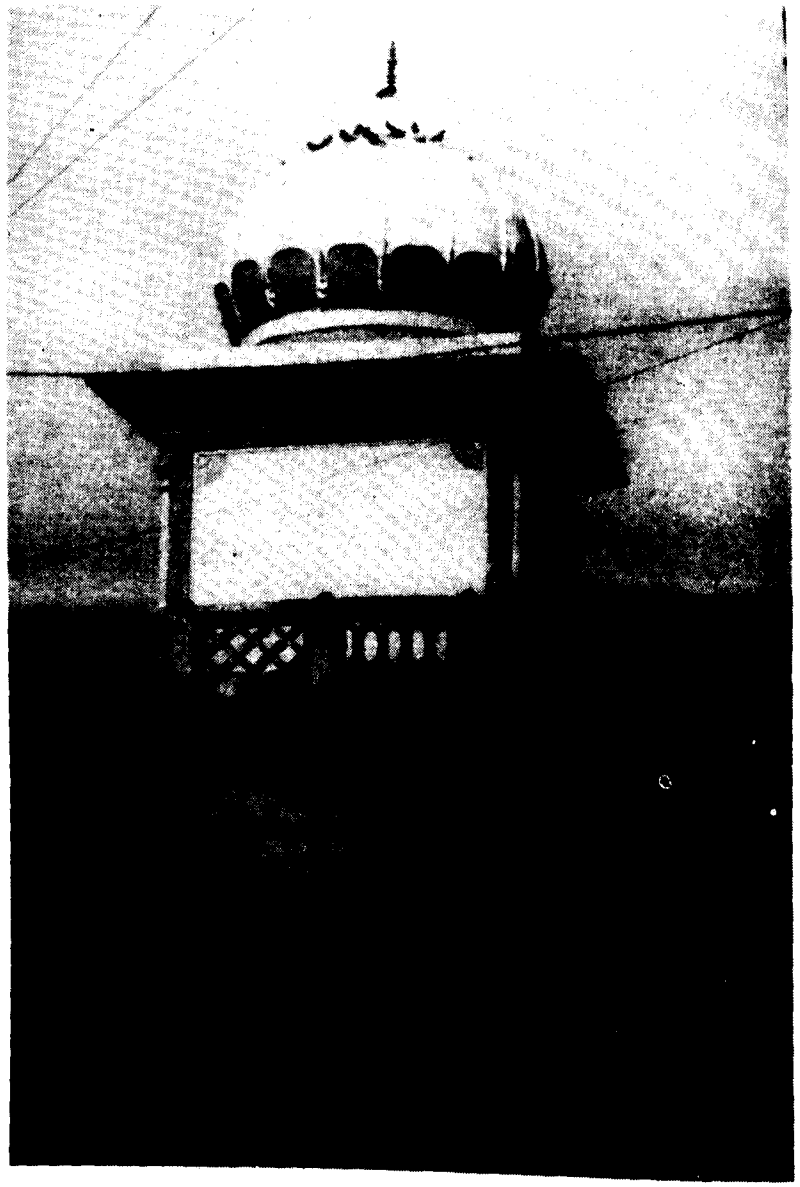
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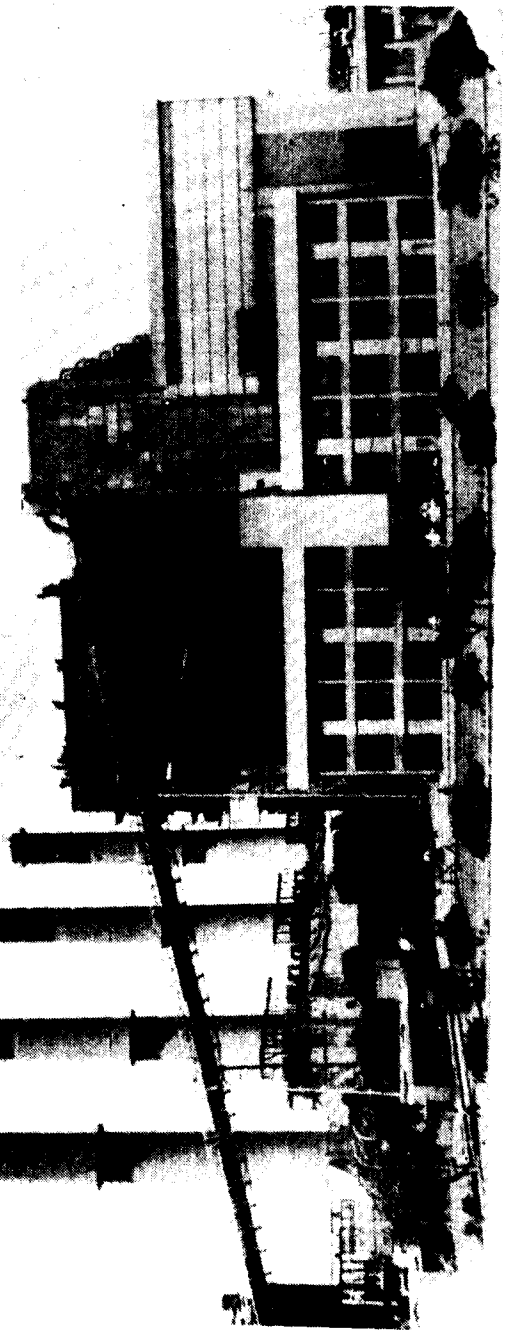
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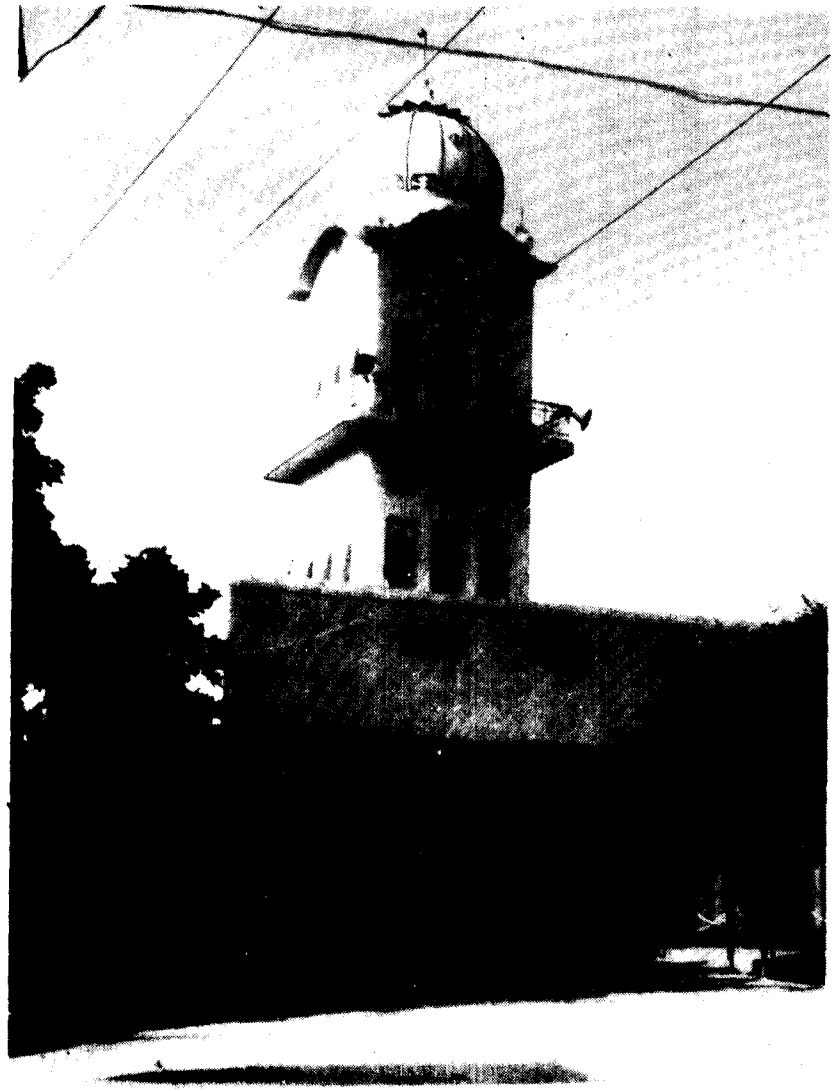
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Thermal Plant, Bathinda



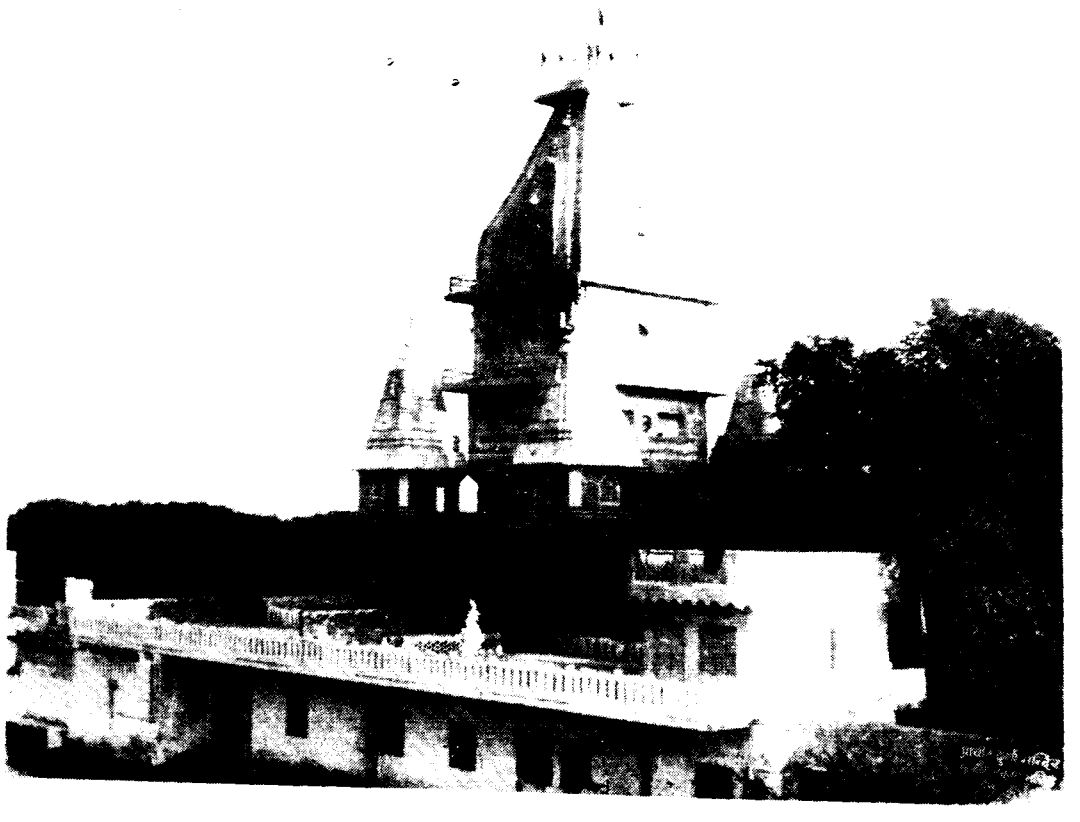
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Tikana Bhai Jagtaji, Goniana Mandi



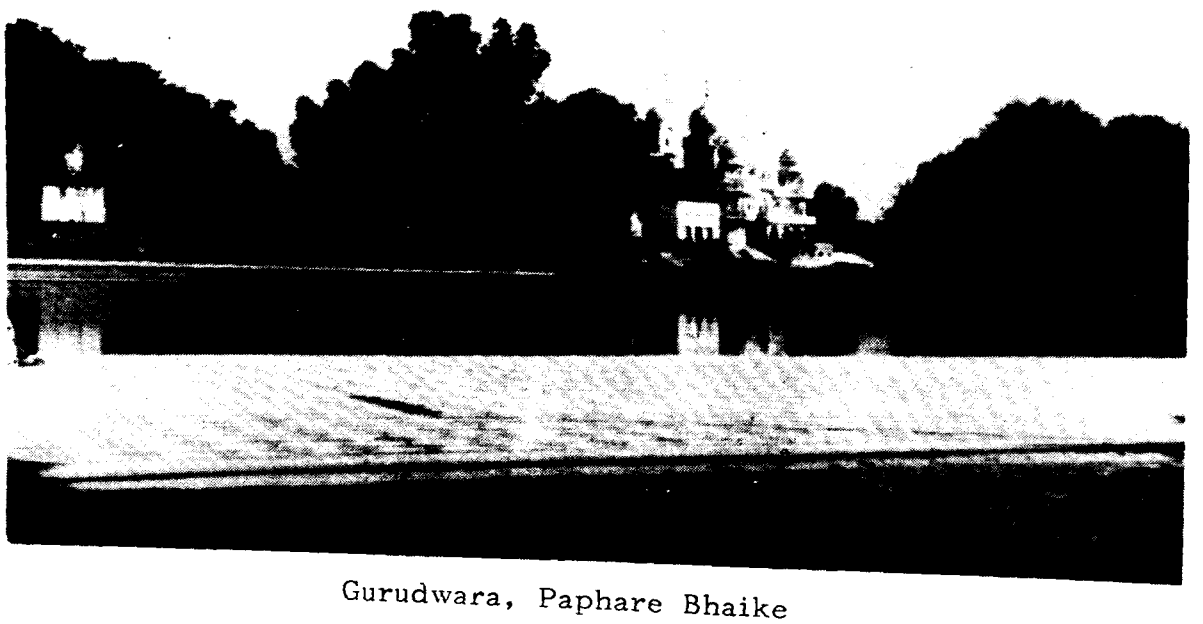
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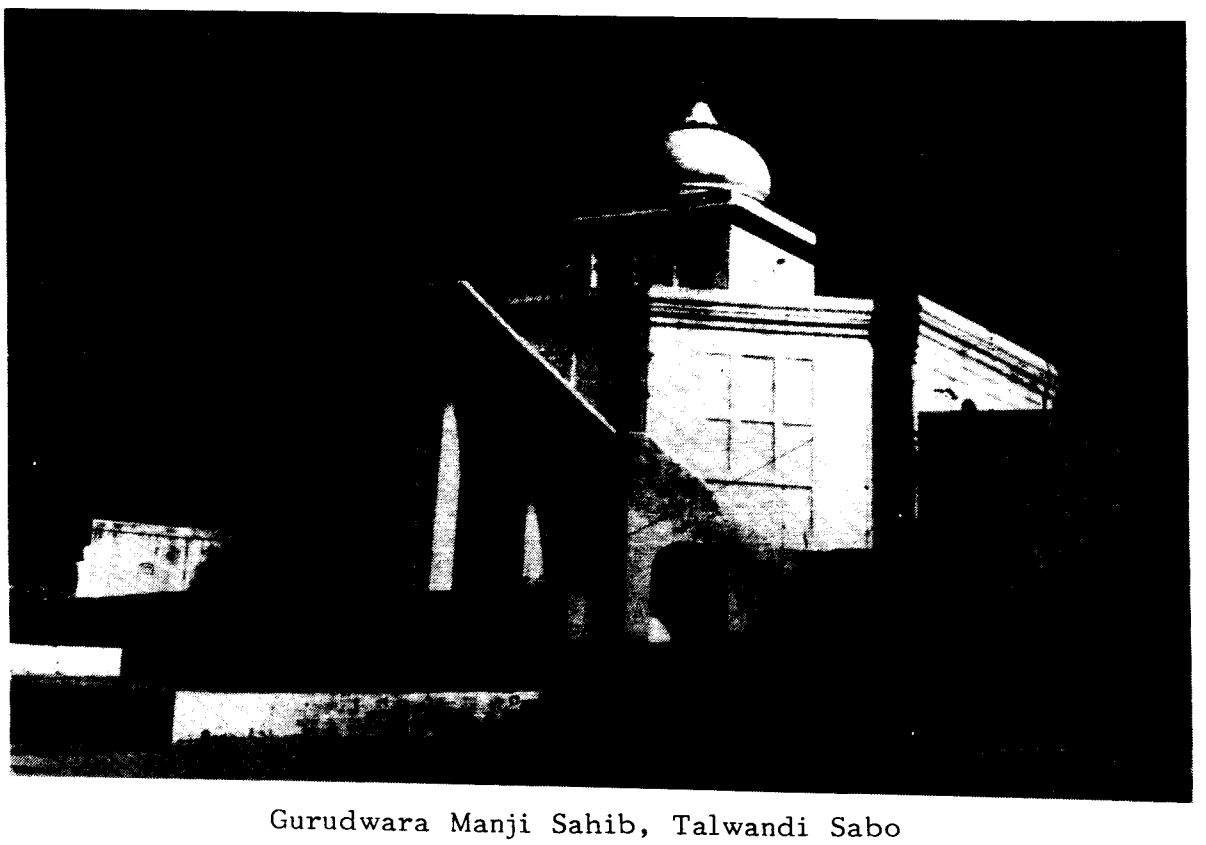
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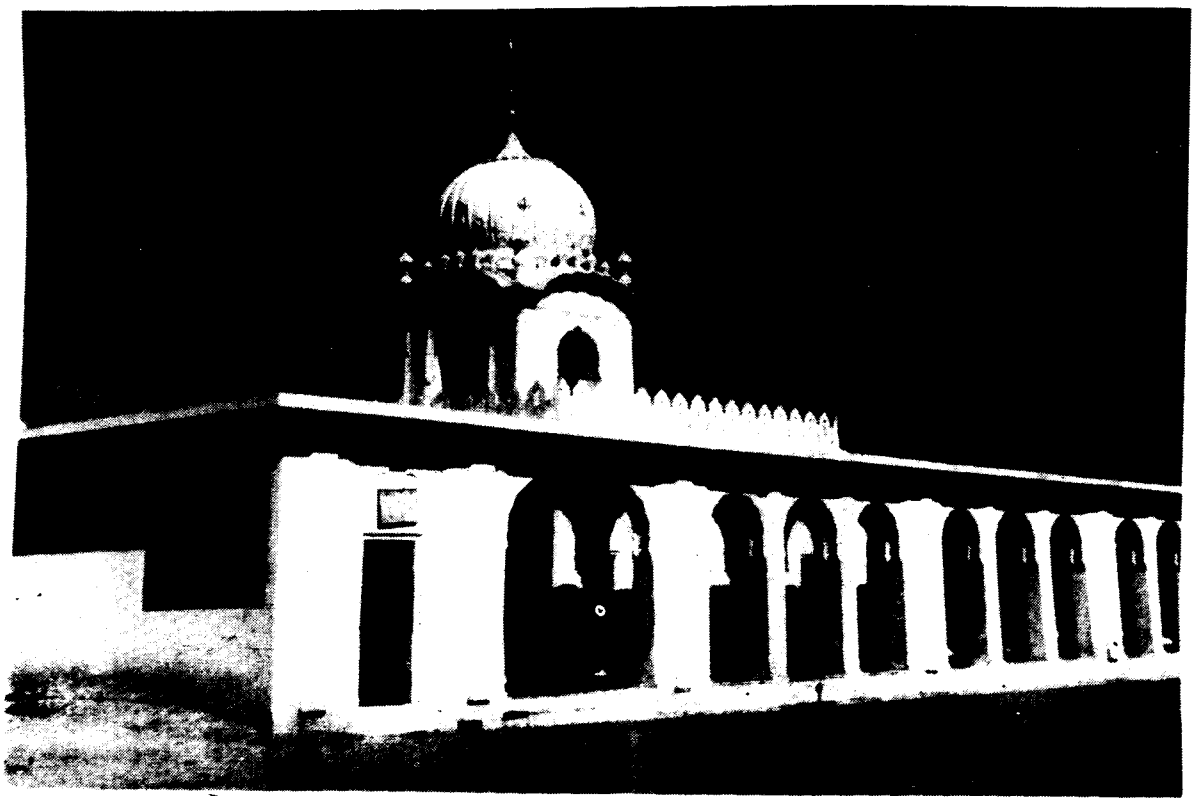
Gurudwara, Paphare Bhaike



Gurudwara Damdama Sahib, Talwandi Sabo



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Hoe-ploughing by a Camel