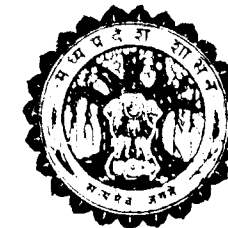


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MADHYA PRADESH

SHAH DOL

DIRECTORATE OF GAZETTEERS
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
MADHYA PRADESH
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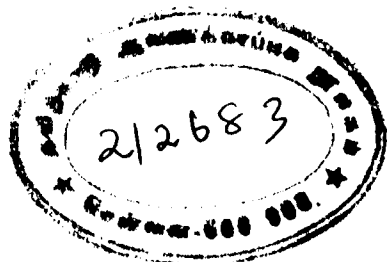
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BHOPAL
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Published by :

DIRECTOR
DIRECTORATE OF GAZETTEERS
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE,
MADHYA PRADESH
BHOPAL

Printed at Government Regional Press, Gwalior (M.P.)

P R E F A C E

Shahdol is one of the large Districts of Madhya Pradesh. The District traditionally, has been known for the famous pilgrimage centre of Amarkantak which is the origin place of the sacred Narmada, Son and Johilla rivers. The legend also connects it with the Pandava era through the old Viratnagar temple ruins. In recent times, it has attracted a good deal of public notice on account of the Amarkantak Thermal Power Station and the Amlai Paper Mills, besides, the numerous coal mines that dot the District on either side of the Katni-Bilaspur railway line. The District has also an abundance of natural wealth in its extensive forests covering a little more than two-fifth of its land surface and equally extensive patches of cultivated area. Another aspect which marks out the District is its vast tribal population making more than half of the total population.

Early history of Shahdol District is, however, not clearly chronicled, though, as suggested by the numerous ruins of buildings and other old remains that lie scattered at various places, including Sohagpur, Bandhogarh, etc. It must be having a glorious past. During the 10th century, most of the District area was included in the Kalchuri Kingdom of Ratanpur. The famous fort of Bandhogarh in the western part of the district was in fact given by the Kalchuri ruler in dowry to the Baghela Chief of Rewa in the 13th Century. The Bandhogarh fort continued to be the seat of Baghela rulers till 1597, when the capital was shifted to Rewa. In 1808 considerable portion of the district comprised in the Sohagpur and Bandhogarh tahsil, passed into the hands of Marathas and from them in 1826 to the hands of the British. It was given to the Ruler of Rewa after the great revolt of 1857 in lieu of the help given by the Rewa Chief in quelling the mutineers in Ramgarh (Mandla District) and other places. A southern 'division' or district of Rewa State was created in the beginning of 20th Century. The headquarters of the southern division were located first at Beohari, and then at Bandhogarh. The District of Umaria including Sohagpur was formed in 1935. After the merger of States, the Shahdol district remained in part 'C' State of Vindhya Pradesh. Since the reorganisation of States on 1st November 1956 Shahdol district is a part of Rewa Commissioner's Division of Madhya Pradesh.

The preliminary draft of Shahdol District Gazetteer, 30th in the series, was finalised by the then Director Shri A.M. Sinha and was approved by the Government of India in 1977. Yet for unavoidable reasons it remained unpublished till 1994. During this long period of seventeen years there has been considerable development in various fields in the District and to bridge up this gap, all latest figures upto 1991 have been added to this volume in the shape of Appendix 'C'.

This Gazetteer is the result of strenuous and sustained efforts of a team of officers. Besides the former directors, Sarvashri S.D. Guru, P.K. Bhatnagar, M.P. Dubey and K.R.R.C. Nair, the following officers contributed to its making at different

stages of drafting, editing and printing: Shri Vishnu Sharan, former Joint Director; Sarvashri R.R. Jain, R.K. Shrivastava, Smt. Namita Sen, S.M. Rastogi, Dr. R.C. Gupta and Dr. K.S. Sharma, all former Deputy Directors; Shri R.K. Nayak, former Assistant Director; Sarvashri Vijay Jain, A.M. Sharma, Nawal Kishore and S.C. Chaturvedi, Deputy Directors; and Sarvashri S.S.C. Kerketta, Dr. Prabir Kumar Jha, Smt. Vandana Pandey, Dr. Suresh Tiwari and Shri H.R. Ahirwar, all Assistant Directors. I am thankful to all of them.

I am grateful to Dr. P.N. Chopra, Editor, Gazetteers Unit, New Delhi, and his team of officers for going through the draft and giving their valuable suggestions. The Central Archaeology department and Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, Jabalpur were kind enough to supply necessary photographs. Photographs were also prepared departmentally by Shri Yaduraj Singh, Artist. Dr. Prabir Kumar Jha did his best as Press Officer for printing the Gazetteer. Shri H.R. Ahirwar prepared the Index. Smt. Pankajakshi Amma, Office Superintendent, and the entire office staff extended all cooperation for completing this work. The Deputy Controller, Government Regional Press, Gwalior, took special interest in seeing the printing work through.

Bhopal,
August, 1, 1994.

Dr. N.P. Pandey
DIRECTOR

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-



Shiva Temple, Amarkantak.

CHAPTER-I GENERAL

Origin Of The Name Of The District

Shahdol is named after the headquarters town Shahdol which is located on the Bilaspur-Katni Section of the South-Eastern Railway. The etymology of the name as ascertained from the local residents points to its derivation from the name of the one Shahdolwa Ahir of Sohagpur village. The progenitor of the *ex-Illakadar* family of Sohagpur, Jamni Bhan was the second son of Maharaja Virbhan Singh of Baghelkhand. He decided to settle at Sohagpur and assured maximum facilities to settlers around, and also declared that places settled by clearing forests will be named after the pioneer settlers. Shahdolwa Ahir is believed to have settled the former village of Shahdolwa, about 2.5 km. from the headquarters of Sohagpur after this declaration. Later on, the place used to be the camp site for the Maharaja of Rewa and British officers on tour. More villages were grouped into the village of Shahdol as it grew to a town. The District Headquarters was shifted from Umaria to Shahdol after the merger of princely states took place in 1948.

Location, Shape And Boundaries

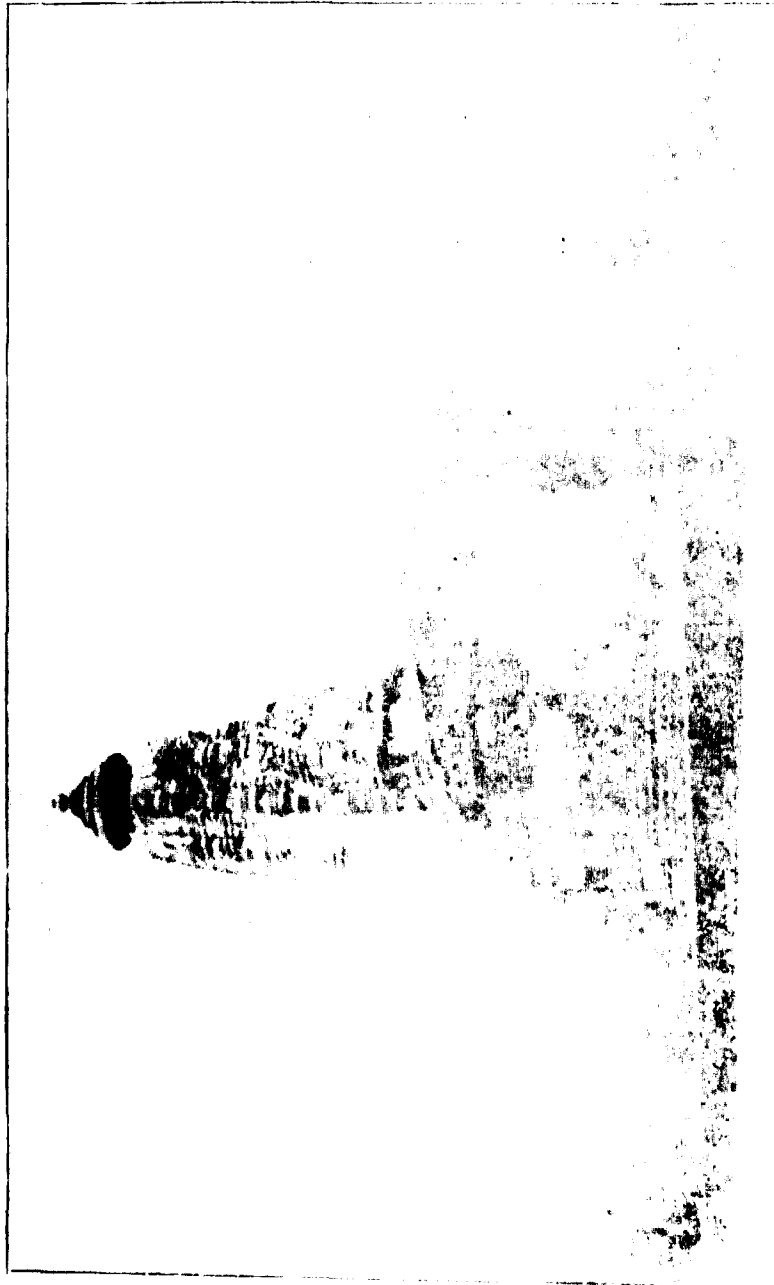
Shahdol District forms the southern part of Rewa Commissioner's Division. It lies to the south of the Kaimur range. The District is in the shape of dumb-bell. Its narrow hold is visible in the centre of a parallelogram extending from south-east to north-west. The greatest length of the District is about 180 km. from north to south and the greatest width is about 170 km. from east to west. Mathematically the coordinates of the District extend from 22° 38' 30" to 24° 17' 00" North and 80° 32' 00" to 82° 12' 00" East. The Tropic of Cancer passes nearly through the centre of the District.

Shahdol District is bounded by Satna district on the north, Sidhi, Surguja and Bilaspur districts on the north-east, east and south-east, respectively. Mandla district extends along the southern and south-western boundaries whereas Jabalpur district occupies the north-western position.

Area And Population

Shahdol is the fifth largest District of Madhya Pradesh. It has geographical area of 14,028 sq.km.¹ (Provisional) This is over 3 per cent of the State area and is superceded in area by the districts of Bastar, Surguja, Raipur and Bilaspur only. The population of the District is 1,029,839.² This is more than the average district

1. Survey of India quoted in Census of India, 1971, Sr. 10, M.P., General Population Tables, pp.90 and 120; M.P. At A Glance, 1971, p. 7; according to the State Survey Department the area was 13,867.8 sq. km. in 1961. The total of the area of tahsils in 1971 is 13,860.1 sq.km.
2. Census of India, 1971, M.P. At A Glance, p. 7.



Virateshwar Temple, Sohagpur.

population in Madhya Pradesh. In the size of population Shahdol is superceded by Sehore, Jabalpur and Sagar, apart from the districts of Chhattisgarh.

History Of Administrative Unit

History of Bandhogarh fort is traceable in the records of Rewa State after the fort was given in dowry of Padma Kunwari to a Baghela Prince Karnadeva by the Kalachuri King Somadatta of Ratanpur¹ (Bilaspur District).

The descendants of the former *Illakedars* of Sohagpur claim that their progenitor Jamnibhan Baghela had gained an independent kingdom in about A.D. 1500 by killing a Sanyasi who was owner of Sohagpur fortress.

They show that chamber where he was killed and the *murkata baoli* where his head was thrown. They also show articles of a period when they were subordinate to Mandla, before the Bhonsla supremacy. However, the Rewa State Gazetteer states that the *Illaka* of Sohagpur was granted by Maharaja Virbhan Singh of Bandhogarh to Jamnibhan, his second son. Whatever be the status of Jamnibhan, Sohagpur's dependancy on Bandhogarh-Rewa kingdom in 1761 is recorded in the list of *parganas*, *khalsa* and alienated lands of Rewa and land grants to petty *rajas* and *Zamindars* by Maharaja Ajit Singh.¹ The list of *parganas* of Rewa State show Nawdipgarh (west of Bandhogarh), Bakhar (hills south of Sohagpur) Khardhar (including Gobi, Amarpur, Barhi, etc.), and Sohagpur, which now form parts of Shahdol District. Chandia Kasuria and Sohagpur were among the twelve alienated lands owned by the kinsmen of the Maharaja of Rewa. At that time there were 700 villages with a revenue of 10,000 in Chandia and 5,050 villages with a *zama* (value) of 435,000 in Sohagpur. Sohagpur *Illaka* was subdivided amongst the eight brothers² who got possession of Sohagpur, Singhpur, Anuppur, Rampur, Dhanigawan, Nawalpur, Karkati and Pindra, respectively. Bandhogarh was in direct possession of the State but is shown in the list of land allotted to *Ranis Paipakharis* and minor holders.

In the beginning of the nineteenth century in 1808 most of the District comprising nearly the present Sohagpur, Bandhogarh and Pushparajgarh tahsils passed into the hands of the Bhonslas of Nagpur. It was acquired by the British in 1826. In view of the the military assistance rendered by the Maharaja of Rewa against the rebels of Ramgarh (Mandla District), the British Government returned it to the Maharaja of Rewa after the Great Revolt of 1857.

In the former Rewa State the *pargana* officers were called *tahaluas* or *karindas*. These were assisted by the *pargana khaskalams* and *pargana* tahsildars.³ Forming out the agricultural land was the usual system of revenue. The system was abolished under the guidance of Sir Dinkar Rao⁴ in 1868-69 when Sohagpur and Amarkantak had already been given to the Rewa State. He is credited with the

1. Administration of Rewa State, 1918-22, p. 1.
2. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, Appendix, pp. 53, 124-131; Rewa District Gazetteer (under publication).
3. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, pp. 51-52.
4. Political Administration Report of Central India, 1868-69, p. 42.

introduction of British Divisions of administration. However, the *sirdars* (lease-holders) continued to enjoy criminal, civil and revenue jurisdictions until tahsildars were appointed in 1875-76.

The Revenue system of Rewa State was placed under a Commissioner. A southern 'division' or district of Rewa State was created in the beginning of the 20th century, and placed in charge of an Assistant Commissioner. It covered the three southern tahsils of Bardi, Ramnagar and Sohagpur.¹ The existence of these tahsils might be traced back to the transfer of old Maratha parganas, or Dinkar Rao's reforms of 1868-69 or at least from the year 1875-76 when Tahsildars were appointed. The present District was covered wholly by the two southern tahsils of Sohagpur and Ramnagar. Ramnagar tahsil, with headquarters at Baraundha in the beginning² also covered the south-western part of Sidhi district. Its boundaries extended upto the Gopat river in the east, but upto Mohan *nala* in the north east. In the year 1909-10 the Tahsil of Ramnagar was bifurcated into two, viz., Beohari and Bandhogarh.³ Beohari tashsil lost Pathroura and Majholi tracts⁴ (195 villages) to Sidhi district in the adjustment effected in 1914-15. Bardi tahsil, alongwith the 'recognition of Singrauli *Illaka* as the eleventh tahsil was separated as the East Division - or district in 1922-23. The Deputy Commissioners were placed in the division with the revenue, judicial and general charge.⁵ The headquarters of the sothern division were located first at Beohari, and then at Bandhogarh.

Local accounts say that the District was constituted in 1935 with headquarters at Umaria.⁶ Since the creation of the southern district is already recorded in the Imperial Gazetteer⁷ of India, 1907, the year 1935 might be true only for the transfer of the District headquarters to Umaria. Pushparajgarh tahsil was created in the same year, after the name (by meaning) of Maharaja Gulab Singh and of hilly tracts of Sohagpur Tahsil.⁸ Thus the new shape of the District, with four tahsils of Sohagpur, Bandhogarh, Beohari and Pushparajgarh continued till the merger of States in 1948.

After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh (1948) some villages of Beohari Tahsil were transferred to Amarpatan Tahsil of Satna district and the District headquarters were shifted to Shahdol, which is a Railway station, on the outskirts of the old town of Sohagpur. The tahsil headquarters continue to be at Shahdol. In reality most of the offices are located within the area of Sohagpur, between the two settlements. The headquarters of Bandhogarh tahsil are located at Umaria although it bears the name of the old capital of the Baghela house of Rewa which continued upto 1597.

1. Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol. XXII, 1908, p. 287.
2. Political Administration Report of Central India, 1883-84, p. 163.
3. Rewe Administration Report, 1909-10, p. 4.
4. Ibid. 1914-15, p. 10 and Appendix XXI (26).
5. Rewa State Administration Report, 1924-25, pp. 1, 2 & 25.
6. District Census Handbook, Shahdol District, 1961, p. XXXIX.
7. Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol XXI, p. 287.
8. Shahdol District Census Handbook, 1961, p. XXXVIII.

The headquarters of Pushparaigarh are located at Rajendragram, established within the limits of Kobka and Kargi villages near Basania. Beohari, tahsil headquarters is located at the village of the same name situated halfway on the road from Shahdol to Rewa.

Sub-Divisions, Tahsils And Thanas

The District is divided into four Sub-Divisions and four tahsils. Territorially each Sub-Division coincides with its tahsil boundary. A Sub-Divisional officer is Deputy Collector by rank while each tahsil is in charge of a Tahsildar below him. The four tahsils of the District are Sohagpur, Bandhogarh (H.Q. Umariya), Pushparaigarh (H.Q. Rajendragram-Basaniha) and Beohari.

There are 12 Development Blocks in the District, namely, Sohagpur, Pali I, Pali II (H.Q. Sohagpur), Burhar, Kotma (Tribal), Anuppur (Tribal), Pushparaigarh (Tribal), Jalithari, Karkeli, Manpur, Jaisinghnagar and Beohari.

The District is divided into three Police Circle and twelve Police Station areas. In addition there are 13 Out Posts. They are listed below along with their outposts:-

1. Umariya Circle : Beohari, Umariya (O.P. Chandia), Manpur (O.P. Amarapur) and Pali (O.P. Nowrozabad)
2. Shahdol Circle : Shahdol, Jaisinghnagar, Jalpur and Burhar (Out Posts - Dhanpuri, Khairhi, Chachal and Amlal)
3. Jalithari Circle : Karan Pathar, Rajendragram (O.P. Amarkantak), Jalithari (O.P. Anuppur) and Kotma (Out Posts - Darsila, Bijuri, Dola and Bhalumara).

TOPOGRAPHY

The District is located in the north-eastern part of the Deccan Plateau. It lies at the trijunction of Maikal Range of the Satpura Mountain, the foot of the Kymore Range of the Vindhya Mountain and a mass of parallel hills which extend over the Chhota Nagpur Plateau in Bihar. In between these hill ranges lies the narrow valley of the Son and its tributaries. Since the Kymore Range extends along the Son just across the northern boundary, the District may be divided into three physiographic divisions. They are :

- (1) The Maikal Range
- (2) The Hills of Eastern Plateau, and
- (3) The Upper Son Valley

The Maikal Range

The Maikal Range is the cross versed range of the Satpura Mountain on its eastern extremity. Whereas the multitude of Satpura range from the west coast to

1. For latest position see Appendix 'C'

Mandla District extend in west to east direction, the Maikal range extends from south-west to north-east in Rajnandgaon and Bilaspur districts. The range of hills thus forms the border of Satpura Plateau. It sharply scarp to the east on a lower plateau of Pendra in Bilaspur and Sohagpur in Shahdol. It enters the District in the south eastern (Amarkantak) projection and runs north up to Bahmangarh (1127 metres). The peaks near the heads of the Narmada and the Johila, namely, Amarkantak (1057 metres) and Deoshani (1124 metres), respectively, stand along the eastern boundary. Beyond Bahmangarh the range turns to the north-west and defines the northern boundary of Pushparaigarh sub-division, entirely located on the hills and plateau of the Maikal. Beyond Diadongri (856metres) the hills lower down and are defused. The range scarp to the north in Sohagpur tahsil. The important peaks on this stretch are Jhala (1136 metres), Badargarh (1176 metres), Singingarh (1123 metres) and Barjani (1071 metres).

The secondary range of the Maikal bifurcates to the west (rather West-North-West) from Parkighat. It runs nearly parallel to the main range and forms the Great Central Water Parting Line of India. It separates the waters of the Narmada in the south from that of the Johila in the north. It is a narrow and disconnected chain in the east, enclosing the Basania Plateau. But after entering the Tahsil of Dindori in Mandla, it extends in a wide mass of dissected hills. Here it almost joins the Main Range in the north, the greater course of the Johila, lying merely in groove rather than a valley. The prominent peaks on this range are Daikibanda (1101 metres), Rupad (1099 metres) and Toragarh (1027 metres). The hills further west never exceed 1006. metres in height but they reenter the District in a 'V' shaped chain, closing the Ghorachhatar. They run along the southern boundary of Bandhogarh sub-division and extend up to the south of Umariya town. Mardari (955 metres), Singpur (880 metres), Ajanai (917 metres) in Mandla and Aganhuri (842 metres) are the prominent peaks.

The Hills Of Eastern Plateau

Most of Shahdol District lies on a plateau north-east of the Maikal Range. The general level of the area is 450 metres above mean sea level, although it ranges upto 525 m in the south. The plateau lowers to about 300 metres in the north. It is traversed by a number of discontinuous and low hill ranges throughout the District which alternate with narrow valleys or open plateaus. They rise about 50 to 100 metres from their surroundings. Most of these run parallel to each other aligned in a direction from west to east or north-east. Thus they may find a simily in this respect, with the Kymore Range that extends in Rewa District, across the Son.

The prominent among these hill ranges in the north is the Bandhogarh-Shahargur range which extends north-east from the western boundary of Bandhogarh tahsil, marks the old historical fort, extends a cross the Son at Kusaria and towers the confluence of the Son with Sumdin nala. Here it rises to 779. metres. Further east the range dies out and is traceable as knolls up to the Banas river. Across the Banas (in Sidhi district), the ranges again appear prominently for a long distance. The

alignment is traversed by the Umari-Manpur-Beohari road in Shahdol District. The open plateau of Beohari lies to the south-east of Shahargur hills.

East of the Son and south of Beohari is the spidery form of hills at Bansa, which drains radially in all directions. However, its south-eastern arm extends up to Chemki (Manpur) in Bharatpur tahsil of Surguja. There it meets the hill range of Gangaur-Khannaudi forests, another range aligned latitudinally. To the south of the Kunak river, we are to count the fourth subordinate range that runs from the Son to Mahora Pahar (1028 metres) in the east and Ghor bandha further south-east.

To the west of the Son, in Shahdol, the low hills approach from the south and converge near the meeting point of the Johila. The Johila is also bordered on the left by a plateau, the highest point on which rises to 622 metres near Mirli.

The Son Valley

The Valley of the Son extends in a narrow belt along the river. It is a sequence of small open plains interrupted by the closely approaching hills. The entire valley is in the midst of the plateau along the north-eastern course of the River and along the northern boundary. The major tributaries of the river also add subsidiary plains to the valley.

As the Son enters the District from Bilaspur, it flows through an area of undulating topography which extends for about 80 km. long up to the meeting point of the Morne. This uppermost undulating plain is closed by the Maikal Range in the west and the Manendragarh (Surguja) Plateau in the east, a width of 60 km. from west to east. Anuppur, Sohagpur and Kotma are located in the upper plain. Further down the confluence of the Johila are the isolated plains of Jaisingpur on the east and the Manpur on the west banks of the Son. They are separated by a stripe of highlands close to the river in between.

The lower valley of the Son is fertile but very narrow belt along the northern boundary. It is closed by the long hill ranges of Vindhyan sandstones. However, some wider parts are marked at the junction of the tributary streams. The Mahanadi valley offers a wider fertile plain along the western boundary where in Umari, Chandia and Parkhar are located. Singhwara is a big village in the upper valley of the Johila. The Western valley of the Banas is suitable for cultivation and settlements, a little away from the banks, as they are closely bordered by the sandstone hills. The Tahsil headquarters village of Beohari, located on the high ground offers an ideal marketing centre for the crops of the north eastern part of the District.

RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

Nearly the whole of the District, except a narrow belt along the southern boundary in Pushparajgarh tahsil, forms part of the Ganga Drainage System. The area in exception drains in to the Narmada, which flows to the west. In between the two runs the great Central Water Divide Line of India, here represented by the north-western branch of the Maikal Range.

The Son

The main river of the District is the Son which crosses from south-east to north-west and turns in an acute angle to the north-east. It forms the longest and largest valley in the District and receives the waters of other important streams, e.g., the Johila, the Mahanadi (northern) and the Banas.

The Son or *Suvarna*, meaning the gold, is one of the great tributaries of the Ganga and is considered a sacred river. The performance of Sandhya on its banks ensures absolution, and the attainment of heaven even to the slayer of a Brahman. It has also been called the *Haranya-Vaha* or *Hiranya-Vahu* in Sanskrit literature. The *Sonos* and *Erannoboas* of Arrian are also identified with the Son. The river is frequently mentioned in the Ramayan of Valmiki, Ram Charit Manas of Goswami Tulsidas, The Bhagwat Puran and Mahabharat.¹

Legends about the river are numerous. One of the legends assigns the origin of the Son and the Narmada to two tears dropped by Brahma, one on either side of the Amarkantak range. The story goes that the male river Sonbhadra, hearing of the surpassing beauty of the maiden Narmada, came to woo her. Wanned of the Son's approach, the maiden took the form of a river and hastened in alarm from her mountain home of Amarkantak.² It is also interesting to note that while nearly all the rivers in India are given a feminine name, Sonbhadra is a masculine name. A tradition has it that the Narmada and the Son were in love. But in the meantime the Son started flowing towards the Ganga. Considering this to be an indication of Son's infatuation for the Ganga, in sheer despondency and anger the Narmada took a westerly course, deserting the Sonbhadra to follow the northerly course and join the Ganga.

The river has also been identified with the *Erannoboas* (*Hiranava-Vaha* or the gold bearing) of the Greek geographers, Arrian and Megasthenes,³ and the *Soa* (Son) of Ptolemy.⁴ The Son also bore the name *Hiranyabahu*, or 'the golden armed' a title of Siva. Various other explanations of mostly modern derivations of the names of the river are current, and are recorded in the *Sona-Mahatmya* and *Brihad Brahma Purana*.

The Son rises from the feeders of the Son Kund at 22° 42' 30" N. and 82° 2' 10" E., about 19 km. south-east of Pendra Road Railway Station. The place is called Sonmuda and is marked by a few Shiv temples.⁵ Son Bachharwar is the near by village.

1. Sonasya Narmadayashch Prabhaye Vanshagulma Kurunandana Upsprishya Bajimedhaphalam Labhate, Mahabharat, Vanaparva 85-9, Geeta Press, Gorakhpur, p.1203.
2. Mandla District Gazetteer, p. 254.
3. Mc. Crindle, Megasthenes and Arrian, p. 135-187.
4. Ptolemy, 94; Imperial Gazetteer of India (New Ed.), Vol XXIII, p.77 and Rewah State Gazetteer, Vol. IV, p.3.
5. Uttar Bharat Bhoogol Patrika, Gorakhpur Vol. IV, No.2 p.62. Paper Prof. V.K. Shrivastava. The old records have so far held that the Son rises near Amarkantak from the other Sonmuda on the Maikal, about two and a half Kilometres from the sources of the Narmada. In fact the Son (Amanala) stream of Sonmuda near Amarkantak drains into the Matinala, a tributary of the Arpa and the Seonath. The accounts of old records, however, seem to be a misconception. It is erroneously explained that the seasonal tributary of the Motinala or Matinala leaping the southern edge of Amakantak Scarp is still the real and first source of the Son. It is said that the stream disappears after a short while and flows underground, reappearing at the Son Kund of village Son Bachharwar, the visible source of the Son. The point of stream's drying out in fact lies on the southern slope opposite to the Son.

The Son flows to the north for about 29 km. and turns to the north-west before it enters the Marwahi Plateau, a comparatively even and more inhabited area. The river flows for about 48.3 km. and has a narrow basin in Bilaspur District. The important tributaries of the Son in its early course in Bilaspur district are the *Khujji nala*, the *Ganganai nala* and the *Gujar nala*. The *Gujar* joins the Son at a point where it enters Shahdol District.

In its later course in Shahdol District, the river is joined by the *Keuai*, the *Katna*, the *Kaser*, the *Kunuk* and the *Chandi* on the right bank and the *Tipan*, the *Murna*, the *Johila* and the *Mahanadi* on the left bank. Of these the later two are the important tributaries. The *Johila* joins near village *Bartoo* (23° 28' N 81° 15' E) and the *Mahanadi* (northern) near *Sarsi* (24° 5' N. 81° 0' E.). In Shahdol the river flows across the *Sohagpur* tahsil and forms the boundary between *Bandhogarh* and *Beohari* tahsils. From here the Son turns sharply to the north east and washes the *Kaimur Scarp*. Here it forms the northern boundary of the District. In the north eastern course of the Son, the *Banas* joins it near *Dembha* (32° 17' N. 81° 29' E.), the northern extremity of Shahdol District. In *Sidhi* district the river is joined by another important tributary, the *Gopat* near *Bardi*, about 32.2 km. before it leaves *Madhya Pradesh* and enters the *Uttar Pradesh*. Most of its course in the State lies above 300 metres from the mean sea level. The bed is widened and it lowers to about 240 metres after its confluence with the *Gopat*.

The *Rihand*, the *Kanhar* and the *North Koel* join it on the right bank before it enters the low plain of the *Ganga* in *Shahabad* district of *Bihar* State. The Son tributes the *Ganga* near *Ramnagar*. The lower valley in *Uttar Pradesh* and *Bihar* is a narrow fertile plain, having attained a moderate standard of industrial and commercial developments.

The river bed is formed of *Vindhyan sandstone* practically throughout its length. At many places, especially in the lower valley, it is merely a waste of sand during the greater part of the year, with an insignificant stream that is fordable nearly everywhere. The discharge of water during the dry season is as low as 620 cubic feet per second, according to an old estimate.¹ This flow is steady. But the river swells, after a few hours rains during the rainy season, into a roaring torrent occasionally leaving patches of drifting sand. These dangerous quick sands are called *chorbaru*. After a storm has burst on the *Vindhyan Plateau*, the rainfall of an area over 54,390 sq. kilometres proves too much to the channel for the discharge, calculated at 830,000 cubic feet per second. These heavy floods are of short duration, seldom lasting for more than four days, but occasionally causing destruction in the low-lying plains of *Shahabad*. However, the flooded area is also left with the renewed deposits of fertile silt. The bed is enormously wide in the lower plains, stretching for 5 km. in some places.

The Son is mainly used for floating down rafts of bamboo and timber during the rains. Large country boats also proceed for short distances during the rains.

¹ Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol. XXIII, p. 77.

which is also dangerous due to the violence of the river. The Son is crossed by the *Katni-Bilaspur* Section of the South-Eastern Railway near *Anuppur* and by the North-Eastern Railway on a lattice-girder bridge near *Koelwar*. Near the site of the *Dehri* dam it is also crossed by the *Grand Trunk Road*.

The Johila

The *Johila* is the most important tributary of the Son in this District. It is also one of the sacred rivers. Among the old *Kalachuri* sculptures at *Amarkantak*, the source of the *Narmada*, is an idol of *Johila Devi*. There is, also the *Jwaleshwar Shiva* lingam near the source of the *Johila*. Its confluence with the Son at *Kelhari* (23° 38' N. 81° 14' E.) is sacred to *Shiv* and a small fair is held on *Shivaratri* day.

The *Johila* rises on the western slopes of the *Maikal Range* (Main) at the foot of *Deoshani* peak (3687'). The river flows to the north-west up to *Pali* and turns to the north until it meets the Son. It collects the waters between the main range and the *Central Water Divided*, *Gadidadar Range*. Its course is somewhat open only initially on the high plateau around *Basania* village and near *Pali*. About 10 km. west of *Basania* the river enters such hilly tracts that its entire northwestern course remains nearly a precipitous grove about 500 metres below the marginal hill tops. Its meanders in the hills are numerous and defined. The length of the river is about 150 km. of which about 40 km. lies below *Pali*, where it flows towards the north-east.

The Mahanadi (Northern)

The *Mahanadi* (Northern) is an important tributary of the Son in Shahdol District. It rises from *Tordara* (761. metres) on the *Satpura* hills. The source is located at 23° 3' N; 80° 33' E., east of *Niwas* in *Mandla* District. It is hardly 12 km. north of the *Narmada* river. It has a northerly course and flows in *Mandla*, *Jabalpur* and *Shahdol* districts. The river also forms the western boundary of *Bandhogarh* (*Umaria*) tahsil, common with *Jabalpur* and *Satna* districts. It receives the waters of the *Marchar*, the *Umrar*, and the *Bhardar nalas* of this District. After receiving the *Katni nala* on the left bank in *Murwara* tahsil, it turns to the north-east and meets the Son at *Sirsi* (24° 5' N.; 81° 1' E.). The river has a narrow valley which widens below *Chandia*. The lower part of the valley around *Bijayaragogarh* and *Padkhuri* is fertile. The total length of the river is about 160 km. of which about 75 km. lies in or along the boundaries of the District.

The Banas

The *Banas* is also one of the important tributaries of the Son. It rises from the hills near *Manjoli* (24° 2' 30" N.; 82° 0' 20" E.) of *Manendragarh* Tahsil of *Surguja* district. The river flows towards the north-west and forms the boundary between *Shahdol* and *Surguja* for about 50 km. There after it meanders north wards 50 km. along the northeastern boundary, common with *Sidhi*. The river is approached by the hills of *Sidhi* in its central course. It joins the Son on its right bank at *Dembha* (24° 17' N.; 81° 28' E.). The important feeders of the *Banas* are the *Muwahi*, the *Kormar* and the *Mahan* on the right bank and the *Odari* and the *Jhanpar* both flowing in *Shahdol* District, on the left bank.

The Narmada

The Narmada rises from the Amarkantak hill (1057 m.) at 22° 40' N.; 81° 46' E. The place is located at a somewhat wider place on the Maikal range in the southern projection of Shahdol District. The celebrated source is a small tank called the Narmada Kund or Rohini Kund built by the Bhonsla Ruler of Nagpur (1808-1818) on the confluence of the two tralis streams, Gayatri and Savitri.¹ The earlier source was celebrated at the Surya Kund, located a little south.

The Narmada is one of the important rivers of India, flowing in to the Arabian Sea. It is one of the seven most sacred rivers referred to in religious books, except, the *Rig veda* and the *Sutras* of Panini. The river was known to Ptolemy and the author of *Periplus* as *Nammados* or *Nammadius*, but was not noticed by Magasthenes. The *Rewa Khund* of *Skand Puran* has a chapter devoted to the traditions and relates many legends regarding the birth of the Narmada. One of the legends is that it sprang from the body of the Lord Shiva after performance of a great penance in the Riksha Mountain, whence it acquired great virtues. It is on this corroboration that the present Maikal or at least the Amarkantak area is called the Riksha Mountain. It says how the River was created in the form of a lovely damsel whose beauty captivated the gods and brought them all to her feet. Shiva laughed when he saw the enamoured gods and named her Narmada, or delight giving. In Central India the Narmada is held to be far more sacred than any other stream, so much so that even the Ganga is obliged to come and dip in it once a year. She comes in the form of a coal black cow and returns home pure white free from all sins. Mere sight of the Narmada is said to be equivalent to a bath in the Ganga. The banks are dotted with Shiva temples all over its length. The pebbles on the bed of the stream are called Banalingam and are much sought after for daily worship at homes. The *Pradakshina* (clockwise circummarching the Narmada) starting from Broach², or Handia³ (in Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh) is considered to be a performance of the highest religious efficacy. In Shahdol District, the Narmada flows for about 67 km. along the southern boundary, also that of the Pushparajgarh tahsil. On the southern bank lies the Dindori tahsil of Mandla district.

At the initial stages the Narmada is a placid stream flowing amidst the rocks and forests. About 7 km. west it falls in a gorge named Kapildhara which is associated with the ancient sage Kapil by name. Within half a kilometre further down is the *Doodh dhara* fall with a lesser magnitude. While the drainage area of the Narmada extends only about 6 to 12 km. to the north in Pushparajgarh tahsil, it receives the waters of Dindori from a far off area, marked by the southern part of the Maikal Range. The Samrar *nala* is the only stream worth mentioning, flowing in to the Narmada from Shahdol District.

1. *Maikal Darshan Smaranika*, Shri Adhyatma Vidyapeetha, Amarkantaka, 1970, pp. 24-26 and Surya Kunda Plate.
2. *Narsinghpur District Gazetteer*, 1907, p. 229.
3. *Hoshangabad District Gazetteer*, 1908, p. 299.

On the Amarkantak Plateau itself there are numerous places of archaeological and religious importance. Around the Narmada Kund are the small temples of Vishnu, Bhawani Shankar, Ghanteshwar Mahadeo, Mahatripur Sundari, Durga, Siddheshwar Mahadeo, Gauri Shankar, Ram Murl-Manohar, Eleven Rudras, Bhawani Shankar, Ram and Annapurna. The Vishnu and Shiva temples built by the Kalachuri kings of Tripuri, Karnadeva and others exhibit the height of architecture and iconography of that period. Some other places of religious importance are the Surya Kunda, the Pataleshwar Mahadeo temple, Markandaya Ashram and Bhrgu kamandala. A place Mai-Ki-Bagia is somewhat moist among the forest growth. People believe that there used to be a garden in olden days from where flowers were supplied for worshipping the mother Narmada. The wonder drugs, *Gulabakaoli*, useful for reviving the eye sight and *Jyotishmati*, useful for applying on the body in order to attain *tantrik siddhi* and maintaining it ever youthful were found here and also at Kabirchabutra, beyond the western boundary (in Mandla district). *Gulbakaoli* is also found in the forests of Rajmeedgarh, a ruined fort in the vicinity.

Water Falls

Apart from the Kapildhara and Doodh dhara falls on the Narmada in the vicinity and west of Amarkantak, there is the Rudraganga fall, about 5 km. south-west of the place. The stream is called the first source of the Mahanadi. This is exactly in the manner of the Sonmuda stream, being called the upper stream of the Son. The religious belief is that the Narmada, the Son and the Mahanadi, all three rise from the same Mountain.

The Amarkantak projection of the range scarps on the east, south and west. For this reason the small streams form numerous seasonal falls. The Shambhudhara fall is met with on the Barati *nala* about 9 km. northwest of Amarkantak. The fall is about 35 km. high. Another fall cascades about 60 metres to the southwest and a small fall is met on a feeder of the Amanala in the northeast.

Underground Water Resources

The Geohydrological surveys carried out during various field seasons by the Directorate of Tubewells and Ground Water Surveys, Government of Madhya Pradesh, is given below:

S.No.	Field Season	Name of Blocks	Area in Surveyed in sq. km.
(a)	1972-73	Burhar	940 Sq. km.
(b)	1973-74	Jaithari	954 Sq. km.
(c)	1974-75	Karkeli	1650 Sq. km.

From the study of permanent observation wells, average depth to water levels in different areas have been found out, as given below :-

Zonewise Average Depth Of Water Levels

S. No.	Zone Covering Villages	Depth Of Water Level	
		Pre-Monsoon	Post-Monsoon
(a)	Amarkantak, Pondi, Basanitar, etc.	8.33 m.	11 m.
(b)	Ponditared, Dhirwasin, Kotma, Nigwanl & Kolhi etc.	1.75 m.	5 m.
(c)	Diyapipar, Khanodi, Semra, Chhniri, Jaisinghnagar, etc.	4.00 m.	6.5 m.
(d)	Parswar, Chandia	2.5 m.	5.5 m.
(e)	Shahdol, Niparia, Singhpur, etc.	5 m.	8.5 m.
(f)	Beohari, Chachai, Basgarhi, Budwa, etc.	9 m.	13 m.
(g)	Venkat Nagar, Jaithari and Negora, etc.	6 m.	9.5 m.
(h)	Khairha, Burhar, etc.	12m.	13 m.
(i)	Chandia, Manpur, Dharmo Khar and Pumpatha, etc.	7.5 m.	11 m.

Quantity Of Water

In various blocks namely, Sohagpur, Shahdol, Karkeli, Umaria, Manpur, etc., some tube wells have been drilled. The successful tube wells have yielded water from 3,000 gallon per hour to 8,500 GPH. The average depth of Tube wells is 200, below the ground surface.

The quality of Ground water, as examined in Kareli, Burhar & Jaithari blocks, is found suitable for irrigation, drinking and industrial purposes.

Suitable Zones For Tubewells

Tentatively, some areas have been recommended for tube wells in the various blocks of Shahdol District, where geohydrological surveys have been completed. They are :-

Blockwise Suitable Area For Tubewells

Name Of The Block	Found Suitable	
	Deep Tubewells	Shallow Tubewells
1. Burhar	Nil	60 Sq. km.
2. Jaithari	220 Sq. km.	30 Sq. km.
3. Karkeli	300 Sq. km.	25 Sq. km.

Construction Of Tubewells

In Shahdol District, 24 private tubewells were drilled upto the end of 1974, out

of which 6 are successful, i.e., yielding more than 2,500 gallons per hour.

Out of the above, five tube wells have been energised in the District till 1975.

G E O L O G Y

The oldest rocks exposed in the District are called the unclassified crystallines, Dharwars and Bijawars belonging to the Proterozoic time. Lithologically, the unclassified crystallines include gneisses and schists whereas the Bijawars occupying the southern parts of the District are composed of quartzites and ferruginous shales. The rocks of the Bijawar formation exposed in the north of Beohari are represented by the metasediments - phyllites and quartz schists. The rocks of the Bijawar formation are overlain by those of the Vindhyan Group comprising of the sandstone and shale.

The proterozoic and late pre-cambrian rocks upto Vindhyan Age are followed by those of the Gondwana Group represented in most parts by Barakars and Supra Barakars. The Barakars have a thickness of about 200 metres and consist predominantly of medium to coarse grained light coloured sandstones with thin sediments of Permo-carboniferous age and called the Umaria Marine Beds and are exposed near Umaria and Manendragarh.

The rocks of the Gondwana Group are followed by those of the Lameta formation and Deccan Traps. The Lametas consist of siliceous limestone and the traps of basaltic flows of varying thickness ranging from 12 to 15 metres. The cappings on the traps in some instances are those laterite, aluminous laterite and bauxite. Thus, the Geology of the District can be summarised as below :-

Table No. I-1
Sequence Of Geological Formations

Recent	Alluvium
Deccan Trap	Basaltic flows
Lameta	Limestone
	----- unconformity-----
Gondwanas	Talchir, Barakar, Panchet, Mahadevas and Jabalpur
	-----Unconformity-----
Early Pre-cambrians	Bijawars Dolomite, phyllite, etc.
	-----Unconformity-----
	Unclassified } Gneisses and Schists Crystallines }

The description of the various formation is given below :-

Early Pre-Cambrian (Unclassified Crystallines And Bijawars)

These rocks occur as a small detached patches in the northern, western and southeastern parts of the District. The Unclassified crystallines are represented by gneisses, schists, metavolcanics and banded-magnetite-jasper-quartzite. The Bijawars include dolomite, phyllite, quartz schist and thin bands of brecciated quartzite in the southern parts and north of Beohari. The Bijawars of the north are represented by matasediments, i.e., phyllites and quartz schists. All these rocks are traversed by basic rocks and quartz veins.

Vindhya

Vindhya are divided into Lower Vindhya and Upper Vindhya.

Lower Vindhya

These are noticed in the northern part of the District and represented by (a) Basal Stage, (b) Porcellanite Stage, and (c) Kheinjua Stage.

- (a) **Basal Stage** : Conglomerate and Quartzite form the Basal Stage. The conglomerate contains rounded pebbles, cobbles and boulders, varying in size from 5 to 10 cm. of quartzite, vein quartz and jasper.
- (b) **Porcellanite Stage** : Porcellanite with interbedded grey shale lenses, sandstone, intraformational conglomerate and tuffs form the rocks of this stage.
- (c) **Kheinjua Stage** : In this stage only olive shale formation is noticed occurring along the Son river. The shales are thinly laminated.

Upper Vindhya

Sandstones and shales constitute the Upper Vindhya and are noticed in the northern part of the District.

Gondwana

These are represented by (a) Talchirs, (b) Barakars, (c) Panchets, (d) Mahadevas, and (e) Jabalpurs.

- (a) **Talchirs** : These are noticed in the Sohagpur area, and consist of sandstones and clays with boulder beds towards the base. The Umaria marine bed succeeds the Talchirs with a slight unconformity. The marine bed is 3 m. thick, consisting of sandstones and clays and noticed near Umaria and Anuppur.
- (b) **Barakars** : The Barakars are represented by sandstone, shale and coal bands. The shale is light to dark-green in colour and generally carbonaceous. Many workable coal deposits are found in them.
- (c) **Panchets** : These are divided into Parsora and Tiki formations. The Parsora formation consists of fine grained, ferruginous shales associated with felspathic sandstone and is well developed at Parsora village near Sohagpur. Tiki formation comprises sandstone with clay balls.

- (d) **Mahadevas** : These are noticed south of Mau (24°05', 81°22'), Beohari (24°01', 81°23'), etc. consisting of brownish felspathic sandstone with intercalations of clays and shales.
- (e) **Jabalpurs** : These are noticed to the west of Sohagpur area and near Chandia, consisting of shales and felspathic sandstones.

Lametas

These are found as a continuous band in the south central part of the District, overlying the Upper Gondwana unconformably. The Lametas are represented by limestone with subordinate sandstone and clays. The limestones are generally arenaceous and gritty though occasionally cherty in nature. The Lametas are overlain by Deccan traps.

Deccan Traps

Deccan Traps occur in the southern most part of the District and as continuous patch in the northern part and consist of dark coloured volcanic rock, namely, Basalt. The thickness of the flows varies from 13 to 17 m. The total thickness of the lava flows is of the order of 600 m. The traps have the laterite capping with the development of bauxite as noticed in Amarkantak area.

Alluvium

It is made up of unconsolidated sand, gravel, boulders, clays and silt along the rivers and *nalas*.

MINERAL RESOURCES

The Shahdol District is rich in mineral resources like bauxite, coal, etc. A brief description of the various occurrences is given below :

Bauxite

Amarkantak (22° 40', 81° 50') area, below the peck, is known for its bauxite deposits. It is estimated that about 5 million tonnes of bauxite reserves of more than 45 per cent Al_2O_3 are present in Barati, Damgarh and Jaleswar blocks. In Umargohan, Jamundadar, Pondibahrapahar and Daikibandapahar blocks an estimated reserve of 4.3 million tonnes of bauxite with more than 45 per cent Al_2O_3 is present.

Clay

Good plastic clay deposits occur near Kuarpur (23° 35', 81° 45'), Chandaila (23° 32', 81° 39'), and Jamthan (23° 39', 81° 42'). Clay occurrence are also reported from Dhatura (23° 35', 80° 43'), Basmani (23° 34', 80° 44') and Jamuni (24° 05', 81° 09').

Coal

The important coalfields in the District are - (i) Sohagpur Coalfield, (ii) Johilla Coalfield, (iii) Umaria and Korar Coalfields.

Sohagpur Coalfield : The Barakars in this area cover about 3100 sq. km. Four coal seams have been recorded from the lower Barakars whereas a few thin seams are reported from Upper Barakars. The Lower Barakar coal is of lower ash content

and better quality as compared to that from the Upper Barakars. In general the coal is of low rank, high moisture, high volatiles and non-caking type. A reserve of 4064 million tonnes has been estimated from this field.

Johilla Coalfield : It is situated in the valley of Johilla river and extends over an area of about 25 sq. km. Important coal seams occur only in the northern part of the field. The seams in the southern part of the field are thin and uneconomical. In general the coal from this field is of inferior quality with high moisture content. Some seams contain Grade I and Grade II coal. The reserves estimated in this field are 177.8 million tonnes.

Umaria and Korar Coalfields : These coalfields extend over a total area of about 130 sq. km. and the coal seams are confined to Barakars. Six coal seams have been reported from the Umaria field, whereas a number of seams have been observed from the Korar field. In the Korar field the main seam contains Class II coal with high moisture, while in the Umaria field, coal from some of the seams are of Class III showing high moisture. Reserves of 154.43 and 32.51 million tonnes have been estimated in the Umaria and Korar coalfields, respectively.

Copper

Copper ore is reported as encrustations of copper carbonate 4 km. south west of Cherka (24° 05', 81° 17') and 11 km. north west of Beohari and at Dhandhukula (24° 03', 81° 19'). Old workings for copper are noticed about 2 km. N.E. of Cherka on slates and schists. Small encrustations of the same mineralisation are also noticed around Cherkhari (24° 06', 81° 29'). Primary sulphides of copper, viz., chalcopryite, covellite and bornite are found in the form of fine disseminations along Sumdin nala course west of 40 m.s. on the Beohari-Rewah road. The geological formation in the above areas are represented by slates, shales, quartzites, etc. of Bijawars and schistose rocks of older unclassified metamorphics.

Fire Clay

Good reserves of fire clay, belonging to the Upper Gondwanas are found in the neighbourhood of Umaria (23° 32', 80° 50'). The clays are also observed at Amdari (23° 28', 80° 40'), Koilari (23° 31', 80° 55'), Baroudi (23° 01', 80° 44') and Dubar (23° 37', 80° 48').

Fire clay, belonging to Supra-Barakar is reported from Chandia (23° 39', 80° 45'). The clay deposits varying in thickness from ½ m. to 2m. are scattered over an area of about 64 sq. km. and noticed at Majhgawan (23° 43', 80° 40'), Deora (23° 40', 80° 41'), Bharwar (23° 37', 80° 43'), Jhala (23° 43', 80° 45'), Dhanwahi (20° 44', 80° 45'), etc. and a total reserve of about 62,000 tonnes of clay has been estimated from these deposits. The clays are generally light grey and quite suitable for use in refractory industry.

Garnet

No gem variety of garnet is available. However, common varieties have been reported from Umaria (23° 32', 80° 50'). The garnet occurs as small decahedrons of

dark brown colour.

Gypsum

It is reported from Barhar (23° 02', 81° 38') and Aurhera (23° 01', 81° 41'). It occurs over an area of approximately 2.5 sq. km. south of Aurhera as thin veins in clay bed. About 1.5 km. SSE of Burhar thin veins of gypsum have been noticed.

Limestone

Infra-trappean limestone beds, belonging to the Lametas extend from Umaria (23° 32', 80° 50') to Amarkantak (22° 40', 81° 50'). They occur in close association with the overlying traps and usually form a fringe around them.

Marble

Marble in the form of lenticular band is found near Majhgawan near Lora Railway Station. It strikes in an ENE direction and dips at an angle of about 50° to north north-west. The band is traceable to about 2.5 km.

Ochre

An yellow ochre zone of nearly 1 m. thick has been found on a hill west of Bharouli (23° 55', 80° 55'). Other deposits of ochre have also been reported from north of the hill.

Earthquakes And Earth Tremors

Besides the fringe effects of earthquakes, originating in the Great Himalayan Boundary Fault zone, Shahdol and the surrounding areas are liable to the effects of earthquakes of slight to moderate intensity, occurring in the Narmada-Tapti faulted zone and Godawari fault zone. Of the great earthquakes in the Himalayan and Assam region, the Bihar-Nepal earthquake of 15 January, 1934 and Assam earthquake of 16 June, 1897 were felt in the region. Among the earthquakes originating in the Narmada-Tapti faulted zone, the Rewa earthquake of 2nd June, 1927 is of great significance. During this earthquake the area under review experienced an intensity VI-VII M.M. (Specification enclosed). Recurrence of such earthquakes which may effect Shahdol cannot be ruled out. This view is confirmed by the seismic zoning map of India prepared under the auspices of Indian Standard Institution wherein Shahdol and the surrounding areas have been placed on the boundary of Zone II and III, corresponding to which the maximum intensity upto VI-VII M.M. cannot be ruled out in future earthquakes.

List Of Earthquakes In Shahdol District

S.No.	Date	Epicentre	Magnitude	Description
1.	1926, December 31	25.0° N. 77½° E.		-----
2.	1927, June 2	24.0°N, 82.3°E	6½	This earthquake is known as Rewa earthquakes. It was felt in Madhya Pradesh and

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
				adjoining areas of Uttar Pradesh. The intensity experienced at Dehri, Jabalpur and Ranchi was VII M.M. It was also felt at Allahabad, Nowgong, Rajnandgaon, Pendra, Kanpur, etc.
3.	1938, March 14	21.5°N, 75.0°E	6¼	The strongest earthquake in Satpura range in recent times. The shock was felt over an area on 4,00,000 sq. miles which is usually larger for its magnitude.
4.	1957, August 25	22.0°N, 80.0°E	5.5	Felt at Nagpur, Mandla, Gondia, Umaria, Jabalpur, etc.
5.	1973, July 12	630 kms. from Delhi (near Jabalpur)		Felt in Khamaria area about 15 kms. from Jabalpur.

FLORA

The District has extensive forests. About 39.4 per cent of the total area is covered under the Departmental forests only. Apart from this there are the scattered low forests under the revenue area shown in the village papers. The Forest Department manages the forests under the classes- Reserved and Protected Forests. Nearly 70.15 per cent of the forest area is under Reserves. These are divided into three Forest Divisions as under :-

Table No. I-2
Distribution Of Reserved And Protected Forests

(Sq. Km.)

Division	Tahsils	Reserved	Protected	Total
North Shahdol	Beohari and NW Sohagpur	1,662.311	578.048	2,240.359
South Shahdol	Pushparaigarh and Southeast Sohagpur	1,035.698	474.213	1,509.911
Umaria	Bandhogarh	1,176.156	596.560	1,772.716
Total	4 Tahsils	3,874.165	1,648.821	5,522.986

The North Division covers the northern parts of the District. The southern part of the District is covered by the South Division. The Umaria Division is coextensive with that Tahsil from South to North. In Pushparaigarh Tahsil the forest blocks are continuous and large. In other parts of the District, the forests are scattered in blocks.

Forest Types

The forests of the District can be classified into the *sal* forest, the mixed forests, the *teak* forests, the *salai* forests and scrub forests.

According to the classification offered by Champion and Seth¹ the forests fall under the following ecological types and sub-types.

- (1) North Indian Moist Deciduous Sal Forests
 - (a) Moist Peninsular High Level Sal
 - (b) Moist Peninsular Low Level Sal
- (2) Northern Tropical Dry Deciduous Sal Forests
- (3) North Indian Moist Deciduous Mixed Forest
 - (iii) West Gangetic Moist Mixed Deciduous Forest.
- (4) Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest (in Umaria Division)
- (5) Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Mixed Forest
- (6) Dry Deciduous Teak Forest
- (7) Edaphic Climaxes in Dry Deciduous Forests
 - (v) *Boswellia* (Salai) Forest
 - (vi) Scrub Forest

Sal Forests

The distribution, growing conditions, quality and composition of *sal* forests is given below.

The moist High Level Sal exists only of high hills of Maikal Range in small patches in South Shahdol Division. It occurs on gentle to moderate slopes and on flat tops of hills of Amarkantak Forest Range and Southern parts of Shahdol and Burhar Ranges.

The Moist Low Level Sal is the most common type of *sal* forests. It occurs widely all over the District, except in Amarkantak Range, on plains, undulating plateaus and lower slopes of the hills. The type is the commonest on the sandstone formations.

Dry Deciduous *sal* Type is the characteristic of hilly country with denuded or hard ground and poor shallow soil. It extends in such parts of Kotma Range (Nandtal Patera Reserves), Anuppur and Burhar and Jaitpur Ranges of South Division, and also in North Shahdol and Umaria Divisions.

1. The Revised Classification of the Forest Types of India,
H.G. Champion and V.K. Seth, 1964.

The *sal* forests have a tendency of growing gregariously sometimes in pure patches and in a good condition on well drained soils of valleys and flat plains or gentle hill slopes. *Sal* (*Shorea robusta*) is the primary species occurring in these forests. In Moist Low Level *sal* forests the species occurs from 40 to 90 per cent in the high tree stock. In Moist Hilly and Dry Peninsular types the percentage of the species falls, varying from 20 to 70. The crop is generally middle aged. The quality of the stock also varies in all types of forests from M.P. III to M.P. IV-b. The most prevalent quality is IV-a followed by IV-b occurring under dry conditions, on shallow soils and lower hill slopes. The best quality (II) occurs in parts of Jaitpur Range and quality III in parts of Chondi Pondi blocks of Kotma Range, Silpuri and Karkali blocks of Burhar Range and Jaleswar block in Amarkantak Range. There is a good cover of top canopy in these forests. Consequently the lower canopy, grasses and climbers grow sparsely on hill tops and dry areas where the moisture dries out after rains. But on most low lying areas the undergrowth is rich, tending aquatic.

The common trees in the top canopy are *sal*, *saja*, *dhawa*, *mahua*, *kari*, *saja*, *dhobin*, *gruja*, *salai*, and *seja*. *Aonla*, *tendu*, *ghont*, *achar*, *karra*, *kasai*, *khair*, *bans* *pula*, *dhaman* and *palas* grow to a lesser height and form the second canopy.

The undergrowth consists of *mainahar*, *chheend*, *gursakari*, *karonda*, *balbirang*, *dhabai*, *chipti* and *harringar*, *kusul*, *bhurbhursi*, *bhond* and *gharonch* are the most common grasses of *sal* forests. Among the climbers *palasbel*, *mahul*, *ramdaton* and *gouj* are most noted.

Mixed Forests

In the Mixed Forests neither *sal* nor teak grows in great proportion as compared to other species. The Mixed Forests occur in the District in three subtypes, i.e., Northern (West Gangetic) Moist Deciduous forests, Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous forests and Southern Dry Deciduous forests. The first type occurs in patches interspersed within the Moist Peninsular high-level *Sal* area on the Maikal. The Dry Mixed Deciduous forests occur extensively but its Northern type is limited to Umaria Forest Division only. The Southern Dry type is found extensively in South Shahdol Forest Division and the southern parts of North Forest Division. But it is limited to the external parts of Umaria, i.e., in the south-east and south-west. These are developed due to unfavourable soil for *sal* and excessive drainage due to steep slopes. In the South Shahdol forest Division, this type is confined to the lower hills of the Maikal Range in a long continuous belt. It stretches in the north-west to south-east direction, covering southern parts of Shahdol, Burhar, and Anuppur Ranges and the Reserved Forest Blocks of Mohara, Potasi and Nandlal Patera. The species prefers sandstones. The Mixed forests are generally moderately stocked. The quality is generally between IV-a and IV-b. It may improve to III, in patches, in moist localities along the *nalas*.

The chief associates of these forests are *saja*, *bija*, and *harra*, *mahua*, *kulu*, *haldu*, *dhaora*, *kusum*, *moyan*, *senha*, and *salai* in the upper storey. The lower storey mainly consists *bhilwa*, *amaltas*, *gilchi*, *achar*, *tendu*, *aonla*, *kakai*, *khair*, *tinsa*,

kumbhi, *bel*, *jamrasi*, *roli*, *thuar*, and *kachnar*. *Dhawai*, *karonda*, *harsingar*, *marorphali*, *gobhru*, *gursukri*, *dikamali*, *charote* and *mohti*, are the main shrubs of Mixed forests. The climbers are *mahul*, *ramdaton*, *palasbel*, *keonti*, *ganj* and *mahor*.

The common grasses are *bhurbhusi*, *chhir*, *kusal*, *bagai*, etc. The weeds in the area are *charota*, *bhat katiya*, *gobhru*, *mohti* and *lantana*. The useful weedy plants are *brahmi* and *mahabhringraj*. *Bans* grows on hill slopes, and on poor soils with open canopy.

Teak Forests

Teak occurs in a belt in the hill slopes along the southern limits of Umaria Division. It almost monopolises Deccan trap and Lameta formations. The general quality is M.P. II and M.P. III. The density of the crop varies from .5 to .7. The general floristic composition is as follows:

Top Canopy : Teak, *saj*, *dhawa*, *seja*, *jhingan*, *kaim*, *haldu*, *shisham*, *salai*, etc.
Lower Canopy : *Aonla*, *ghont*, *tinsa*, *kusum*, *tendu*, *palas*, *khair*, *amaltas*, *bhilwa*, *papad*, etc.

Salal Forests

Boswellia serrata predominates on hill slopes with poor shallow and gravelly soil. It is found in a continuous belt on the lower hill range of the Maikal in South Division. The type is also found scattered in patches among the Southern Dry mixed deciduous forests. The species dominates in certain areas upto 80 per cent of the crop. The quality is M.P. II to M.P. IV-a, in general.

Flowering Trees

The forests of the District appear colourful in most parts of the year. Generally the trees start flowering during the day time after the chill of the winter is over. *Semal* (*Salmalia malabarica*), *palas* (*Butea monosperma*), *amaltas* (*Cassia fistula*), *gulgal* (*Cochlospermum religiosum*), *kachnar* (*Bauhinia variegata*), *keolari* and *mahua* (*Madhuca latifolia*) may appear in flowers and scents in February, extending in March and April.

Dhawai (*Woodfordia fruticosa*) flowers in early summer, March-April. *Sal* (*Shorea robusta*), *harra*, *baheda*, *tinsa* and *neem* (*Melina azadirachta*) fill up their colours widely in the southern and eastern forests in April and May.

It is very pleasant to be in the mango groves in early summer. The tips of tiny branches are full of small flowers with scents, affirmingly romantic. The bright and scorching heat of the summers can be minimised by moving or resting under the large trees of *safed siris* and *saja* which flower in May and June. *Amaltas* is crowned with bright flowers a little later in June.

There are some trees which flower after the start of the rainy season in later half of June or in July. The teak forests of south-eastern Umaria tahsil join the fragrant season in July and remain so for over a month. In the shrubs and herbs *aonla* (*Embelica officinalis*) and *harsingar* or *scharawa* (*Nyctanthes arborescens*) glitter in July. When the Monsoon intensifies, they are welcomed by the flowers on the tips

of *dhawa* and *haldu* trees. Thereafter the weather cools down with moisture and there prevails the only colour, i.e., washed greenery all around. Among the rare exceptions of the forest may be noted the *bijasai* (*Petrocarpus marsupium*) which stands sporadically with flowers - in October.

Fruit Trees And Useful Trees

Tendu, *achar*, *jamun*, *ber*, *makoi*, *kusum*, *bel*, *bhilwa*, and *mango* are the common fruit trees. The calyx of *mahua* are collected for human consumption and for cattle feed. It is the source of preparing country liquor. *Kaith*, *karonda*, *amla* and *imli* are used for pickles and *chatni*. *Amla* with *bahera* and *harra* myrabolans is also used for tanning and preparing a digestive powder *triphla*. The fruits of *ghont*, *mainhar phal*, *kakai* and *gulsakri* and *sal* seeds are also used for food substitutes. *Gular* and *pipal* fruits are full of small worms but are eaten by urchins in villages.

Sal, *mahua* and *kusum* seeds provide oil. *Katha* is manufactured from *khair* trees. *Kulu*, *dhawa*, *saja*, *bija*, *khair* and *babool* trees are tapped for gums. The ebony trees provide leaves widely used for *bidi* manufacture. *Dhawa* flowers are used for extracting colour. Lac is cultivated on the branches of *palas* and *kusum* trees. *Mahul*, a creeper provides leaves for *pattal*. Thin branches of *neem* are used as tooth brush. *Pipal*, *bar*, *bel* and the plant of *tulsi* are planted for their being considered sacred. The first two also provided cool shade in summer.

Measures For Preservation Of Wild Life

No forests of this District were reserved up to 1886 and no Rules were framed for shooting in the jungles. The rampant shooting continued long after the Government of India's legislation of the Wild Birds Protection Act of 1887. Ex-rulers, jagirdars and *illakedars* shot a number of tigers, panthers, etc. Consequently, the wild life has dwindled. A mere look of their palaces and houses and the number of trophies - decorating the rooms reveal the richness of wild life in the past. However, when the importance of preserving wild life was realised by the Rewa State Government, the common people were debarred from hunting and shooting. Shikar became the Royal privilege, exemptions having been given only to family members, *illakedars* and guests. Under the princely rule, the heavy punishments imposed on the poachers, kept them away from indulging in game.

The Indian Forest Act was made applicable in the District since 1st January, 1950, after Independence. Since then hunting was opened for the public on permits under the Indian Forest Act. But then there started organised poaching in the area. Some *Sikarghas* around Bandhogarh were reserved for the ex-Rulers family of Rewa State. The Rules of old Madhya Pradesh were extended to the District in 1965. In the year 1963 a new set of Rules, the Madhya Pradesh Shooting Rules, 1963, with amendments, were applied in the District. These Rules provided for the division of forests into a number of shooting blocks, opening them by rotation every year for shooting a limited number of animals of different species. The intending *shikaries* were required to apply to the Divisional Forest Officer for shooting permit in specific shooting blocks. He was also required to pay the prescribed fee for each species.

Thus, upto 1971 the following were the rules for regulating *Shikar* in the District :-

- (1) Shooting Rules under Section 27(1) of Indian Forests Act, 1927
- (2) Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912
- (3) The Central Provinces Game Act of 1935, as amended in 1937 and 1939
- (4) The Central Provinces and Berar Game Rules of 1949 (Later replaced by M.P. Game Rules, 1962); and
- (5) Madhya Pradesh Forest (hunting, shooting, fishing poisoning water and setting traps or snares in reserved or protected forests) Rules, 1963

These rules were adequate for the protection of wild life. But the lower field staff of Forest Department was not sufficient for the illicit hunters lashed with guns, torches, jeep, money and men. Villagers were not coming forth for evidences. The Government was obliged to protect the last of some of the vanishing species and therefore since 1970-71 there is a complete ban on shooting of any wild animal for five years. The tiger and peafowl have been adopted as National animal and bird respectively. Besides, the leopard and panther are to be protected continuously.

Total Prohibition Of Game

In spite of adequate legal provisions, the State Government felt that the poaching was rampant and the fauna was decreasing fast. To check this the State Government issued an order prohibiting *shikar* of a large number of animal species except the vermins (pigs or *Sus cristatus* and bear or *Melursus Ursinus*, wild dogs (*Cuonidukhunensis*), wolf, jackal, *lomri*, rats and birds, for two years with effect from 11th November, 1971,¹ under the provisions of Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912 (No. VIII of 1912). The Forest Department was instructed on 21st December, 1971 not to open any shooting blocks and issue shooting permits in the Reserved and Protected Forests. Entry of motor vehicles and of the gunman or persons with search lights was also prohibited, unless the special permit was obtained from the Divisional Forest Officer concerned.

The ban was further extended on 11th November, 1973 for three years, which enlarged the list of prohibited animals and birds. It included pea-fowl, all species of birds under the groups fowls, grouses, quails and partridges, and wild animals like hare, tortoises, spotted deer, *sambhar*, barking deer, four horned antelope, bison, swamp deer, and mouse deer. Meanwhile the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (No. 53. of 1972) was passed. It was made applicable in 11 States and all the Union Territories with effect from 25 January, 1973 to 31 October, 1976. The Rules there under were published on 15th November 1974. These Rules prohibit the shooting of scheduled mammals, amphibians, reptiles and birds anywhere in the State. The only animals declared vermins are common crow, common fox, fruit bat, jackal, mice, rats, and wolf, hare, boar and wild dogs. No licence is required to shoot these animals outside the Government forests. For shooting within the government forest, and for geese, ducks, snipes and demoiselle cranes in the open season in specific areas,

1. Order No. 6034/ X(2)/ 71 published in Rajpatra Extraordinary No.181 of 11th November, 1971.

the Divisional Forest Officer, the Collector and the Chief Wild Life Warden M.P., Bhopal issue permits on payment of small game licence fee of Rs. 20/- only.

The hunters are required to keep a record of their trophies and captures and submit the same to the Forest Department, people owing trophies or living animals are required to register the facts. Taxidermists curing skins of wild animals or dealers are also required to register themselves and submit regular reports. Illicit shooting of tigers, bison, black buck, and other rare animals attract punishment for six months to six years or/and a fine of Rs.2,000/-, while offences against other animals may entail concretions upto 2 years or/and fine upto Rs.2,000/-. The Act also establishes a Wild Life Advisory Body with the Forest Minister in chair, and enjoins creation of National Parks, Game Reserves, Sanctuaries, etc.

FAUNA

Though covered by a large area of forests and once famous for abundant wild life, Shahdol District has gone very poor in fauna. However, the varied topography, numerous streams and remoteness of District still preserve a great variety of wild life. Although reduced to their bare existence, bison (*Bubos gaurus*) can still be seen in remote places. The District falls in an area where nine white tigers were shot or caught. A white tiger was shot in the Pendra area in Bilaspur district in 1904. About seven panthers were seen and shot in the erstwhile States of Rewa (Rewa, Sidhi and Shahdol Districts) and Surguja upto 1960. The first white tiger in the erstwhile Rewa State area was known to the public during the regime of Maharaja Venkat Raman and another was shot by Maharaja Gulab Singh. In 1961, the then Maharaja of Rewa could capture one such male cub in the forest of the Kaimur hills, probably in Sidhi district and named it Mohan. It was kept in the fort of Govindgarh. On maturity it progenerated four ordinary cubs from an ordinary tigress. Of these four cubs one female, on attaining maturity and mating Mohan littered white cubs, four on the first occasion and two on the next. The zoological gardens at New Delhi, Lucknow, London and New-York were supplied a pair of white cubs each.

The fauna of the District has the full variety of large and small animals, on land, air and water, found in the Satpuras and the Chhota Nagpur Plateaux. A short account of some of the important animals follows.

Carnivora

Tiger

The tiger *bagh* or *sher* (*Pardus felis*) is the most graceous among the large felines. It is found generally in *sal* forests. It does not run to the great length of the Bengal tiger but is generally a very heavily built animal. The tigers are destructive to game and cattle, and in the hot weather they keep close to a stream for water and often follow a herd of buffaloes for months, killing one or two every week for his needs. It is a very swift and powerful animal, capable of lifting a buffalo for several hundreds of metres. Unless addicted to cattle-lifting, it avoids man. But it is a bold animal. 'Panick' prevails in the area whenever a tiger turns a habitual cattle lifter or a man eater, for its area of operation ranges hundreds of kilometres. Then it also

becomes cautious and watchful of *shikaris* actions. However, tigers are limited in numbers now. They breed in February and March and also in October-November dropping 2 to 3 cubs. The cubs remain with the mother for about three years, when they are almost full grown. In the wet weather tigers retire to the hills, following the game and avoiding flies. Cases are known of tigers dying from wounds caused by porcupine quills. The white tiger described earlier is a very rare variety found only in and around this District. It is possible that the variety might be the freak of nature or cases of albinism.

Panther

The panther or *tendua* (*Felis pardus*) is fairly common in all parts of the District. It is commonly known as *chita*, for there are black spots of various sizes and in varying patterns. The *Chita* is an expert tree climber and stealthy in habits. It approaches the village outskirts and lifts up goats, calves, dogs and fowl. In so doing it is comparatively fearless of man and consequently very destructive. The panther is lighter than the tiger and it being a prolific breeder and adoptive in nature greatly out numbers the tiger. It feeds on small deer, hare and other smaller lives.

Jungle Cat

The common cat or *ban biliwa* (*Felis chaus*) is fairly common among the small felines. It is found all through the District frequenting both jungle and open grass country. It feeds on the smaller game such as the partridge, hare and pea-fowl.

Civet Cat

The lesser civet cat or *mushak billi* (*Viverra malaccensis*) is found in forests living in holes in the ground or trees. It feeds on small birds and animals. More than one at a time are rarely seen.

Mongoose

The mongoose (*Herpestes pallidus*) is not a shy animal and often enters human dwellings in search of food. It is easily tamed if caught young. It is an extremely agile animal, known for its natural enmity with snakes and for its ability in catching the snakes mouth, futiling its winding hold and killing it almost in every case.

Hyaenadae

The striped hyaena (*Hyaena striata*), *laka baggha* or *rerua* is found in all parts of the District. It is a cowardly brute, living chiefly on carrion, but is not above taking a village goat now and then. It is almost entirely nocturnal. It lives in burrows.

Canidae

The jackal (*Canis aureus*), *gidar* is very common throughout the District, except in dense forests. Their howling is heard in the nights in rural areas. They go mad, attack animals, dogs and man, spreading the dreaded disease when they are frequently attacked with rabies.

Wild Dog

The wild dog (*Canis rutilans*) is dreaded by all animals including the tigers for

they destroy any life and game righted by them beyond their requirement, more particularly in the hot weather. They are handsome creatures with golden coat, dark tipped hair and bushy tail. It is not considered a menace in this District, their number being small. It hunts in packs in day light. The wild dog has wonderful powers of scent. Though they do not have any appreciable speed they have unlimited endurance.

The Indian Fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*) or *lomri* is called *lakhurri*. It is very common in the open country.

Primates :- The Bengal Langur (*Semnopithecus entellus*) or *Karmuha*, is found in all parts of the District, being fairly common in the forests. It causes a good deal of damage to crops and fruit trees and is considered more or less sacred.

The small common red faced monkey (*Maccacus rhesus*) or *lalmuha bandar* is not so common as the langur. It generally inhabits slopes of hills with a southern aspect near nullahs and rivers. It is often to be seen in captivity with showmen and is still used for begging.

Ursidae

The Indian sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*) or *bhalu*, is found in the hilly forests of the District. A large male will measure about 2 metres from snout to root of tail. Females average about 15 centimetre less. It damages the fruit trees and lives on fruits, honey, etc. She-bears with cubs, or any bear if suddenly disturbed, attacks human beings. Generally, kept by poor showman it is easily tamed if caught young. The female has as a rule two cubs, born about January or February and carries them on her back. It is almost entirely nocturnal, sleeping nearly all day in caves or under trees in some shady spot.

Herbivora

Antelope

The Indian antelope (*Antelope bezoartica*) or *hiran* is the most beautiful among all antelopes. It has glossy black upper parts and white underparts. It has long beautiful horns. The species has been ruthlessly killed in the past, to its virtual elimination. It frequents cultivated ground to which it does considerable damage. The bucks are larger in size, the horns being larger than can be obtained further south in Bilaspur Division. The horns of this animal are used as decorations in residential buildings and marriage ceremonies. It has been an article of commerce for making fancy goods, until this species became rare and the Government imposed a ban on its possession and dealings without a license from the Forest Department.

The four horned antelope :- The four-horned antelope (*Tetracerus quadricornis*) or *chausinga*, though common in the large forest blocks, is very difficult to be shot at because of its shyness. The anterior horns are often only small knobs and in some cases are absent.

Nilgai

Porax pictus (*Bos Elephas Tragocamelus*) or *nilgai* is fairly common in the plain forests. It also destroys the field crops, in the marginally located villages.

People rarely kill it for the sanctity attached to cows. The male does not attain his iron grey colour till almost full grown, young males being of the same colour as females. It lives in herds, grazes from evening to morning. It can rarely be tamed but then, records show it can be made to carry a pack. The flesh is coarse. In rare cases females have been known to develop the iron grey colour which males attain at maturity.

Gaur

The *Gaur* (*Gavaeus Bos gaurus*) is casually seen in *sal* forests on flat terrain and the foot-hill regions, to the south-west of the District, especially in Umaria Forest Division. It moves generally in herds of 5 to 25 owned by one gib-bull. Bulls seen in solitude are either too old or too young to own a herd. Old bulls are almost black. They have been known to charge when wounded. This animal prefers low hilly ground and lives on leaves and grass, young shoots of the bamboo being a favourite food. It is extremely shy. In the rains the *gaur* retires to the tops of the hills to get away from flies. It is seldom molested by a tiger. A full grown bull stands between 17 and 18 hands at the withers.

Deer

The rib-faced deer (*Cervus muntiac*), *kakur* or *bhasera* is fairly common in all the jungles of the District. It is generally found alone in nights. The deer utters a short bark, not unlike than a terrier, dog when alarmed with the presence of a tiger or panther, hence so named.

Sambhar

The *sambhar* (*Cervus unicolor*) is a large but fast animal found in remote forests on dry ridges. This species is disappearing from the District. It is almost entirely nocturnal in its habits. Its horns are valuable both as trophies and as an article of commerce. The skin of the *sambhar* is exceptionally soft and useful as leather for boots, etc. Stags shed their horns in April.

Spotted Deer

The spotted deer or *chital* (*Cervus axis*) is found throughout the forests of the District, living in herds. The male is called the *Dhank*. It prefers more open mixed forests or grassy blanks on lower or flat tracts than the *sambhar*, and never ranges far from water. The number of *chital* is mostly on the decline. Stags usually shed their horns in July.

Barasingha

The swamp deer (*Rucervus duvancelli*) or *barasingha*, were found in the low-lying damp *sal* forests and grass glades but they have not been seen in recent years. The appearance of the animal is singularly like that of the European stag.

Mouse-Deer

The Indian mouse deer (*Mammina indica*) *pisuri*, or *khabri* is reported from Umaria Forest Division. It is nearly always found solitary in dense forest. It is very

timid and looks extremely delicate. It is of about the same weight as a hare and makes an excellent pet when caught young.

Porcupine

The white tailed Indian porcupine (*Hystrix leucura*) *sehi* or *saihi* is fairly common near the *nala* banks in the forests.

Otter

The common Indian otter (*Lutra vulgaris*) *panikutta*, or *ud* is found in the Son, the Johila and the Mahanadi.

Wild Boar

The wild boar (*Sus cristatus*) is plentiful and is found all over the forests, particularly around grassy blanks and agriculture tracts.

The black-buck, the *gaur*, the *chinkara*, the wild dog and the tiger have gone rare in the District. Rodents i.e., rats, shrews, squirrels and rabbits are found throughout the District.

Reptiles And Poisonous Insects

Indian cobra, vipers andraits are the most poisonous snakes. Pythons are the heaviest species of snakes in the world. Though not poisonous they are dreaded for the sluggish reptile attacks swiftly and can smuggle even large animals. Common water snakes are found.

Scorpion-stings are very painful and may cause death in a rare case. Leeches develop in still water. Among the lizards *home ligards* and *cham lions* are seen everywhere. Lizard monitor is also found in the jungles. *Goh* and *guhera* are caught by villagers who prepare and sell indigenous medicines.

AVIFAUNA

There is a large variety of winged species. The source of their food and nature play important role in their availability and geographical distribution. The water birds, migratory and residents, birds of deep forests, light forests, grass birds and village surroundings are described below, alongwith the night hunters, vampires and large hunter birds, and pet birds.

Water Birds

All the usual game birds are found in the District. Common people are conversant with the varieties of *Chacha*, *batak*, *pandubbi*, *gai-bagla*, *sarus*, *jal murgi* and *tethri*. Ducks and snipes, visiting the District in winter and commonly seen near the water bodies, are the *goose*, tufted pochard, redcrested pochard, the common teal and the whistling teal. Crane visits the Son, the Johilla, the Banas and the Mahanadi in the cold season. Khanjan is the winter visitor, seen on grass lands. The spurfed goose *nukta* (*Sarkidiornis melanotos*), the *goose-teal*, *girji* (*Nellapus coromandelianus*) and the whistling teal, *silli* (*Dendrocycna javanica*) breed in trees and resort to tanks and water bodies staying throughout the year. Species of herons and egrets commonly called *bugla* and *kingfisher* in the region are usually found

around tanks, marshes and river banks. The water birds make the most important part of game birds.

Birds Of The Forests And Hills

The peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) is common in forests, and with water bodies, and cultivation close at hand. It is the most beautiful bird with eye-marks in plumage. It is the National bird living on insects, seeds, eggs, etc. It roosts on low branches of trees. The spur fowl and jungle fowl are met with only in hilly tracts, particularly in *sal* forests. Wood-peckers called *Lakarphora* abound in wooded tracts and sometimes are found in gardens and in the avenues. Parrots prefer deep and high forests but fly large distances and gardens for fruits and leaves. Green pigeons or *harial* are found in wooded tracts feeding on various wild fruits. The owls and blue rocks pigeons or *kabutar* (*Columba intermedia*) haunt high rocky cliffs.

Light Forests And Grassland Birds

The grey partridge (*Ortygornis pondicerianus*), shrike or *latehar*, drongo shrike or *bhimraj* and fly catchers are common in low jungles around cultivation. Sand-grouse are also found but are less common. The bustard (*Chhattis homa*) is rarely found. The bush quail (*Perdica asiatica*) known locally as *lava* and the grey quail (*Coturnix communis*) called *chimuk* are common. They resort to grassy plains and scrub forests. The blue joy or *neelkantha* is generally seen sitting over telephone lines or like the black drongo diving for grass hoppers and insects over the plains.

The *gundruor* bustard quail (*Turnix pugnax*) frequents jungle wastes, and the *turadabki* or the little button quail (*Turnix dussumieri*) is common over the grassy plains of the District. Swallows and swifts, *baya* or *ababil*, and king fishers or *kilkila* are much sought after.

Birds Around Human Dwellings

The commonest of the birds living in human association are the house-sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), the common crow (*Ravan splendens splendens*), the myna (*Acridotherus*), doves, pigeons and bulbuls. The *neelkantha*, the parrot, *shyama*, *bhujanga* crow pheasant, robins, bushchat and *kath phora* also visit the back yards and trees in the villages. The jungle crow, wabbler and oriole visit inside greenery of forest villages. Bats visit the fruit gardens in search of food, while owls hunt the crows in nights. *Koel* also hunts mango groves and its sweet calls are heard in the mornings.

Myna, parrot, pigeon, bulbul, titar, biter and more or pea fowl are kept as pet birds.

Hunter And Scavenger Birds

This includes the eagles, kites, hawks, vultures, owls, etc. *Dogra cheel* and *shah baz* are the two common eagles. Common Pariah kite and brahmi kite are seen high in the sky and in grassy patches. Hawks generally stick to forests and two species, *shikra* and crested hawk search the forest clearings and plantations for jungle fowls and pheasants. Outside the villages, king vultures, brown vultures and

white scavenger vultures are seen screaming and flocking near corps of cattle. Owls hunt at nights.

Bats

They live in dark cool places near the water holes. There are atleast two species or more of this family. The smaller one lives in dark corners of houses and caves. The flying fox (*Pteropus medius*) or *chamgidri* or *gidur* is often to be seen hanging on tamarind trees, bamboo clumps and large trees in the huge colonies. Their species are interesting for their characteristics exhibit a link between the birds and animals. It lives on fruits and is easily caught in large numbers by putting nets round fruit trees, but this makes little difference in their numbers. They drink in the evenings, flying over water and dropping down every now and then in their flight. The villagers assert that their flesh if boiled down makes a good medicine for rheumatism.

FISHES

The District is poor in perennial water bodies. The rivers and tanks dwindle in early winter and nearly exhaust in May. Suthna, Budwa and Chandania are the medium size dams which alongwith the major rivers can be used for pisciculture. The common species of fishes found in the District are given below:-

Major Carp	:	Catla catla, Lebeo rohita, Labeo calbasu, Barbus tor, Cirrhina mrigala.
Local Major	:	Wallago attu, Silondia silondia, Mystus vittatus, Channa stratus, Clarius batrachus.
Local Minor	:	Anabus scandus, labeo gonius, Notopterus notopterus.

Snake Bite Cases

From June to October, every year a large number of snake bite cases are reported. Some of them consult the doctors in Government hospital and dispensaries. During the year 1973, the numbers of patients treated was 21. Out of this 15 were outdoor and 6 in door patients. The following year, the numbers were reduced to 4 and 2, respectively. None of them died. It seems that serious patients of poisonous snake bite die before they are provided any medical facilities.

CLIMATE

The climate of this District is characterised by a hot summer and general dryness, except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season, December to February, is followed by the hot season from March to about the middle of June. The period from the middle of June to September is the south-west monsoon season. October and November form the post monsoon or transition period.

Temperature

There is a meteorological observatory in the District at Umaria. The records

of this station may be taken as representative of the metereological conditions prevailing in the District in general. Local variations due to factors of location, topography, etc., may also be expected to be experienced. From about the end of February there is a rapid increase of noon temperature. May is the hottest month, with the mean daily maximum temperature at 41.3°C. (106.3°F.) and the mean daily minimum at 26.6°C. (79.9°F.). During the summer on individual days the day temperature rises up to over 44°C. The afternoon thundershowers which occur on some days bring welcome relief from the intense heat, though only temporarily. With the onset of the monsoon by about the second week of June, there is an appreciable drop in temperature. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the end of September, the day temperatures remain at about the same level in October but the neights become progressively cooler. After October, both day and night temperatures decrease rapidly. January is generally the coldest month, with the mean daily maximum temperature at 24.9°C. (76.8°F.) and the mean daily minimum at 8.8°C. (47.8°F.). Night temperatures in December are slight by lower than in January. In association with western disturbances passing across north India in the cold season, the District is affected by cold waves and the minimum temperature may occasionally drop down to about the freezing point of water.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Umaria was 45.6°C. (9114.1°F.) on 25 May, 1954 and 15 June, 1945. The lowest minimum temperature was 0.0°C. (32.0°F.) on 16 January, 1933.

Humidity

During the south-west monsoon season the relative humidity generally exceeds 70 percent. In the rest of the year the air is drier. The driest part of the year is the summer season when in the afternoons, relative humidites are less than 25 percent.

Cloudiness

In the south-west monsoon season skies are generally heavily clouded or overcast. In the rest of the year the skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the District are available for four stations for periods ranging from 22 to 81 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the District as a whole are given in Appendix-A, tables 1 and 2. The average annual rainfall in the District is 1324.7 mm. (52.15"). About 25 percent of the annual rainfall in the District is received during the south-west monsoon months (June to September), the rainiest months being July and August. The rainfall in the District, in general, increases from the north towards the south. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is small. In the 50 years period, 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall in the District, amounting to 138 percent of the normal occurred in 1901. The normal occurred in 1941. In this period the annual rainfall in the District was less than 80 percent of the normal in 10 years, none of them being consecutive. However, considering the rainfall at the individual stations, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once at 3 out of the 4 stations. It will be seen from Appendix-A, table

2 that annual rainfall in the District was between 1100 and 1600 mm. (43.31 and 62.99") in 31 out of 49 years. On an average there are 71 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. i.e., 10 cent or more) in a year in the District. This number varies from 65 at Beohari and Sohagpur to 84 at Pushparajgarh. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the District was 419.1 mm. (16.50") at Pushparajgarh on 25 June, 1946.

Winds

Winds are generally light over the District. The winds blow mainly from directions, between north-west and south-west during May and the south-west monsoon season. The winds are mostly calm or light and variable in directions in the post-monsoon and cold seasons. However, from the later part of the cold season northerlies and north-westerlies blow in the afternoons. During the summer season westerly to northwesterly winds are more common.

Special Weather Phenomena

Depressions originating in the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon season moving in some westerly direction reach the District or its neighbourhood, causing widespread heavy rain and gusty winds. Storms and depressions from the Bay of Bengal during October also occasionally affect the weather over the District. Dust-storms occur occasionally during the summer season. Thunderstorms occur during the period January to September, the monsoon months June and July having the highest incidence.

Appendix A, tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and special weather phenomena, respectively, for Umari.

CHAPTER - II

HISTORY

Pre-History And Proto-History

During 1958-59 an archaeological exploration was launched in the upper Narmada basin, from Amarkantak to Harda, in the course of which 35 fossiliferous and implementiferous sites were discovered. Some of these were associated with instructive sections and extensive deposits of cemented gravel. From these sites were recovered more than 1000 Palaeoliths, about 150 of these *in situ*, and about 200 mammalian fossils.¹ The exploration also revealed that there is nothing like a stratigraphic evolution in the Narmada Palaeolithic industry.

A few Middle and Late Stone Age sites were located at many places between Amarkantak and Jabalpur in 1964-65. Late Stone Age tools made of chalcedonic silica, were noticed in the reddish laterite soil on way to Kapildhara and Son-Munda in the Amarkantak plateau. Middle Stone Age tools, mostly on crypto-crystalline silica minerals were discovered *in situ* in the gravel deposits at Birsinghpur, Pakhri and Sondha on the river Johilla.² In 1962-63, Middle Stone Age tools were picked up from the river bed of Chhoti-Mahanadi, near village Akhrar. Evidently these instruments belonged to the people of this area during Early to Later Stone ages. Tools of Early and Middle Stone Ages were obtained from Anuppur, Harha, Markandeya, Ruhania and Singrali villages. In the vicinity of Lalpur, tools of Middle and Late Stone Ages were found. On the left bank of the Umrar river, near Umari town, a section showing bed-rock, gravel and silt was noticed.³

By local belief Sohagpur was the capital of King Virat of the Mahabharata fame and known as Viratanagar in that age. The Pandava brothers, with their consort Draupadi, came to this place to spend the period of their exile, incognito. Likewise Amarkantak is associated by local belief with the epical hermits Bhrgu, Markandeya, etc. as well as the Pandava brothers. During the days of the Buddha, the country upto the north of the Son river was included in the Magadha empire. Thus, a portion of the District, may be said to be under the Magadhan rulers Bimbisara and Ajatashatru, who were Buddha's contemporaries. The next important King after Ajatashatru was Shishunaga. The Shishunaga dynasty came to an end through a palace conspiracy, instigated by a faithless queen, and the dynasty of the Nandas was established. The founder of this royal house was Mahapadmananda who, according to the *puranic*

1. Indian Archaeology - A Review, 1958-59, p. 27.

2. Ibid. 1964-65, pp. 13-15.

3. Ibid. 1962-63, pp. 11 and 69.

evidence, was the lord of the whole of Aryavartya, upto the Godavari in the south and the Ghaggar in the north.¹ The lands of the Haihayas, Kalingas and Asmakas were incorporated in his kingdom. The area comprised in Shahdol District, thus, might have been with Mahapadma and his nine sons, before the advent of the Mauryas in the 4th century B.C.

The Mauryas

About 320 B.C. Chandragupta Maurya ousted the Nandas and acquired for himself a vast empire, expanding it from Afghanistan to Mysore. It may, thus, be safely concluded that the District of Shahdol was a part of the Maurya realm. Emperor Ashoka's inscriptions at Rupnath², Gujara³, Sanchi⁴ and Panguraria (in Jabalpur, Sidhi, Raisen and Sehore districts, respectively) testify the long duration of the Maurya rule in this region. As recorded in the Buddhist literature, the Emperor himself was intimately associated with this area.

The Sungas

The great Maurya empire started disintegrating under the weak administration of Ashoka's weak successors. The last of the Maurya monarchs, namely, Brihadratha was murdered by his commander-in-chief Pushyamitra Sunga around c. B.C. 187.⁵ Pushyamitra founded the Sunga dynasty and ruled over a territory that corresponds to the central portion of the Maurya empire. A local monarch, Dhanabhuti, is said to have built the *Stupa* of Bharhut (in the neighbouring district of Satna). An inscription on the eastern gateway of the *stupa* records that this stone structure with its ornamental finish was erected by King Dhanabhuti in the dominion of the Sungas. Dhanabhuti identified himself in the same epigraph as a son to Agaraju and grandson to King Vishvadeva. Dhanabhuti was a King of the Mathura region and was perhaps an ally or a feudatory of the Sungas.⁶ His wife was Nagarakshita and son was Vriddhapaladeva, according to two votive tablets in the same *stupa*. The Bharhut first pillar was a gift of Chapadevi, wife of Revatimitra of Vidisha. Another donor was Vasisthi, wife of Venimitra of Vidisha. These two might have been princes of the Sunga royal blood.⁷

The Kushanas

About the third quarter of the first century A.D. Vima Kadphises succeeded his father Kujula Kadphises on the Kushana throne. He is credited with the conquest of India, probably as far as Banaras, if not further towards the east. The next Kushana

emperor was Kanishka. He is reckoned as one of the greatest patrons of Buddhism and his kingdom is said to have embraced the whole of northern India. He was followed by three other Kushana kings, viz., Vasishka, Huvishka and Vasudeva. A hoard of 757 copper coins of Vima Kadphises, Kanishka and Huvishka, recovered from the District, suggests Kushana occupation of the tract during the first and second century A.D. The issues of Kanishka bear on the reverse names like Nana, Oesho, Oado, Mihira, Mao and Athso, which are also common to the coins of Huvishka. But the obverse devices of the latter consist of the elephant rider, seated cross-legged and reclining on couch type.¹ It is interesting to note here that there is a Kushana record at Sanchi, belonging probably to Vasishka.²

Magha Kings

During the second century A.D., we find the Magha kings of Kausambi ruling over a part of Shahdol District. One of these kings, viz., Bhadrarmagha snatched away Kausambi from the Kushanas about 155 A.D.³ Originally these kings belonged to Bandhogarh (a fort in the District) and an unpublished inscription from that fort supplies the date 51 (of unspecified era)⁴, for its earliest known ruler Bhimsena. In all probability he was none other than Vasisthiputra Bhimasena of the Bhita Seal No. 27 and Maharaja Bhimsena of the painted inscription of Ginja (64 km. south of Allahabad) dated 52 (c. A.D. 130)⁵. Bhimsena was ruling over a territory, which included a portion of the erstwhile Rewa State and a portion of Allahabad District. As his dates coincide with the dates of the Kushana emperors Huvishka and Kanishka II, he might have been their feudatory. Bhimsena's son was Kaustiputra Praushtasri, whose dates were 86, 87 and 88 (corresponding to A.D. 164, 165 and 166), according to the unpublished epigraph from Bandhogarh. Probably the Bhita coins, with the blurred legend of *Prash-thasri* belonged to him. If that is true, he then must have asserted his independence from the overlordship of the Kushana ruler Vasudeva, who seems to have lost his control over the eastern portion of his empire. Praushtasri's son and successor was Bhadrarmagha, who might have worked as a crown prince during his father's lifetime, because his dates were also 81, 87, 88, 89 and 90 (of unspecified era).

The next ruler was Sivamagha. The Bhita Seal, bearing the legend Maharaja Gautamiputra Sivamaghasya, may be assigned to him. His coins have been found at Fatehpur. Sivamagha's successor was Vaisravana. According to his Kosam inscription, his date was 107 (A.D. 185). From the title of his father, Bhadrabala, as merely a *mahasenapati*, Vaisravana does not seem to be a direct descendant in the royal line. His coins too occur in the Fatehpur hoard. According to a Buddha stone

1. K.A. Nilkantha Sastri, *The Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, pp. 26-27. He is referred to in the same literature as *Sarva-Kshatrantaka* and *Ekarat* (Vide, *Ibid.*, pp. 16-17).

2. Hiralal, *Inscriptions in C.P. and Berar*, p. 21.

3. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXXI, p. 206.

4. Sir John Marshall, *The Monuments of Sanchi*, Vol. II, pp. 25-28.

5. S. Chattopadhyaya, *Early History of North India*, p. 1.

6. Cunningham thinks Dhanabhuti to be a ruler of Sugana, vide his *The Stupa of Bharhut*, p. 3.

7. B.M. Barua, *Bharhut*, Book I, pp. 17 and 29.

1. *Indian Archaeology - A Review*, 1984-85, p. 10.

2. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 142.

3. H.V. Trivedi, *Catalogue of the Magha Kings of Padmavati*, p. iv.

4. See *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 176.

5. *Ibid.*

image of Kosam, Vaisravana's reign seems to have come to an end before A.D. 208 because the next king Bhima Varman had the same date 130 (A.D. 208). According to numismatic evidence there were two more Magha rulers, viz., Satamagha and Vijaya-magha. Probably they were the last members of their dynasty.¹

The Nagas

Before the advent of the Imperial Guptas the Naga Kings were having their hold near about Shahdol District. According to some historians the Nagas of Vidisha sifted from their abode under the pressure of the Saka invasion and settled at NagAvadh (the erstwhile Nagod State in the adjacent Satna District). Their Kingdom at this place was known as Kilkila, having been located on the bank of the Kilkila river. Four inscriptions of Shishunandi of a Naga dynasty were obtained from Silhara (a place about 11 km. away from the Kotma Station of Shahdol District). These Nagas, belonging to the groups of Navanagas or Bharashiva Nagas, were worshippers of Shiva. A ruined Shiva temple at Bhumra, (in the erstwhile Nagod State) is assigned to them.

The Baijnath temple on the Rewa-Satna road and the Nachna-Kuthara temple, enshrining Shiva are believed to be their creations. Probably Bharhut was their subsidiary capital.² It is said that they had 18 forest kingdoms under them.³

The Imperial Guptas

From the middle of the 4th century A.D., the whole tract around this District came under the domination of the Imperial Guptas. Samudra Gupta (A.D. 335-380), the second member of this mighty dynasty proceeded towards South- after conquering Aryavartya. According to his inscriptions it seems that after crossing the Yamuna Valley the great conqueror passed through a region, represented by the erstwhile Rewa State (of which Shahdol was a part till its merger) to fall upon his next target, King Mahendra of Southern Kosala. Next he found himself in the wilderness of the Vindhyas.⁴ According to his undated Allahabad Pillar inscription "his imperious commands were fully gratified by giving all kinds of taxes and obeying (his) orders and coming to perform obeisance by the frontier kings of Samatata, Devaka, Kamarupa, Nepala, Kartiputra and other countries and by the Malavas, Arjunayanas, Yaudheyas, Madrakas, Abhiras, Prarjunas, Sanakanikas, Kakas, Kharaparikas and other tribes." He also made all the kings of the Atavikarajya or forest countries to become his servants.⁵

According to some scholars the Arjunayanas were the Haihayas, whose ancestor was Kartavirya Arjuna. The Haihayas were an early settlers of this region.

1. K.A Nilkantha Sastri, A Comprehensive History of India, Vol. II, pp. 259-262.

2. *Vindhya Bhumi, Pradesh Parichaya Anka*, October, 1956, p.28

3. Ibid. Anka, 2, p. 22.

4. R.K. Mookerji, *The Gupta Empire*, pp. 20-21

5. Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, p. 14.

Again, it is stated in the Khoh (a village in the erstwhile Nagod State in Satna District) grants of the Parivrajaka kings, Maharaja Somkshobha and Hastin, dated in the Gupta era 156-209 (A.D. 415-528), that they were the rulers of the 18 forest kingdoms (Atvikas) before the Gupta conquest, but they were under the sovereignty of the Gupta kings. Hastin is stated, in the inscription of Samkshobha, as the ruler of 18 forest kingdoms, which came to him by way of inheritance. It may, thus, be safely concluded that the District, lying within these forest kingdoms was conquered by Samudragupta, who allowed these Parivrajaka Maharajas to rule the area as his feudatories. The other members of this dynasty were Devadhya, Pravanjana and Damodara, belonging to the Bharadwaja *gotra*. They were called the Parivrajaka Maharajas, because their ancestor was the kingly ascetic, Susarman. A contemporary family, known as the Uchhakalpa dynasty, was ruling at Uchhakalpa (unchehra in the erstwhile Nagod State). From the Bhumra inscription of Sarvanatha and the Khoh and Karitalai inscriptions of Jayanatha some more names of the Uchhakalpa rulers are known. They were Oghadeva, Kumardeva, Jayasimha and Vyaghra.¹ The absence of any reference to the Guptas in their inscriptions suggests that they did not acknowledge the Guptas as their sovereign. Some northern portion of the District might have formed part of the Uchhakalpa kingdom.

Chandragupta II

Samudragupta's son Chandragupta II seems to have retained his hold over the District, because he conquered western portion of the country from his military base in Malwa. Two gold coins from Anuppur and one from Beldi, belonging to him, carry some weight to the inference.²

How long could the Imperial Guptas retain their power and position intact in this region is not clearly known. According to the Balaghat Plates of the Vakataka king Prithvisena II his father Narendrasena became sovereign of Kosala, Mekala and Malava. Lying in the Mekala region, some portion of the District seems to have passed under the Vakataka ruler at the close of the 5th century A.D. Narendrasena must have conquered these regions from Skandagupta's son Purugupta, after he recaptured his own dominion from the Nala kings of Northern Bastar.³

The Pandu Kings Of Mekala

The rulers of Mekala, who thus seem to have come under the overlordship of the Vakatakas, were known as the Panduvamsis of Mekala. The old country of Mekala lay about the present Amarkantak hills and its name can be traced in the hills of the Maikal range. Three copper plates of these kings have been discovered at village Bamhani in the Sohagpur tahsil of Shahdol District. They were of a local dynasty, belonging to the north eastern portion of the District. Their rule may be

1. Ibid. pp. 117-19.

2. *Indian Archaeology - A Review*, 1966-69, p.60.

3. R.C. Majumdar and A.S. Altekar, *The Vakataka Gupta Age*, pp.116, 117, 121, 272-273; S. Chattopadhyaya, *Op. Cit.*, p.215

assigned to the close of the 5th century and the beginning of 6th century A.D. as the copper plates are incised in characters, belonging to that period. These Panduvamsis of Mekala were related to the Panduvamsis of Central India and South Kosala.

Four rulers of this dynasty are mentioned in these three Bamhani epigraphs. They are Jayabala, his son Vatsaraja, Vatsaraja's son by queen Dronabhattarika, Maharaja Nagabala. Nagabala's son by his queen Indrabhattarika was Bharata or Bharatabala, also known as Indra or Indrabala. Bharata had only one queen Lokaprakasa, who was a princess from Kosala. Jayabala and Vatsaraja bore no legal title, while the latter two are credited with epithets like *parama-maheshwara*, *paramabrahmanya* and *parama-guru-devatadhidaivata-visesha*. It seems likely that Jayabala and Vatsaraja were feudatories of the Imperial Guptas and that Nagabala and Bharatabala asserted independence when the Gupta power became wane. But as the Balaghat inscription of the Vakataka ruler Prithvisena II suggests, the Panduvamsis of Mekala might have become subordinate allies of Narendrasena for some time.

The object of the inscription was to register the grant of a village called Vardhamanka (identified with Bamhani) in the Panchagarta district of the north province of Mekala, by king Bharatabala to one Lohitasarasvamin.

It is interesting to note that Mekala country finds mention in the epics and *puranas*, in association with the neighbouring countries of Dasarna, Chedi and Utkala.

All these works mention Mekala as a people, and also the country peopled by them. Some historians think that Mekala was a small tribe living in the tract of country, comprising the modern Amarkantaka hill and the surrounding territory.¹

The Early Kalachuris

About A.D. 550 the Vakatakas disappeared from the scene and their place was taken up, in this tract, by the Early Kalachuris of Mahishmati. They professed themselves as descendants of Sahasrarjuna Kartavirya of the thousand arms. Traditionally the establishment of their position in this area is connected with the capture of the Kalanjar fort, where one Krishna Chedi slew an evil minded king, who practised cannibalism. In this connection it is interesting to note that during the Mughal period Aurangzeb included Sohagpur (Shahdol) in the Kalanjar *Sarkar*. From ancient literature names of three kings of this dynasty are known. They were Krishnaraja, his son Sankaragana (c. A.D. 575-600) and grandson Budharaja (A.D. 600). This Krishnaraja might be the same Chedi king Krishna, who captured Kalanjar. According to the Mahakuta Pillar inscription of the Chalukya king Mangalesa (A.D. 597-98 - 610-11) he put to flight Buddharaja and appropriated the royal fortune of the Kalachuris.² These Kings used the era of A.D. 248-49, which came to be known as the Kalachuri era. Who was Buddharaja's successor is not known. It is quite likely, that after the discomfiture of the Kalachuris, at the hands of the Chalukyas of

Badami, they continued to rule at Mahishmati in a state of servitude under their victors. Gradually they were driven eastward by the Maitrakas and after the extinction of the Chalukyas by the Rashtrakutas. Ultimately, the Kalachuris succeeded in carving out a principality in the Dahal country, that included modern Jabalpur District, parts of Rewa, Panna, erstwhile Nagod and Maihar states and the region from where the Narmada originates.¹ Shahdol was, thus, included in their kingdom. Afterwards this region came to be known as the Chedi Kingdom with capital at Tripuri, or modern Tewar, near Jabalpur city. Before they could hold a firm footing in their new kingdom the Rashtrakuta monarch Dantidurga (c. A.D. 733-758) became the master of modern Gujarat, Vidarbha and Madhya Pradesh.² Nagabhatta II and Bhoja of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty might have had some hold over the District, because both of them were the masters of Kaianjara.³

The Kalachuris Of Tripuri

The founder of this royal line was Vamaraja, who undertook this enterprise at the end of the seventh century A.D. After Vamaraja the next known ruler of Tripuri was Sankaragana I, who was separated from the founder member by two or three generations. On palaeolithic grounds he might be assigned to the middle of the eighth century A.D. Lakshmanaraja (c. A.D. 825-850) was the next known ruler. He seems to have been succeeded by Kokalla I (c. A.D. 850-885). He was the first Kalachuri king who raised the fortune of his family and gave it distinction. It seems quite likely, that from his time onwards upto the end of the 12th century A.D. the Kalachuri rulers of Tripuri ruled over a vast area around their capital, including Shahdol District. According to the Bilhari inscription of Kokalla I he is mentioned as setting up two unique columns, Krishnaraja in the south and Bhojadeva in the north. The next important king was Yuvarajadeva I. He was one of the most illustrious kings of the Kalachuri dynasty. He was not only a great conqueror but a great patron of learning and promoter of Shaivism. Under the influence of his queen Nohala he invited several *acharyas* of the *Mattamayura* clan and built magnificent Shiv temples and monasteries for their residence at Gurgi Masaun (Rewa), Chandrehi (Sidhi), Bilhari and other places. The famous Chausat Yogini temple of Jabalpur was also built by him. He had a very learned and able Brahman minister, named Bhakamishra, who introduced an efficient and enlightened form of government. Another minister was Gollaka, who caused colossal images of Parasuram and fish, tortoise and boar to be carved out of rocks at Bandhogarh, where he left his inscriptions.⁴ The court poet of Yuvarajadeva was Rajshekhara, the author of *Karpura-manjari*, *Balramayan* and *Balbharata*. Lying within the Kalachuri kingdom Shahdol must have shared the fruits of these literary and administrative excellence.

1. Jabalpur District Gazetteer, 1968, p. 66

2. R.K. Mookerji, Harsha, p. 37 (footnote).

3. The Age of Imperial Kanauj, pp. 27-29.

4. Mirashi, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, pp. 182-185

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXVII, Part III, pp. 132-144; Classical Age, 222-223.

2. The Classical Age, p. 196; K.A. Nilkantha Sastri, History of South India, p. 143.

Lakshmanaraja II (c. A.D. 945-70)

Yuvaraja's son Lakshmanaraja II was a brilliant conqueror, who dispoiled the king of Orissa of his priceless effigy of serpent Kaliya, to offer it before the Shiva image of Somnath, in Gujarat.

Gangeyadeva (c. A.D. 1015-41)

The most illustrious of the rulers of Tripuri was Gangeyadeva, who according to his Makundpur stone inscription, started his career as a feudatory of the Chandellas of Jejakhukti, but ultimately rose to such prominence as to assume the most exalted title of *Maharha-Maha-Mahattaka*.¹ He assumed the title of Vikramaditya after subduing most of his neighbours. In a Chandella inscription of Mahoba, he is described as *Jita Vishva*, or the conqueror of the universe. The Kalachuri power had received a rude shock during the rule of his weak predecessors. Gangeyadeva, therefore, embarked on a bold policy of conquest and annexation after A.D. 1027. Throwing off the yoke of the Chandella suzerainty, he overran northern India upto the Kangra Valley and annexed Prayag and Banaras.² He found mention in Al-Biruni's account as the monarch of Dahala. Gangeyadeva was the only Kalachuri King to issue gold coins of his own, which were copied by the Chandellas and the Rashtrakutas for their own numismatic activities.

Karnadeva (A.D. 1041-63)

Gangeyadeva's brilliant son was Karnadeva or Lakshmi Karnadeva, the mightiest Kalachuri potentate. He was directly associated with the District, as is proved by the Karna temple at Amarkantak, that the ruler built at the source of the river Narmada. He established a settlement of learned Brahmins, named Karnavati after himself. According to his Rewa inscriptions, a Kayastha family supplied able ministers to the Kalachuri monarchs. Karnadeva was followed by Yashakarna (A.D. 1073-1123), Gayakarna (A.D. 1124-1164) and Narasimha. All of them had to fight desperate battles with the Chandella rulers to retain their territory. Then came Jayasimha the younger brother of Narasimha. The Rewa plate of this king refers to him as a descendant of Vamadeva and the lord of Trikalanga. The Kakaredi or Kakredi (in Rewa) record of *Maharanaka* Kirtivarman (evidently a feudatory of the Kalachuris) mentions him as a paramount sovereign, but from the evidence of an inscription of Mahoba it seems, that at the end of his career Jayasimha had to pay homage to the Chandella king Paramardan (c. A.D. 1165-1203). Kirtivarman's father and grandfather were Vatsaraja and Jayavarman, both bearing the title *Maharanakas* and claiming descent from the epic Kauravas. The next king was Vijayasimha, whose feudatory at Kakaredi, Malaya Simha tried to assert independence. During his regime the Dahal country was conquered by the Yadava king Simhana.³ These Yadavas made several intermittent raids on the Dahal territory till the time of Balban.

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXII, p. 234, Annals of Bhandarkar Research Institute, Vol. XXIII, p. 296.

2. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, pt. I, p. 261.

3. G. Yazdani, The Early History of the Deccan, pt. VII-XI, pp. 549-51.

Malay Simha's ancestors were Jata, Yasopala, Chandrasimha, Kritisimha, and Padmasimha, all of whom were associated with the Kalachuri rulers.

From an inscriptional evidence at Kakaredi it is clear that the Chandella monarch Trailokyavarmadeva had sway over the area, after his victory over the Chedi king. As his son Viravarman is believed to have kept his father's territory intact he might have held sovereignty over Shahdol around A.D. 1254. There is no record to show whether Viravarman's descendants Bhojavarman and Hammiravaman had any association with the District. Cunningham, however, thinks, that in the beginning of the 13th century the Baghel region, went into the possession of the Baghel Rajputs. Two princes of this ethnic stock were known as *Dalaki Wa* (and) *Malaki*, representing probably Dalkeshwara and Malkeshwara.¹

The Baghelas

It appears that parts of Baghelkhand region, of which Shahdol District is a part, came under the possession of the Baghelas some time in the first quarter of the 14th century. The Baghelas claim their descent from the Chalukyas or Solankis of Gujarat. The Baghel Rajputs, who were the subordinates of the Chalukya rulers, played an important role in maintaining the territorial integrity of the Chaulukya kingdom. The last known ruler of the Chaulukya dynasty was Tribhuvanapala (c. V.S. 1298-1302), who reigned over Gujarat for a very short period. On his death, in the absence of any male heir, the Baghelas assumed royal authority.²

The earliest known ruler of the Baghela dynasty of Gujarat was Dhavala, whose son Arnoraja was the first member of the family to gain any importance. Arnoraja is said to have been given the village Bhimapalli, identified with Vyaghrapalli (the tiger's lair), a village ten miles south-west of Anhilwara. It was from Vyaghrapalli that the dynasty took their name, Vyaghrapalliya or Vaghela.³

The Baghelas ruled in Gujarat for more than half a century but were constantly troubled by Muslim invaders. It is said that Karnadeva Baghela lost his kingdom of Gujarat as a result of the massive invasion launched by a general of Ala-ud-din Khalji in A.D. 1299 or during the second invasion in A.D. 1304.⁴

During 10th and 11th centuries, greater portion of Shahdol District was included in the Kalachuri kingdom of Ratanpur. From Kalachuris it passed into the hands of the Baghelas who fixed their capital at Bandhogarh.

A descendant of Karnadeva Baghela, the last representative of the Rajput ruling house of Gujarat, came to Kalinjar and is said to have accepted service under the Bhar Chief.⁵ His descendants soon obtained possession of Gahora⁶ (14 miles

1. Cunningham, Archaeological Survey of India Report, Vol. XXI, p. IV.

2. A.K. Majumdar, Chaulukyas of Gujarat, pp. 161-69; K.S. Lal, History of the Khaljis, p. 68.

3. A.K. Majumdar, Op. Cit., p. 169.

4. Ibid. p. 189.

5. Rupani Sharma, *Baghela Vamsha Varnanam*, Sloka 12.

6. Madhava, *Virabhanudaya Kavyam*, Canto 1, 10.

from Karvi on the Karvi-Manikpur Road in the neighbourhood of Chitrakut) in the Banda District of Uttar Pradesh from the Lodhi (or Lodha) landlords and later made it the capital of the Bhatha region which extended upto Kantit and Chunar in the Mirzapur District of Uttar Pradesh.¹ Bhatha corresponded to the erstwhile Rewa State, including Shahdol District. Thus Baghelas became masters of the Tarhar (lowlands) and recognition from the Sultan of Delhi and title of Raja was not late in coming.²

To Viramdeva (Bhairamdeva), fourteenth in descent,³ belongs the credit of extending his sway over the path (uplands upto the Kaimur in the south, if not beyond). This was the period of the decline of the Tughluq empire of Delhi and Viramdeva was a powerful chief allied to the Sharqi Sultans of Jaunpur and hostile to the Malikzadas of Kalpi in Bundelkhand.⁴ In the game of power politics between Delhi and Jaunpur the Baghelas of Bhatha-Gahora played a prominent part, inviting three Lodi expeditions from Delhi.⁵

The fort of Bandhogarh which had been in the possession of Somadatta, the Haihaya Chief of Ratanpur, passed in dowry to the Baghela Chief Karnadeva, in the 14th century, who after his succession married Padma Kuwari, daughter of Somadatta. Karna then moved his residence to the fort of Bandhogarh which became the foundation of the future Baghela dominions, and was their capital till 1597,⁶ when it was shifted to Rewa.

After the Baghelas had established themselves at Bandhogarh they gradually took possession of the surrounding country, much of which had passed earlier from the Kalachuris (Haihayas) to the Gond.⁷

Bhaidyachandra or Bhiradeva (A.D.1470-95)

Bhaidyachandra, the sixteenth Chief of the dynasty, was a contemporary of Bahlul Lodi and his son Sikandar Lodi. He has also been called Raja Bhid and Raja of Panna by Muhammadan writers. It is said that the foundation of the fort of Maihar (Satna District) was laid by Raja Bhaidyachandra.⁸ He supported Husain Shah Sharqi of Jaunpur, against the Lodi Sultans of Delhi. Husain Shah was assisted by Bhaidyachandra when the former fled due to an attack on his territory by Bahlul Lodi

1. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No.2, p. 55. The Rewa State Gazetteer (1907), giving a different account, mentions Vyaghradeva, said to be a son of Virvadhavala, as the person who migrated to northern India in about 631 A.H. or A.D. 1233-34 and obtained possession of the fort of Marpha, 18 miles north-east of Kalinjar (p.12).

2. Ibid.

3. Genealogical Tree of the Rewa Chief in Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907.

4. Journal of Indian History, 1954, 32, pt.2.

5. Proceedings, Indian History Congress, 1946, pp.242-55.

6. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, pp. 12 and 86.

7. Ibid. p. 86.

8. Vindhya Bhumi, October, 1956, p. 67.

some time in A.D. 1487-89. Bahlul, however, defeated Husain Shah and took possession of Jaunpur. He then appointed Mubarak Khan as the Governor of Jaunpur.¹ The Baghela Chief, however, continued to support Husain Shah. During Sikandar Lodi's reign (A.D. 1489-1517), Husain Shah, in 1492 drove out Mubarak Shah from Jaunpur. The latter was soon after imprisoned by the Baghela Chief.² Consequently, when Sikandar Lodi made an advance into Baghelkhand, Bhaidyachandra set Mubarak Khan at liberty. The Raja, however, continued to support the Jaunpur Sultan and in 1494 Sikandar Lodi was obliged to enter Baghelkhand. Sikandar marched as far as Kantit, where Bhiradeva met him and offered his allegiance. There upon Sikandar confirmed him in the possession of Kantit and retired towards Prayag (Allahabad).³ It is said that Bhiradeva, suspicious of Sikandar's intentions, suddenly abandoned his camp and fled from there. Thereupon Sikandar Lodi looted Bhiradeva's property.⁴

In 1495 Sikandar Lodi again attacked Bhiradeva for the purpose of chastising him. At Khan Ghatl, probably Kathauli Ghat, he was opposed by the Raja's grandson Bir Singhdeva, who was defeated and fled to Panna, pursued by the Sultan's army. On the Sultan's arrival at Panna, Bhira fled towards Surguja but died on the way. Sikandar then proceeded as far as Phaphund, 20 miles to the north of Bandhogarh, but owing to the extreme scarcity of provisions and great losses among his horses, he was compelled to retreat in haste to Jaunpur. In consequence of this, Lakhmichandra, one of Bhira's sons, and all the zamindars of the region at once informed Husain Shah of the straits into which the Sultan had been driven. Thereupon Husain Shah proceeded to attack him but the Sultan contrived for a time to evade a meeting.⁵

Salivahan (A.D. 1495-1500)

Meanwhile, Sikandar sent conciliatory messages to Raja Salivahan, the son and successor of Raja Bhiradeva, through Khan-i-Khanan, and induced him to come to his aid. Their combined armies defeated Husain Shah who was obliged to flee the battlefield.⁶ It seems probable that Raja Salivahan 'may have brought his assistance by his (Sikandar's) withdrawal of the besieging army' during his last campaign.⁷ At this juncture Sikandar Lodi asked Salivahan to give him a daughter in marriage. Salivahan's refusal enraged the Sultan much and to avenge himself for this old grievance, now invaded the country in 1499 and destroyed all signs of cultivation in

1. Elliot and Dowson, History of India as Told by Its Own Historians, Vol. V, pp. 89-90.

2. Ibid. p. 93; Cunningham, Archaeological Survey of India Reports, Vol XXI, p. 108.

3. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, pp. 93-94.

4. Ibid. p. 94. According to *Tarikh-i-Khan-Jahan Lodi*, Sikandar collected Bhira's property and returned it to him, which is incorrect according to *Makhzan-i-Afghani*. The author of both these works is Niamatullah. (Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, p. 94 and f.n.).

5. Ibid. pp. 94-95

6. Ibid. p. 95.

7. Cunningham, op. Cit., Vol. XX, p. 108

the region. He advanced as far as Bandhogarh and invested the fort, but inspite of the most strenuous efforts was unable to capture it. He then utterly devastated and ruined the whole of that territory as far as Banda and returned to Jaunpur.¹

Bir Singha Deva (A.D. 1500-40)

Salivahan was succeeded by his son Bir Singh Deva in about A.D. 1500. He was a powerful Rajput ruler of his times. He founded the town of Birsinghpur (24° 48' N, 81° 1' E) which later became a town of Panna State.²

Bir Singh Deva was on good terms with the Delhi Sultan, Sikandar Lodi, and frequently attended his court. In about A.D. 1515, he gave asylum to Aman Das (Sangram Shah), the future ruler of Garha-Mandla Kingdom and the father-in-law of the famous queen Durgavati. Aman Das had fled to Bir Singh Deva after a conflict with his father Arjun Das. Bir Singh treated him as a son and when he went to attend upon Sultan Sikandar Lodi at Delhi, he left him behind with his son (Virbhan), who was then a minor. There Aman Das acted with great intelligence. As Aman Das constantly opposed the will of his father and engaged himself in evil pursuits, his father, Arjun Das, formally disinherited Aman Das from the Kingdom and appointed his younger son (Jogi Das) to be his heir. Aman Das, having heard of his father's intentions, soon returned to the Kingdom and with the assistance of one of the Raja's attendants, one night killed his father. The men of the place then assembled and made Aman Das a prisoner. Two of his father's old friends informed Bir Singh about the sad occurrence. Bir Singh was enraged on hearing this. He over ran the Garha territory forcing Aman Das to take refuge in the hills. Aman Das later came to meet Bir Singh on the road, attended by only a few followers. Bir Singh forgave Aman Das and restored his country.³

Bir Singh made common cause with Rana Sanga of Mewar (Chittor) against Babur and assisted him in the battle of Kanwaha (Khanwa) on 16 March, 1527 with a force of 4,000 horse.⁴ He, however, allied himself with Babur after the decisive battle of Kanwaha⁵ and received the Bhata territories in *nankar jagir* (maintenance grant) from him.⁶

Bir Singh was a great conqueror. He reduced the Parihar Raja Bhojraj of Nagod (Satna District) and captured the fort of Narogarh from him. Later, he is said to have defeated Raja Dalpat Shah (A.D. 1530-48) of Garha-Mandla in a battle.⁷ He took possession of Bandhogarh fort from the aboriginal Kamars and, subjugating the

1. Ibid. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. IV, p. 463; Ferishta, Vol. I, p. 574.

2. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 13.

3. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. VI, pp. 32-33.

4. Memoirs of Babar, Tr. By Leyden and Erskine, p. 360.

5. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 56.

6. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, pp. 14 and 53.

7. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 56; *Vindhya Bhumi*, July, 1953, p. 11. There is, however, no mention of Dalpat Shah's defeat in the history of the Garha dynasty. See C.U. Wills, *The Raj-Gond Maharajas of the Satpura Hills*, pp. 50-51.

southern district of modern Shahdol, levied tribute upon the Kalachuri ruler of Ratanpur (Bilaspur District). The Baghela dominions reached their farthest limits under him.¹

As a result of these conquests, he acquired enormous wealth and gave large donations to Brahmins. He also utilized his wealth for beautifying his capital, Gahora, by wide roads and magnificent palaces.² Bir Singh was not, only a builder but a great patron of arts and literature. The poet, Ramchandra Bhatt, wrote *Radhacharitam*, a Sanskrit work, at his behest. A number of Sanskrit verses composed by contemporary poets in praise of Bir Singh Deva, have come down to us.³

Virabhanudeva or Virbhan (A.D. 1540-55)

Bir Singh died in about A.D. 1540 and was succeeded by his son Virabhanudeva or Virbhan. He ruled the Baghela territory during the times of Humayun and Sher Shah. He earned the gratitude of Humayan by giving him shelter when the latter was defeated at chausa by Sher Shah. Gulbadan Begum records that Humayun's army was without food or drink for four or five days. The Raja Virbhan started a bazar from where the army could obtain their necessities.⁴

Since Virbhan was an ally of Humayun, he invited wrath of Sher Shah, who after the assumption of power, invaded his territory, but could not proceed as far as Bandhogarh. His son, Jalal Khan, came to Rewa (the future capital of the Baghela State) and stayed there while his father was engaged in the siege of Kalinjar with a view to reducing Virbhan, the ally of his erstwhile Mughal adversary, who had shut himself up there.⁵ Sher Shah, however, met with a fatal accident at Kalinjar and the Baghelas continued to rule from Gahora, their capital.⁶

Virbhanudaya Kavyam gives us an account of his reign. The Court poet, Madhava, dedicated to Virbhan his celebrated *Kavya* which is an authentic and earliest known historical narrative of the Baghelas in Sanskrit. It was composed in about 1556 A.D.⁷

Ramchandra (A.D. 1555-92)

Virbhan died in A.D. 1555 and was succeeded by his son Ramchandra.⁸ He was a contemporary of Akbar, and is numerously mentioned by the Muhammadan writers.

1. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 56. See also : Madhava, *Virabhanudaya Kavyam*, Canto 2.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid. *Vindhya Bhumi*, July, 1953, p. 11.
4. Gulabadan Begam, *Humayun Nama*, Tr. by A.S. Beveridge, p. 136; Also Ishwari Prasad, *The Life and Times of Humayun*, p. 133; K.R. Qanungo, *Sher Shah and His Times*, pp. 206, 425 and 429.
5. Ahmad Yadgar, *Tarikh-i-Shahi*, Bib. Ind. Text, pp. 228-29.
6. K.R. Qanungo, Op. Cit., p. 437.
7. R.L. Agnihotri, *Sanskrit Sahitya Ko Bandhava Nareshon Ki Den*, pp. 46-49.
8. Abul Fazl, *Ain-i-Akbari*, Tr. by Blochmann, Vol. I (1873), p. 406.

In the first year of his reign, he gave an asylum to Sher Shah's son, Adil Khan, who had fled from Agra. Thereupon, Ibrahim Sur, the younger son of Sher Shah, attacked his territory. Ramchandra fought bravely and was victorious. He made Ibrahim Sur a prisoner, but treated him with 'great honour, seated him upon the throne, and waited upon him as a servant.' Ibrahim stayed there for some time as an honoured guest with Ramchandra.¹ During his stay, Ibrahim Sur endeavoured to bring the famous singer Tansen, who was at the Court of Ramchandra, to Agra. However, the Baghela ruler Ramchandra declined to spare him.²

In the sixth year of his reign (A.D. 1562), Akbar heard of the extraordinary skill of Ramchandra's musician Tansen and sent Jalal Khan Qurchi to fetch him. This time Ramchandra could not resist the demand of Akbar and bade farewell to his favourite artist.³ He also sent with the envoy presents of elephants and valuable jewels and presented Tansen musical instruments.⁴

In the eighth year of his reign (A.D. 1564), Akbar appointed Khawaja Abdul Majid Harwai, better known as Asaf Khan, the Governor of Kara. Asaf Khan proceeded to take possession of the province of Kara. Thereupon, Ghazi Khan Tatar (Tanuri), the governor appointed under the Sur dynasty, fled and took refuge at Bandhogarh. Asaf Khan, therefore, sent an urgent message to Raja Ramchandra Baghela to hand over Ghazi Khan to him and advised him to become a subject of Akbar and pay him tribute.⁵ Ramchandra, assisted by Tanuri, resisted and after a severe contest the Raja was defeated and Ghazi Khan was killed. Raja then fled to Bandhogarh. Asaf Khan then advanced towards Bandhogarh and laid siege to it. However, on the mediation of some Hindu Chiefs at Agra, Akbar ordered Asaf Khan not to invade Raja's territory anymore. Hence the siege was raised and Asaf Khan returned to his own jagir.⁶

During the reign of Sher Shah's successors, Ramchandra had purchased the strong fort of Kalinjar from Ali Khan (Sher Shah's son-in-law), the governor, for a high price.⁷ After the fall of Chittor (1567) and Ranthambhor (1568), the local Muhammadan jagir-holders in the neighbourhood of Kalinjar were anxious to take Kalinjar from the Raja. Ramchandra, seeing that he could not hold the fort for a long time, thought it prudent to hand over the fort to Emperor Akbar. Accordingly, the fort was handed over in *Safar* A.H. 977 (August, 1569) and Virbhadr, his heir-apparent, was sent to the Imperial Court.⁸

1. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, p. 244; K.R. Qanungo, Op. Cit., p. 437.

2. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 57.

3. Ibid; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Tr. by Brijratna Das, Vol. I, p. 330.

4. *Akbarnama*, Vol. II, pp. 279-80.

5. *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Tr. by Brijratna Das, Vol. I, p. 288; Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. VI, p. 117.

6. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. VI, p. 118; *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I (1873), p. 367.

7. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I (1873), p. 369; Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, p. 333.

8. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, p. 333; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, pp. 331-32.

In the year 1580 Akbar reorganised the administration of his empire and divided it into twelve *Subahs*. He combined three territorial divisions, the province of Jaunpur, the province of Kara-Manikpur and the territories of Bandhogarh and named them the *Subah* of Allahabad (Allahabad). The *Sarkar* of Bhatkhora (Bandhogarh), contained 39 *mahals* and contributed a revenue of 7,262,780 Dams, 4,304 cavalry, 200 elephants and 57,000 infantry.¹

Although the fort of Bandhogarh was surrendered, Raja Ramchandra had not visited Agra to pay homage to Akbar on ground of distance. In 1583, Akbar reached Allahabad, where he stayed for four months. Allahabad being so near his own capital, Ramchandra had no excuse to offer. The Emperor was not satisfied with the token surrender. He wanted complete submission and personal homage from Raja Ramchandra.²

Virabhadra being at the imperial Court became convinced that further refusal by his father to attend the Emperor's Court would be catastrophic to his Kingdom. Virabhadra, therefore, informed Akbar through his well wishers at the Court that his father's failure to visit the Court was not due to deliberate disobedience but because of his prolonged confinement in the fort and his inability to meet outsiders. The young Baghela further suggested that if some responsible person was sent to Bandhogarh, his father would come and pay homage most willingly. Raja Birbal and Zain Khan Koka were, therefore, sent to Raja Ramchandra to persuade him to call on Akbar. The silver-tongued Birbal, who is said to have passed his early years at the Baghela Court, ultimately succeeded in his mission and the royal interview took place on 20 Februray, 1584 at Fatehpur-Sikri. Raja Ramchandra was graciously received and was confirmed as the hereditary ruler of Bhatha and Bandhogarh without tributary obligations. He presented the Emperor some rubies, one of which was valued at Rs.50,000, and received in return 101 horses.³ He also offered 120 famous elephants.

Raja Ramchandra died on 8 September, 1592. Badauni paid a tribute to him by saying, "He has left no equal behind him for princely generosity. Among his other gifts, he gave a *kror* of gold (*kror zar*) to the minstre Mian Tansen in one day."⁴

His rule was the golden age for arts and literature. Emperor Akbar's court poet, Govind Bhatt, wrote in Sanskrit *Ramchandra Yash Prabandha* in praise of Raja Ramchandra. Narhari Mahapatra, the bard of Akbar, and his son, Harinath, enjoyed his patronage.⁵

1. *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, pp. 412-13; *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. II, pp. 169-77; S.N. Sinha, *Subah of Allahabad under the Great Mughals*, pp. 23-24.

2. *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, p. 624; S.N. Sinha, Op. Cit., p. 27.

3. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I (1873), p. 406; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 332; *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, pp. 624-25 and 636-37; *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, Vol. II, pp. 595-96.

4. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. V, pp. 538-39.

5. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2 p. 58.

Ramchandra's territories extended from Prayag to Amarkantak and from Kalinjar to Chunar. As a result of Mughal encroachments, the Baghela State was twice reduced in size but Bhatha or Bandhogarh defied the mightiest conqueror of Medieval India. The Baghelas were never fully subjugated and the hold of the Mughals over them was only precarious. They never paid regular tribute to the Mughals. The Baghela State was known to the Mughals for its diamond mines and the best variety of elephants.¹

Virabhadradeva (A.D. 1592-93)

Virabhadra succeeded his father Ramchandra in A.D. 1592. He was at the Mughal Court at the time of his father's death and at once started for Bandhogarh. He, however, fell from his palanquin on the way and sustained serious injuries. He was a cultured prince and was liked by Akbar. Akbar, therefore, paid a visit of condolence to Rai Singh Rathore, (son of Raja Kalyanmal of Bikaner) whose daughter had been married to Virabhadra.² The other daughter of the Rathor Chief was married to Prince Salim in the year 1586. Akbar also interceded for their young children and prevented the widow from burning herself.³

Virabhadra is chiefly known as the author of the Sanskrit works, *Kandarpa chudamani* and *Dashkumar purvakathasar*. He was a patron of the Sanskrit scholar of Mithila, the learned Padmanabha Mishra, who had composed *Virabhadradeva Champu*. This work describes a campaign of Virabhadradeva.⁴

Vikramaditya (A.D. 1593-1624)

Virabhadradeva left Vikramaditya to succeed him as a minor. His succession followed intrigues and disturbances at the Baghela Court. --- Though the Mughals had established their authority in northern India, they had not been able to claim actual dominance over the territory of Bandhogarh mainly on account of the difficult terrain. Consequently, the rulers of Bandhogarh so far enjoyed almost an independent position.⁵ Akbar, therefore, sent Rai Patra Das (Pal Das) to conquer the fort of Bandhogarh and to restore peace and order there. Rai Patra Das besieged the fort. He devastated the area and established his own *thanas* there. On his arrival at the Baghela capital, he was requested by the young chief's supporters to take Vikramaditya to the Mughal Court. Thereupon Ismail Quli Khan was sent to Agra with the young ruler, where he arrived in A.D. 1596. At the same time a request was also made to spare the fort of Bandhogarh from being captured. Akbar was fully aware of the danger of leaving such a stronghold in the hands of the Baghelas and therefore, refused to accept the request. Patra Das soon besieged the fort and captured it after a siege of eight months and twenty-five days, in A.D. 1597.⁶ Two years later Patra

1. Ibid.

2. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I (1873), pp 358, 406-07; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 332.

3. Cunningham, Op. Cit., Vol. XXI, p. 111.

4. Rupani Sharma, *Baghela Vamsha Varnanam*, pp. a-b.

5. *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, p. 977; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 441.

6. *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, pp. 332-33; *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I (1873), pp. 407 and 469.

Das was sent there as the governor of the district. He managed the affairs till A.D. 1601, when Akbar honoured him for establishing complete Mughal dominance over the area by raising his *mansab* to 3,000 *Zat*. From 1597 till 1602 Bandhogarh and the surrounding tract remained under the sway of the Mughals, the capital being moved to Rewa.¹

It may be recalled here that Akbar had declared Virbhadra as 'Raja' in 1592² and when Virbhadra died Akbar did not recognise any of his sons as the ruler from 1592 to 1601. During this period the Mughal authority was established in the area. Duryodhan, the second son of Virbhadra, who had declared his allegiance to the Emperor was declared as 'Raja' in 1601 and put under the guardianship of one Bharati Chand.³ Thus, the claim of Vikramaditya, the eldest son of Virbhadra, was neglected by Akbar in 1601. Thereupon, Vikramaditya, having established himself at Rewa, gathered some followers and pressed his claims. He rebelled in 1610 and wanted to capture Bandhogarh. Jahangir soon appointed Raja Maha Singh, the grandson of Raja Man Singh Kachhwaha, to chastise the rebel. After the successful quelling of the rebellion of Vikramaditya, Jahangir assigned the Baghela territories to Maha Singh in Jagir.⁴

With the establishment of Mughal rule in Bandhogarh, the future of Vikramaditya was completely sealed. Later, he approached Prince Khurram (Later Shahjehan) and through him procured pardon from Jahangir in 1616.⁵ Jahangir soon after restored the territories of Bandhogarh to Vikramaditya.

In 1619 Vikramaditya, again visited the Mughal Court and presented an elephant and a jewelled plume to the Emperor.⁶ Thus, during the reign of Jahangir, the Mughal-Baghela relations improved. Vikramaditya died in the year 1624.

Amar Singh (A.D. 1624-40)

Amar Singh succeeded⁷ his father Vikramaditya in A.D. 1624. He was the first Baghela ruler to enter the Mughal Imperial Service and accept their suzerainty.⁸ Soon after his accession, he visited Delhi and paid his respects to Emperor Jahangir.⁹ In the eighth year of the reign of Shah Jahan, he joined Abdulla Khan Bahadur in a campaign against the chief of Ratanpur. Through Amar Singh's

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 16.

2. *Akbarnama*, Tr. by H. Beveridge, Vol. III, pp. 966-67.

3. Ibid., pp. 1177, 1180.

4. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, Tr. by Rogers and Ed. by H. Beveridge, Vol. I (1968), p. 176.

5. Ibid. p. 325.

6. Ibid. Vol. II, p. 98.

7. According to *Ain-i-Akbari* (Vol. I, p. 407), Duryodhan, the grandson of Ramchandra, was made the Raja of Bandhogarh in the 47th year of Akbar's reign, i.e., in A.D. 1602-03. Perhaps on account of his minority, Duryodhan's uncle, Bharti Chandra was appointed as regent (*Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 333). Duryodhan's name, however, does not appear in the State genealogies.

8. Cunningham, Op. Cit., Vol. XXI, p. 111; The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 58.

9. *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 333.

mediation, the chief of Ratanpur paid a visit to Abdulla Khan and a peaceful submission was brought about.¹

In 1634, Amar Singh took part in an imperial expedition against Raja Jujhar Singh of Orchha in Bundelkhand.² He was a literary figure and patronised the Hindi poet, Nilkanth, the author of *Amaresh Vilas*.³

Anup Singh (A.D. 1640-60)

Anup Singh succeeded his father Amar Singh in 1640, when he was only six years old. In the 24th year of Shah Jahan's reign (A.D. 1650), Anup Singh afforded shelter to Dayaram, a Zamindar of Chauragarh. Thereupon, Pahar Singh Bundela, Jagirdar of Chauragarh and brother of the Raja of Orchha, attacked Anup Singh and obliged him to withdraw from Rewa with his whole family.⁴ But Fateh Singh, his younger brother, with the help of Jagat Singh and others, faced Pahar Singh bravely and expelled him from Rewa.⁵

Anup Singh visited the Emperor Shah Jahan at Delhi in 1655-56 where he was received with great honour. He was also made the commander (*mansabdar*) of 3,000 *zat* and 2,000 *sawar*.⁶ At this time his younger brother, Fateh Singh who was also given a mansab of 500 *zat* and 200 *sawar*, founded the Sohawal State in Bundelkhand.⁷

Anup Singh contracted matrimonial relationship with the Hada, Sisodia and Kachhawaha houses of Bundi, Udaipur and Amber (Jaipur), respectively, in Rajputana.⁸

Bhava Singh (A.D. 1660-80)

Bhava Singh succeeded Anup Singh in A.D. 1660. he ruled the State for nearly 30 years but his rule appears to have been uneventful. Himself a scholar, he patronised men of letters. Rupani Sharma has given an account of the Nine Gems of his Court in his *Baghela Vamsha Varnanam*.⁹

1. Ibid; Cunningham, Op. Cit. Vol. XXI, p. 111.

2. Elliot and Dowson, Op. Cit., Vol. VII, pp. 47-49; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, pp. 333-34.

3. *Khoj Report*, Nagari Pracharini Sabha, Banaras, 1903, I.

4. Cunningham, Op. Cit., Vol. XXI, pp. 111-112.

5. *Vindhya Bhumi*, October, 1956, p. 65.

6. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 58; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Vol. I, p. 334. In *Ain-i-Akbari*, its translator (Blochmann) has stated that, "In the 30th year, however, Sayyid Salabat Khan, Governor of Allahabad, conducted him to court, where Anup Singh turned Muhammadan" (*Ain-i-Akbari*, tr. by Blochmann, Vol. I, 1873, p. 407), but none of the contemporary authentic Persian sources (Muhammad Salih Kambu, *Amal-i-Salih*, Bib. Indica, Vol. III, p. 231; Muhammad Waris, *Padshahnama*, Vol. II, pp. 169-70) make any mention of this statement of Blochmann. In *Maasir-ul-Umra* too there is no such mention in the context of the lives of either Raja Anup Singh Baghela (Eng. tr., Vol. II, pp. 582-83) or of Sayyid Salabat Khan Barah (Eng. tr., Vol. II, p. 700). As Blochmann's statement can not possibly be authenticated by any contemporary Persian works, it can not be accepted. It appears that Blochmann has committed a mistake in translating the Persian Text of Abul Fazl.

7. *Vindhya Bhumi*, October, 1956, p. 65.

8. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 58.

9. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907 p. 17; The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 58.

Aniruddh Singh (A.D. 1690-1700)

Aniruddh Singh, the adopted son and successor of Bhava Singh, ruled the State for nearly ten years. He was killed in a fight with the Sengar Thakurs of Mauganj in A.D. 1700.¹

Avadhut Singh (A.D. 1700-55)

Aniruddh Singh left an infant son, called Avadhut Singh, to succeed him. Disturbances soon arose in the State and taking advantage of the distracted condition of affairs, Hirde Shah, heir-apparent of Chhatrasal of Panna, invaded the country and forced the young chief and his followers to flee from Rewa. An appeal was soon made to the Mughal Emperor who at once sent troops to the relief of the Baghela Chief Avadhut Singh. The Bundela garrison was, however, ejected by the Karchuli warriors and, after a hand-to-hand fight outside the town, Rewa was evacuated by the Panna forces.² Hirde Shah is also said to have brought a princess of Rewa to be married to his younger brother Jagatraj. This incident sowed seeds of discord between the two ruling houses.³ Though Hirde Shah evacuated Rewa, yet he retained the possession of Birsinghpur which later formed a part of Panna State.⁴ The Chiefs of Nagod, Sohawal and Kothi now transferred their allegiance to Panna and the Baghelas retained only a nominal hold over Gahora, the nucleus pargana of the State.⁵

Ajit Singh And Sohagpur

In the second half of the 18th century we find Bandhogarh tract continued to remain a part of the Rewa State under Raja Ajit Singh (1755-1809). Simultaneously, the tract of Sohagpur was ruled by a minor branch of the Baghel dynasty of Rewa, who were descendents of Jamuni Bhanu, the younger brother of Maharaja Bir Bhanu of Rewa (1540-55).⁶ The feudatory of Sohagpur continued to remain in the hands of this family till the end of the 18th century and did not actually form a part of Rewa State.⁷

Meanwhile, Chhattisgarh was assigned as an appanage in 1755 to Bimbajee, the youngest son of Raghoji I, the Bhonsla Raja of Nagpur. Bimbajee demanded *Ghas Dana* (*Chauth*) from the Chief of Sohagpur but - was not successful.⁸ Bimbajee died in A.D. 1787. Subsequently, the Maratha pressure mounted on Raja Ajit Singh,

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 17.

2. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 17; The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, pp. 58-59. See also: B.D. Gupta, *Maharaja Chhatrasal Bundela*, p. 82, Note 23 and p. 129, for a different version of the incident.

3. B.D. Gupta, Op. Cit., pp. 82, 123-24; Cunningham, Op. Cit., Vol. XXI, p. 112.

4. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 17.

5. The Vikram University Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 59.

6. Rewa State Gazetteer, p. 86.

7. Ibid.

8. C.U. Mills, *The British Relations with the Nagpur State in the 18th century*, p. 150.

the Ruler of Rewa. In the year 1792 a Maratha army under Ali Bahadur, (a grandson of Baji Rao Peshwa and Mastani) succeeded in establishing hold over Bundelkhand.¹ But he found it difficult in subjugating the Rewa tract, and were perpetually involved in warfare and insurrections. In course of such warfares, Ali Bahadur attacked Rewa in 1796 A.D. and defeated Ajit Singh who had to pay a lakh of rupees to the Marathas.²

In the year 1802 Nana Saheb, the successor to Bimbajee undertook an expedition at instigation of Raja of Nagpur against Govindjit, the Jagirdar of Sohagpur. Govindjit was defeated and was taken prisoner.³ However, Govindjit was released immediately after, as war broke out between the Marathas and the British Government⁴ in 1802-1803.

In course of the above war a British force was stationed at Makundpur (Rewa) to prevent the Marathas striking through the Rewa tract.⁵ At the same time overtures for a treaty with Rewa were made by the British Government after the treaty of Bassein. But such overtures were rejected by Raja Ajit Singh.⁶ The relations of amity, however, prevailed between the British Government and Raja Ajit Singh.

Meanwhile, incursions continued by both, the Marathas and Govindjit on each other's territories. About the end of September, 1805, Nana Shaheb the Subedar of Ratanpur began to form a corps near Amarkantak, which numbered to about 2,000 men and was commanded by Hybat Raw Gywut. The force made an attempt to penetrate into Sohagpur tract through a defile beyond Amarkantak, but were repulsed by Govindjit⁷ back to the Amarkantak pass.

In such a period of stress and strain Govindjit, tried to maintain amicable relations with Raja Ajit Singh. In the year 1807, Dalganjan Singh, the Jagirdar of Ramnagar, rebelled against Ajit Singh. Ajit Singh, therefore, called Govindjit to his aid.⁸ Govindjit attacked Dalganjan Singh, defeated him, and captured his fort of Ramgarh.⁹ Dalganjan Singh shortly afterwards recovered the possession of his fort. When Raja Ajit Singh again called Govindjit to assist him in capturing Dalganjan Singh, next time Govindjit refused to comply with. Consequently, Raja Ajit Singh requested the Bhonsla ruler to dislodge Govindjit and divide his possessions between themselves. The proposal was sent to Nagpur through a Vakeel named Seetaknath.¹⁰ The Raja of Nagpur assented to the request and despatched

1. Grant Duff, History of the Marathas, Vol. III, p. 53.

2. Rewa State Gazetteer, p. 17.

3. H.N. Sinha, Selections from the Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. I, p. 192.

4. Ibid.

5. Thorn, Memoirs of the War (1818), p. 250.

6. Aitchison, C.U., Treaties, Engagements and Sanads, Vol. V, 1909, p. 221.

7. H.N. Sinha, Op. Cit., p. 192.

8. Ibid. Vol. III, p. 37.

9. Ibid.

10. Ibid.

Nathuram Hazuri with 3,000 horses to besiege the fort of Sohagpur. During the siege Govindjit was seized and sent a captive to Nagpur.¹ Nathuram Hazuri then took possession of the whole of Sohagpur district and sent a portion of the plundered property to the Raja of Rewa through a Vakeel. A part of that property, the Vakeel himself appropriated and the remainder he gave to Raja Ajit Singh.

Jai Singh And Sohagpur

In the Year 1809, Raja Ajit Singh died and was succeeded by his son Jai Singh. On his succession, Jai Singh called upon Nathuram Hazuri, the Subedar of Sohagpur, to relinquish Sohagpur.² Nathuram Hazuri replied that in case the Raja of Rewa agreed to pay a lakh of Rupees as a cost of occupation of Sohagpur tract, it could be relinquished. Since no reply was received, Sohagpur continued to be administered by the Officers of Bhonsla Government of Nagpur.

In October, 1812 Raja Jai Singh Deo acceded to a treaty with the British Government.³ According to the treaty Jai Singh Deo was acknowledged the ruler of his possessions and was guaranteed protection of Rewa territories from foreign encroachments. Having secured the British guarantee, Jai Singh Deo attempted to occupy Sohagpur tract in the year 1814. The Nagpur Government, therefore, lodged a complaint to the British, who restrained Jai Singh and informed him that the engagement of the year 1812 could not be construed to apply to those lands which were not actually in the possession of Jai Singh on the date of the treaty.⁴

Raja Jai Singh could not restrain for long and in April, 1816 his eldest son Vishvanath proceeded towards Sohagpur. He encamped at Ramnagar with a force of 800 to 900 horses and 3,000 infantry with guns.⁵ However, the British Government did everything to restrain the Raja of Rewa from his intended expedition against Sohagpur⁶ at the instance of the Nagpur Government.

Thus, Sohagpur region continued to be ruled by the Bhonsla Raja of Nagpur and the Bandhogarh tract remained with the Rewa Ruler. Jai Singh the Ruler of Rewa was a scholar and the author of several works as well as a great patron of learning. He had three sons, the eldest of whom was Vishvanath Singh. The other two were Lakshman Singh and Balbhadra Singh. Before Jai Singh Deo abdicated in favour of his son, Vishvanath Singh, in A.D. 1833 we may further trace the history of the Sohagpur region.

The relations between the Marathas and the Britishers deteriorated and, therefore, a war broke out between the two. The third Maratha War commenced in 1818-19 which ended in favour of the Britishers. As a result Appa Shaheb, the Raja

1. Ibid. p. 38

2. Ibid. pp. 38 to 43.

3. Aitchison, Treaties, Engagements and Sanads, Vol. V, p. 241.

4. Ibid. p. 46.

5. Ibid. p. 51

6. Ibid.

of Nagpur, became a fugitive and in the territorial adjustment Sohagpur was taken over by the Britishers,¹ alongwith other parts of Chhattisgarh tract.

At the time the revenue of Sohagpur Khas was estimated to be Rs.9,482 and that of its dependent Zamindaris, it was Rs.19,932. This revenue was registered by the Britishers as insignificant with no chance of improvement.² They considered Sohagpur region as one of the wildest and least improveable portions of India.³ C.A. Molony, Commissioner on the Nerbudda reported in his letter dated 16th January, 1819 to R. Jenkins, the Resident at Nagpur, that due to insignificant revenue and "immense distance from any station at which an European Officer is likely to reside, it will be advisable to restore..... it to Raja Govindjit for the payment of a(quit rent) from him so as to leave him something more than his pension of Rupees 3,000 per annum"⁴. The tract remained under direct British rule upto A.D. 1826 when under a fresh treaty Sohagpur alongwith other parts of Chhattisgarh etc. was transferred back to Raghuji II, the Raja of Nagpur.⁵ Under the treaty, Raghuji II also bound himself to maintain good government under the supervision of the British Resident. Meanwhile, Vishwanath Singh, heir apparent of the Jai Singh (1809-33) the Ruler of Rewa, endeavoured to get Sohagpur tract included in the Rewa State, but in vain. Raghuji II retained the administration till his death on the 11th December, 1853. He died without an heir and the Nagpur State was then annexed to British India.

In the meantime, Bandhogarh tract continued to be ruled by Vishwanath Singh, the Raja of Rewa. Vishwanath Singh (1833-54) was an able ruler and like his father he was a lover of literature and learning to which he gave liberal patronage. He was a writer of great merit and is credited with the authorship of 18 books in Sanskrit. He was also an ardent social reformer. In the year 1847, he abolished *Sati* throughout his dominion. Vishwanath Singh ruled upto 1854, when he was succeeded by his son, Raghuraj Singh only three years before the disturbances of the Revolt of 1857 broke out.

Raghuraj Singh And The Great Revolt

At the onset of this Great Revolt of 1857, Sohagpur Chiefship was under the control of Political Agent. Nowgaon and the Sohagpur Estate formed part of Mandla district under the Political Agent for Saugor and Nerbudda Territories. In March, 1857 Maharaja Raghuraj Singh (1854-1880) had gone on a pilgrimage and was at Jagannath Puri, escorted by Lieutenant Osborne.⁶ At the instance of the Governor General he had to hurry back from Calcutta under the shadow of the rebellion at Barrackpur and the execution of the rebel leader Mangal Pande (April, 1857).

By the time he returned to Rewa the Great Revolt had broken out at Meerut (May, 1857) and soon the flames of rebellion spread far and wide - from Jhansi to

1 H N Sinha, Op. Cit., Vol IV, p. 4.

2 Ibid. p. 164

3 Ibid

4 Ibid

5 Aitchison, Treaties, Engagements and Sanads, Vol II, pp. 526-27

6 Journal of the Madhya Pradesh Itihas Parishad, No.9, 1973-74, p. 45

Sagar, Damoh, Jabalpur and Mandla to the south and from Banda to Jaitpur, Nowgaon, Nagod and Rewa to the north. Raghuraj Singh, on his own part played the roll of a diplomat. He is said to have been instrumental in bringing about the rebellion of his Sohagpur Kinsmen in the British territory of Mandla, and encouraging and sheltering the rebel leaders. Raghuraj Singh offered a contingent force of 2,000 men to assist the British authorities in keeping order in Baghelkhand. Simultaneously, the Rewa Court was sending token help to Lal Garul Singh, the Thakur of Sohagpur, by acknowledging his letters, encouraging him with promise of help, sending directives and conveying information, secretly or confidentially. The Maharaja himself was in correspondence with the Thakur in October, 1857.¹

Receiving active co-operation from the Ruler of Rewa, the Sohagpur Thakur rose in revolt in collaboration with the Chiefs of Ramgarh and Shahpura, and secured a free hand for some time in Sohagpur, by putting its Thana Police to a flight.² The situation of Rewa tract became critical when Kunwar Singh, the great rebel leader of Bihar marched towards Rewa to organise revolt there. On receiving this news Raghuraj Singh advised Osborne, the Political Agent, to leave the Rewa territory as he could not protect him. However, Osborne decided to stay on at Rewa and waited for the arrival of 17th Madras Regiment there. Subsequently, seeing the turn of events in favour of the British, Raghuraj Singh decided to side with them and gave an unfriendly treatment to Kunwar Singh. When Kunwar Singh was eight miles from Rewa, the Maharaja wrote to him to leave his territory, if not, he would punish him³ Kunwar Singh, therefore, left the territory and went towards Banda in October, 1857.

Gradually, the Britishers improved their position. By June, 1858 Ramnagar and Shahpura had fallen and Sohagpur's fall was in offing. By then, Lal Garul Singh the Thakur of Sohagpur was managing his affairs with looted property. In June, 1858, following the martyrdom of the Rani of Jhansi, the siege of Sohagpur-garhi was pressed by British forces stationed at Mandla assisted by a detachment from Rewa. Rewa Court secretly advised the Thakur to leave for the Maikal hills.⁴ The inmates of the Sohagpur-garhi, under the command of the younger brother of Garul Singh, were similarly asked to leave the Garhi and flight back to the hills. Consequently, the garhi was evacuated and the Thakur brothers fled; the garhi was demolished by the British. With this the revolt came to an end in Shahdol District.

The Rewa Maharaja, in an atmosphere full of rumours for his detention, was conferred the Sohagpur Taluk, including Amarkantak, at the Kanpur Darbar, held by Clemency Canning, the Governor General, on 3rd November, 1858. Lal Garul Singh the Sohagpur Thakur was pardoned and was installed as Manager. When the tract of Sohagpur was taken over by the Rewa Durbar, Garul Singh was content to receive a subsistence allowance from the Maharaja until his death. Eventually his son

1. Ibid. pp. 46-47.

2. Ibid. p. 44.

3. Further Papers No.4, Reg. the Mutinies in the East Indies, Presented to the both houses of Parliament, London, p. 182.

4. Journal of the Madhya Pradesh Itihas Parishad, No.9, 1973-74, p. 49.

received a *patta* for Sohagpur in 1870.¹ From here onwards the history of Shahdol District coincide with that of Rewa. In the year 1862 A.D., the Maharaja of Rewa was granted a *sanad* guaranteeing him the right of adoption. In the following year he ceded the land required for the East Indian Railway. He also appointed Sir Dinkar Rao, the famous Gwalior Minister to reorganise the administration of Rewa State. The British Government consented to the arrangement, but declined to guarantee him the position of the minister, who was compelled eventually to abandon the task he had undertaken.

In the year 1870 A.D. the British Government agreed to the Maharaja's request for the re-establishment of the separate Agency for Rewa with headquarters at Satna. Before that the political supervision of Rewa affairs had been entrusted to the Agent for Bundelkhand.

Subsequently, the condition of the State finances became very unsatisfactory and, therefore, in 1875 the Maharaja expressed his inability to manage the affairs of the State. He agreed to make over the administration to the political Agent, aided by the minister Lal Randaman Singh, until the debts of the State should be liquidated and a proper Government be established. The proposal was acceded to by the British Government. It was, specified that, when the time for the British Government to withdraw from the direct management should arrive, an engagement should be given by the Maharaja to maintain the system of administration introduced by the British Government, and to protect any rights which might have sprung up under the British administration.² Maharaja Raghuraj Singh was granted a personal salute of 19 guns on the 1st January, 1877. He passed away on 4 February, 1880.

Venkat Raman Singh (1880-1918)

Maharaja Raghuraj Singh was succeeded by his son, Venkat Raman Singh, at the age of four years. The succession of the young Maharaja was acknowledged by the British Government in March, 1880 and he was installed on the gaddi on 8 October in that year.

In February, 1882 the Political Agent, Baghelkhand, who had continued since 1875 to administer Rewa, was appointed Superintendent of the State. A Council of *Sardars* was appointed as a consultative body to assist and advise the Superintendent in the administration of the State.

In 1883 the Rewa State agreed to cede the land required for the Bengal Nagpur Railways. On the 21st January, 1885 the Rewa State handed over to the British Government, with other necessary concessions for mining purposes, the surface and mining rights in the Umaria Coalfields, a tract of about three square miles.

The terms included the payment of a royalty to the Darbar. In April, 1885, civil and criminal jurisdiction over the coal fields was ceded to the British Government.

1. Ibid.

2. Aitchison, Op. Cit., Vol. V. 223.

which entrusted the immediate administrative control of the tract and the executive management of the operations to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. The whole arrangement which was subject to reconsideration on the Maharaja's attaining majority, terminated at the Maharaja's request on the 1st January, 1900, when the colliery was retransferred to the Rewa Darbar on the understanding that any proposal to transfer it thereafter to a company would be submitted for the consideration and orders of the British Government.¹

Meanwhile, on the 15th November, 1886 the administration of the State was handed over to Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh under certain conditions, and the Council of *Sardars* was dissolved from that date.

In May, 1902 an agreement was made between the Bengal Nagpur Railway Company Limited, and the Maharaja, as the proprietor of the Rewa State Colliery at Umaria, for the performance by the latter of certain services at the pit-head terminus of the Umaria branch line, for the purpose of developing the coal traffic between the colliery and the stations of the railway company and other connected railway lines via the Umaria Station of the Company.²

In the beginning of the 20th century, the territory of Rewa, including Sohagpur, contained an area of 13,000 square miles, and a population of 13,27,385. The annual revenue amounted to about Rs. 29 lakhs exclusive of jagirs and religious grants, which absorbed nearly fifteen lakh rupees.³

The military forces of the State as in the year 1905 consisted of 574 cavalry, 1,140 infantry, 230 armed police, 94 artillery men, and 13 serviceable and 44 unserviceable guns. The Maharaja received a salute of 17 guns.

At the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 the Maharaja made an offer of his troops, treasury, jewels, and all the resources of Rewa State to the British Government. He also offered to proceed to the front in person and take his own army with him. Most appreciative references to these offers were made in both the Houses of Parliament in Great Britain. Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh fell a victim to Influenza and passed away on 20 October, 1918.⁴

Gulab Singh Under The Regency

When Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh had fallen ill, he had requested his brother-in-law, the Maharaja of Ratlam to manage the State, in case of death. He was also entrusted to look after the heir-apparent, Maharaja- Kumar Gulab Singh, who was then a minor.

Subsequently, on 9 January, 1919, with the approval of the British Government, Maharaja Ratlam took over as Regent of the Rewa State. A Council of Regency was appointed on that date to assist the Regent during the period. In the year 1923, Maharaja Gulab Singh attained majority and assumed the rulership.

1. Ibid. p. 224.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid. p. 225.

4. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22, p.3.

Growth Of Freedom Movement

Rewa State, including Shahdol District, was in the forefront of the nationalist activities in the Vindhya Pradesh region. Following the decision of the Nagpur Session of the Congress in 1920, the Ajmer Provincial Congress Committee was organised and it was entrusted with the task of spreading, national awakening in the Baghelkhand district also. From this time onwards, representatives from Baghelkhand region started attending the various sessions of the Congress. Kaptan Awdheesh Pratap Singh was nominated as the representative of the people in Rewa State for the Karachi Session of the congress. It was decided in that session to organise a separate Congress Committee for Baghelkhand.

In pursuance of the above decision, a meeting was held at Rewa on 30 May, 1931, which alongwith others, was attended by Shambhu Nath Shukla of Shahdol. He was elected as a member of the Executive Committee with Lal Yadavendra Singh as its President.¹ Soonafter, in July, 1931, the Baghelkhand Congress Committee raised the demand and started movement for the establishment of a representative Government in Rewa State. This invited wrath of the Political Agent of Nowgaon. He ordered arrest of hundreds of persons. Shortly after, Maharaja Gulab Singh, however, released all political prisoners. Thereafter, for the sake of convenience Baghelkhand Congress Committee was attached with the Mahakoshal Congress Committee.

The Civil Disobedience Movement

When in 1931 Mahatma Gandhi launched the Civil Disobedience Movement, the Rewa Congress Committee also stood shoulder to shoulder with the rest of the country. It raised the demand for a responsible government and started the Movement. As a result, all the top leaders were arrested in April, 1932 and were imprisoned and sent to the ill-famed forts of Bandhogarh, Madhogarh and Umaria.² The condition of these fort jails was appalling, where even basic essentials of the life were not available. A freedom fighter died of snake-bite, another died due to lack of medicines and food, and many more died later after leaving the jail. For suppression of the Movement three Ordinances were passed by the State and wide powers were given to the Police. The people were mercilessly beaten. Military was used to terrorise them. The situation at Umaria grew so tense that a military force had to be stationed there for 6 months.³ At least 200 persons were imprisoned, 300 penalised and nearly 15,000 people participated in the movement in the region.⁴

When the Movement was called off by Gandhiji, gradually all the top leaders were released by 1933-1934 from the different jails. The Movement of 1932 for representative government in the region did not go in vain. The massive public support to the Movement compelled Maharaja Gulab Singh to introduce certain administrative reforms.

1. *Madhya Pradesh Aur Gandhiji*, p. 101.
2. *Smarika, Madhya Pradesh Swatantrata Sangram Sainik Sangh*, 9th Conference, Indore, 1975, p. 81.
3. *Vindhyachal*, (Swatantrata Sangram Issue), 1 January, 1954, p. 17.
4. *Madhya Pradesh Aur Gandhiji*, p. 102.

During the "Quit India" Movement of 1942, all the top leaders in the region, as elsewhere, were arrested. Young militants came forward to lead the Movement and actively participated in it.

Early in 1945 the realisation dawned on the rulers of the Princely States that it was no longer possible to thwart the popular demands for responsible government in the States. A Constitutional Advisory Committee, appointed in 1945 by the Chamber of Princes, emphasised the importance of progressive reforms in the States and expected the rulers to introduce them expeditiously. These recommendations of the Committee were implemented in many States. The Maharaja of Rewa, on 2 April, 1946 announced his decision to appoint a Committee of Enquiry with Sir A. Krishnaswami Aiyar, former Advocate General of Madras as Chairman. He was to draw up a workable constitution suited to Rewa State for introducing popular government.¹

In the year 1946 Maharaja Gulab Singh was deposed by the Political Department of Government of India and was forbidden to enter the State. He was succeeded by his son Maharaja Martand Singh. On 25 June, 1946 the political workers of Vindhya Pradesh decided to set up Rewa Rajya Praja Mandal. An organisational Committee was formed to workout the above proposal. The Committee included a representation of Shahdol also.² The Praja Mandal was set up in the same year. Subsequently, events moved swiftly. The country achieved Independence on the 15 August, 1947.

At the time of transfer of power Baghelkhand and Bundelkhand consisted of 35 States. Out of them, Rewa alone had been declared a viable State, since it had individual representation in the Constituent Assembly and the principle of merger was not to be applied to viable States. However, a deputation from the State met the Secretary, Ministry of States to Government of India and assured that Rewa was prepared to join the Indian Union provided certain concessions were offered to the State.

After prolonged discussions a few concessions were given to the State. It was agreed to insert an article in the Covenant to the effect that if three-fourths representatives of Rewa State in the Constituent Assembly voted in favour of opting out of the proposed Union, the Covenant, in so far as it affected Rewa, would not be operative. After observing certain other formalities, including the acceptance of two separate ministries for the region, the new Union of Vindhya Pradesh was inaugurated on 4 April, 1948 by N.V. Gadgil, the then Central Minister for Works, Mines and Powers. This Union had an area of 24,598 square miles, a population of 35,69,455 and an annual revenue of Rs.2,43,300.

1. U. Phadnis, *Towards the Integration of Indian States, 1919-1947*, pp. 144-48.
2. Shyamal Sahu, *Vindhya Pradesh Ke Rajyon ka Swatantrata Sangram Ka Itihas*, pp. 390-391.
3. V.P. Menon, *The Story of the Integration of the Indian States* p.204

The experiment of separate ministries for the two regions of Vindhya Pradesh (i.e. for Bundelkhand and Rewa) proved an utter failure. Finally, the Government of India took over Vindhya Pradesh on 1st January, 1950 as a centrally administered area and it was placed under a Lieutenant Governor, as a part 'C' State of India.

In the year 1952 elections were held to the Vindhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly and a popular ministry was constituted on 2 April, 1952 under the Chief Ministership of Shambhunath Shukla. Subsequently, in 1956, due to reorganisation of States, Vindhya Pradesh became a part of new Madhya Pradesh with Shahdol as one of its districts.

CHAPTER - III PEOPLE

Population

Shahdol District has a population of 1,029,839 spread over an area of 14,028 sq. km. The District ranks eleventh in the State in respect of population which forms 2.47 per cent of the population of the State. However, it is sixth in the area-ranking, having 3.17 per cent of the State's area. The biggest district in the State, Bastar, is about three times as big as Shahdol; whereas, in its turn Shahdol is seven times of Datia, the tiniest district in the State. In fact, Sohagpur the largest tahsil of this District is greater than seven districts of the State, and closely compares with five others. The population density of the District is 73 persons per sq. km. The rural-urban component of the District population is in the ratio 88.17 : 11.83 and the number of females per 1000 males is 955.

The table given below shows the tahsilwise area and population of the District.

Table No. III-1
Area and Population, 1971

Tahsil	Area (sq. km)	Population		
		Total	Males	Females
Beohari	2,627.5	169,825	86,416	83,409
Bandhogarh	3,629.7	203,863	103,790	100,073
Sohagpur	5,339.2	547,578	281,792	265,786
Pushparajgarh	1,763.7	108,573	54,742	53,831
District (a)	13,860.1	1,029,839	526,740	503,099
Total (b)	14,028.0			

Source : Census of India, 1971

N.B. : - (a) According to State Survey Department

(b) According to Surveyor General of India

The difference in the area figures furnished by the two agencies mentioned above is nominal (1.20 per cent).

Growth Of Population

Noticeable features of the pattern of population variation in the District during the seventy year period since the beginning of this century are as follows :

Decade 1901-11

During the opening decade 1901-11, the District (14.4) as well as the State (15.3) grew more or less at the same rate.

Decade 1911-21

This decade saw a considerable reduction in the population of the District. There were, during this decade, three epidemics and two bad years, one of actual famine in the Rewa' State, of which Shahdol District was a part prior to 1947. The scarcity occurred in 1918-19 owing to scanty rainfall, while in 1919-20 actual famine had occurred causing considerable emigration.

The most important cause of the reduction in population was, however, the visitation of the District, as of other parts of the State, by the fatal influenza epidemic in 1918-19. It was the 'greatest catastrophe that has ever befallen the State'. Plague is also reported to have mauled the population during this decade. Thousands of people left the District.

Decade 1921-31

There was considerable increase of population during this decade, possibly on account of the return of bulk of the emigrants that had left this District in the earlier decade after the restoration of normal conditions.

Decades 1931-41 and 1941-51

These two may be treated as normal decades. However, the generally low growth rate (9.4) during 1941-51 was perhaps a result of depletion in the ranks of women of child bearing ages owing to the influenza epidemic of 1918-19, slightly coupled with the loss of population due to Partition of India.

Decade 1951-61

The decade witnessed a phenomenal rate of increase in the District (27.49). It was, however, not a peculiar feature of the District. Such high rates of growth are observed in the State and in most other districts also, although it may be noticed that the rate of increase in the District is distinctly higher than the State rate (24.2). It is mainly the result of control over premature deaths by the extension of medical facilities and by effective arrest, if not complete elimination, of epidemics like malaria, plague, cholera, etc., while the births remain uncontrolled and as high as ever. As a matter of fact, except for the first two decades, Shahdol, has always been increasing at a rate faster than that of the State as a whole during the 60 years period from 1901 to 1961.

Decade 1961-71

The decade 1961-71 has been an exception in this respect. The rate of growth of the District in this decade was +24.13 as against the State rate of growth of +28.67. It means the District grew at a lower rate than the State as a whole and also that its growth rate fell down from +27.49 in 1961 to +24.13 in 1971. This seems to be on account of the impact of vigorous family planning campaign undertaken during the decade, along with some other factors.

The following table gives the decadal variation in population during the

1. Rewa State Census Report, 1921, p.1.

seventy year-period beginning from the year 1901.

Table No. III-2
Decadal Variation in Population, 1901-71

Year	Persons	Decade Variation	Percentage Decade Variation
1901	406,792	-	-
1911	465,225	+ 58,433	+ 14.36
1921	432,136	- 33,089	- 7.11
1931	520,706	+ 88,570	+ 20.50
1941	594,798	+ 74,092	+ 14.23
1951	650,757	+ 55,959	+ 9.41
1961	829,649	+ 178,892	+ 27.49
1971	1,029,839	+ 200,190	+ 24.13

Source : Census of India, 1971

From the above table an overall picture of growth rate may be visualised. However, it can't in itself present a correct picture of the actual State of affairs because there is always an extraordinary difference of growth rate in the rural and urban areas of the District on account of various reasons e.g., difference in birth rates, migration levels, drift towards towns etc. The table given below shows the actual rural and urban growth rates, of population during the period 1901-71.

Table No. III-3
Percentage Rural-Urban Variation in Population
1901-71

Total								
Rural	1901-71	1961-71	1951-61	1941-51	1931-41	1921-31	1911-21	1901-11
Urban								
T	+153.16	+24.13	+27.49	+ 9.41	+14.23	+20.50	-7.11	+ 14.36
R	+126.20	+ 17.63	+ 29.47	+ 2.58	+13.27	+20.18	- 7.03	+14.40
U	+ 21.64	+110.93	+5.87	+301.29	+78.55	+46.25	-13.35	+11.65

Source : Census of India, 1971

From the above table it can be seen that the urban growth rate has been less than the rural growth rate only during the decades 1901-11 and 1951-61. Similarly the loss of population during the decade 1911-21 was approximately at double the rate in urban areas compared to rural areas. In 1941-51 decade, there was a sharp contrast between the rural (2.58) and urban (301.29) growth rates. The urban growth rate was highest so far in this decade. It sharply fell down during 1951-61 (5.87) and

rose again to a considerable level in 1961-71 (110.93). One of the reasons for this strange phenomenon was the declassification of certain towns in 1961 and again addition of certain towns for the first time in 1971.

Sex Ratio

Sex-ratio is an index number employed to measure the difference in numbers between the two sexes, because the numbers of the two sexes vary not only over time, but also from one geographical region to another, from rural to urban areas and even from one ethnic group to another.

In Shahdol District the Sex-ratio, i.e., the number of females per 1000 males was 955 in 1971. There was a wide variation, however, in the rural (986) and urban (814) sex-ratio on account of various socio-economic reasons. There is generally a declining trend in the sex-ratio in the District as is clear from the following table :

Table No. III-4
Sex-Ratio, 1901-71

Year	Sex-Ratio
1901	1,001
1911	1,016
1921	998
1931	995
1941	987
1951	969
1961	957
1971	955

Source : Census of India, 1971

From the above table it may be noted that except in the year 1911, when it increased, the sex-ratio has been gradually falling. The same trend generally prevailed for the sex-ratio in the rural areas as well. However, from 972 in 1951 it came down to 966 in 1961 and again rose to 972 in 1971 in the rural areas of the District, which is a special feature. In urban areas the case has been quite different. From 840 in 1901 it rose suddenly to 949 in 1921, then gradually fell down to 924 in 1941, rose again to 935 in 1951, but fell down abruptly to 838 in 1961. This fall during the decade 1951-61 is remarkable and indicates the growth of industrialisation. There was, however, a nominal change in the urban sex-ratio of the District during the decade 1961-71 (837) showing that the process is on.

Density

The number of persons per sq. km. is called the density. The density of the District was 73 in 1971. The urban density was 768 whereas rural density was 65. Pushparajgarh tahsil being entirely rural its density was 62. Bandhogarh tahsil had the lowest total (56) as well as rural density (51) in the District.

The urban density varies from a minimum of 81 in Chhotan camp outgrowth of Umaria to a maximum of 2,486 (Khodargama) both in the Bandhogarh tahsil. The Johilla Colliery and Nargada Hari Dafai (Dhanpuri) have 1,300 and 1,039 as their densities, respectively.

Migration

In the urban areas of the District nearly half of the households lived in rented dwellings, a surprising fact which clearly brings out that a very large proportion of urban population consists of immigrants.

In the urban areas of Sohagpur and Bandhogarh tahsils, which have all the coal mines in the District, the high female deficiency is not difficult to understand. It arises mainly from migration of people who go there in search of employment. This migration is, to begin with, only of men and generally there is a time lag-sometimes considerable - before women go and settle with the migrant males. The Census figures of 1961 throw enough light on the migration pattern of the District. In all 63,267 persons were reported to be born in other districts of the State, most of them (54,309) in contiguous districts. Jabalpur (10,378) and Bilaspur (10,335) sent nearly equal number of migrants to the District followed by Satna (8,626) and Rewa (7,726). Sidhi (6,639) and Mandla (6,136) districts emmigrated more than six thousand persons each. Surguja was the last in this respect (4,469).

Other States also had a share in the population of the District to the extent of over fourteen thousand persons (14,619). Uttar Pradesh topped the list with more than half of this number (7,529), followed by Orissa (2,131). Other States from which sizeable migration took place are Maharashtra (784), Bihar (769), West Bengal (695), Andhra Pradesh (625), Punjab (499), Rajasthan (475) and Assam (338).

The number of persons living in Shahdol but born in other countries of Asia was also sizable (2,688). However, most of them were refugees from Pakistan (2,569). Burma sent 12 persons whereas contribution of other neighbouring countries was nominal.

As regards emigration it may be said that the Rewa State Census Report of 1921 estimated the number of emigrants due to the cumulative effects of famine, influenza and plague epidemics in February and March, 1920 at 33,000 in the whole Rewa State, the efforts of the Regency Council to stop it having proved futile. Naturally, these emigrants included thousands from Shahdol District which formed a part of erstwhile Rewa State.

In other decades, it has been a normal process. People come and go according to their economic needs. In 1947-48, some Muslims left for Pakistan. The Immigration tables of the surrounding districts may as well present a glimpse of the emigration from Shahdol.

Rural-Urban Distribution

Out of a total population of 10,29,839 in all 9,08,007 live in the rural and the rest (1,21,832) in urban areas giving a rural-urban ratio of 88.17 : 11.83 or roughly

a ratio of 88 : 12 indicating that the District is rural in composition. This is evidenced by the fact that out of a total area of 14,028.0 sq. km., only 159.7 sq. km. is urban, spread up in 10 towns. The rural area (13,868.3 sq. km.) is composed of 1,978 inhabited and 165 un-inhabited villages.

Except Pushparaigarh tahsil which is entirely rural, all other tahsils have some urban component. The following table shows the rural-urban composition of the District.

Table No. III-5
Rural-Urban Distribution, 1971

Tahsil	No. of Towns	Number of Villages			Rural	Urban
		Inhabited	Un-Inhabited	Total		
Beohari	1	351	32	169,825	161,701	8,124
Bandhogarh	2	486	82	203,863	184,029	19,834
Sohagpur	7	877	42	547,578	453,704	93,874
Pushparaigarh	-	264	9	108,573	108,573	Nil
District Total	10	1,978	165	1,029,839	908,007	121,832

Source : Census of India, 1971

From the table it is clear that Sohagpur tahsil has the maximum number of urban areas (7) and a bulk of urban population (93,874). Pushparaigarh tahsil is entirely rural but the maximum number of villages (877), and so also the rural population (453,704), are contained by Sohagpur tahsil. The maximum (82) and minimum (9) number of un-inhabited villages are there in Bandhogarh and Pushparaigarh tahsils respectively. Beohari tahsil has only one town and the minimum urban population (8,124).

As to the size of villages, it may be mentioned that there are only 20 villages in the population range 2000-4999 and one village in Bandhogarh tahsil having a population of 5,356. Most of the villages in the District (787) are in the population range 200-499 followed by very small villages (540) having a population less than 200 each.

There are 489 villages in the population range 500-999 and only 141 in the next (1000-1999). In all these ranges, Sohagpur tahsil has the maximum number of villages.

As regards towns the position is still interesting. As against 5 towns in 1961, the number of towns increased to 10 in 1971, a hundred percent increase in a decade.

The following table shows the year in which an urban area acquired the status of a Town (T), Municipality (M) Notified Area (N.A.), Gram Panchayat (G.P.) etc.

Table No. III-6
Towns - 1971

Tahsil	Town	Population	1971	1961	1951
Beohari	Beohari	8,124	N.A.	Declassified	T
	Jaisinghnagar	-	-	Declassified	T
Bandhogarh	Umaria	9,358	M	M	M
	Khodargama	6,264	NM	-	-
	Chandla	-	-	Declassified	T
	Manpur	-	-	Declassified	T
	Amarpur	-	-	Declassified	T
Sohagpur	Shahdol	28,490	M	M	M
	Johilla	-	-	-	-
	Colliery	8,917	NM	GP	T
	Kotma	7,047	NM	Declassified	T
	Burhar	8,756	NA	GP	T
	Nargada	-	-	-	-
	Hari	-	-	-	-
	Dafai	-	-	-	-
	(Dhanpur)	20,411	NA	T	T
	Amlai	8,687	NM	-	-
	Pasan	6,691	NM	-	-
	Jaithari	-	-	Declassified	T
	Anuppur	-	-	Declassified	T
Total			10	5	13

Source : Census of India, 1971

N.B. : NM stands for Status not mentioned

Note : The district had two towns in 1941 and had only one reported till then

From the above table, it is seen that Umaria is the oldest town in the District which became a municipal town in 1921 and continues to be so. Shahdol was declared a municipal town in 1941 and continued its status without interruption.

In 1951 there were 13 towns. Eight of them were declassified in 1961, leaving the number of towns to be 5 in that year. Some other areas that were treated as separate towns in 1951, lost their separate identity as towns since 1961 and were merged with other towns. In the year 1971, following 5 new towns have been added making the total to be 10.

1. Beohari
2. Khodargama
3. Kotma
4. Amlai and
5. Pasan

It is interesting to note that Sohagpur, which was treated as a separate town in 1951, is treated as part of Shahdol town since 1961. Shahdol is thus the biggest town in the District (28,490) and Pasan the smallest (6,691), both in the Sohagpur tahsil. In this connection, mention may be made of the fact that the towns of Birsinghpur and Dhanpuri in this tahsil were renamed Johilla Colliery and Nargada Haridafai, respectively in 1961.

There are 7 urban outgrowths which came into existence during the decade 1961-71, 4 in Bandhogarh and 3 in Sohagpur tahsil. Out of the former 4, Khodargama township has three outgrowths, viz., (i) Sastra (907) (ii) Kudri (1,155) and (iii) Deogawan (1,299), whereas the fourth one is Chhatan Camp (891), an outgrowth of Umaria township.

In Sohagpur tahsil, Kotma urban area has got two outgrowths, namely, (i) Kalyanpur (327) and (ii) Goinda (802). However, the biggest outgrowth is Bhuibandh (3,746) attached to Shahdol town.

Drift Towards Towns

The Census 1971 enumerates double the number of townships in the District (10), Pushparajgarh tahsil still remaining entirely rural. Beohari Notified Area has been shown for the first time as an urban area in this Census in the tahsil of the same name (shown as entirely rural in 1961 Census) with a population of 8,124.

The urban population of Bandhogarh tahsil increased from 11,277 in 1961 to 19,834 in 1971, showing a drift of population from the rural areas. The number of towns in this tahsil rose from one to two during this period. Only Umaria town with a population of 11,277 in 1961, actually came down a little in 1971 (10,249) as a result of a small drift of population of this small urban township to nearby collieries. The other township in this tahsil, declared for the first time in this Census, is that of Khodargama alongwith its outgrowth (9,585).

The real indication of the drift however, is shown by the increase in the number of towns from 4 in 1961 to 7 in 1971 in the Sohagpur tahsil. Its urban population has been doubled during the decade 1961-71. From a meagre 46,483 in 1961 it shot up to 93,874 in 1971. The Johilla Colliery in this tahsil increased from 7,189 to 8,917 during the same period. But the remarkable growth was of the Nargada - Hari - Dafai - Colliery (Dhanpuri). There was almost a hundred per cent increase. From 10,017 in 1961, the population of this colliery rose to 20,411. The growth of the District Headquarters Shahdol itself is worth mentioning. In 1961 it was a small town with a population of 22,196. There was an addition of 10,000 souls to its population during the decade making it an abode of 32,236 persons. As is evident, most of the increase

is due to the drift of the population from the rural areas.

Displaced Persons

The Census of 1961 shows that 2569 persons were living in the District who were born in Pakistan. Most of them were of course refugees who came and settled in the District in the wake of Partition. Three fifths of them were males (1,513) and the rest (1,056) females. This is in contrast to a general equality of sexes in the refugees in other districts.

Being a merchant community, most of the Sindhis, nearly 80 per cent (1,966) settled in the urban areas (1,072 males and 894 females). The rest 603 (411 males and 162 females) decided to go to the rural areas in *kasbas* or big villages where they could get some business. The imbalance in the rural male and female refugee population was, perhaps, because the young daughters preferred to be with their male relatives in the urban areas for better prospects of education and cottage industry in which they were trained in the family e.g. sewing, making of food-products, condiments etc.

Language

Hindi is the mother-tongue of a majority (87.4 per cent) of the population of the District. The District is in the Baghelkand region of the former Vindhya Pradesh and most of the persons who returned themselves as Hindi speakers in 1961 were in fact speakers of the Baghelkhandi dialect of Hindi. However, only 4.8 per cent of the population returned themselves as speaking this dialect which despite short percentage return, was the second most widely spoken mother-tongue.

The tribal population of the District is sizable, a little less than 50 per cent, consisting of Gonds, Kols, Baigas, etc. The tribal dialect Gondi was returned as the third in order in respect of number of its speakers (4.0 per cent). However, most of the Gonds have lost their tribal speech and speak the dominant language of the District. The Kols of the District also, though numerically significant, have lost their tribal speech and speak the dialect of Hindi spoken in the District. Similarly almost all the Baigas speak the dominant speech of the region in which they live and not *Baigani* a dialect of Chhattisgarhi which is their mother-tongue in the neighbouring Mandla District.

Bundelkhandi, another important dialect of Hindi, returned 1.8 per cent speakers and placed fourth in this order. Thus the percentage of speakers of Hindi alongwith its main dialects Baghelkhandi and Bundelkhandi was nearly 94.

Out of a total number of 39 mother-tongues, only 9 could claim a respectable number speaker of (i.e. more than 1000 each).

The following table shows the number of speakers of these important mother-tongues as enumerated during the Census of 1961 alongwith their percentages to the total population.

Table No. III-7
Mother-Tongues, 1961

S.No.	Mother-tongue	Number of Speakers	Percentage to total Population
1.	Hindi	7,25,440	87.4
2.	Baghelkhandi	40,058	4.8
3.	Gondi	32,867	4.0
4.	Bundelkhandi	14,724	1.8
5.	Urdu	4,141	0.5
6.	Sindhi	3,047	0.4
7.	Kurukh-Oraon	1,871	0.2
8.	Bengali	1,371	0.2
9.	Telugu	1,113	0.1
			99.4

Source : Census of India, 1961

Other languages spoken in the District and which deserve mention are Punjabi (802), Marathi (766), Chhattisgarhi (621), Rajasthani (557) and Marwari (340).

Among foreign languages, English (177) and Nepali (108) returned nominal speakers.

As amongst the tahsils, it is interesting to note that a very large proportion of speakers of the Baghelkhandi (37,163) and Bundelkhandi (10,328) speeches are returned from rural areas of Sohagpur tahsil. Similarly more than 90 per cent of the speakers of Gondi speech are concentrated in the Pushparaigarh tahsil (31,019) and that Kurukh/Oraon are entirely concentrated in the rural areas of Sohagpur tahsil (1,871).

The tribe Oraon, of which this is the mother-tongue, has however, not been scheduled in Shahdol District. Another noteworthy feature is that of Urdu speakers. About 50 per cent (2,094) of the speakers of this language are concentrated in the rural areas of Sohagpur tahsil. This tahsil thus surpasses all other tahsils of the District in as far as speakership of Hindi, Baghelkhandi, Bundelkhandi, Urdu and Kurukh/Oraon are concerned.

Bilingualism

Persons speaking Hindi or its dialects are rarely bilingualists. English, however, is the second language of the educated whose number is small and it is rarely used for mass communication. Tribals, however have a flair for bilingualism. In 1961, in all 1,374 males and 531 females of the tribal population were reported to be speaking a subsidiary language alongwith their mother - tongue.

Those tribals, who did not have Gondi as their mother-tongue, naturally preferred to use it as their second language (508 males, 422 females) for communication with this dominant tribe. Baghelkhandi, also attracted them (706 males, 91 females) as it facilitated dealing with the general population.

Hindi (88 males, 13 females) and English (57 males only) were also the subsidiary languages of a few educated tribals.

Scripts Used

In the entire District, Devnagri script is almost universally used for day to day business. Other scripts, viz., Persian, Arabic, Roman etc., are limited to a very small section of the populace.

Religion And Caste

Hinduism is the main religion of the District. The following table gives tahsilwise figures of the religious composition of the district according to 1961 census.

Table No. III-8
Tahsil-wise Religious Composition of the District 1961

S.No.	Tahsil	T R U	Religion			
			Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Beohari	R	1,38,383	1,338	12	33
2.	Bandhogarh	R	1,54,859	2,605	36	77
3.	Sohagpur	R	3,84,428	6,449	166	134
4.	Pushparaigarh	R	82,437	331	35	-
	District	R	7,60,107	10,723	249	244
	"	U	50,325	6,151	493	228
	"	T	8,10,432	16,874	742	472
			Buddhists	Jains	Other Reli- gions and Persuasions	Religion not stated
			8	9	10	11
1.	Beohari	R	-	71	-	-
2.	Bandhogarh	R	-	2	5	-
3.	Sohagpur	R	8	464	13	-
4.	Pushparaigarh	R	-	3	-	-
	District	R	8	540	18	-
	"	U	6	556	-	1
	"	T	14	1,096	18	1

Source : District Census Hand Book, Shahdol District, 1961

In 1971 Hinduism covered 97.62 per cent of its population. Even in urban areas, out of a total urban population of 121,832, in all 107,918 were Hindus in 1971. They were, however, concentrated in the rural areas (897,468 out of a total rural population of 908,007).

Muslims, though very small in number (20,969) formed the second largest religious group with only 2.04 per cent of the total population. The peculiar thing about them is their even distribution, both in the rural (10,207) and urban areas (10,762).

The third largest religious group is that of the Jains. They were 1,605 in 1971 and a majority of them (1,570) lived in the urban areas showing the peculiar characteristic of the business community.

Next in the order are the Christians. They were 1,087 and most of them (871) lived in the urban areas indicating that their economy is not based on agriculture. It is to be noted that the Christians have had little impact on the tribals of the District.

Sikhs followed the Christians in number. Out of a population of 688, in all 627 lived in the urban areas. They are found engaged, as elsewhere, in pursuits like transport and communications etc., which have an urban base.

The Buddhists formed a very small number (96) and most of them (76) lived in the urban areas. But they are found to have certain amount of influence on the society due to their way of living.

There were 7 persons, all males and living in urban areas, who did not state their religion. Similarly, there was a female residing in the urban area who was classified under 'other religion'.

The table inset below shows the religious composition of the District according to the Census of 1971:

Table No. III-9
Religious Composition Of The District, 1971

S. No.	Religion Stated	Population	Percentage to Total Population
1.	Hindus	10,05,386	97.62
2.	Muslims	20,969	2.04
3.	Christians	1,087	0.10
4.	Sikhs	688	0.07
5.	Buddhists	96	0.01
6.	Jains	1,605	0.16
7.	Other Religious Persuations	1	Neg.
8.	Religion not stated	7	Neg.
		10,29,839	100.00

Source : Census of India, 1971

Scheduled Castes And Scheduled Tribes

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are those castes and tribes enumerated in accordance with the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists Modification Order, 1956 (up-to-date as per subsequent Corrigenda and Notifications issued after 1956).

In all 15 Scheduled Castes have been enumerated in the District. They are :

- (1) Basor or Bansphor
- (2) Beldar or Sunkar
- (3) Chamar, Ahirwar, Chamar Mangan, Mochi or Raidas
- (4) Dharkar, Balmik or Lalbegi
- (5) Dher
- (6) Dom
- (7) Domar or Doris
- (8) Ghasia
- (9) Kuchbadhia
- (10) Kumhar
- (11) Mehtar, Bhangi or Dhanuk
- (12) Moghia
- (13) Muskhan
- (14) Pasi; and
- (15) Sansia or Bedia

However, only 5 of these are comparatively numerous and important. They include Chamar (and synonymous castes), Kumhar, Basor, Ghasia and Mehtar castes. The Scheduled Castes as a whole form only 6.08 per cent of the total population of the District according to the Census of 1971. Educationally they are slightly better than tribes. Most of the literates, however, are without educational level. Agriculture dominates their economy with nearly two-thirds of the working force engaged in it. However, cottage industries with about one-fourth of the workers also have an important place in their case.

Some of the important Scheduled Castes are discussed here:-

Chamar etc.

Chamar and synonymous castes are the most numerous in the District, accounting for three-fifths of their total population. They are mostly agricultural labourers but employment in their traditional household industry (i.e. shoe-making) is also considerable - roughly 1 in 5. 'Other services' (3.4 per cent) and 'mining' (2.7 per cent) accounted for a very small percentage of their working force.

Kumhar

This is the caste traditionally pursuing the Trade of making earthen utensils

and bricks and tiles. The caste is second in number among the Scheduled Castes in the District. About two-thirds of the working force is engaged in cultivation and the rest in pottery-making, etc. The caste is better than other Scheduled Castes educationally.

Basor or Bansphor

They are engaged mostly in making articles of split bamboo. Their economy is dominated by this household industry, a significant departure from the economies of other Scheduled Castes.

Mehtar

Being the least numerous (about 2 per cent) among the important Scheduled Castes, the economy of this caste is entirely different from that of other castes. Nearly two-fifths of their working force is engaged in 'other services'. These are almost all in scavenging and sweeping, both in the rural and urban areas. However, the caste shows concentration in urban areas of the District because of the fact that the services of scavenging and sweeping are in greater demand in the urban areas. Curiously enough about a fifth of the caste's working force is in transport, storage and communications, perhaps employed as sweeper and scavengers in the railway.

Scheduled Tribes

Scheduled Tribes, consisting mainly of Gonds, Kols, Baigas, Paos, Panikas and Agaria, etc., constitute nearly half (48.23 per cent) of the District's entire population according to the Census of, 1971. However, they are actually more than the non Scheduled Castes and Tribes (45.69 per cent) population by about 2.54 per cent. In all 16 Scheduled Tribes have been enumerated in the District.¹ They are very backward educationally and some of them are still noted for their primitive cultures. In fact the District probably lags behind in the State in the field of education mainly on account of its large tribal population. Their economy, as elsewhere, is predominantly agricultural, with more than nine-tenths of the workers engaged in it either as cultivators or labourers and are consequently concentrated in rural areas. Most of them subsist on uneconomic holdings. Particulars of some of the tribes are described below.

Gond (including Pathari)

Forming a little less than half of the scheduled tribal population of the District in 1961, Gonds are the most numerous tribe scheduled in the District. They are not probably autochthones of the District, having come to it from Mandla and Bilaspur districts. They are more or less evenly distributed over the tahsils, unlike Bhumia who show concentration in the Sohagpur and Pushparajgarh tahsils, or the Pao, dealt with later, who are concentrated in Beohari and Sohagpur tahsils.

Educationally they are comparatively better than other tribes. They are mostly agriculturists. Their participation rate in other categories of work is insignificant.

1. Agariya, Baiya, Bhill, Bliar or Bliyar, Bhumia including Bheria and Palha, Gond including Pathari, Khairwar including Kondar, Kol (Banait), Majhi, Mawasi, Nat including Navdigar and Sapers and Kalutar, Panika, Pao, Sahariya, Saur, Sonar.

Kol (Dahait)

Kols constitute a little less than one-fifth of the tribal population of the District. They also form a little more than one-fifth of the State's Kol population. They are next to Gonds in numerical strength in the District and are found in all parts of the District. They show a concentration in Beohari and Bandhogarh tahsils, they form roughly one-third of the tribal population.

Today, they are mostly dependent on agriculture (80 per cent). But what is depressing is that a large population- more than half of the total working force and three-fifths of the workers in agriculture - of the Kol workers, are landless labourers. One in twelve of the Kol workers was engaged in 'other services' and one in eighteen in mining etc., in 1961. 'Construction' also attracts a sizeable proportion of Kol workers but participation in other working categories is of a very low level. However, there is definitely an improvement in their condition over the state of affairs which existed in 1931. C.S Venktachar in his report in that year described the Kol as a 'perfect specimen of subjugated aborigine', and as 'one of the most servile castes in the eastern parts'. He even went to the extent of remarking that 'short of being sold as a slave in the open market, the status of a Kol is nothing but that of a slave'. He is now no more a 'slave'. He is being gradually relieved from the bonded labour, wherever he worked in that condition.

Educationally, the Kols are the most backward tribe. Those returned as literates also have no educational level.

Baiga

They are a little less in number than Kols in the District, but form about half of the population of the Kols in the State. They are the third largest tribe in the District. Bhumia is another name for Baiga in the Maikal hills and, therefore, it is probable that those returned as Bhumia almost entirely from Sohagpur and Pushparajgarh tahsils, are really Baigas.

They constitute one of the most backward tribes in the State, depending mostly on forest and primitive agriculture *bewar* or traditional shifting cultivation. The tribe is more isolated than the Gonds and Kols, preferring to live in separate villages, generally in remote forest tracts. Educationally they do not come up to even Kol's level. Roughly nine-tenths of their working force is engaged in agriculture, three-fifths as cultivators and two-fifths as agricultural labourers. 'Other services' and mining etc., engage about 10 percent of their population. Their traditional household industry of making bamboo artifacts of various types, strangely engaged only a very few of the them.

Pao

The tribe is Scheduled only in eight districts of the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh. Shahdol District alone accounted for about 94 per cent of Paos in 1961. The remaining 6 per cent, returned from the neighbouring districts of Satna and Sidhi. Economically, the tribe is almost entirely dependent on agriculture. Educationally

they are at the lowest level among the tribes in the District except the Baigas. They are concentrated in rural areas and confined to Beohari and Sohagpur tahsils.

Panika

Of the total population of the Panikas, who have been treated as Scheduled Tribe in the State, Shahdol District accounted for 57 per cent in 1961. They formed nearly 5 per cent of the scheduled tribal population of the District and are dispersed in all tahsils of the District except Bandhogarh, where they are met with rather sparingly. Educationally they compare well with Gonds. Traditionally, they are a weaving caste but in the District they seem to have taken to agriculture in the main. Nearly 90 per cent of their working force - divided in to the ratio 2:1 as cultivators and agricultural labourers - is engaged in this pursuit. 'Other services' and mining etc., respectively attract the rest of them in that order. Participation in other industries is of numerically insignificant dimension. Other tribes scheduled in the District are Bhil, Biar or Biyar, Bhumiya including Bharia and Paliha, Khairwar including Kondar, Majhi, Mawasi, Nat, Navdigar, Sapera and Kabutar; Sahariya, Saur and Sonr.

The following table shows the number of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the District according to Census 1971.

Table No. III-10
Scheduled Castes And Tribes, 1971

Tahsil	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
Beohari	11,609	11,188	421	73,622	72,187	1,435
Bandhogarh	14,570	13,247	1,323	82,593	77,880	4,713
Sohagpur	33,162	27,558	5,604	2,56,915	2,42,707	14,208
Pushparajgarh	3,294	3,294	-	83,562	83,562	-
District Total	82,635	55,287	7,348	4,96,692	4,76,336	20,356

Source : Census of India, 1971

As is evident from the table above, Sohagpur tahsil has the highest concentration of Scheduled Castes and Tribes both in the urban and rural areas. Bandhogarh and Pushparajgarh tahsils are at par, as far as the number of Scheduled Tribes is concerned. Beohari tahsil has the distinction of having the minimum number of Scheduled Castes in its urban areas.

All the Scheduled Castes persons profess Hindu religion. Similarly all Scheduled Tribes persons in 1961 returned as professing Hindu religion except one Gond male who professed Islam and lived in an urban area.

As caste wise enumeration has since been discontinued, it is not possible to give the number of persons belonging to different castes and sub-castes of the all pervading Hindu fold. However, all the important functional castes e.g. Brahman, Bania, Rajput, Sunar Sutar, Luhar, Bunkar, Teli, Darji, Nai, etc., are there in the

District most of them partly engaged in their traditional occupation with or without agriculture of their own.

General Structure, Religious Beliefs, Manners and Customs

The traditional four-fold caste system exists at the base of the Hindu community. Devoid of rigid structural organisation, the caste is subjected to fusion, resulting into innumerable social groups called castes and sub-castes, having their own rules and regulation for fulfilling the social obligations. These are further sub-divided into endogamous units. Among Brahmans of the region, there were 313 sub-groups unbelievably. According to another account Brahmans had 118 different sub-groups, Kshatriyas 63, Koris 14 and Telis 24.¹ Mishras, Belonging to the Kanyakubja group of Brahmans, Gautia among the Kol tribe and Baghels among the Thakurs are most numerous groups here.

The Rajputs of the area in the past have played a heroic role in shaping the history of the region. Vyagradeva was the first Baghel who made his way in this region. Their advent dates back to the end of the 13th century or beginning of the 14th century, when on the destruction of the Baghela dynasty of Anhilwara (Gujarat) migration of Baghelas took place to Bandhogarh.

The religious beliefs of the society are those spread all over Baghelkhand. In contrast to worship of Krishna, Rama and Hanumana are revered the most in the region. Lord Shiva, however, is worshipped with the same zeal.

Being a backward area, orthodoxy and superstitions mark the speciality of the District. The observance of many of the *Solah Samskaras*, according to the circumstances, govern the manners and customs of the Society. *Chhati, barhi, namkaran, upnayan*, etc., are the customary ritualistic functions observed in the middle and upper strata of society with the help of the pandit. The tribals too delight in observing these and many other ceremonies in their own peculiar but attractive way.

The use of sanskrit name is a speciality of the region. Thus, Pradumna Singh, Anirudh, Sampat, Chandra Shekhar and the like are common. The names, to some extent are indicative of the caste of the person. The Kshatriyas have Singh as a termination and Brahmans often Ram. The prefix *Sahu* indicates a member of the trading *Mahajan* Community.

The Hindus including the tribals and the Scheduled Castes, as a rule cremate their dead, except ascetics and infants, where as Muslims bury the corpse. The ashes in the former case are usually collected on the third day and immersed into the Ganga or some nearby holy river.

Inter-caste Relations

Caste hierarchy in rural parts still continues to be a factor to be reckoned with. Each hierarchial group has its own social rights, duties, privileges and obligations.

1. *Vindhya Bhoomi* (Quarterly), October, 1966, p. 101.

The economically poor class depends upon the more privileged ones for earning their bread.

The economic and social inequalities nurse a deeply stratified society. Brahmans and Thakurs command respect of the rest of the populace. The relation between Thakurs and Brahmans are not as good as they ought to be, still the community life continues to flow very smoothly. However, because of the fear of expulsion from the caste, inter-caste marital relations are rarely met with.

New Religious Leaders And Movements

The influence of the *Arya Samaj* on the general population of the District is not considerable, inspite of its social appeal. This is mainly due to the orthodox attitude of those who have a say in society. People have to follow them blindly lest there is social boycott which one cannot afford. Kabirpanth seems to have an impact upon a sizable population of the District. Kawardha, the Headquarters of the Kabirpanthi sect, is close to Rewa and the members of the erstwhile ruling family of the Rewa State, of which Shahdol formed an important part, too were members of the sect. Many people followed the rulers. In his book '*Bhakt Mala*', the then Maharaja Raghuraj Singh, traced the origin of the Baghel dynasty from a child having a form of the tiger (*bagh*), who was born to the Solanki Raja of Gujarat at the intersession of the famous saint Kabir.¹

Another movement of recent origin is *Yug Nirman Yojna* started by Acharya Shri Ram Sharma of *Tapo-Bhumi* Mathura. The local *Gayatri Pariwar* units in the urban areas are engaged in the socio-religious transformation of the society under the aegis of this *Yojna*.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property And Inheritance

After the formation of the State of Madhya Pradesh in 1956, when the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State was merged in the new State, Shahdol District too became its important part and the provisions of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 came to be applicable to it. This Act brought about important changes in matters of succession among the Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains, e.g. females were given the right of succession to the coparcenary property. However, people still prefer to be governed by the traditional Hindu Law according to the prevailing custom, much so in rural areas. As the custom is based on equal distribution, cases seldom go to the court and there too custom is given due weight. Females, therefore, almost in all the cases, surrender their right in favour of other members of the family. In absence of a Muslim Code, the Muslims are still governed by their Personal Law in this respect. Christians adhere to the provisions of the Indian Succession Act of 1925. Only very rich persons located in towns, in a few cases, resort to the 'will'.

1. R.V. Russel, *The Tribes and Castes of the Central Provinces of India*, Vol. I, p. 434

Joint Family

The disintegration of joint family, though at a slower pace, may be observed to some extent in urban areas, where even real brothers find it convenient in a couple of years after marriage to live separate and seek partition. Rural areas, have joint families in most cases, as their economy is still based on agriculture which can sustain its burden. Among land-less tribals, however, the institution was not strictly a rule and no sooner a person was married he constructed his own hut in the near-by area. They, however, maintain good relations with their parents and relatives even after this change.

Families in urban areas in general have 5 and in rural areas 6 persons per occupied Census House, according to the Census of 1971. This is lower than Rewa district. It is because of the existence of an overwhelming percentage of tribals in the population.

Marriage And Morals

Monogamy, as elsewhere, is the rule. Married females are about equally frequent as married males. This is a state of affairs to be expected also in a society in which polygamy is not widespread. The tribes were exempted from the operation of the Madhya Pradesh Prevention of Hindu Bi-gamous Marriages Act. of 1955,¹ in recognition of their practice of bigamy. However, it is seldom resorted to. Polyandry, however, is out of question.

Traditional Restrictions On Marriage Alliances

Among Brahmans and higher strata of Hindu society, *sagotra* marriage, divorce and widow marriage are not permitted by the society. Even amongst the lower rungs of the Hindu fold, there is a tendency to follow the same restrictions as in the upper class Hindus, as far as possible. The tribes in general are more Hinduised in this respect, especially the Gonds.

They have exogamous totemic septs. A man must not marry within his own sept nor should marry in a sept, which worships the same number of gonds. Each sept worships a specific number of gods ranging from three to seven. Cross-cousin marriage, however, unlike Hindus, is the preferential form of marriage. Marriage by service, by mutual consent, by capture and by the girls intrusion are also practised among them, which are tabooed the non tribal Hindus.

Marriage Customs And Rituals

Social attitudes and customs among the so called higher castes, make the parents look upon girls as possible future burden, while in contrast boys are looked upon not only as a means of support in latter life but as means of the spiritual salvation of the father. This attitude is reflected in the neglect of the girls and the consequent early marriages. The marriage ceremony in the District follows the customary ritual of the Northern districts. Hindu marriage is solemnized, as elsewhere, in accordance with the customary rites and ceremonies of either party there to. They differ from

1. K. M. Kapadia, *Marriage and Family in India*, p. 115.

region to region only in minor details. They include *dwarchar*, *mandap*, *bedi-pujan*, the *saptapadi* and the *kulvar-puja*. Each and every ritual is performed to the accompaniment of appropriate songs by the assembled women.

Among Gonds, the rites and ceremonies are few and simpler, especially in the backward tracts like Shahdol. They relate to the conventional mode of asking for the hand of the bride, betrothal, payment of bride-price, receiving the bride's party at the village of the bridegroom, certain preliminaries before the marriage, the marriage proper and the post-marriage magico-religious performances.¹

Dowry

The social evil of giving and accepting dowry is deep rooted among all the classes. Its extent, however, varies considerably. The poor and middle class families are, therefore, the worst sufferers. In certain castes like Mahajans, rich Brahmans and Kayasthas etc., cash settlements are made while settling a marriage issue. It is on account of this evil that to beget a daughter is not at all considered an event of joy. On the other hand birth of a son is considered an asset.

Contrary to this normal practice, in Scheduled Tribes and most of the Scheduled Castes, bride-price is prevalent. Among them the birth of a daughter is an asset.

Despite the prevalence of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, not a single case of either giving or accepting dowry was registered in the District during the long period 1961-62 to 1973-74 showing that there is lack of social awareness on this vital issue in the concerned quarters. However, four to six ideal marriages are arranged every year by the organisers of the 'Yug Nirman Yojana', in which dowry, *tilak*, etc., are not entertained.

Civil Marriages

In a tribal and backward society civil marriage is a thing beyond thinking. People are bound by the rules and regulations of their caste panchayats so rigidly that it is difficult even in exceptional cases to face their wrath. Moreover, even in middle and upper classes, civil marriage is a taboo and is looked down upon in practice even by the progressive sections of the society. This fact is evidenced by the trifling number of marriages (5) performed under the provisions of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 by the Collector and Marriage Officer, Shahdol. In this connection, it is interesting to note that these five were the only cases registered during 1960-61 to 1973-74, i.e. for a long period of fourteen years. Also there was a big gap of four years between the first and second and second and third case. (1960-61, 1964-65 and 1968-69). The fourth one was, however, presented at a shorter interval of three years (1971-72) and the fifth one at a still shorter gap of two years (1973-74). This trend indicates that there is a possibility of the increase in frequency of such cases in future.

Marital Age

The law of the land has made child marriages, that is, or girls below 14 years and boys below 18 years of age punishable offences. The figures tell us that in the District, this law is respected more in breach than in observance. Child marriages are prevalent on an alarming scale. Among the tribals, in the district unlike other regions, child marriages are frequent.

Roughly a little less than one third males (31.2 per cent) in the age-group 10-14 were either reported married or leading a widower or a divorced life in 1961. In the next higher age group 15-19, six of every ten boys and nine out of every ten girls entered matrimony. This statistical evidence underlines the need for arousing public opinion against this evil practice, though of long usage.

Widow Re-marriage

In the age group 30-34, one out of every eighteen females was leading a widowed life. In the next higher age-group 35-39, the proportion of widows becomes one in ten. These widows in their thirties pose the social problem of widow-remarriage. The institution of widow-remarriage, like that of divorce, is a taboo in the Hindu and the Hinduised society and people in general look down upon any such remarriage. However, the castes and tribes who allow divorce freely, also permit widow remarriage without hitch, though, even amongst them, it never assumes the same status as a regular marriage. In most of the cases, the younger brother of the deceased husband marries the widow.

Divorce

Except in a few Scheduled Castes and Tribes, divorce is a taboo in the entire Hindu fold of the society. The proportion of divorced or separated persons fluctuates between 0.1 and 1 per cent in case of females in the various age-groups indicating that divorce never assumes sizeable dimensions in the District. In a tribal society the new husband pays back all the expenditure incurred by the old husband on marriage. Such remarriage after divorce is called '*Bhaghula*'. The father of the new bridegroom puts on a turmeric *tika* on the forehead of the bride.¹

Economic Dependence Of Women And Their Place In Society

The District is tribal and rural in the sense that nearly half of its population consists of Scheduled Tribes who reside mostly in rural areas. But an important fact of the tribal economy is the active participation of their womenfolk in the economic activity. This fact may be ascertained from the figures of comparative independence of women in general in the rural areas of the District. Whereas in urban areas, on every eight male workers the number of female worker is only one, in rural areas on every three male workers there is a woman worker. It shows the economic dependence of women in the urban areas, which is a general feature of all such areas in the state.

1. M.P. Buradkar, Social Organisation of the Gonds in the Central Provinces and Berar, pp. 46-47.

1. Shahdol Ke Adhvasi, p. 34.

Another fact is worth noting. Rural areas provide employment opportunities for women to the extent of nearly 20 times that of urban areas. Only 4,299 women were found working in the towns as against 80,391 in the rural areas in 1971. Significantly enough, in rural areas a majority of them (77,236) were engaged in agriculture as actual cultivators, and agricultural labourers, in the ratio of 4:7. The corresponding urban employment was also 566, and 1,317, in all 1,833, respectively. It formed nearly 44 percent of their total employment there.

They are also engaged in many other pursuits with the sole intention of augmenting the income. The table below show their employment pattern in the District.

Table No.III-11
Women Workers, 1971

Occupation	Number of Workers		
	Total	Rural	Urban
I. Cultivators	28,250	27,684	566
II. Agricultural Labourers	50,869	49,552	1,317
III. Live Stock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and Allied activities	322	287	35
IV. Mining and Quarrying	643	211	432
V. Manufacturing, Processing Servicing and Repairs:			
(a) Household Industry	1,543	1,312	231
(b) Other than Household Industry	435	227	208
VI. Construction	70	24	46
VII. Trade and Commerce	531	300	231
VIII. Transport, Storage and Communications	76	25	51
IX. Other Services	1,951	769	1,182
District Total	84,690	80,391	4,299

Source : Census of India, 1971

From the table it is quite clear that after agriculture, 'Industry' attracted the working women the most (1,978) and that too more in rural areas (1,539). 'Other Services' are also equally attractive with 1,951 women workers, most of them in urban centres (1,182), for such opportunities are available there in greater number. Again, mining and business also seem to have enough scope for them, the former

more in the urban and latter in the rural areas.

However, there is enough scope for the creation of employment opportunities for women in the District as unemployment is to the scale of nearly 1:2 when compared with men. In order to awaken the women from their present state, *Mahila Jagaran Abhiyan* under the aegis of *Yug Nirman Yojna* is contributing its services with branches at Sohagpur, Shahdol and Amlai. The important feature of the *Abhiyan* is that even Jains and Christians participate in its social activities and donate generously. The "*Mahila Mandal*" of the Amlai Paper Mills arranges seminars, cultural functions and sports activities apart from doing social work. It has collected and donated money to the National Defence Fund, etc.

Prostitution And Traffic In Women

According to the information tendered by the District Superintendent of Police there is no place in the District where any prostitute is located. Similarly, no case was registered by police under the 'Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956', in the District so far (1974-75), since the formation of the State of Madhya Pradesh. It, however, does not indicate total absence of offences of the sort, but on account of lack of adequate knowledge of the existence of such an Act and its provision in the society, they are not reported. It can, however, be assumed that social evil, which is more of an urban nature, is not found in the District to a considerable extent.

Drinking

This evil is prevalent in the District, as in the surrounding areas, among the lower strata, i.e., the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in alarming proportions. It is there in the upper strata of society as well, to some extent, but exists mostly as a part of fashion and not as habit.

Among the tribals, drinking has become a part and parcel of their life and all the members of the family enjoy it on all festive occasions. For them, it is a sign of social status. Some guests bring along with them a few bottles of liquor which is shared by all present. The State Government, realising the State of affairs, have recently permitted the tribals to brew the liquor themselves for family consumption only.

That part of the lower strata of society which is habituated to drink is economically backward too and depends on the wine-contractor. Among them only the adult male members are found to be addicts. Painstaking efforts are necessary to liberate them from this habit.

The maximum and minimum number of offences registered by the Police under the Prohibition Act were 249 in 1961 and 49 in 1964, respectively. The average of offences in a year during the period 1961-74 was 101. There is no definite upward or downward trend in the number of offences. It seems they are in proportion to the police vigilance.

Gambling

Man is associated with gambling since times immemorial. But now it is not

restricted to a few wealthy persons but has found place in sections of the middle class and poor people as well, in one form or the other. The false hope to get some bulk amount in return, engages the poor in this pursuit. For them, it is not a game of fun as is the case in the affluent society. There may also be found some inter-relationship between the much abused social evils of drinking and gambling. People are found to enter in one and begin the other soon after. The youngsters, company of is found to be responsible for it. However, the impact of various lotteries and thrift schemes propagated by the State Governments, has been found to have some reformist effect at least on the educated masses.

During the fourteen year period 1961-74, in all 8,199 cases were registered by the Police in the District under the Gambling Act, giving an average of 585 cases per year, which is an alarming number. More than 800 cases each were registered in the years 1970 (822), 1971 (834) and 1973 (864). The minimum number of cases (159) was registered in the year 1961 followed by 1962 (364) and the menace was at its zenith in the year 1973. Since then it is being gradually controlled.

HOME LIFE

Type Of Dwellings

In the rural areas of the District houses with mud walls are exceedingly popular. Such houses served as residences of most of the population there including the tribals. Houses with walls made predominantly of timber and grass, leaves or bamboo, were though next in number, accommodated only a small percentage of rural households. Better and more durable houses with walls of burnt bricks accounted for the dwellings of still less number of households, closely followed by *semipacca* houses with walls made of unburnt bricks. Houses with walls made of other building materials were rare in the rural areas of the District. Even in urban areas, houses with walls made predominantly of mud were most frequent. More than half of urban households lived in such houses. Next in popularity were houses with walls made of unburnt bricks. These served as dwellings of one-fourth of the urban-households. *Pakka* houses with walls of burnt bricks accommodated roughly one out of every six of the urban households. Houses with walls made of any other material were rare in urban areas too.

As regards roofing, majority of the houses in rural as well as urban areas had tiled roofs. More than four-fifths rural and more than seven-tenths urban households lived in dwellings with tile-covered roofs. Next frequent in rural and urban areas alike were houses with roofs covered with grass, leaves, thatch etc., serving as residence of nearly 11 and 16 per cent of the households, respectively. Houses with roof of corrugated iron and other metal were also somewhat frequent with 1 and 4 per cent in that order. Houses with other types of roofs were uncommon both in rural and urban areas. The tribal hutments, though smaller, are comparatively neat and clean.

As regards congestion, it may be mentioned that more than three-fourths of households in the District lived in congested dwellings with one or two rooms each, accommodating from 2.5 to 3.5 persons per room. The remaining nearly one-fourth

of the households are somewhat more fortunate, having three or more rooms each. In this connection, it may be noted that the number of occupied residential houses in the rural areas of the District increased at a normal growth rate from 1,51,876 in 1961 to 1,59,556 in 1971. However, the growth in the urban areas has been remarkable during this period, from 12,978 to 23,197.

Furniture And Decorations

Furniture in its true sense is a concept of the well-to-do class. The District being rich in forest wealth, people who can afford and feel the necessity of having some furniture prefer to have a stool, one or two chairs, a small table or desk and rarely an almirah.

The tribals are satisfied with their self made well-knit cot which is generally lower in level than ordinary cot. It is an all purpose piece of furniture for them.

Decoration is limited to a few well-known houses in towns only. An average village household is devoid of any decoration, except traditional wall paintings.

Dress

Dhoti, up to the knee, a *bandi* and a *pagri* form a common dress of the agriculturists. Gonds, Patharis and Paps, wear a little costlier attire than other tribals. On special occasions they wear coat. They put on a sheet of cloth, *pichhora* or *aalwan* (*dupatta* or *rumal*) on their shoulders and *muretha* (*pagri* or *pheta* or *mudbandha*) as headgear, when going out. When at home, a torn out piece of dhoti (*patha*) serves the purpose.

Gond women wear six to eight yard piece of *sari* covering their head coming up to the knee from beneath the legs and tied on the back. Preference is shown for the *basanti sadi* manufactured by the weavers of Chhattisgarh. They wear *polka* (blouse) to cover the upper part of the body.

Baiga males wear next to nothing by way of a *langoti* in the name of dress, while their women fold wear short *dhoti* in the Chhattisgarhi style and do not put any blouse.¹

Kameez (*Kurta*), bush-shirt and trousers form the dress of town-dwellers. Well-to-do people there wear a variety of dresses made of nylon, terylene etc. The women folk too wear fashionable clothes which include *sari*, blouse, petticoat, etc. However, in villages, women are generally shabbily dressed, wearing locally woven handloom cloth of dark colour.

Tribal children remain naked till 5-6 years of age. Sometimes a small *bandi*, without *chaddi* (under wear) is arranged for them. The tribal boy starts wearing *dhoti* when he is six to seven years old.

Ornaments

Golden ornaments are a rarity among the tribals and adorn the upper part of the women folk of the rest of the population, especially among the Mahajans, Brahmins, Kayasthas, Thakurs, etc.

1. Shahdol District Census Handbook, 1961 p. Lxiv.

The tribal men wear thick *chura* (*churva*) on the wrist, made of silver or iron. Similarly wearing an iron ring on a finger is considered good among them. A *tabeez* (*Tenti*), *kanthi* or a *mala* (garland) of *munga* or some precious stone on the neck is also found necessary. Neck without any ornament is not considered proper. At times, *sut ka dora* (garland of cotton threads) on the ear, *tabeez* on the neck, *churva* on the wrist, and a cotton thread or silver *kardhani* (*chorasi*) on the waist line.

The tribal women are fond of a variety of ornaments and tattooing. Bangles made of glass (*churi*), lac (*juria*) or silver (*pata*) adorn their wrists. *Kangans* (*harraiya*, *churva* or *bahunta*) made of any one of these metals or some cheap alloy also find place in between the bangles. Silver or brass ring (*mundari*) is a must on their fingers. *Chura* or *toda* of brass or *peri* of silver adorn their ankles. *Chutki* is the very common toe ring. *Sutva*, a silver ornament, decorates the neck. *Sikka* or *heval* is another ornament made of silver coins, as the name suggests. They also wear many types of lac or bead necklaces. *Khosma* (*damni*) is a silver ornament worn on the hair-parting. *Dhar* is a sort of ear-ring. *Zarka* is a *karnful* made out of lac. *Tarki* is another similar ornament but smaller in size. It is sometimes made of silver also. On the upper part of the ear-lobes, *bari* is worn. They number up to six on each ear. A big *tikuli* on the forehead is a favourite ornament among them. It gives them a married status.

Food

Rice, *kodon-kutki* and wheat form the staple food of the population. *Juar*, *makai* (maize) and barley, in that order of preference, are also in use in some sections. *Bhejari*, *Dehula* and *Balkeshar* are the names of some of the common varieties of rice grown and mainly consumed in the District. In pulses, *tur* or *rahar* is most extensively eaten along with rice. *Urd* and *Masur* are also important pulses, the latter being used mostly by non-vegetarians. For frying of pulses and vegetables mustard oil is preferred to other edible oils, e.g. *sesamum* (*gingilli*) etc., although they are also in use among the cultivators who grow them. *Dal bhat*, *bara*, *sohari* (*puri*), etc. form the special preparation to be prepared on certain festivities.

The tribals prefer *bhat* of *kodon* and vegetables to *roti* and *dal*. *Paes* is their favourite drink. The other drink to which they show preference is *badkaa patha* which is sour. *Kand* and vegetables are taken along with their drinks. They are non-vegetarians and show a preference for fish.¹

Amusements And Festivals

Certain occupational groups among the Gonds e.g. *Ojhas* or sooth sayers, *Nagarchi* or musicians, *Kollabhutias* or dancers and *Pardhans* or minstrels as their names suggest, are professional performers. The performance of their traditional art on festivities amuse the people. *Pardhans*, in addition, are responsible for the preservation of epics, folklore, myths and legends that have been handed down from word of mouth from generation to generation.²

¹ Shahnol Jile ke Adivasi, p. 90

² Dube and Bahadur, A study of the tribal people and tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh, p. 85

Apart from these, there is the usual *bhajan-kirtan* in the evenings on some common public place practically in every village. "Hanuman Mandals" have been formed in the neighbouring villages of the Orient Paper Mills, Amlai, and musical instruments such as Harmonium, *Dholak*, *Mazira* etc., have been distributed free to them by the "Orient Club". These *Mandals* recite *bhajans* (devotional songs) from the *Tulsikrit Ramayana* and such other books. Similar *Bhajan Mandlies* exist amongst the employees living in the colony of the Paper Mills. Urbanites, however, have various other sources of amusement from time to time. *Kal Pathak*, drama-troupes, poet gatherings, magic-shows, variety entertainment and cultural programmes of various social and educational institutions provide ample entertainment of those who desire. Besides, Bandhgarh National Park (Zoo) etc. libraries and reading rooms are always there to educate and entertain them.

* *Raksha Bandhan*, *Dasehra*, along with *Diwali* and *Holi* are the four most important festivals of the Hindus celebrated in the District, as everywhere in the country, with the same religious zeal and rejoicings. However, *holi*, *Diwali*, *Nav-Durga*, *Chaitra Nav-Durga*, *Shivratri*, *Makar Sankranti* (*khichari*), *Janmashtami*, *Hariyali Amavas*, *Nagapanchmi*, etc. are as much celebrated by the tribals of the District as by the rest of the Hindu population. The pictures of Rama, Krishna and Hanumana find place of pride even in the tribal households of District. *Satyanarayan ki katha* is a popular religious festivity which has attracted the tribals too. Their chief deity 'Badka deo' is not different from *Mahadev* whom they rever the most. *Vishwakarma Puja* is celebrated every year in the Amlai Paper Factory premises in almost all technical departments. On this day the Mills gate is thrown open to the people of the surrounding area to come and worship the deity.

Ganesh Puja is a big religious event and is celebrated for ten days beginning from the fourth day of the waxing moon of *Bhadra* (August/September). Every morning and evening *arati* is held; *bhajans* and other cultural programmes are organised in the night.

Durga Puja is also celebrated with great eclat every year. Earthen images of deities are installed, worshipped and immersed into the river, staging of Hindi, Bengali and Oriya dramas mark the occasion.

The Muslim population, though only 2 percent, celebrates *Id-ul-Fitr* or *Ramzan-Id*, *Id-ul-zuha* or *Baqr-Id*, *Moharram* etc., as elsewhere, with religious fervour.

Jains, celebrate *Paryushan*, *Ashtanika* etc., whereas Christians and Sikhs, though also in a very small number, observe Christmas, Easter, Good Friday, and Guru Nanak and Guru Gobind Singh's birthday, etc., in accordance with their respective religious tradition.

COMMUNAL LIFE

Pilgrim Centres And Jattras

Shivratri (*Phalgun Badi* 13, February/March) is the main religious occasion on

which 3-4 days fairs are organised at Narwar (4), Suraswahi Chandia (3) and Amarkantak (3) in Beohari, Bandhogarh and Pushparajgarh tahsils, respectively. The largest of these fairs is at Amarkantak which attracts more than 20,000 persons. This is managed by the Township Development Board, Amarkantak.

Sankrant (Pausa/Magha, January) is another festival on which two fairs are arranged in the District. The first one is a 5 days fair held at Sohagpur, and the other one, a small 2 days fair at Kamia in Bandhogarh tahsil.

Basant Panchmi (Magha Sudi 5, January/February) seems to be an equally important occasion in this respect. Two single day fairs are held on this festival. One at Bhimkundi in Pushparajgarh tahsil and the other one at Jhilmili in Bandhogarh tahsil.

Ram Navmi (Chaitra Sudi 9, March/April) is also an auspicious occasion for a one day fair at *Jawalamukhi* in Bandhogarh tahsil where over a thousand people come to participate. Thus this tahsil has the distinction of arranging with the help of the local *Gram Panchayats*, the maximum number (4) of fairs in the District, one each on *Ramnavmi*, *Sankrant*, *Basant Panchmi* and *Shivratri*.

Mahabir Jayanti (Chaitra Sudi March/April) is celebrated to honour Lord Hanumana. The Mahant of the temple at Kalyanpur in Sohagpur tahsil manages a four days *mela* on this occasion.

From a cursory look at the dates, it may be deduced that the first 3-4 month of the calendar year are flooded with these activities in the District and the rest of the year is dry in this respect. Also that out of a dozen fairs which are arranged, three-fourths are of religious origin.

Communal Dances And Festivities

The chief dance-song of the tribal men and women is *karma*. It is performed in moon-lit nights except in the rainy season. *Madar (mridang)*, *timki* (small *nagada*) and *chatula* (wooden *karta*), together produce the accompanying sweet music. Drinking is a pre-requisite for the performers.

Saila is a male-dance very popular among the Gonds in the region. In this dance peacock feathers are tucked in the turban and dandas (sticks in hands) are struck against one another making rhythmic sound in tune with that of *dholak* and *timki*. *Dadra* is sung all along. Both of these dances pertain to the *ras* style.

Sua dance is favourite of Kol women and performed specially in the month of *Kunwar* (September/October). They go door to door taking barley sproutings over their head. Another dance of the kols is *kol danhaki* danced by both men and women together. *Birha* and *Pargahani* are other dances performed at marriage functions, etc.,

Gammatis danced on *Krishna Janmashtami* and other religious festivals. The chief performer is a male wearing a female dress and standing in the centre of the *mandli* (performers). *Bhajans* (devotional songs) are sung along with it. It may be said that the general masses are far behind the tribals in this respect. Though they

celebrate the festivities, but dances seldom form a part of them. They generally restrict themselves to *Katha* and *Kirtan*. However, *rai*, *phag*, *dadra*, *kehra* etc., are popular dances among a section of the society.

Public Games

Leaving apart School and college going youths, others seldom get an opportunity to play regularly. However, *khokho*, *kabaddi* games Indian and Volly ball, foot ball, western games are popular in a very small section of the society. Small sports clubs are formed which cater to the needs of their members at the kasba and town level. Occasional sports competitions are also organised by these clubs.

One such club is the Orient Club, Amlai. Under the auspices of this club, sports and games are organised mainly on the occasion of the Republic Day and the Independence Day celebration every year in which the employees and their families participate. Following are the popular games and sports: foot ball, volley ball, *kabaddi*, *badminton*, *table tennis*, *chess*, *carrom*, bridge, and *dhappa* cards competition; races- 100, 200 and 400 metres; high, long and half step jumps; javelin, discs and cricket ball throws, shot put, etc.

Makar Sankranti is a much revered festival in the District and people, young and old, may be watched playing *gilli-danda* on and around this festival. Kite flying is also another interesting sport associated with this festival. Children, as elsewhere, play *ati-pati* or hide and seek, *pitao*, *charrapatri*, *anti*, *pache*, etc., to amuse themselves. Tribal children are more play-loving as they get enough time in the jungle. They play *ghar ghundari*, *gadi-gadi*, *ankh-mundla*, *Khel-khelandar*, *atkan-chatkan*, *chaka-goti*, *safi*, *luku-puku*, *hudu-dua* (*kabaddi*), *banti*, *garha-gend (hulla)*, *langdi ghodi*, *dhanush-ban* etc. Various songs accompany most of these games. *Table tennis*, *carrom*, *playing-cards*, *chopar*, *chess* etc., are the popular indoor and badminton, hockey etc., some of the out-door games in which the small play-loving section of the middle and upper young generation of the District engages itself in the evenings.

Impact Of Abolition Of Jagirdari System

The pivot around which the entire social and economic life of the village community revolves is now the *Gram Panchayat* instead of *Jagirdars*, consequent upon the enactment of the Vindhya Pradesh Jagirdari Abolition and Land Reforms Act., 1952. The *begar* system has disappeared on account of the gradual disappearance from the scene of the semi-feudal tradition. This has given rise to a sense of initiative and self confidence among the members of the agricultural community.

CHAPTER - IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Rich in forest and mineral resources, the District with added irrigation can also yield better agricultural returns, particularly in respect of paddy. Irrigation, manuring, fertilizer application and scientific methods of agriculture, etc., have all increased after Independence, some of the measures being completely new innovations on the agricultural scene of the area. The potential of cultivation in this area will thus be much enhanced even with its known limitations of fertility and hilly terrain. Comparatively poor cultivation vis-a-vis the rich forest resources were typified in the description of the two former tahsils of Ramnagar and Sohagpur in the erstwhile 'Rewah State,' which approximately comprised the present Shahdol District, at the dawn of the Century. Thus the then Sohagpur Tahsil possessing very little in respect of agriculture, brought in about 5 lakhs a year¹ through the sale of lac and timber while, Ramnagar Tahsil was said to be "a medley of hill and valley with but little land suitable for cultivation, except that in the bed of the Son river".² Agriculture, even with the limitation of soil fertility, is now poised for agricultural prosperity with the coming up of the Johilla Irrigation Project and other related schemes under the development plans.

Agricultural Population

Although a substantial number of the Districts' working population is engaged as mining or industrial labour, the economy of the people as a whole is still dominated by agriculture. It accounted for 83.5 per cent of the total working force according to the Census of 1961. It consisted of 302,937 cultivators (171,399 males and 131,538 females) and 77,415 agricultural labourers (37,918 males and 39,497 females) making for 66.5 and 17 per cent, respectively of the total working force. Almost all of them, naturally belonged to the rural sector with only 2,452 cultivators and 398 agricultural labourers in the urban sector.

The later statistics of the agricultural population in the District as per the Census of 1971 also show 83.79 per cent of the total working force engaged in the agricultural sector, indicating its predominance practically unchanged in proportion. It consisted of 206,264 cultivators (53.84 per cent) and 114,803 agricultural labourers (29.96 per cent) with respectively, 28,250 and 50,869 women among them.

The position of the agricultural activity in the scheduled tribes population also deserves a special mention as the tribals claim more than 50 per cent of the District population. Their economy as per 1961 census remained even more predominantly agricultural, with more than nine-tenths of the workers in the two categories,

1. Rewah State Gazetteer, p.85.

2. Ibid. p.84.

described above. Consisting of Gonds, Kols, Baigas, Paos, etc., their methods in cultivation are also nearly primitive. Gonds and Paos had a particularly high proportion of cultivators with 86 and 84 per cent of workers, respectively, working as cultivators while, Kols and Baigas had a high proportion of agricultural labourers with 51 and 38 per cent, respectively.

Among the various classes most occupied in agriculture were *Kunbis*, *Rajputs* and *Brahmins*. *Rathors* were said to be the most keen and efficient cultivators in the District.

LAND UTILIZATION

Land use pattern of the District shows Shahdol to be one of the most extensively forested districts of the State. In 1960-61, nearly 41 per cent of the total area was covered under the forests which actually amounted to 569 thousand ha. In 1971-72, however, the forest area was reduced to 493 thousand ha. The variance in area caused by classificational changes could be said to have, more or less, stabilized upto the sixties as it had shown more than 500 thousand ha. since about the mid-fifties against an unlikely low level of 242 thousand ha. earlier in 1950-51. Thus, the reduction in the forest area after the sixties may have reflected, at least to some extent, the denudation of the forests. Later, by 1972-73, the forest area, however, showed a cessation in the declining trend, registering over 497 thousand ha. under it. This accounted for about 36 per cent of the District area. Tahsilwise, the largest proportion went to Beohari with nearly 43 per cent of its area under forests (118,592 ha.) and Bandhogarh with only a fraction less, a little over 42 per cent of forest area (154,358 ha.). Sohagpur had 33 per cent of its area under forests (191,296 ha.), while Pushparaigarh was shown with the least forest area at about 18 per cent (33,370 ha.). It looked strange that this mountaneous tahsil showed the least of forests and perhaps a clue could be found in large area being classified as barren and unculturable land.

Area not available for cultivation, grouped under two heads, viz., land put to non-agricultural uses, and area under barren and unculturable lands', though wavering shows an overall increase in the former from 62 thousand ha. in 1955-56 to 75 thousand ha. in the seventies. This indicated a generally increasing use of land for construction or other non-agricultural development also, currently taking place under the planned activities. Barren and unculturable lands showed an uncertain trend and covered 73 thousand ha. in 1971-72 and 70 thousand ha. in 1972-73. In all, nearly 11 per cent of the total area was taken up by the two heads at the beginning of the seventies which meant a slight increase over the 9.1 per cent of 1960-61.

Culturable Waste

In the broad category of area cultivable, was also covered the area under culturable waste alongwith the old and current fallows and permanent pastures and groves, etc. The culturable waste in a district roughly represents the potential existing for extension of cultivation.

In the past, the figures available for the two former tahsils of Ram Nagar and Sohagpur of the Rewa State at the beginning of the century showed about 6 per cent of their combined area as 'culturable uncultivated'. The present culturable waste though, may not be under the same classification could still give a broad view of the position. Thus, in 1960-61, the area under culturable waste in the District covered 4.7 per cent of the total area. This difference though not significant for a period of more than half a century reflected the natural pressure of the increasing population necessitating the breaking of new land for cultivation.

The conclusion, however, could only be too general as the area showed quite uncertain movements specially in the fifties, evidently, due to classificational changes. In fact, the culturable waste shown in 1960-61 was the least with 66 thousand ha. while later in 1965-66 it was shown at 103 thousand ha. and in 1971-72 at 109 thousand ha. However, the overall area under the two categories- culturable waste and old fallows when taken together showed much lesser variance. The combined proportion of 12.8 per cent under the two in 1960-61 thus was practically unchanged in 1971-72. In 1972-73 also, the area remained, more or less, similar with 111,584 ha. under culturable waste against 68,140 ha. of old fallows. There was still much scope in the District to put the unexploited potential of cultivation under the plough.

Among the reasons for such lands not having been well exploited earlier may be mentioned the greater dependence on rains, in the absence of which the crops may easily fail in such areas and to an equal extent, the lack of irrigation facilities. Generally, the topography of the land, proper irrigation and other related facilities in the cultivation of these lands are almost essential factors in their reclamation. There are provisions for allotment of such area under the State and Central Schemes for Settlement of Wasteland. As to the details regarding availability for cultivation of the culturable wastes, in 1971-72 about one third with 37 thousand ha. was immediately cultivable while 40 thousand ha. was shown as uneconomic for reclamation. The remaining 32 thousand ha. was such as could be put under cultivation after some improvement.

Fallow Lands

Fallow lands particularly, the fallows other than current fallow land also indicate the exploitable potential of cultivation. As already mentioned, the old fallows in the District, when read in combination with the culturable waste, showed more or less constant figures since 1961 while, separately also they did not show any considerable fall. Even then, the extension of cultivation mainly, due to the pressure on land of the increasing population, was reflected in a considerable fall in the area of current fallow lands specially, between 1950-51 and 60-61 when, from 105 thousand ha. it came down to 53 thousand ha. The current fallows since then have continued to be less than the old fallow lands instead of being greater as in the fifties. In the year 1971-72, the old fallows were shown at 68 thousand ha. as against 63 thousand ha. of the current fallow lands. In 1972-73, the current fallows covered

57,237 ha. Proportionately it was comparatively greater in Pushparaigarh Tahsil.

Net Sown Area And Double Cropped Area

The net area sown though almost always fluctuating had generally been increasing from year to year. As could be observed, the improvement was considerable during the fifties which could easily be linked with almost as considerable a fall in the area under current fallows. Thus, from 22.6 per cent of the District area in 1950-51 the percentage under the net sown area went up to 30.6 per cent in 1960-61. In actual terms, the increase involved during the period was from 292 thousand ha. to 420 thousand ha. About ten years later in 1971-72 the net cropped area mounted to 457 thousand ha. and the next year in 1972-73 to 462 thousand ha. Between tahsils, Pushparaigarh (with 79,036 ha.) had the highest proportion of its total area that is, about 45 per cent, as net sown area. Sohagpur, however, had the largest actual net sown area in the District (225,790 ha.) as its total area was also much more than the other tahsils. It was followed by Bandhogarh (88,254 ha.) while, Beohari (69,011 ha.) had the least net sown area.

However, inspite of the expansion in cultivation, per capita cultivated area has declined. The figure which was 0.81 ha. per capita in 1960-61, declined to 0.67 ha. in 1970-71. This shows that the expansion of cultivated area has failed to keep pace with the increasing pressure of population.

Double cropping on the whole, is not practised on a large scale in the District. Formerly, however, it was done only in the case of moisture retentive soils or insufficient rains, with maize or sesamum in *Kharif* followed by *matra*, gram or barley as a *rabi* crop. Statistics for the sixties show that as an average about a tenth of the net cropped area was double-cropped. It's area showed an improvement in the seventies when, as against 48 thousand ha. of 1960-61, it occupied 62 thousand ha. in 1972-73. Proportionately, it was the largest in Pushparaigarh tahsil (with 16,320 ha.).

The table below shows tahsilwise land utilization statistics for 1972-73 while, District figures over a period of years appear in the Appendix.

Table No. IV-1
Land Utilization Statistics (1972-73)

District/ Tahsil	Area According to Village Papers	Forests	Land put to Non-Agricul- tural Purposes	Barren and Un- cultur- able lands	Permanent Pastures & Grazing Lands
1	2	3	4	5	6
Shahdol	1,386,006	497,616	75,108	70,020	41,883
District					
Tahsils					
Sohagpur	5,83,915	191,296	37,530	18,613	9,000
Bandhogarh	3,62,967	154,358	16,533	20,279	17,333
Beohari	2,62,752	118,592	14,609	12,318	13,396
Pushparaj- garh	1,76,372	33,370	6,436	18,810	2,154

(Table Contd.)

Misc. Tree crops etc.	Culturable Waste	Old Fallows	Current Fallows	Net Cropped Area	Double Cropped Area	Gross Cropped Area
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2,327	111,584	68,140	57,237	462,091	62,283	524,374
1,209	48,329	28,248	23,900	225,790	18,157	243,947
467	34,019	16,770	14,954	88,254	17,043	105,297
542	12,981	11,788	9,515	69,011	10,763	79,774
109	16,255	11,324	8,868	79,036	16,320	95,356

Soil

The tahsil lies in the hilly tract and possesses little soil of agricultural value¹. Despite the truth of this statement made more than half a century back in relation to the former Sohagpur Tahsil of the erstwhile Rewa State, the area can, at least, be credited with giving adequate *Kharif* crops.

The predominant soil of this area at the time of Settlement (1923-24) of the

1. Imperial Gazetteer, Vol. XXIII, p.69.

Rewa State was classed as a lighter type of *sigon*. *Sigon* is now more commonly known as *sehra*, the name by which it was formerly called only in a very limited area.

In some parts of the District are also found patches of dark or black soil called *mair*. It is also known as *marwa* in Sohagpur Tahsil while, in Chandia or Singhwar area it is known as *mair*. It is generally found, more or less in mixed form and as such classed as *domat*, - a mixture of *sigon-mair* or *mair-bhata* (stony). The proportion of really good *Mair*, however, is small in the District.

Besides, on the banks of the river Son, is also found the alluvial soil, known as *kachhar*. Thus, the District has its share of fertile lands also which lie mostly along the banks of the bigger streams or in the villages where, *detritus* has collected.

As to the suitability of these soils to the crops, *sigon* is suited for rice while *domat* grows a double crop of wheat and rice. The refuse soils, known as *bagar* or *barra* are stony and sandy, fit only for growing millets like *kodon* or the pulse *rahar* (tur), requiring long resting fallows.

Based on the differences of soil, its fertility and climatic conditions, the District can broadly be divided into three agricultural zones. The first zone generally covers Pushparajgarh Tahsil, the second spreads over the revenue circles of Kotma, Bijuri, Dhurwasin, Jaitpur, Anuppur and Jaithari while, the rest of the District can be said to fall under the third zone. The first region though largely mountainous contains black soil within its limits and with heaviest rainfall in the District gives good early crops. The second region consisting mostly of plains and *dumat* (*Sigon-mair*) soil covers the main paddy tract of the District. The rest of the area, mostly covered by *dumat* or *bagar* soil with very few patches of black soil, besides rice, also gives wheat crop and forms an area of lesser rainfall.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation in the District even now can at best be called only minimal both in respect of the area covered or the development of irrigation facilities. The area under irrigation in 1974-75, hardly amounted to one per cent of the gross cultivated area of the District giving a dismal comparison with the State average of about 8 per cent. Yet, when looked in perspective, this showed improvement enough over only 0.1 per cent of 1956-57. Going back to the early twentieth century days, the area was almost completely under dry cultivation with the two tahsils of Sohagpur and Ramnagar covering a total of just 300 acres under irrigation out of the then cultivated area of over 4 lakh acres. Thus, it becomes abundantly clear that, whatever progress was made in this field, in the District, was made in post-Independence era. There still remains a large potential to be developed, despite recent acceleration in the implementation of the new irrigation schemes, among the foremost of which may be named the Johilla Irrigation Project. In fact, the exploitation of irrigation resources has become the *sin-qua-non* for development of agriculture in the District.

Area Irrigated

The development of irrigation showed particular progress only in the mid-sixties by which time Canals had become an added source of irrigation in the District. The net area irrigated, remaining well under thousand hectares throughout the fifties, had actually shown considerable decline from 836 ha. in 1950-51 to 305 ha. in 1960-61.* The area, however, with increased irrigation schemes in the sixties went up almost immediately and continuously. Going up manifold, it rose to over 2 thousand ha. by 1965-66 and further doubled to 4 thousand ha. in 1971-72. Thus, the irrigated area by itself, showed an increase though yet, it was not anywhere near the State percentage of irrigated area to the cultivated area.

Sources Of Irrigation

Irrigation in the past and till the middle of this century, was generally carried on through wells, and that too to a very small extent. Though a number of tanks existed in the area, it seems they were little used for irrigation. Still, three of the tanks of those days in the former *ilaka* Sohagpur itself and one in the former Kothi *ilaka* of the then Sohagpur Tahsil were described to be conspicuous. The oldest of the three was Ranital, now being more than 350 years old. All these water sources, however, depended almost solely on rainfall. Besides, according to the Rewa State Settlement Report of 1929 as quoted by Census Report 1961, in some parts of Beohari, Bandhogarh and Sohagpur small springs called *baharas* were used for irrigation, to some extent. They enabled a fair crop of rice by keeping the series of fields, at the top of which they were found, damp throughout the cold weather and failed only in case of total failure of rains¹. Even now, most of the existing minor irrigation schemes as well as village tanks and wells depend as much on the rainfall.

Thus, wells and probably the tanks form the traditional sources of irrigation in the area. Several of these under the development plans have now been renovated or restored. There have also come up many new irrigation wells and tanks in the District both under the Government irrigation schemes as well as in the private sector due to irrigation consciousness among the farmers. Canals as mentioned earlier form the new important source of irrigation which have developed significantly and rapidly so as to become the main contributor towards large expansion in the irrigated area during the sixties. Another new source of irrigation that emerged on the irrigation map of District, almost side by side, with the canals in the year 1961-62 was that of tubewells.

The development of irrigation sources since 1961-62, when, the area irrigated started increasing appreciably in the District, showed canals taking a substantial share right from the start and occupying the predominant position by the end of the decade. Earlier, well irrigation as a proportion of the total irrigated area

* It was mainly due to fall in well irrigation with both the number of wells as well as area irrigated by them being subject to wide fluctuations under the effect of uncertain monsoon.

1. District Census Handbook, Shahdol District, 1961, p. Lxx.

occupied the first position followed by tanks. Thus, in 1960-61 wells irrigated 53 per cent of the area while, tanks irrigated 37 per cent. The number of irrigation wells in that year came to 799 while, tanks numbered 197 in the District. The next year, (1961-62) Government canals numbering 6 made their appearance on the irrigation scene and covered under 3 per cent of the total irrigated area. In the course of one year, that is by 1962-63, the share of canal irrigation increased to 19.75 per cent. As against this, the proportion of irrigated area under wells and tanks in the same year came to 46 and 33 per cent, respectively though well's actual number had also increased considerably to 2,843 and tank's area to 4,434 ha. Canals have since gone on increasing in number and area irrigated by them at a rate surpassing both wells as well as tanks as separate sources of irrigation in the District. Details of source-wise irrigated area appear in the Appendix.

Minor Irrigation

The use of electric or oil engine pumps besides the wells are included in the field of minor irrigation. The block-wise details of the same for 1970-71 are given below.

Table No. IV-2
No. of Irrigation Wells and Pumps (1970-71)

Block	Irrigation Wells	Oil Engines	Electric Pumps
Burhar	140	8	7
Kotma	100	8	2
Jaithari	234	17	6
Sohagpur	1,828	20	34
Manpur	1,302	6	-
Umariakarkeli	205	13	19
Jaisinghnagar	628	21	-
Puṣhparajgarh	78	4	-
Pali	461	49	63
Anuppur	533	49	-
Beohari	370	4	3

Irrigation Projects

As already noted irrigation works on any significant scale started coming up only by the beginning of the sixties during the Third Plan Period. Before, that, the First and Second Five Year Plan respectively saw the beginning of work on Singhpur weir schemes, (Sohagpur Tahsil) in 1955 and on Maika tank project, (also in Sohagpur tahsil), in 1958. Singhpur weir scheme was the first and though categorized as a

minor scheme it is an important irrigation project of the District involving a cost of 12.80 lakhs. It was designed to irrigate 1,600 acres (647 ha). The work on the project, however, was completed quite late during the Fourth Plan in 1971. The area irrigated by it in 1974-75 amounted to 467 ha. The second, Maika tank project along with two more tank projects started in 1960 and 1961, respectively, were completed by 1964.

In comparison to these earlier works, there was a plethora of new irrigation projects taken up during the later years, particularly in the seventies. The Third Plan works, all of them minor irrigation schemes, totalled 9 with an aggregate designed irrigation capacity of 1,850 acres (749 ha.). All of these schemes, consisting of diversion works were taken up in the year 1963 except one, Beria nalla diversion work started in 1964. After the Third Plan only one scarcity work, the Karkati tank project came up which was started by the end of 1966.

Johilla Reservoir

In the seventies, by the year 1975 as many as 30 irrigation works were started in the District. Out of these the five projects envisaged during the Fourth Plan included the biggest ever and the only medium irrigation project of the District, the Johilla reservoir scheme located in Pushparaigarh Tahsil. The scheme involving an estimated expenditure of about 1.2 crores of rupees is designed to irrigate an extensive area of 5,750 acres. Its main earthen dam will be 24 metres in height with a canal system of 26 km. in length. The work on this as well as all other projects was, however, taken up either during 1974 or 1975.

The other four minor irrigation projects, all located in Sohagpur Tahsil, include the next biggest irrigation project, namely the Later tank with irrigation capacity, of more than a thousand acres (405 ha.) and involving a cost of over Rs. 19 Lakhs.

The remaining 25 works were also minor or scarcity irrigation works. They included some lift irrigation works as well. The biggest of these was Buchki tank project with a cost of about Rs. 10 lakhs and irrigation capacity of 550 acres (359 ha.). A list of the irrigation projects is given in the Appendix.

The present irrigation works, developed almost from scratch, are not sufficient enough to give an adequate proportion of irrigation. It may also be mentioned here that almost all the schemes are located in Sohagpur and Pushparaigarh tahsils indicating the areas remaining to be covered.

Contour Bunding

The soil conservation programme as carried out in the District through the efforts of the Agriculture Department is generally reflected in the contour bunded over the years. This is tabulated below. The problem of soil conservation arises out of the erosion constantly taking place at the banks of the bigger or sharply turning rivers like Johilla, the Son and a few others. Rain water rushing down the mountainous slopes is an important factor of soil-erosion.

Table No. IV-3
Area Under Contour Bunding

Year	Area (in '000Ha.)
1967-68	4.94
1968-69	6.07
1969-70	4.57
1970-71	1.57
1971-72	2.91
1972-73	5.83
(Target)	

C R O P S

Of the two cropping seasons, *Kharif* or *siari* as it is locally called, predominates in the area, lasting from May to October. The crops grown in this season include rice, maize and *kodon*, the chief millet and sesamum, the oilseed. In the other season of *rabi* or *unhari* wheat is an important crop, and gram and linseed are the other main *rabi* crops. Thus, in the principal crops of the District can be named paddy along with *kodon-kulki* grown extensively all over the District. Other crops which command some sizeable area are wheat, maize, gram, sesamum and linseed.

The cropping pattern of the District showed by far the most extensive coverage by the food crops consistently over the years. As between the two seasons, *kharif* had greater coverage under them as compared to *rabi*. Thus, in 1960-61, of the total *kharif* area of 379,806 ha. the food crops and the non-food crops occupied 337,627 ha. and 42,179 ha. respectively. Though *rabi* area, in the same year was much less with 88,871 ha. the food and non-food crops with respective coverage of 67,183 ha. and 21,688 ha. clearly showed a much larger proportion of area under the non-food crops. By the year 1972-73 both the *kharif* and *rabi* area in the District had registered an increase with 413,340 ha. and 111,034 ha. There was still greater coverage by food crops as non-food crop area in *kharif* showed little increase with 42,759 ha. under it. In *rabi*, however, the increase was reflected both in food as well as non-food crops. Tahsilwise (1972-73) the *rabi* area though much less in general was comparatively larger in Bandhogarh and Pushparaigarh indicating proportionately greater wheat cultivation.

As to the agricultural practice followed for sowing, a field is ploughed just before rains. In the case of *mair* and *sigon* soil it is ploughed three or four times and then sown. The number of ploughings however, increases to fourteen or fifteen times for *rabi* crops. The Rewa State Gazetteer made a mention of *jhuria* process also for rice cultivation which is useful in the fields retaining a large amount of water. In this, ploughing is done once or twice both in *Magh* and *Jath* and the seed is sown just

before the rains so as to allow the plants to reach some size before water starts collecting.

A few local sayings useful in the traditional practices are quoted here. Thus, the last nine days of the preceding *Mrig Nakshatra* should, according to tradition, be very hot if the rains are to be good.

Tapain Mrigshira talphain char,

Ban, baluk aru bhains ukhar.

"In the heat of *Mrigshira* four things should suffer, the forests, children, buffaloes and sugarcane". If this takes place all will be well. Then, the rain in *Ardra Nakshatra* should be light and not severe, as in the latter case there is danger of its cessation. *Punarvasu* marks the rice sowing season.

Purva Punarvasu boi than,

aur na kari kheti in.

"Sow only rice in *Purva* and *Punarvasu* and not other food crops.

Paddy

The rice area in the District expanded considerably in absolute terms between 1951-52 and 1960-61 increasing by 22 per cent and occupied 192,021 ha. in 1961. As a proportion by net sown area, however, it showed a decline from 50.4 per cent of 1951-52 to 45.7 per cent of 1960-61. Later in 1972-73 the area under it covered 198,917 ha. the proportion to net sown area declining further though slightly. Tahsilwise, in 1972-73 it had 125,682 ha. in Sohagpur, 28,796 ha. in Beohari, 24,301 ha. in Bandhogarh and 20,138 ha. in Pushparajgarh. Nevertheless, paddy claimed the highest area in every tahsil. The current yield rate for 1972-73 with 716 kg. per ha. was greater than 640 kg. per ha. of standard yield of an year ago. In the same year (1972-73) production amounted to 135.3 thousand metric tons.

Paddy is mostly sown broadcast but a considerable area, particularly in Sohagpur and Beohari tahsils is also sown by transplantation method. Grown on *sigon* or *sehra* soils usually the fields are lightly ridged. Such fields are known as *ghators*. The varieties of rice commonly grown in the District were, *Bhejari*, *Dehula* and *Balkeshar*. However, improved varieties have also now been introduced under the High Yielding Varieties Programme.

Maize

This is the next important food crop of *kharif* after paddy and is third in rank after rice and wheat in the District. Locally called *makai*, in 1960-61, it occupied one twentieth (21,472 ha.) of the net sown area, varying between 7 percent of Pushparajgarh and 3 per cent of Sohagpur Tahsil. In 1972-73 the District area under maize stood at 24,390 ha. It is mainly grown in the *kullas* as a first crop. Maize showed a lesser current yield of 248 kg. per ha. against its standard yield of 448 kgs. for 1972-73. Maize area has also been covered under the High Yielding Varieties Programme.

Kodon

Also grown in *kharif*, this chief millet can be raised on inferior soils and substitutes rice for the poorest sections of the population. In 1960-61, it occupied, alongwith some other millets, as much as three-tenths of the net sown area in Bandhogarh, one-fourth of the net sown area in Pushparajgarh and Beohari, and about one-sixth only in Sohagpur Tahsil. In all, it occupied nearly one-fourth (24 per cent) of the District's net sown area. Later also, it was cultivated as extensively covering 117 thousand ha. out of a total of 455 thousand ha. of net sown area in the district in 1970-71. In 1972-73, the area fell to 110 thousand ha. The outturn was 25.2 thousand tonnes (metric tons) in 1972-73 the lowest figure since 1967-68. The yield rate in 1972-73 was only 228 kg. per ha. against its standard yield of 350 kg. The crop is sometimes sown mixed with *jowar* also.

Jowar

Grown in *kharif* and generally a significant crop in the western districts of the State, in this District, it comes much behind rice, wheat and even maize. As a cereal food grain, it occupied, more or less, a comparable, position with barley. In 1972-73 it covered 6,948 ha. Like barley its largest proportional area also fell in Beohari Tahsil with 2,355 ha. but there the comparison ended. Sohagpur Tahsil also had the largest actual area with 3,259 ha. which was yet proportionately much less. Earlier, the jowar area in 1960-61 was 4,969 ha.. The production figures, with a total of 5,500 m. tons. in 1972-73 showed current yield of 791 kgs. per hectare as against 920 kgs. of standard yield. Jowar also had its hybrid varieties introduced in the District by 1971-72.

Wheat

This principal *rabi* crop of the District occupied 35,280 ha. in 1960-61, about 8 per cent of the net sown area under it, which showed a little more than double the area of 1950-51. It is more extensively grown in Bandhogarh and Pushparajgarh tahsils. The District area under wheat registered further progress and later in 1972-73 covered 45,957 ha. under it. Tahsilwise, wheat occupied about 16 per cent of the net sown area in both Bandhogarh and Pushparajgarh tahsils (in 1972-73) with 14,475 and 12,679 ha. respectively. In Sohagpur and Beohari, it occupied 12,053 ha., and 6,750 ha., respectively. The progress of wheat particularly under the high yielding varieties has been significant in comparison to other crops. The standard and current yields in 1972-73 for the crop stood at 447 kg. and 600 kgs. per ha. respectively, with total production of 19,700 metric tons in that year.

Barley

A *rabi* crop Barley is important only in Beohari Tahsil and in some areas in Bandhogarh Tahsil. As against an area of 7,207 ha. occupied by barley in the District in 1960-61, amounting to 1.7 per cent of the net sown area the proportion in Beohari Tahsil came to 8 per cent and in Bandhogarh Tahsil it was 2 per cent. The District area in 1972-73 was 6,196 ha. with 3,891 ha. in Beohari and 1,306 ha. in Bandhogarh

Tahsil. The yield rates of barley in 1972-73 showed 570 kgs. and 4.8 kgs. per ha. of standard and current yield respectively.

Gram

It is the most important *rabi* crop after wheat and has also shown improvement in its area since the fifties. Of the total pulse area of 12 per cent of net sown area in the District in 1960-61, gram with 17,925 ha. occupied about 4 per cent of the net sown area. It varied between highest of 8.8 per cent in Bandhogarh and lowest of 2.3 per cent of the net sown area in Beohari Tahsil. The area under it had increased further in the seventies, registering 21,052 ha. in 1972-73. In absolute terms, however, the largest area was in Sohagpur Tahsil which had a much larger total cropped area as compared to other tahsils. The current yield of gram in the same year (1972-73) was 242 kgs. against a standard yield of 480 kgs. per ha. production amounted to 7.2 thousand metric tons.

In pulses other than gram, *tur* or *rahar*, *urad* and *masur* are important. The area under *tur* in the District has improved considerably over the years. While the total pulses area for 1960-61 and 1972-73 amounted to 49,041 ha. and 56,360 ha. respectively, the *tur* area between the same period showing greater progress increasing from just 5,338 ha. to 11,182 ha. The current yield for 1972-73 however, stood at 568 kgs. against its standard yield of 780 kgs. per hectare. Production amounted to 7.1 thousand metric tons.

Fruits And Vegetables

The fruits and vegetables had together occupied 395 ha. in 1950-51, 1,000 ha. in 1960-61, 1,340 ha. in 1970-71 and 1,275 ha. in 1972-73 indicating progressive increase in area. Pushparajgarh Tahsil was almost completely lacking in this group of crops with a negligible 7 ha. (1972-73). However, it is significant to note that this Tahsil was found suitable for establishing Government Garden at Amarkantak, which was likely to contribute in a large measure to the development of horticulture on the region. It grows a large variety of fruits which were totally alien to this area. Mango is the main fruit grown while, among others may be mentioned guava and banana.

As regards cultivation of vegetables, sweet potato, for a single crop of vegetable has a significant proportion of area followed by potato, in the District.

Condiments And Spices

An overall growth was registered in the cultivation of condiments and spices in the District during the fifties. It rose from 96 ha. in 1950-51 to 215 ha. in 1960-61. Thereafter, the area, though not going below the 1960-61 level, kept varying due more to seasonal factors with 269 ha. in 1965-66; 330 ha. in 1967-69, 294 ha. in 1970-71 and 284 ha. in 1972-73. Sohagpur claimed the largest area with 163 ha. in 1972-73. The main spices, grown consist of coriander, chillies, garlic, turmeric and to some extent ginger.

In non-food crops the oilseeds almost cover all the area. They, taken together showed an increase of more than 50 per cent in this District between 1951-52 and 1960-61 and with 63,577 ha. accounted for about 15 per cent of the District's net sown area in 1960-61. More than a decade later by 1972-73 the area covered amounted to 72,513 ha. Proportionately, Pushparajgarh Tahsil was far ahead in the District under oilseeds though again in absolute terms, Sohagpur Tahsil occupied an almost equal area under them. Pushparajgarh, nevertheless, did not possess a significant sesamum area and had a comparatively smaller linseed area. Thus its area under oilseeds was largely occupied by rape and mustard and niger or *ramtil*.

Sesamum

Sesamum is the main oilseed of the District. It showed 28,495 ha. in 1950-51; 13,963 ha. in 1960-61; 21,829 ha. in 1970-71 and 18,877 ha. in 1972-73. Tahsilwise, the largest proportionate area was in Beohari with 6,623 ha. but Sohagpur had 8,381 ha. under it. Pushparajgarh had a nominal 32 ha. only. The current and standard yield of sesamum in that year worked out to 139 and 1800 kgs. per ha. respectively. Area devoted to the cultivation of sesamum, seemed to show an uncertain trend. The production in 1972-73 amounted to 2600 metric tons.

The linseed area had also increased substantially over the years in the District. From just 1,728 ha. in 1950-51 the area expanded to 8,846 ha. in 1960-61 and further to 15,345 ha. in 1972-73 with about half of it in Sohagpur tahsil alone. Its current yield in 1972-73 showed 229 kgs. per ha. against a standard yield of 240 kgs. per ha.

Rape and mustard covered 14,575 ha. in 1972-73 as against 12,709 ha. in 1960-61. Tahsilwise, it showed the largest area in Pushparajgarh with 5,512 ha. (1972-73) against 4,682 ha. in Bandhogarh and 3,579 ha. in Sohagpur.

In respect of other oilseeds the cultivation of which developed later, Pushparajgarh had by far the largest area. It had as much as 17,414 ha. out of a total of 23,654 ha. for the District in 1972-73. These oilseeds chiefly including niger or *ramtil* when added with rape and mustard area as stated above, easily accounted for the largest oilseed area of the tahsil which, however, lacked in the cultivation of conventional sesamum and had comparatively little of linseed, as well.

PROGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Implements

The older tools or implements of agriculture are still much in use in the area. The wooden plough continues to be a significant tool of cultivation with the local farmer, specially in the interior of the District and on smaller holdings. Besides the country made wooden plough, other traditional tools include harrow and spiketooth harrow for pulverising the soil and thinning the plants in the fields specially of *kodon*. The seed drill is made conventionally by boring a hole at the bottom of the plough and fitting it with iron tube. Blade harrow or *bakhar* is another important tool.

Upto the inauguration of the era of development plans, it could well be described as state of stagnation in the means and modes of agriculture. However, the impact of the various development schemes had been felt progressively. The awareness towards the benefits of large scale mechanisation on the bigger farms and among the wealthier cultivators as well as the adoption of some modernised versions of the old tools to some extent have become welcome features. Some improved implements introduced by the Department are iron ploughs, ridgers, winnowers and seed drills. With increased campaigning more and more cultivators have now been adopting such tools and methods as have already become popular in more advanced parts of the State. Below is given the number of agricultural implements in the District over a period of years.

Table No. IV - 4
Agricultural Implements And Machinery

Year	Ploughs		Carts	Sugarcane Crushers		Oil Engine Pumps For Irrigation	Electric Pumps For Irrigation
	Wooden	Iron		Bullock Driven	Power Driven		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1960-61	159,876	242	71,703	109	30	8	-
1965-66	150,045	219	72,966	103	1	73	8
1971-72	174,480	176	74,023	120	-	169	51
1972-73	175,150	199	74,023	120	-	169	51
1973-74	164,395	189	66,049	122	-	185	107
1974-75	176,724	2,147	-	203	-	454	136

	Tractors (Govt.)	Ghanis with Crushing Capacity	
		Less than 5 seers	5 seers or more
	9	10	11
	21	112	50
	37	132	17
	23	965	32
	23	965	32
	31	889	50
	50	985	111

Seeds

In the State days, hardly any improved or better seed was experimented within the area. As mentioned in the crops' description, both superior and inferior varieties of rice were cultivated but they consisted of only those prevalent in the area since long. In case of wheat also generally the common *pissi* was produced. Presently, however, the Government has made conscious efforts to evolve and popularise new and improved varieties for most of the crops. Wheat has attained particular success in this field and new Mexican varieties have become popular in the District. With the increase in irrigation, the cultivators now use the irrigated high yielding varieties of seeds more than the conventional unirrigated ones. The improved seeds are regularly distributed to the cultivators by the Department and through other agencies. Adequate arrangements exist in the District to multiply and distribute the recommended varieties of paddy. The Government farms produce processed quality foundation seeds. In rice, the Taichung Native is the main exotic variety to be introduced, which is generally resistant to paddy blast but is susceptible to leaf blight disease.

Fertilizers

The attention of agriculturists is now being increasingly drawn towards the benefits of chemical fertilizers as a source of boosting the outturn of crops. Their use and benefits are propagated and popularised by the departmental authorities in practical demonstrations in the fields of the farmers. The local cultivators who previously refused the use of fertilizers, have now come round to appreciate their advantage. However, the District has yet to go a long way in their extensive use and as per statistics available, the per hectare use of total fertilizers in terms of nutrients showed 1.32 kg. in 1971-72 as against 0.31 kg. for the previous year. This itself is enough to indicate their increasing popularity. Distribution of fertilizers in the District for some years is tabulate below.

Table No. IV-5
Distribution Of Fertilizers

Year	Nitrogenous	Phosphatic	(In Tonnes)
			Potassic
1969-70	265	194	7
1970-71	464	363	7
1971-72	1,950	1,556	64

Manure

Manuring was rarely practised in the past and much of the cowdung was used as a fuel. The cowdung alongwith village sweeping were made use of in case of a few crops only. In Beohari Tahsil it was also customary to cut the *sal* tree branches and burn them on the fields to provide ash manure to the sandy soils of that Tahsil. The custom was, however, prohibited after Bomford's Settlement (1920-29). As to

the compost manure, its use has gained in all the Tahsils, though to a limited extent and mostly for paddy and maize.

Rotation Of Crops

In traditional methods of raising the fertility of the soil, rotation of crops is well recognised and has been practised in the area since long. The cultivators are familiar with the recuperative or exhausting nature of different crops and the rotation generally followed in the area was *kodon* or *jowar* alternating with wheat, gram or linseed.

Mixed cropping is as usually followed in *kodon* with *jowar*, wheat with gram and *matra* and barley with gram and *matra*. It ensures against a total failure of crop besides, reducing the expenses on labour.

Agricultural Diseases And Pests

A number of diseases and pests of the plant harm the crops of the District as in other parts of the State. Many effective remedies to counter or prevent such disease, etc., have been publicized and made available through the departmental initiative in the District. Formerly, many a time standing crops were damaged in absence of sufficiently positive, widespread or scientific measures as are available at present. In the past and even in the present the chief animal pest of the area remains to be the rats who often swarm after an year of deficient rainfall. White ants, etc. are also found. *Kans* is a deep-rooted quick-growing pernicious grass that saps the fertility of the soil and reduces the out-turn of crops. Rust and blight damage the crops in different ways. Blight affects the paddy significantly. Rice hiepa, stemfly, stem borer, army worm are the other insects harming paddy. Rust affects, among others, wheat while leaf-spots affects *jowar*. Still others may include gram caterpillar, various fungi affecting crops like *matar* and *teora* and pod borers affecting *tur*, etc.

These diseases and pests are now usually well countered by the dusting or spraying of various pesticides and insecticides.

Details of these modern medicines used in the District in the year 1971-72 showed that, Lindane 20 EC, D.D.T. 50%, Endrine 20%, Dimethiote, Metasystox 25, Endosulphon 35 EC and Zinc Phosphide were used to a large extent.

Plant Protection

Measures connected with the plant protection work in the District show the extent and variety of steps taken. Amongst others they comprise even protection of grains in storage against various pests. The table below details such work undertaken in the District.

Table No. IV-6
Achievements In Plant Portection

(In '000 t

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Seed Control	2.3	6.3	10.1
Crop Protection	0.6	1.2	1.7
Rat Control	-	0.3	0.9
Weed Control	-	-	4.5
Safe Storage	3.0	2.5	0.8

Activities Of The Agriculture Department

The departmental activities cover a varied and wide spectrum related to all the fields of agriculture. In fact, the numerous sections of this chapter showing the growth of agriculture in their respective fields, reflect the credit due to the Department for the success achieved. Distribution of fertilizers, popularisation of modern implements, development of horticulture and food crops, soil conservaton, field demonstrations and such other work are the care of the Department. The Department also carries on experiments on the Government farms, and gardens and passes the results on to the farmers, multiplies and distributes the seeds of improved varieties of crops.

Besides the crop development under improved varieties, a development block of the District namely, Burhar has also been covered under the Intensive Agricultural Area Programme. All round concerted efforts were made in this block to develop agriculture and help agriculturists. A notably large amount of improved seeds and fertilizers were distributed for an extensive coverage.

There has been an increase in the foodgrains output in this district since the year 1966-67 when, the High Yielding Varieties Programme was launched all over the country. This could materialize due to the effective implementation of the programme along with increase in irrigated area, larger use of fertilizers, better management practices, successful training programmes and vigorous extension efforts. The targets and achievements fixed under the programme for the different crops, such as, paddy, *jowar*, wheat and maize in the District reflected its successful implementation except in the beginning notably in the case of paddy. Thus, in 1967-68, out of a target of 5,250 acres (2125 ha.) an achievement of only 549 acres (222 ha.) could be shown. As to the achievements of later years a table is given below :-

Table No. IV - 7
High Yield Varieties Coverage

(In '000 ha.)

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (target)
Paddy	0.3	0.7	1.9	1.9
Wheat	1.2	0.8	2.3	2.5
Jowar	-	-	0.2	0.2
Maize	-	0.2	0.3	0.8

Agricultural Farms

An important aspect of the departmental activities consists in carrying on experimental operations on the agricultural farms of the District and in holding field demonstrations in the new and improved ways of cultivation with a view to boost local output on the fields. The District had as many as four agricultural seed multiplication and demonstration farms to its credit. The first of these and also the biggest, was opened at Pondi in the year 1952-53. The Pondi Farm then covered the largest area in the State with 1,465 acres (593 ha.) out of which 600 acres were under cultivation. The other three agricultural farms are located at Birhulia, Shahagarh and Manpur. The first two of them were started in 1960 and had an area of 59.84 hectares each while the last, Manpur Farm was started in 1966 and covered 50.78 ha.

In addition to these farms there also exists a Government Garden at Amarkantak. This covered an area of 18.8 acres (7.7 ha.) of which 9.3 acres (3.6 ha.) were cultivated with fruit plantations. In fact, it is primarily a fruit orchard. Irrigation to the orchard is provided by storing the water from the Narmada in a small tank through a diversion channel. Among the fruit plants grown here are pears, almond, apple, *loquat* (*Eriobotrya japonica*), china orange, plum, orange, *alucha*, grape, fig, grape and citrus peaches. Besides this rich fair of fruits, the garden grows potatoes, other vegetables and flowers.

Cooperation

In this District the establishment of two collective farming cooperatives at Rajendragram and Amarkantak and two joint farming cooperatives at Patnar and Nipaniya in the year 1958-59 heralded the beginning of co-operative farming and despite some setbacks received later due to the ignorance, poverty and lack of proper background experience and training, on the part of a majority of the members, the number of such societies actually increased in the coming years. Thus, four more joint farming societies were registered with two of them in 1962 and the other two in 1964. The number of collective farming societies by the year 1974 had increased to 28. Eight of these were registered in the year 1969. Of the joint farming societies only two were shown to be functioning at present. This brought the total number of societies to 32. The provision for Government loans and subsidy is a vital factor in

running of these societies. However, the societies which have gone into inaction for the time being seem to need still greater help and guidance because of the particular want of back ground and education of their members in this field of farming.

Besides these farming societies, there existed, by the year 1974, as many as 258 service cooperatives, which amongst other services provided agricultural credit to their members. With a total membership of 40,273 and an area of over 2,000 acres (809 ha.) their working capital amounted to over Rs. 95 lakh.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & FISHERIES**Area Under Fodder Crops**

In the past, the pasture lands were described to be ample and quite in excess of the needs of the area. For the present, the area under permanent pastures and other grazing lands gives an idea of the general availability of the grazing area in the District. With these, may also be included the common grazing lands around the villages which provide natural green grass for about six months from the onset of monsoon.

Though raising of fodder crops has not yet become popular among local people, the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary department has successfully undertaken propagation of leguminous fodder like berseem, in at least, some parts of the land. Thus, berseem, napier and para grasses have been recommended, particularly, to the cultivators having wells for irrigation. Lack of irrigation in fact, has been the main hinderance in the growth of their cultivation. Still, subsidy for fencing fodder plots, purchasing grass seeds, conserving the grass and purchasing the chaff-cutters, etc., are provided on the Departmental basis to help boost this programme in the District.

Besides, paddy-straw, the by-product of the principal crop of rice, is used as a cattle feed and in double cropped area of cereal crops, *bhusa* as of wheat and gram is also utilized. Stall feeding is popular only around the urban areas and industrial townships. Stall-fed animals are given oilcakes and *chuni*.

Cattle And Buffaloes

The District has a large livestock population and with dense forests and natural grazing area available it is not difficult to bring them up. There is also a big demand for livestock and its products like milk, *ghee*, *khoa*, mutton, etc., in the urban areas and developing industrial belts. The District is ideally suited for the development of animal husbandry.

The total cattle of the District in the census years of 1951, 1961 and 1972 numbered 612,292, 814,831 and 878,152, respectively. As against these the total buffaloes for the three census years numbered 118,581; 165,071 and 173,723 respectively. As per the later census of 1977 the cattle and buffalo in the District came to 850,311 and 194,055.

Separately, among the cattle (1977) there were 334,553 bulls and bullocks of whom 1,149 were kept purely for breeding purposes. Of the 254,559 cows 248,837

were, kept for milk or breeding purposes. Tahsilwise, the largest number of breeding bulls were in Pushparaigarh where the lowest cattle population existed while, the largest number of milch cows were in Sohagpur Tahsil. Besides the cows and bullocks, there were a total of 261,199 calves in the District. Among the buffaloes, he-buffaloes totalled 85,530 with a large number (84,175) being kept for work only, in conformity with the practice of this region. Those for purely breeding purposes numbered 487. Of the total 55,329 she-buffaloes, those kept for breeding as well as milk numbered 53,970 the largest number being in Sohagpur Tahsil. Their total young stock came to 53,204 in the District.

Dairy Farming

Cattle and buffaloes have long been reared on individual basis in the villages. In urban areas, small private dairy units often consisting of *murrah* buffaloes have also come up and are doing good business. With an increasing scope in this field particularly in the urban areas the need for organised efforts to run the dairies on modern and scientific lines cannot be denied.

The local cattle are usually small-sized, with low yield of milk. But there has been an improvement to some extent due to the impact of improved breeding practices in the District. Animals of medium size are coming up with better milch capacity. Among buffaloes, that have become specially popular around the towns, *murrah* buffaloes are purchased by the milk producers from outside the state and are maintained by them for dairy business. Thus, in many townships small dairies, consisting of two to ten animals, largely buffaloes, have recently increased in numbers.

A step in the direction of organised dairy farming run on more scientific lines has been taken with the establishment of Government Milk Supply Scheme at the District headquarters. The Shahdol Milk Supply Scheme also provides for pasteurisation before the collected milk is supplied. For encouraging the local cattle owners the Department organises milk yield competitions from time to time in the District cattle shows and on an average 10 litres of milk in case of buffaloes and 8 litres in the case of cows has been observed.

Sheep And Goats

Goats are often reared privately, generally, by the poorer sections of the population both for milk and mutton. The total number of goats showed a impressive increase from 57,214 in 1951 Census to 142,659 in 1961. Their number in 1972 was 176,083 and 162,736 in 1977.

Sheep rearing is comparatively very little and limited mostly to a patch around Barondha, in Beohari Tahsil. Here people have taken to sheep rearing for the production of *deshi* blankets. The number of sheep in 1951 was 7,136 which increased to 10,343 in 1961, 19,632 in 1972. It was 13,200 in 1977. The next highest number of sheep was in Bandhogarh Tahsil.

Poultry Farming

Besides the livestock products, there is also an increasing demand for table birds and eggs, particularly, in the industrial sector of the District with prospects of further development in this field.

The total poultry of the District for 1951, 1961 and 1972 Censuses numbered 107,090; 191,712 and 255,270, respectively. According to the Census of 1972, there were 254,558 fowls. Out of them cocks totalled 27,784 against 77,194 hens and 149,580 of their young stock. The number of improved birds in the entire fowl stock came to a bare 3,540. By the subsequent Census of 1977 the poultry of the District had decreased and totalled 194,785 with as many as 194,422 fowls.

Assistance for rearing the birds is also provided on the departmental basis and the subsidized scheme for raising poultry has gained popularity. In addition, the District is credited with the possession of a Regional Poultry Farm at Shahdol which, rears all the exotic varieties of birds and offers guidance, technical assistance, and other forms of help to encourage and develop poultry keeping by the local population.

The farm is one of the eight smaller farms of the State with a standard stock of 1,000 egg laying hens. As to the exotic varieties found suitable in the District White Leghorn comes first and has been popularised at all the blocks through backyard poultry scheme, exchange of improved cocks and supply of hatching eggs. Only in Pushparaigarh Tahsil had people shown a preference for the Black Australop birds which had been introduced through Tribal Area Development Programme during 1974-75. The egg laying capacity of *desi* birds comes to 50-60 eggs per bird per year while improved birds under existing rural conditions gave 60-90 eggs.

Animal Diseases

The principal diseases of livestock are *Haemorrhagic Septicaemia* or *gal ghontu*, rinderpest or *mata*, black quarter or *adharanga*, anthrax or *tilman* and foot and mouth disease which is locally called *godaha* or *bad*. Now adays, effective and upto date scientific measures to control the various diseases are undertaken by the Department. The field staff carries regular campaigns of mass immunisation with vaccines. As a result economic losses arising from cattle mortality or emaciation due to disease have declined to a great extent.

Under Rinderpest Eradication Programme mass vaccination is organised in *gwaries*, and cattle markets and in three miles depth on either side of the known cattle routes. Besides, the protozoan and parasitic diseases, also occur sporadically in the District and are controlled by the field staff with mass treatment. A regular and sufficient supply of serum and vaccine is maintained by the concerned institutes at Gwallior and Mhow.

As for the segregation of cattle, the uneconomic and useless animals are sent to *gosadan* which was shifted to Bilaspur District in 1967. Then, there is one check-

post in the District where the cattle arriving from outside the District are constantly watched and checked.

Veterinary Hospitals

In the pre-Independence era this area was served only through visiting veterinary surgeons employed by the erstwhile State to render service to the Government or privately owned livestock. But the treatment of the livestock received immediate attention in the area after Independence when one veterinary hospital and five dispensaries were opened. By the year 1960-61, there were as many as 7 veterinary hospitals and 25 dispensaries existing in the District in addition to one mobile unit. This fully covered the District with at least one hospital located in each of the tahsils. A Key Farm Centre opened by the end of the First Plan was later merged into the Intensified Key Village Block comprising 10 units within it.

The number of veterinary institutions by the end of the Third Plan in 1965-66 had further increased to 46 besides the mobile unit. They included 11 hospitals and 35 dispensaries. By 1970-71 the total of hospitals had gone up to 14 and that of dispensaries to 37, the latter of which increased yet further in the next few years to make the total 41. A list of these institutions is given in the Appendix.

Measures To Improve The Quality Of Breed

In the field of measures adopted to improve the quality of livestock particularly the cattle and the buffalo, the Department carries vigorous campaigning among the cattle owners for creating awareness of the matter side by side providing various facilities for upgrading the cattle. With this end in view mainly 10 artificial insemination units have been set up. Recently, the use of pure Jersey bulls for artificial insemination of the upgraded stock has been introduced in the District.

There has been spontaneous response in the local population to these measures, and the owners of the animals have largely appreciated the tremendous benefits accruing from them. The statistics available in this regard showed, only 63 artificial inseminations carried out all over the District in the beginning, i.e., during 1960-61, which number in 1965-66 stood at 270 and in 1970-71 at 1,270. The young born out of these artificial inseminations numbered 43, 325 and 448, respectively.

Another measure for upgrading the livestock was the cross-breeding of cows usually by the improved bulls of Haryana or Jersey bulls and buffaloes by the strong and *vime murreh* buffalo-bulls. The data regarding natural service showed 110 cases of breeding in 1960-61, followed by 81 in 1965-66 and 970 in 1970-71, the number of young born being 89, 33 and 640, respectively.

Fisheries

A large number of small or big tanks found everywhere in the District in addition to the many rivers, including the Son and the Johilla, contain a substantial fish wealth. The post-Independence period witnessed the introduction of some popular exotic varieties of the major carp in most of the fish resources of the District. Even the old tanks forming the traditional fishing haunts of the area have now been

developed by the Fisheries Department. The development programme of the Department covers the new irrigation tanks or reservoirs and major rivers as well.

In the year 1974-75, work of the development of fisheries was being carried on in over three thousand tanks with about 3,000 ha. of area and three main reservoirs namely, Suthana lake, Budwa dam and Chandaniya tank covering an area of 600 ha.

Among the exotic varieties of fishes raised first in the District are *Catla-catla*, *Labeo rohita* and *Cirrhina mrigala* which were introduced quite early, in the beginning by the fifties. Other two varieties introduced by the beginning of the seventies in the District are *Cyprinus carpio* and grass carp (*Otino-pharyngodon adellus*). Raising of these last two export varieties has now grown in popularity. All these major carp fishes breed in the rainy season (July-August) while, the common carps breed twice in a year during the rains (July-August) and winter (February-March). The annual fish catch both, through the Department as well as in the private sector, amounted to about 100 metric tons on an average.

Since long the fish in the District were caught by the fishermen through the old conventional methods prevailing in the area. They include angling, both simple or lining locally called *bansi* and *longe-dori*, respectively. Other methods are those of baited hooks or *bhalli*, trap or *konie* and scoopnet which is known as *palna jal* or *heluka*. Now, side by side with these, certain new and improved methods of fishing have also come into vogue on the initiative of the Department. These methods comprise the use of cast net, gill net and drag net, respectively called, *ghumaua jal*, *fasela jal* and *mahajal*. The local fishermen are encouraged to use them and given training in their operation and preparation.

Another step towards the development of fisheries through the help of the Department has been the establishment of the Fishermen's Co-operative Society in the District. Such a society is provided with loans and subsidies for preparing nets and marketing of fish. Its members are also employed on the extraction work in the Departmental tanks to provide them with gainful employment. In addition, the facility for preserving the fish also exists through the needed supply of the ice made available by the ice factory located at Shahdol. Thus, a large portion of the fish catch remaining after local consumption is conveniently exported to some bigger markets outside the District.

Despite substantial exploitation of the existing fisheries resources, it can be asserted that still a large potential exists for further development of pisciculture in the District through its rivers and the increasing number of new irrigation tanks, etc. The Department also makes regular studies in regard to the fish varieties and their breeding.

FORESTRY

The whole District abounds in forest wealth which extends over more than one-third of the District area. Barring a few districts like Bastar and Surguja, it may

possess the States's most valuable forest and mineral resources. Divided into three full-fledged forest divisions of North Shahdol, South Shahdol and Umaria, the District can also be credited with independent divisions for specific purposes, viz., for bamboo forests, for Bandhogarh National Park, and for the working plan for the District.

The forests play a significant role in the economy of the District and much of the industrial growth too is sustained by them. Besides accounting for the bulk of the revenue of the District and feeding many local industries they also provide a direct source of livelihood to the population dwelling around these forests, who work in them. Bamboo the main raw material for the big private sector enterprise of Amlai Paper Mills are also supplied from the District forest. *Salai* is among the other raw materials supplied to this mill. The various saw mills situated is at different places constitute another industry directly dependent on the forests. *Bidi* manufacturing depends on *tendu* leaves collected from the forests.

Forest Produce

The major forest produce of the District are timber, firewood and charcoal while others include bamboo, *tendu* leaves, lac, *harra*, *katha*, gums, resins, honey and grasses. A grass called *bagai* or *mowa* grows abundantly in these forests. *Sal* forests are the most common and valuable in the District, covering in the case of North Shahdol Division, upto 80 per cent of the forest area.

Lac has been an important source of forest revenue but since the last two decades, its cultivation has declined owing to replacement of shellac by other substitutes. The lac is obtained from an insect and consists of a fluid excreted from its body which on solidifying in air, is called lac. Cultivated on trees, like *kusum*, *palas*, *bad*, *pipal*, etc., in this District, it is mainly propagated on *palas* and is called *rangin* or *gobrilac*. When the female has laid down eggs on branches it is collected as seed or brood lac and is used for infection. After the larvae have emerged, it is called stick lac or *phunkilac*. Two crops of lac are obtained in a year in May-June and November, respectively known as *Baisakhi* and *Katki*.

Exploitation Of Forest Produce

A systematic exploitation of these forests is carried on by the departmental agency of their respective divisions, contractors, and through purchasers on forest produce passes, or free passes. The departmental agencies deal in timber, *tendu* leaves, *harra* and gums while, exploitation by contractors is confined now to other forest produce which has not been specified under State trading. Among them may be named grasses, honey, wax, hides, horns, and *mahul* leaves. The third method of forest produce is to enable the local *bonafide* consumers to obtain their requirements of forest produce. Generally, the local requirements consists of bamboos, dry firewood, grasses, thorns, barks, leaves and climbers, etc.

Exploitation was almost entirely through contractors before 1971 when *sal* and other forests like teak and *bija* were nationalized and taken up under the

departmental management. State trading in bamboo was started in 1973 before which its exploitation was carried on by the Orient Paper Mills.

Besides the *nistar* facilities available in the forests, other facilities provided to the cultivators are sale of wood and bamboo at concessional prices and to others at differing rates. Another facility available upto 30th June 1974 was that of free grazing for all animals under the former Vindhya Pradesh Rules which has since been limited to cattle alone.

Forest Revenue

The revenues from the forests of the District showed a great rise in general since 1960-61. Broadly speaking, there total revenue showed a striking rise from around Rs.50 lakhs at the beginning of the sixties to over a crore by 1966-67, reaching its highest in 1972-73 when it was over two and a half crores. In this year just one division -North Shadol - recorded a revenue of Rs. 1.6 crores which, however, declined to Rs. 82 lakhs in 1973-74.

Markets

The chief markets located outside the District for the forest produce of the District are, Satna, Rewa, Allahabad and Kanpur. A substantial proportion of the forest produce is exported to these markets besides the large home consumption. The exports include timber, *tendu* leaves, *harra*, *mahul* leaves, gums, *katha* and bamboos. The tanning and *bidi* manufacturing industries outside the District receive *harra* and *tendu* leaves from here.

Forest Research And Training

An important institution, Forest School is situated at Amarkantak within the District. It imparts training in all branches of Forestry with particular emphasis on management and conservation of forests. Besides, the State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur is conducting research on the introduction of Tropical and *chir* pines in the District which may be useful for paper and pulp industry.

Plantations

With a view to replenishing the supplies of timber, and bamboo, the Department is raising plantations which amongst others include teak, bamboos and eucalyptus. The plantation work was first started in this District in 1956. The significance given to this work can be gauged from the fact that in 1962 this work was entrusted to a separate Forest Division formed for the purpose. By the year 1972 only two, North, and South Shahdol divisions had well over 25 thousand acres (10,117 ha.) of forest land under eucalyptus and teak plantations.

State Assistance To Agriculture

Previously, the erstwhile State administration did not grant *taccavi* on any regular basis but in times of scarcity loans were given readily. These loans were given for the purchase of seeds and bullocks and the construction of *bandhs* and an interest at the rate of 12 per cent an year was charged on them. Most of the cultivators then also remained in debt of the local money lenders. The situation has

improved vastly in the present.

Regular assistance for various agricultural purposes is made available through the Agriculturist's Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act. As their names indicate, the loans are given for agricultural and land improvement purposes but their range in the post Independence period has increased remarkably and include purchase of seed, tractors, fertilizers, bullocks, setting up of *rahats*, pumping sets, digging of wells and land improvement purposes like soil conservation, contour bunding, etc. The plan periods, actually, could be credited with a marked rise in *taccavi* loans, as well as, a new incentive promotion assistance under the Grow More Food Scheme.

Famine

Accounts of this area in the former State days show a history of severe famines or acute scarcities particularly, up to the early Twentieth Century. However, famines do not now ravage the area as they once did because of better organised efforts and prompt action on the part of the Government. There is also the impact of development on agricultural production and storage capacity of the farmers, as well as, the availability of better transport facilities to carry the foodgrains to famine or scarcity stricken areas. Thus, famines as of the old have almost disappeared from the scene. However, the vagaries of the monsoon with a soil generally less retentive of moisture and limited irrigation have been the cause of still occurring scarcity conditions.

Of the recorded famines, the earliest that gripped the District was in 1831 or Vikram Samvat 1888, the severity of which became symbolic for the famines that occurred later in the State. Thus, the people used to say, "the year 88 has returned," whenever a severe calamity overtook the area. Later the famine of 1868 (V.S. 1925) was also called in almost similar terms as, "*pachisa* or "the year 25". No regular relief measures were organised then. However, these experiences became a lesson and a list of precautionary steps to be taken, was prepared by the then State administration in 1883. A decade later a peculiar situation hit the district, that is, excessive winter rains in 1893; excessive monsoons in 1894 and cessation of rains thereafter. The inevitable result was the famine of 1896-97. In this year, though the early crops of *saman* and maize in Sohagpur and Ramnagar were saved, but by the end of September the stock of food grain was exhausted, and a month later, parts of these tahsils came among the worst-affected areas of the State. Relief works were undertaken almost immediately and people were relieved at an average cost of one *anna* per head per day. Afterwards, in the famine of 1899-1900, "Although, nearly 12,000 people came on relief works there was no real famine, but only distress in parts of the southern tahsils of Sohagpur and Ramnagar. A noticeable point in the connection with the arrangements for relief during this famine was the ready co-operation with the Darbar of local *zamindars*, who had almost entirely held aloof in the former famine."¹

1. Rewah State Gazetteer, p.50.

Coming to the present day, almost continuous scarcity conditions occurred between 1965-66 to 1969-70 and also for a few years since 1972-73. Earlier in 1957-58 and 58-59 also scarcity occurred causing widespread damage to the *kharif* crops. The droughts caused comparatively less stringent economic conditions during those years. They posed the problem of providing employment to agricultural labour in this tribal District. This problem has been sought to be countered by opening of sufficient scarcity works giving preference to labour intensive works. Preference was also given to works which resulted in permanent benefits to the rural public e.g., irrigation schemes, road works and village works of *nistar*-cum-irrigation tanks.

The scarcity that started in 1972-73 extended upto 1974-75 involving an expenditure of over Rs. 4 lakhs on the relief works during the period April to December 1974 alone. But the demand of employment to the labour continued to increase and many more additional relief works were opened. Thus, by the end of 1974-75 a total of 169 relief works were in progress. In order to meet the drinking water scarcity 255 *nalla* bunding works were also undertaken. The total expenditure incurred till the end of March 1975 amounted to nearly Rs. 24 lakhs. Besides, the Public Health Engineering Department, Satna, has undertaken a detailed programme of water supply involving installation of hand pumps where tubewells have been drilled, drilling new tubewells, and wells. Gratuitous relief and foodgrains were also provided to the scarcity labour. This account clearly shows that the perfection of anti-famine scarcity organisation in combination with the development programme have blunted the sharp edge of these calamities which brought untold misery, devastation and dislocation of economic life. The famine has now become a distant cry.

CHAPTER - V INDUSTRIES

Population Dependent On Industries

Though Shahdol district is one of the nine industrially advanced districts of the State, yet the agricultural sector accounts for an overwhelming majority of the working force. Accounting for 83.8 per cent of the total working force, the District economy is largely agriculture-oriented. The rest of 16.2 per cent are engaged in other pursuits, including industrial activities.

During the recent years, there has been considerable spurt in the industrial activities of the District but the same is, however, not truly reflected in Census returns, largely owing to the incomparability of data. The change in the definition of 'workers' from Census to Census has rather been responsible for it. Roughly, the economic classification of 'production other than Cultivation' in Census 1951 constitutes the industrial workers. Thus the estimated number of industrial workers in 1951 was 21,005.¹

The estimated number of industrial workers, engaged in corresponding categories of economic classification in 1961 was 37,669 and constituted 8.4 per cent of total workers. In spite of considerable momentum in industrial activities during the past decade, the Census 1971 reflected a decrease in the number of industrial workers. The categories constituting industrial worker together returned only 34,199 workers, which formed 8.9 per cent of the total working-force in 1971. This decline in the number of workers has been attributed to changed classification of a person as 'worker' or 'non-worker' on the basis of his main activity.²

Old Time Industry

No reference of any specialized industry in the District is available except for usual village industries found in the region. Since agriculture afforded an easy and ready means of livelihood, no need was felt for the industrialization of the area during the past. Amongst the ornamental art and crafts, gold-smithy may be mentioned, which was said to have been highly developed, in the region comprising former Rewa State. Locally made jewellery, namely *kakaniha*, *kantha*, *goph*, *gunj*, *katwa*, *besur*, *damini*, etc., were made with some fineness. The items of ornaments made out of

1. As per note in Appendix-I, Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962 (Industrial Worker in 1951, roughly constituted of self-supporting persons in respect of their principal means of livelihood plus the earning dependents in respect of their secondary means of livelihood, engaged in 'Production other than Cultivation' category. The corresponding categories in 1961 were "Mining and Quarrying, Livestock, Fishing and Hunting, etc.; Household Industry and Manufacturing other than Household Industry. The corresponding categories in Census 1971 were Plantation, Orchards, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, etc.; Mining and Quarrying; Household Industry and Manufacturing other than Household Industry.

2. Census of India, 1971, P.II-B (I), M.P., p.1

brass-metal and white-metal were manufactured by Audhias. Besides these, lac ornaments, wood-work, pottery, coarse cloth weaving - called as *gazi*, dyeing, oil extraction, printing, carpentry, blacksmithy, mining, etc., were other indigenous industries pursued in rural areas. Wood-work in *abnus* (ebony), *Saraut* (betelnut cutter) and arrow-heads manufactured at Sohagpur, and axes or Tangi at Raghurajnagar, Ramgarh, Sohagpur, etc., were important centres in the past.

Besides these village industries, mining, particularly of coal had been an important industry during the past. Rich in coal, Umaria had been a famous centre where Rewa State Colliery was established for large scale extraction of coal. Small quantity of iron and limestone was also mined. The development of factory industry during the present century under princely rule will be discussed in a latter section of this Chapter.

POWER

History

Before we proceed further to analyse the development of factory industry during this century, and its further prospects in the District, let us discuss the availability of different sources of energy, as are found in Shahdol District. Power being a vital pre-requisite of industrial expansion, Shahdol is fortunately endowed with rich and extensive deposits of coal and a 300 MW Amarkantak Thermal Power Station within its area. During the early years of industrial development in Shahdol, it appears that power was not available and industries were worked with indigenous methods. The factory industry, which had its beginning in the early 20th century was mostly worked by hand process. For the first time in 1912, machinery was installed in Shellac Factory, Umaria.¹ Similar reference testifies to the introduction of 65 kw electric power plant in Umaria Leather Factory in the second decade of the century.

Water Power Resources

The earliest step in regard to harnessing the water power resources of the District was taken during the minority times of Gulab Singh Bahadur in about 1918-22. Survey of water falls of Chachai on the Beehar and Keonti on the Mahana was conducted during 1919-21 by the engineers deputed by the then Central Government², who reported great possibility for the generation of hydro-electric power and estimated that two power houses could be constructed, roughly at a cost of about one crore of rupees. But in subsequent years of the Princely rule, no progress in this behalf was made, the hydel scheme it seems was abandoned.

Although 10 diesel power house were functioning in the former Vindhya Pradesh State, Shahdol still remained neglected. For the first time, a scheme of electrification of Umaria town in Shahdol District was included in the First Five-Year Plan of the former Vindhya Pradesh State³ and a provision of Rs. 0.99 lakh was

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22, p.124

2. Ibid. pp. 131-32.

3. Vindhya Pradesh State Administration Report, 1952, p.69

made. Scheme of extension of electricity in Shahdol town was also included in the plan during the year 1953.

Shahdol, which was hitherto very poor in respect of power supply, made a beginning with the installation of Shahdol Power House in 1956. Managed by the former Vindhya Pradesh State, two diesel sets were installed with a capacity of generating 50 kw of energy. After the formation of the new State of Madhya Pradesh, the Power House, was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board. Its generating capacity was raised to 200 kw. In 1958, With a connected load of 129 kw, there were 157 consumers of energy in that year.

By the year 1962-63, the number of Power houses was increased to two with two generating sets of 100 kw capacity each at Shahdol and another at Umaria with 2 kw capacity. Thus with a capacity of generating 463 kw/energy, the power houses had a connected load of equal capacity. Industrial demand by now, assumed formidable proportion and on an average consumed 187.50 kw of energy. The rest was consumed by domestic, commercial and street lighting, during 1963. In due course of time a diesel Power House was also established at Beohari.

The development of power in the District, thus, was a gradual growth, which was largely met through local power house. But the commissioning of Amarkantak Thermal Power Station at Chachal in Shahdol District in 1965, changed the tardv course of power history towards new horizons.

Amarkantak Power Station

The 60 Mw Thermal Power Station at Chachal in Shahdol, is the outcome of three distinct schemes of integrating units of Vindhya Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Commissioned in April, 1965 at Chachal, it is housed in a five storied building. The Power House is equipped with turbines, boilers, control-room, steam generators, laboratory, work-shop etc., Flanked by sub-centre on the one side and an administrative block in the front, the Water Treatment Plant is situated a little away from the main complex. The nearby colony of workers, is also supplied with drinking water from here. Amarkantak Power Station lies in the Sohagpur Coal Belt, which ensures adequate, regular and economic supply of coal to the Station. To ensure a regular supply of water, a barrage has been constructed on a tributary of the Son, thus creating a lake in about 700 acres.

Built at a cost of Rs. 7.92 crores, Amarkantak Power Station is an important link of Korba-Amarkantak-Satpura, Thermal Power Complex. They have been connected with a 220 kw grid lines. The Amarkantak Station feeds the Bundelkhand, Baghelkhand and Surguja area in the State. In 1969, it has further been connected with Rihand Complex in Uttar Pradesh, through grid lines. The present strength of workers on an average is 636. Since 1965-66, when the power House generated 29,78,06,277 kwh Units, the power generation increased to 32,02,08,000 kwh Units in 1974-75.

Second Stage Of Development

In fact the planning of this Station was made, keeping in view the prospects of its expansion upto 300 Mw. Thus two units of 120 kw each are proposed to be installed in the second stage, and it is expected that the duly approved scheme of expansion of one unit shall be completed by December, 1977 and that of the second unit by June, 1978.

Important details of the Amarkantak Power Station Complex are given in Appendix -I.

Segregation Of Demand

Since 1969-70, there has been considerable increase in the utilization of electric energy in the District. The number of consumers increased from 5,364 to 7,862 in 1972-73 and to 9,877 in 1974-75. It may seen from the following table that, whereas there has been manifold increase in the consumption of electricity for domestic light and fan; heat and small power and irrigation, but in industrial power-high, medium or low voltage - registered only a nominal increase on 1,04,357 units or about 43.2 per cent during 1969 to 1975. Nearly eight-fold increase in domestic light, nine-fold increase in irrigation and four-fold increase in domestic heat and small power was registered during the corresponding period. The following table may be seen in this respect.

Table No. V-I
Segregation Of Demand

Year	Total Consumer	(In '000 Units)				
		Domestic Light & Fan	Industrial Power High/Medium/Low Voltage	Public Lighting	Irrigation Pumps	Domestic heat and Small Power
1969-70	5,364	87,967	2,41,574	18,640	5,217	4,132
1970-71	6,213	97,801	2,85,231	14,788	6,265	5,325
1971-72	6,711	1,15,546	2,83,308	16,823	7,889	9,106
1972-73	7,862	1,42,222	3,15,371	17,856	15,757	12,166
1973-74	8,836	1,59,381	3,62,821	13,420	22,628	12,269
1974-75	9,877	1,59,089	3,45,931	16,920	45,069	17,925

Source :- Divisional Engineer (O & M.), M.P.E.B., Satna

Per capita consumption of electricity is an important indication of economic advancement. It may be seen that Shahdol with per capita consumption of 82.8 units

in 1970-71 stood much ahead of other Districts of the Rewa Division. Close to it was Satna with 63.5 units per capita. Similarly in respect of per capita consumption of electricity for industrial purposes, Shahdol District stood first in Rewa Division, and fourth in the State as in 1970-71. During the Fifth Plan period, the average is likely to move further in view of the proposed development.

Rural Electrification Scheme

It appears that the progress of rural electrification in the Shahdol District was slow as only 34 of the 2,154 villages (1961) in the District and 5 towns were electrified till the year 1968-69. After the formation of Rural Electrification Corporation at the Centre, in the year 1969, greater emphasis on it was laid during the Fourth Five-Year Plan. By the year 1972, when the First Five-Year scheme of rural electrification in Madhya Pradesh was sanctioned by the said Corporation, 45 more villages were electrified in Shahdol, bringing the total number to 79. The said scheme envisaged the laying of 120 Km of 11 Kv line, 175 Km. of L.T. lines, and electrification 40 villages in Sohagpur Tahsil. By the end of 1974-75, 60 Km. of 11 KV line and 18.7 Km of L.T. lines were laid. Eight villages namely, Kodall Kelhari, Batura, Bichhia, Sabo, Jhalil Tola, Sewara and Birhull were electrified under this scheme by the year 1974-75. Besides, 23 villages more were electrified under normal programme bringing the total number to 110 by the end of 1974-75.

During the year 1975-76, the Rural Electrification Corporation has further sanctioned a scheme of electrification of 100 villages in Bandhogarh area of the District under Minimum Needs Programme.

Energisation Of Irrigation Pumps

The Scheme for supplying electricity for irrigation purposes was taken up during the fifties. It continued during the Second and the Third Plan periods also, but greater emphasis on it was laid during the Fourth Plan period. In fact electricity reached the villages mainly through this programme of energisation of pumps, for which financial assistance under the World Bank Project was also made available to the Electricity Board.

It appears that the progress of installation of irrigation pumps in the District was slow till the years 1968-69. Only 87 pumps were energised till then, and a sum of Rs. 8,04,500 was spent on the scheme. But owing to increased emphasis on irrigation, a scheme of energisation of 700 pumps in Sohagpur Tahsil received the sanction of Rural Electrification Corporation in May, 1972. Since then, 39 pumps were energised in 8 villages electrified under the Rural Electrification Scheme referred to above till the year 1975. Along with the electrification of 100 villages, the Corporation has sanctioned the energisation of 700 pumps also in Bandhogarh Tahsil in the year 1975-76. Under this scheme, the laying of transmission lines was in progress, after which it is proposed to undertake the installation of irrigation pumps.

The progress of this Scheme during the Fourth Plan period, given in the following table shows that huge sums have been spent over the Scheme. The total number of energised irrigation pumps, as in 1974-75 was 715, at an expenditure of Rs. 55.14 lakhs.

Table No. V-2
Energisation Of Power Pumps
1968-69 to 1974-75

Year	No. Of Pumps Energised	Expenditure (In Rs.)
Up to 1968-69	87	8,04,500
1969-70	127	6,44,500
1970-71	90	4,15,500
1971-72	78	3,73,500
1972-73	125	9,77,192
1973-74	59	12,74,957
1974-75	149	10,23,595
Total	715	55,13,744

Besides this, electrification work in respect of 5 tube-wells was also completed in May, 1974 under the Pilot Scheme of digging tube wells in the District.

Seen against the backdrop of over all progress of twin schemes of rural electrification and energisation of pumps in different districts of the State, Shahdol takes a far too backward seat. Analysed on the basis of data relating to March, 1972, the number of electrified villages per lakh of population was only 8.1, the lowest, not only amongst other districts of Rewa Division, but in the State as well. The position was none too happy in regard to other part of the Scheme, viz., energisation of pumps. With 44 energised pumps per lakh of population, Shahdol ranked lowest in the district-wise ranking.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

Mines And Minerals

The District is rich in minerals. The important minerals found in the District are coal, fire-clay and bauxite. Other minerals found are gypsum, iron ore, red and yellow ochres, limestone and tufa, copper ore, marble, felspar and quartz.

Coal

This is by far the most important mineral found in the District. Dating back to the times of Princely rule, Umaria Coal fields were opened in 1882 and worked by the Government of India and in the same year were handed over to Rewa Darbar.

The mines are now being managed by Coal Mines Authority. The idea of the magnitude of extraction work could be gathered from the returns of coal production which, as early in 1903 amounted to 1,93,277 tons, valued at Rs. 6.7 lakhs. of the five collieries opened up by the 'twenties of the present century, the State owned

coalfields of Umaria, which were under European management, worked most systematically.¹ Besides, coal fields were also worked at Johilla, Sohagpur, Korar, and Singrauli (now in Sidhi District)

The Umaria Coalfields worked in profit and in the year 1907-08, paid Rs. 13,347 as bonus to its workers. Employing 1,505 workers, the production of coal from Umaria Coal Mines increased to 1,92,628 tons in 1915-16. In view of the importance of this industry, electrification of the colliery was undertaken during the mid twenties. The chief consumers of coal were Great India/Peninsula Railways.

There were two coal-fields in Burhar area, which were worked by private companies, one by villiers Colliery Company, Ltd. Calcutta and the other by Baghelkhand Mining Syndicate. In 1923, the latter one was taken over by the Rewa State and came to be known as Burhar State Colliery, Shohagpur.

The production of coal in 1925-26 of these coal fields is given below :-

		Production In Tons
		(1925-26)
1.	Rewa State Colliery, Umaria	1,33,244
2.	Villiers Colliery Company, Burhar (Sohagpur)	43,209
3.	Burhar State Colliery, Sohagpur	45,190

Coal mining industry continued to dominate the industrial horizon of Shahdol during the subsequent decades also and Rewa Coal Fields Ltd., worked a number of coal mines in Vindhya Pradesh with the State holding 6.4 per cent shares. Shahdol was the most important of all coal mining areas in then State of Vindhya Pradesh.

As in 1975, all the 12 coal mines in the District were now under Coal Mines Authority, a Government of India Undertaking. Situated at Burhar (1) Dhanpuri, Burhar (3) Dhanpuri, Jamunia, Amlai, Bijuri, Bhadra, Raj-Nagar, Ram-Nagar Nowrozabad, Pali-Birsingpur, Umaria, Rungta. The earliest to start was that of Kotma and Nowrozabad in 1944 and Rajnagar in 1945. The following table give the production and employment figures of mines.

Table No V-2
Number Of Coal Mines Production And Workers, 1975

S.No.	Name of the Unit	Date of establi- shment	Production for five years ending 1975 (In lakh M.T.)	No. Of Workers (average daily)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Coal Mines Authority, Burhar (1)	N.A.	24.04	2,388
2.	Coal Mines Authority Burhar (3)	N.A.	14.24	1,578

(Contd..)

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22, p. 116

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Coald Mines Authority Jamunia	N.A.	7.59	2 000
4.	Coal Mines Authority, Amlai	N.A.	20.67	2,496
5.	Coal Mines Authority Bijuri	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
(newly started)				
6.	Coal Mines Authority Bhadra	N.A.	2.0	482
7.	Coal Mines Authority Rajnagar	1945	N.A.	779
8.	Coal Mines Authority, Ramnagar	1949	N.A.	110
9.	Coal Mines Authority, Nowrozabad,	1944	15.36	1,970
10.	Coal Mines Authority Pali Birsinghpur	1939	4.57	1,200
11.	Coal Mines Authority, Umaria	1974	N.A.	303
12.	Coal Mines Authority, Rungta, Burhar	N.A.	40.72	N.A.

Source :- Assistant Director Mining, Shahdol

Burhar continues to be the main coal mining area, where three mines were worked and were producing the bulk of the annual output. The Rungta Colliery gave the largest production of 40.72 M. Tonnes in th year 1975. In regard to employment, Amlai Colliery was the largest employer with a strength of 2,496 workers.

Bauxite

A fair quality of bauxite, an ore of aluminium occur on the northern portion of Amarkantak plateau. It is worked by M/s Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Ltd., and supplied to their works at Renukoot in Mirzapur District in Uttar Pradesh and Korba Aluminium Plant.

Production and despatches of ore over the last 5 years was as follows.

Table No. V-3
Bauxite Production And Despatches

Year	Production in Tonne	Despatches in Tonnes
1969	96,601	1,11,295*
1970	1,20,222	1,16,869
1971	1,21,373	1,18,407
1972	1,38,806	1,45,880*
1973	86,249	86,427*

* The balance from previous year's stocks.

Source: Geology and Mining Department, M.P. Sub-office, Rewa

Fire Clay

Fire clay beds of commercial quality is found extensively in the Chandia area at Bisheni, Badwara, Jhalar, Tekar, Karhalya, Maipawan in Umaria Tahsil and Jhagarha, Jodhpur, Autara and Deogawan in Sohagpur Tahsil of the District. These mines are worked by M/s Sunderson & Co. M/s Dyers Stone Lime co., and M/s Central India Ceramic and Mining Industries, Ltd. The fire clay is supplied to Refractory Works at Katni.

The production and despatches of fire clay from 1969 to 1973 are given below.

Table No. V-3
Fire-Clay - Production And Despatches

Year	Production in Tonnes	Despatches in Tonnes
1969	16,137	13,180
1970	10,729	13,460 *
1971	13,772	11,240
1972	10,702	8,670
1973	10,948	14,755 *

* Balance from previous years stock

Source :- Geology and Mining Department, M.P. Sub-Office, Rewa

Factory Industry During The Princely Rule

A beginning had already been made in 1882, when the Umaria Coal Fields were opened up, details of which have been given earlier in the Chapter.

Shellac Factory, Umaria

Trade in stick-lac was already introduced in Rewa State in 1873. It was largely exported to other areas till the former Rewa State started a Shellac Factory at Umaria in the year 1901-02¹. Till the year 1912, it was worked by hand-process, when an experienced European Manager was drafted for manufacturing Shellac by machinery. Huge capital was invested, but because of the First World War, the scheme was shelved and again it reverted to hand-process in 1914. The sales which were regulated by agents at Calcutta, amounted to 5,763 *maunds* at a price of about Rs. 9.78 lakhs in 1921-23. Since trained artisans were not available, locally, 3 workers from Mirzapur were engaged. The Factory worked successfully during the Princely rule, and later it was taken over by the Vindhya Pradesh State in a sound condition. It worked under the management of the Forest Department.

Leather Factory, Umaria

Started in the year 1909, as a State owned unit under the Industries Department, it was powered by 65 Kw. electric plant. The installed capacity of the Unit was 100 hides per day. The Factory supplied boots leather articles to the State

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22 p. 124.

Departments. The Factory, however, did not work at a profit owing to a variety of reasons which included faulty accounting and organisation, lack of trained workers, inferior quality of State hides used in the Factory, lack of funds, and accumulation of stocks awaiting disposal. Even the huge orders for the supply of boots to Burma police during the war, could not resurrect the dying concern.¹ Ultimately, the Factory was closed in the years 1920. The Hides Department of the Factory was placed under the Manager of the State Collieries at Umaria. But after a year it was also abolished.

Tile Factory, Umaria

Besides these, a Tile Factory was also started at Umaria in 1905-06, under the supervision of Manager of Rewa Collieries. In that year, 16,407 tiles were produced in the Factory. The production in due course of time increased to 43,826 tiles in 1910-11. But by the year 1915-16, owing to lack of demand from the industries, the Factory started showing signs of stagnation and decay, and became defunct by 1923-24.

Industrial Development During Post-Independence Period

Though a number of industries were started in Shahdol District during the period of Princely rule, a number of them closed down by the time Shahdol became of a part of Vindhya Pradesh State in the year 1948. But owing to rich forest and mineral resources supported by the availability of power from Amarkantak Power Station, the 'sixties of the century again witnessed the emergence of Shahdol as an important industrial centre in the State. Categorized as an industrially advanced district, Shahdol started attracting a number of prized units which were established during the subsequent plan periods. The more important of these units were M/s Orient Paper Mills Ltd., Amlai, M/s Hukumchand Jute Mills, (Chemicals Division) Ltd., Amlai, and 12 collieries, being managed by Coal Mines Authority. A number of other industries are also in the process of establishment which includes M/s Gidwai Bros., Refractories, Shahdol and National Industrial Development Corporation, (Aluminium Ingots), Amarkantak, etc. All of them have been licenced under the Industrial (Development and Regulations) Act, 1951. Besides these, a host of small industries were also working in the District in 1974, of which 30 were registered under the Indian Factories Act, 1948. Some details of the important large, medium and small scale industries will be found in the following pages.

Large And Medium Scale Industries

Besides coal mining industry, which has already been dealt with in an earlier section, it is proposed to discuss other industries in this Section, which have been licenced under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

In 1965, Orient Paper Mills, Ltd., Amlai, about 35 kms. away from Shahdol town was established by M/s Birla Brothers with American co-operation. Established on modern lines, the Mill was started with an installed capacity of producing 200 M. T.

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22, p.127.

of paper per day. The invested capital of the Mill stood at staggering figure of Rs. 26.07 crore. Employing 1,347 workers, the Mill manufactures white printing paper, white off-set printing paper, white duplicating paper and map-litho paper. The raw material is abundantly available in the local forest. It is foreign exchange earning unit, the product of which is sold through the distributors and to Government directly on approved rates. The product of this unit is mainly exported to countries like Japan, Malaysia, Kenya, Tanzania, Burma etc.

The following table gives the production and export figures of the Mill over the last 5 Years.

Table No. V-4
Production And Export, 1969-74

Year	Production in Tonnes	Export in Tonnes
1969-70	73,482	3,448
1970-71	72,605	3,525
1971-72	72,389	315
1972-73	72,559	-
1973-74	72,403	1,189

It may be seen that, though production has almost maintained its average level, the exports have considerably declined during the Fourth Plan period.

The Mill has its own Railway siding for loading and unloading of goods. Largely, the products are sent to far-off places like Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta, Allahabad, etc. by road transport. The Mill, as a modern unit, runs a number of welfare activities which include educational institutions Library, Orient Club, hospital and dispensary, etc. Besides these, the Mill has constructed, 1,469 residential houses of various categories for its employees. Facility of insurance, loan, pension, and gratuity benefits are also available to the workers.

M/s Hukumchand Jute Mills (Chemicals Division), Amal

A chemicals Division of Hukumchand Jute Mills, Calcutta was started at Amal in 1965 as an ancillary of Orient Paper Mills. The machinery of this Plant was imported from Japan. The working capital of this Plant was Rs. 40 lakhs in the year 1965-66, but later on, as the production picked up, the capital increased to 45 lakh in 1971-72 and to 84 lakhs in 1974-75. The finished products of the Mill, which consists of Caustic Soda Lye, Liquid Chlorine and Hydrochloric Acid, are sold to paper and aluminium Industries in the State and in neighbouring States also. Employment during the period of a decade ending 1974-75 remained almost static. In 1965-66, when the unit was installed, it had an average employment of 271 workers. In 1971-72, it declined to 213 and then again increased to 249 workers per day. The monthly wage-bill, however, increased from Rs. 2.33 lakhs in 1965-66 to Rs. 6.05 lakhs in 1971-72 and to Rs. 11.52 lakhs in 1974-75. This works out to a five-

folds increase in the monthly wage-bill. The production figures of 1965-66 of recent years are given below :-

Table No. - 5
Production And Value Of Products 1965-75
(Qty. in M. Tonnes)

Year	Caustic Soda Lye		Liquid Chlorine		Hydrochloric Acid	
	Qty.	Value Rs.	Qty.	Value Rs.	Qty.	Value Rs.
1965-66	5,689	44	3,162	11	483	15
1970-71	14,884	143	9,386	42	4,343	5
1971-72	15,399	174	9,772	55	3,953	5
1972-73	14,725	173	9,218	52	2,980	4
1973-74	16,475	209	8,682	48	3,012	4
1974-75	18,270	284	10,386	57	3,474	4

Besides these, Hypochlorite is also produced, the production of which increased from 4,249 M.T. in 1970-71 to 6,309 M.T. in 1974-75.

Established on modern lines, the Mill provides for statutory and non-statutory welfare measures, which include housing facility, hospital, safety and health programme, co-operative credit, cheap ration shop, provident fund, gratuity and insurance to its workers. The Mill, during the last five years spent the following sums on these activities.

Table No- V-6
Amount Spent OF Welfare Activities
1970-75

Year	Amount Spent (Rs.)
1970-71	48,720
1971-72	55,590
1972-73	61,911
1973-74	74,149
1974-75	1,04,096

The management has recognised Caustic Soda Factory Kamgar Samiti, which had 127 members in the year 1974-75.

Other Units

Besides these, two more units, namely M/s Gidwani Brothers Refractory, Shahdol and National Industries Development Corporation, Aluminium Unit, Amarkantak

were also granted licences. But, so far, they have not commenced production. The refractory unit will produce Fire-bricks, insulation-bricks and acid-proof Silica Bricks. The installed capacity, of the Refractory Unit will be fire bricks and acid proof silica brick - 12,000. and insulation bricks 6,000. As for the Amarkantak Unit of the National Industries Development Corporation, the installed capacity will be one lakh tons of Alumina and 2 5000 tons of Aluminium.

Small Scale Industries

Besides these industries discussed above, a large number of small scale industries are also working in the District. Though small in size, they play a vital role in the economy of the District. Manufacturing a variety of products, such as coal tub, steel box, trolley, almirah, tarpaulin, utensil, wax candles, bread and confectionary goods, detergent soap, powder, paper, leather-shoes etc., petty items, S.W. pipes, refractories, rice cane baskets, straw board, stone-lime, sawn timber, furniture, etc. A list of some important factories alongwith their products and employments is given in the Appendix - No. 2. The small scale units were spread throughout the District, though largely their concentration was in Shahdol town. In the year 1973, the total number of registered small scale units in Shahdol District was 496, against 40 in March, 1965. The number of units registered under the Indian Factories Act, 1948 was 14 under Section 2 M (i) and 16 under Section 85 in the year 1972. The average daily employment in the former industries was 1,235 and in the latter 97 workers in 1972. As in October, 1975, the number of small scale units registered with the Industries Department declined to 351. The industry-wise description of the existing industries registered under the Factories Act, 1948 is given in the following pages.

Manufacture Of Grain Mill Products

Rice Mills

In the year 1961, there were 5 rice mills registered under this category, of which, Ganesh Mills at Jaithara combined flour and dal milling and Navandram Moolchand Mills at Shahdol also combined saw-milling. The average daily employment of the four working units was 110 workers. At the close of the decade in 1969, the number of registered rice mills remained the same, i.e. 5. Except a unit at Kotma, all the units worked during the year with average daily employment of 87 workers of these mills, three were situated at Kotma and two elsewhere.

Paper Board And Straw Board

A reference to the existence of a large scale Oriental Paper Mill, Shahdol had already been made earlier. Another smaller unit, known as Arun Board and Paper Mills, Ltd., situated at Umariya, combines paper production with board manufacturing also. Established earlier, the Factory was reoriented during the mid-'sixties. In 1969, it had an employment of 57 persons on an average.

Manufacture Of Non-Metallic Mineral Products

Under this category, an important unit is functioning at Amlai, Known as M/s

S.K. Khansons Stonelim Company. Registered under the Factories Act 1948 the Unit had an average employment of 50 workers in 1969.

Other Units

Besides these, two more registered units were also situated in Shahdol, of which one was defunct during the year 1969. Another Unit was a saw mill, known as M/s Br Mishra Saw Mill was working at Amlai. The Unit employed about 20 workers on an average. Apart from these, 3 saw mills (registered under section 85) were also functioning in 1969.

Industrial Estate

For a rapid and planned development of industries, concerted steps were taken during the different Plan periods. In order to attract new entrepreneurs, the scheme of establishment of an Industrial Estate and an Industrial Area in Shahdol District were incorporated in the Third Plan. Accordingly, Industrial Estate, Shahdol and Industrial Area Anuppur were selected for development.

Industrial Estate, Shahdol

A site measuring 19.32 acres for the development of this Estate was acquired during the Third Plan period. An initial allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs was made in the plan for the construction of sheds, etc. By the year 1975, five sheds were constructed at a cost of Rs. 2,45,391. Four of these sheds and two plots were allotted to different industries.

Industrial Area, Anuppur

Site for Industrial Area was tentatively selected at Anuppur and steps during early 'sixties were taken for acquiring 29.5 acres of land for the purpose. It appears that no progress in this behalf has since been made. It is further reported that 24.35 acres of land is also available at Amlai for the purpose.

Rural Workshed, Burhar

It was proposed to construct a Rural Industrial Estate and workshed at Burhar during the Third Plan period. A sum of Rs. 10,000 was also allotted for the purchase of 3 acres of land. Only one shed was constructed at a cost of Rs. 3,300 by the year 1973.

Financial Aid To The Industries

Till the year 1970-71, financial assistance was made available to small scale industries by the State Government on easy terms. During the period from 1954-55 to 1969-70 loan assistance to 404 persons amounting to Rs. 3,95,235 was granted for the development of small scale industries under the State-Aid to Industries Act, 1951. But later, this facility was only restricted to the educated unemployed. In the year 1974-75, a readymade garment unit of Kathotia village was granted a sum of Rs. 4,000 only.

The loan facilities to small units are also being offered by the Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam on easy term Machinery on hire-purchase basis is also made

available to them. As reported in 1975, the following industries were granted this facility.

Table No. V - 7
Machinery On Hire - Purchase

Name of the Unit	Machinery	Amount of the Machine (Rs.)
1. M/s Soni Printing Press, Kotma	Printing Machine	4,400
2. M/s Shaym Furniture Mart, Umaria	Band Saw machine	7,150
3. M/s Samaya Press, Shahdol	Printing Machine	16,000
4. M/s Hero Engineering Works, Shahdol	Lathe Machine	4,421
5. M/s Oriental Metal Industries, Shadhol	Drill Machine, Electric Welding and Grinder	5,023

No loan to industries was sanctioned by the Madhya Pradesh Financial Corporation in Shahdol District till the year 1975. However, the Shahdol branches of the State Bank of India and Central Bank of India, granted loans amounting to Rs. 9,000 and 10,000, respectively, to M/s Orient Metal Industries, Shahdol and M/s Super Engineering Centre, Shahdol.

Cottage And Household Industries

This is perhaps the most vital and important sector of industrial economy, which forms the edifice of the entire super structure of village economy. The age-old household industries still keep the village economy in its hold. Largely pursued by the traditional occupational castes, viz, Chamar, Kumhar, Rangrez, etc which have the advantage of inheriting occupational skill, the industries suffered on account of defective organisation and lack of finance during the past. Alive to the needs of these units, the Government through its various media, has been extending all possible help to keep the village industries and crafts to sustain the pressure of competition in industrialized economy. They are encouraged to organise themselves on cooperative lines, so that financial help, training, marketing, etc., could be channelized through the societies.

Participation in household industry in 1961, was to the extent of 3.4 per cent of the total working force. Ranking fifth in accordance with the participation rates in various categories, the principal household industries were foodstuffs (12.1%); manufacture of wooden products (10.6%); leather and leather products (19.5%); non-metallic mineral Products, other than petroleum and coal (18.7%) at basic metals and their products except machinery and transport equipment (14.9%)¹. The

1. Figures in brackets show percentage of total workers in household industry.

participation ratio in household industry, however, declined to 2.7 per cent of the total working force in 1971, which is largely owing to change in the definition of 'workers' adopted in Census 1971. The number of 'workers' in households industry in 1971, was 10,207.

Based on House listing data of Census 1971, the number of household establishment in Shahdol District was 11,815, the highest amongst the districts of Rewa Division. For the development of household industries, Khadi and Gramodyog Parishad has been extending considerable financial assistance. The assistance is directed through the industrial co-operatives of *Khadi*, leather shoe-making, leather tanning, dal, hand-ponding of rice, etc., So far, till the year 1974-75, the Parishad has granted Rs. 2,54,034 as loan and Rs. 57,006 as financial assistance to 15 industrial co-operative societies in the District. Some of these societies since then have either become defunct or are under liquidation.

Industrial Training

In order to impart training in improved methods of production, etc., various departmental agencies launched short duration training centres in different trades. Meant especially for the weaker section of the society, they were started at Shadol, Umaria, Kotma, Sohagpur and at various important cottage-industries centres and Block levels. A number of trades were covered which included hand-paper, bee-keeping handloom weaving, carpentry, blacksmithy, bamboo and cane products, fibre (rope) manufacturing, tailoring, hand-ponding of rice, leather tanning and shoes.

During the Second and Third Plan periods, much emphasis was laid on opening such training centres, and a training centre each was started for hand-paper, black-smithy, bee-keeping, handloom weaving, carpentry, bamboo and cane products, fibre (rope) trades in the District. Nearly 58 artisans were trained. In the next Plan period, 27 training centres were started, of which 7 were of tailoring, 3 of hand ponding of rice 5 of leather tanning and shoe making, 5 of bamboo products. A total number of 627 artisans were trained Since then not much emphasis seems to have been laid, and presently the Industries Department has no scheme of running these centres.

It may be interesting to highlight the progress of a few important training centres in the District. A reference to the existence of Ladies Tailoring Centre, Shahdol, Handmade Paper Centre, Umaria and Handloom Training-cum- Production Centre, Kotma may be given here. Tailoring Centre was started in 1955, and up to 1961-62, 75 ladies were trained till 1962-63. The Hand-made Paper Training Centre was established in 1954, during the times of former Vindhya Pradesh State and Trained about 70 persons till 1961-62. The Handloom Centre, similarly, was started in 1959, and trained only 18 trainees till 1961-62. In the same year an Adivasi Training cum- Production Centre was also started at Sohagpur by the Tribal Welfare Department. Training in carpentry, Sheet-Metal, cane and bamboo works, tailoring etc., was imparted.

Industrial Cooperatives

With a view to provide a sound organization and financial assistance to the languishing household or cottage industries, the Government encouraged the artisan class in different industries to form their cooperative societies. Though the movement had started much earlier, but the recent history of industrial cooperatives seems to have started with the establishment of Adarsh Katha Udyog Sahakari Samiti, Beohari in the year 1953. Leather in the same year, Adarsh Charm Udyog Sahkari Samit, Kotma also came into being. By the close of the 'fifties, the movement enveloped other industries also, and hand-paper, goldsmithy, weaving, brick-making pottery, bamboo and cane and steel industrial cooperative societies were formed.

The number of these societies, their members, share capital since 1950-51, can be seen from the following table :

Table No. V- 8
Progress Of Industrial Cooperative Societies, 1951-74

Year	Total No. of Societies.	No. Of. Members	Share Capital (owned funds) Rs.	Working Capital Rs.	Government Aid	
					Loans	Subsidy
1950-51	17	413	24,420	70,057	46,637	-
1960-61	23	500	25,932	78,069	53,137	-
1965-66	42	811	30,625	130,562	100,937	-
1970-71	42	818	31,130	150,542	158,089	28,775
1973-74	37	718	29,790	149,202	158,089	28,775

It may be seen that over a period of 20 years since 1950-51, there has been continuous increase in the number of registered societies. The membership and working capital increase by about 100 per cent, and loan assistance by 238.9 per cent during the period.

The pioneering society of Adarsh Katha Udyog Sahakari Samiti, Shahdol made spectacular progress till the year 1968-69. But because of paucity of raw material and increase in wage-rates of workers, these societies alongwith others faced a difficult period. Most of the societies sustained losses, and gradually a number of them had to be liquidated or became defunct. The number of registered societies declined to 37 and most of them were either defunct or facing liquidation in 1973-74. Only the following working societies were reported from the District.

1. Raidas Industrial Cooperative Society, Lapri
2. Bamboo and Cane-works Cooperative Society, Barati
3. Rice and Dal Industries Cooperative Society, Shahdol

4. Khadi and Gramodyog Cooperative Society, Shahdol and
5. Adarsha Industries Cooperative Society, Rasmohani

Industrial Arts

Except for usual village industries, Shahdol has no artistic excellence in any field of industrial activity. However, a reference to *surahi*-making in Chandia village, lac *kauthi* and kathula in Burhar, and making of bamboo and cane articles such as *dauri*, *supa*, *toknia* etc., may be made in this connections. These bear an imprint of artistic skill of village artisan class to some extent.

Industrial Potential

Shahdol District is not only rich in basic mineral resources, particularly coal, it also offers basic infrastructural and economic facilities to the prospective entrepreneurs. Categorised comparatively as an industrially advanced District, the prospective units here are offered sites in the Industrial Estate, Shahdol and Industrial Area at Anuppur which are being developed. As in 1972, 19.25 acres in Anuppur, 341.27 acres in Beohari, 199.35 acres in Umaria, 112.50 acres in Bisahoni near Ghoghari Road, Chandia were tentatively selected for the location of large and medium scale industries in the District¹. Adequate and regular power supply from Amarkantak Thermal Power Station, and transport and communication facilities, which are other vital pre-requisite for the location of new industries are also available in Shahdol. The nearest Railway Station from these sites are within 1.5 km to 6 km in distance. Katni-Anuppur-Bilaspur line of South Eastern Railways passes through the District, with one branch line from Anuppur to Chirmiri. Drained by the Son, Johila and Narmada rivers, regular water supply to the industries is also ensured. The depth of sub-soil water is 30' to 40' in the District.

Finance, which is an important need of the new entrepreneurs in the field of small scale units is facilitated through the Financial Corporation, the commercial banks, and by the State Government under the State Aid to Industries Act. The M.P. Laghu Udyog Nigam also makes available machinery on hire purchase basis. The ferrous and non-ferrous controlled commodities are also allotted to industries.

Large And Medium Scale Industries

During the early years of the 'sixties, the State Industries Department conducted the Industrial Survey of the District. Analysing the resources, basic infrastructural facilities, including the location factor and industrial consumption markets, etc., the following large and medium scale units were proposed for establishment.²

Mining Machinery

The presence of huge deposits of Coal, Fire-clay, Bauxite etc., in the area, has made mining industry a principal economic activity in the District. Plants producing machinery and equipments used in mining industry could be established in the area.

1. Industrial Statistics, 1973, p.69 (Directorate of Industries M.P.)

2. *Audyogik Vikas Ki Sambhavnayan*, 1965, (Directorate Of Industries, Madhya Pradesh)

The important machinery used by the industry is listed here under:—

Rock drills, Pneumatic tools, Tipper wagons, Points and crossings, Turn tables, Tipplars, Unloaders, Ventilation Fans, sump pumps, Mono, Pumps, Haulage drum, Scrapes, Wagon Carplings, Claim scrapers, Rollers and idlers, Shearers, Hose clips, Winch and Crabi, Diamond drills, Bulk handling plants, Conveyor systems, Mine Supports, Traversers, Impact Crushers, etc.,

Magnesium Metal Plant

Prospects of establishing a Magnesium Metal Plant were rated high in Shahdol. It was recommended that a 5 tons capacity plant could be established here.

2 Artificial Graphite

Plant for graphite powder could be located near Anuppur where power supply would be available from Amarkantak Thermal Power Station. Petroleum coke could be transported from Barauni in Bihar. Semi-finished products like Carbon blocks for refractory lining of furnaces and carbon brushes for electrical motors and generators and other moving machines could be advantageously undertaken, simultaneously.

3. China Clay Washing Plant

Such a plant could be located near Chandia in the District. In the 'sixties, it's estimated cost was Rs. 10 lakhs to treat 3,000 tons of China Clay per annum.

4. Electric Porcelain Plant

Rupee one crore plant of Electric Porcelain could be established at Chandia.

Besides these, the prospects of 11 other large or medium scale plants were visualized in the said Survey Reports.

These are :—

1. Forestenite and Dolomite Refractories.
2. Cement factory at Beohari
3. White Cement from indigenous raw material.
4. Precipitated chalk
5. Dead Burned Dolomite refractory
6. Acetic Acid, Acetaldehyde, Acetone and other organic chemicals from Calcium Carbide. Anuppur in the District is the best place for the above industry
7. Electrically fused Cast Refractories
8. Vegetable Oil Products
9. A domestic Coke plant for treating sized coal by low temperature carbonisation process to yield domestic coke, gas and tar. This tar can be the raw material for various organic synthetic compounds or for manufacture of carbon black.
10. Synthetic Amonia and Amonium Phosphate Fertilizer Plant.

11. Methanol manufacturing near Amlai.¹

Small Scale Industries

After carefully analysing the resource-potential of the District, the Departmental Survey Committee recommended the establishment or further expansion of a number of small scale industries based on agricultural, forest, basic mineral and livestock resources.

Agro-Based Industries

Although, Shahdol District is predominantly an agricultural District, with 84.2 per cent of its population engaged in agricultural sector, there has been not much of development of agro-based industries so far. Thus, with a production of 259.3 Tonnes of food grains and 9.6 Tonnes of oil-seeds in 1971-72, vast scope lay open for the establishment of industries based on these crops. Rice and wheat form the principal crops, which accounted for 167.6 thousand Tonnes and 19.3 thousand tonnes in the year 1971-72.

In view of this, the prospects of the following industries were rated high

1. Activated Charcoal
2. Rice Mills
3. Straw Board Factory
4. Rice Cleaning and Polishing
5. *Poha* and *Murmura* factory
6. Rice-Bran Oil
7. Oil Mills

Forest Based Industries

The District abounds in forests. The total area under forest was 5,522.98 sq. km. or 39.4 per cent of the total area. Major forest-products are timber (logs), round wood, charcoal and bamboo. The minor products are *bagai* grass, *kullugum*, lac, *harra*, *katha*, tendu-leaves, etc. The total income from forests during the year 1961-62 was Rs. 45.25 lakh, out of which, Rs. 24.70 lakhs was earned from the major products and Rs. 20.54 lakh for minor products.² So far, not much effort has been made to utilize these resources for industrial expansion in the District. Based on these products, the following 12 industries could be started in the District.

1. *Katha* Factory
2. Tanning Material
3. Lac Factory
4. Varnish and Paints
5. Paper Mill

1. Industrial Survey of Shahdol District, M.P. Table 3.1 Directorate Of Industries M.P.
2. Ibid (Directorate of Industries, M.P.) Table 2.5.

6. Wood Joinery
7. Furniture Mart
8. Hard Board Plant
9. Chip Board
10. Wood Seasoning
11. Wood Preservation
12. Bidi Factory

Mineral Based Industries

Mining, being a principal large and medium scale industry in the District, provides a vast scope for the establishment of its ancillary units in the District. Important minerals found are coal, bauxite, fire-caly, iron-ore, gypsum, red and yellow ochre, etc.

Based on mineral resources, a number of small scale industries could be started in the District.

These are :—

1. Aluminium Factory
2. Refractory
3. Power Bricks
4. Washery
5. Porcelain
6. Grafite Powder
7. Electric Burners
8. Stone Power Crushers
9. Sodium Silicate
10. Pottery
11. Fibre Industry
12. Saw Mills
13. Pencil Manufacturing etc.

Live-stock Based Industries

In a predominantly rural economy of the District, live-stocks play an important role, both in agriculture and industrial sector. Since 1956, when a total of 10.37 lakh live-stocks population was recorded, it increased to 11.45 lakhs in 1961. In the year 1972-73, total livestock population in the District was 803,627. They form the basis of a number of industries, the prospects of which are bright in Shahdol. Apart from dairy industry, horn articles tannery, bone mill and bone digester industry could also be started in the District.

Other Industries

Besides these, the said Committee also recommended a large number of other industries, which included cast iron foundry, agricultural implements, barbed wires, storage tanks, aluminium utensils, pressure diecasting of non-ferrous alloys, plastic goods, toys, plastic cables, sanitary wares, cold storage for fish, cement *jali* leather shoes etc.

Cottage Industries

Handloom weaving and hand-ponding of rice are important cottage industries in the District. During the 'sixties, efforts were made to introduce power looms and modern machines for rice ponding. Demonstration were given and training in mechanized process was also imparted. Since most of the cooperative societies running these household and cottage industries had gone into liquidation, efforts for rejuvenation and faster expansion of these industries should be undertaken. Traditional cottage industries, weaving, *telghani*, rope-making, bamboo and cane-works, leather tanning and shoe manufacturing potter etc. could be encouraged and financial aid should be given to their cooperative societies. Prospect for the establishment of new cottage units for manufacturing products from *harra*, *baheda* and *anwala* such as *anwala oil*, *mahua seed oil*, *soap*, *bee-keeping*, *bricks and til*, *boot-polish*, *ink*, etc., could be started in the District.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYEE'S ORGANISATIONS

Though the mining industry in the region, comprising former Rewa State, had its beginning about a century back, appears that no serious efforts were made during the period of Princely Rule to organise the labour force on scientific lines. A reference to a 'lightening' strike,¹ in 1921 by the labourers in the former Rewa State, however, goes to establish that the nucleus of the movement was formed among the mining and industrial labour force in the area. The awakening of labour in Katni and Jabalpur area, then under the British administration, who were struggling for the fulfilment of their demands, stimulated the movement in this area also.² The earliest Trade Unions to be registered were of colliery workers in 1953 after the Vindhya Pradesh State was formed. The number of unions increased to 14 by the end of the 'sixties, covering the workers in mining, caustic soda, paper industry and electricity generation. The 'seventies, however, witnessed a sweeping wave of trade unionism, which covered almost all types of mining and industrial workers. With the registration of 17 new labour unions in the District, the number of registered unions increased to 31 by January, 1975. Workers in paper, aluminium, motor transport, public works, pottery, fire-clay, bauxite, coal mining, agro-industries, lime-stone quarry were covered. A comprehensive list of trade unions in the District may be seen in Appendix- III.

Welfare Of Industrial Labour

With the emergence of Shahdol District as a major industrial centre in the area, especially with the establishment of Orient Paper Mills, Amlai, Hukumchand Jute

1. Administration of Rewa State 1919-22 p. 121.

2. Ibid.

Mills (Chemicals Division), Amlai, Amarkantak Thermal Power Station, Chachai and a number of coal Mines under Coal mines Authority and small scale units, the labour welfare activities have also received a sudden spurt. Besides statutory measures, the large scale establishments have already taken voluntary steps in this direction.

Voluntary Welfare Measures

Orient Paper Mill, a private sector project, adopted or supported a number of welfare measures since its inception in 1965. These included the construction of residential houses, medical facilities, education, technical education, club for entertainment, mahila mandal, cultural programme, temple, cattle-Sangh, Kalyan Kendra, co-operative consumers and credit society, library, banking facility and a host of other facilities to its workers.

Statistical details of these facilities are given below :—

1.	Residential House - (Nos)	1,469
2.	Orient Paper Mills Hospital	
	(a) No. of beds	12
	(b) No. of patients treated	9,938
3.	Orient Paper Mill Sikshan Kendra H.S. School	
	(a) Boys	1,400
	(b) Library	1,565
	(c) Technical Training	-
4.	Orient Club:-	
	(a) Games, library, reading-room, cultural activities	
5.	Cultural Activities -	
	(a) Hanuman Mandal	
	(b) Mahila Mandal	
	(c) Durga Puja	
	(d) Genesh Puja	
	(e) Vishvkarma Puja	
6.	Go-Sanwardhan Kendra :-	
	(a) Cows	60
	(b) Buffaloes	10
	(c) Milk	200 kg. per day.
7.	Co-operative Credit Society :-	
	(a) No. of Members	139
	(b) Loan advanced (Rs.)	3,000
	(c) Cooperative store	
8.	Other Activities :-	
	(a) Wells constructed or repaired	- 39
	(b) Tank deepening	- 34
	(c) Tube-well constructed	- 1

	1	2	3	4	5
4. Extended sickness Benefit		33	3,492	46	2,403
5. Maternity Benefit		10	1,078	1	1,156
6. Death Benefit		7	700	Nil	Nil
7. Miscellaneous		3	93	20	622

Shops And Establishment Act, 1958

The Act seeks to regulate the working conditions, etc., of the employees engaged in the unorganized industrial sector such as shops and establishments in towns. The Act was extended to Shahdol town, only in December 1971, when there were 788 registered establishments. Benefiting 414 employees, the Act regulates the working hours, leave, weekly off, and other facilities to the workers in these establishments.

Employees' Provident Fund And Family Pension Fund Act, 1952

The Act, promulgated by the centre in 1952, was extended to the District in November 1952. Covering 8 establishments in the year 1975-76, the Act covered 203 workers. Except for 4 rice milling units engaging 62 workers, one unit of each—electrical, mechanical or engineering Products cinema theatre; trading and commerce and banks were covered under the Act. Benefitting 121 workers, the largest subscribers were from banking establishments i.e. 92 followed by 10 subscribers of electrical establishments. The Act, seeks to benefit the members in the event of retirement or untimely death. The dependents are given financial help. Both the employees and employers are required to contribute towards the Fund.

The Employees' Family Pension Scheme was also started in 1970-71, which compulsorily applies to its members after March, 1971. The existing members were given option to join the scheme. It grants protection to the families of the member-workers who die prematurely while in service. The scheme provides for payment of lump-sum life assurance benefit in such cases.

Hukamchand Jute Mills is also encouraging and offering facilities of recreation, indoor and out-door games, sports, cinema shows, dramatic performances, *bhajan* mandals, wrestling and gymnasium, reading rooms, library, workers' club and schools, etc. In 1970-71. A sum of Rs. 48,720 was spent by the Mill on these activities. This expenditure has since increased by more than 100 per cent, and in the year 1974-75 the Mill spent Rs. 104,096.

Statutory Welfare Legislation

Apart from these voluntary activities, a number of statutory provisions are also invogue, which protect the industrial labour against exploitation and provides for theirs welfare. They are described below :-

The Indian Factories Act, 1948

The Indian Factories Act seeks to cover all factories employing 10 or more workers with power and 20 or more workers without power. In 1972, there were 14 registered factories, besides 16 units registered under Section 85 (declared by notification). The Provision of the Act covers an average daily number of 1,332 workers engaged in these factories. The Act seeks to regulate the working conditions in the Factories, and guarantees a few basic facilities such as provision of dining sheds, rest sheds, drinking water facilities, proper covering of machines, etc.

Employees State Insurance Act, 1948

The Act has been extended to only one centre, i.e. Amlai in the District in April, 1971. Covering 5 factories, the provisions of the Act benefited 3,400 employees and 3,600 family units in 1975-76. The provisions of medical care were also extended in July 1971.

The Act seeks to give cash benefit to the member-workers in cases of accidents or illness, etc. During the year 1974-75, 436 cases of accident were registered and investigated of which 223 cases were admitted and 10 cases were categorised as of serious nature. The following table gives the amount disbursed for various categories of accidents and sickness, etc.

Table No. V-9
Cash Benefit Paid To Workers Under ESI Scheme, 1973-75

Category	No. Of Case	1973-74	1974-75	
		Amount Disbursed (Rs.)	Number Of Cases	Amount Disbursed Rs.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Sickness Benefit	1,839	49,489	2,075	47,061
2. Total Disability Benefit	317	1,830	345	11,085
3. Permanent Disability Benefit	20	7,537	31	4742

(Contd.)

CHAPTER - VI BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

The District's economy is agriculture oriented. It accounted for 83.5 per cent of the total working force in 1961 Census. Agricultural acitivities being predominant, trade and commerce occupy a tertiary position in the district's economy. Only 1.5 per cent of the working force was engaged in 'trade and commerce'. During recent years, there has been considerable expansion in industrial activities in the District, but it remained backward in trade and commerce. Lack of institutional finance, absence of proper communication facilities and rural character of its population are some of the factors which have adversely affected the growth of trade and commerce in the District.

History Of Indigenous Banking

Paucity of old records make it difficult to trace precisely the emergence, growth and decline of various financial systems in the District. In former days, there were no commercial banks or other organised institutions to conduct banking business in the District. It was mostly carried on by the local money-lenders on indigenous scale. The ruler of the former Rewa State for the first time started a banker's shop at Rewa to finance the traders in this region. Later, in 1933, this shop was converted as the Bank of Baghelkhand. But the rural areas were largely served by the age-old institution of village money-lenders.

Indebtedness

Account of indebtedness in the rural and urban areas of the District is not available in old records. No estimate can be made of the volume of indebtedness in the District in the past. But the Reserve Bank of India undertook a survey of rural credit in Rewa District in 1951, which is adjoining the Shahdol District. The result of this survey can, with certain reservations, be treated as representative of prevailing conditions in Shahdol District also. The survey revealed that the proportion of Indebted familes in Rewa District in case of cultivating, non-cultivating and all families was 59.0 per cent, 37.2 per cent and 51.4 per cent, and average debt per Indebted family in each of the above mentioned categories was Rs. 167, Rs. 35 and Rs. 121, respectively. Growth of debt during the year covered by the survey for all families was 109.2 per cent. It grew by 112.1 per cent among cultivators and 86.4 per cent among non-cultivators. It is clear from these figures that the magnitude of indebtedness in this area was more among rural population. According to the survey money-lenders were the largest source of finance in this area. Both in cases of fresh borrowings and accumulated debt they owed the largest share. They owed about 93.2 per cent of the average debt per family, and 93.5 per cent of the average borrowings per family in Rewa District. It shows clearly the immense importance of the money-lenders as a credit agency in the field of rural indebtedness in this area.

General Credit Facilities Available

Presently the credit needs of the district's economy are met by both, the organised and un-organised sectors of money market. The organised sector consists of the commercial banks, cooperative banks and credit societies and some other financial institutions. The un-organised sector is mostly made up of registered and un-registered moneylenders.

Money-lenders

The money-lenders had a prominent position in Shahdol District as elsewhere in India. The agriculture oriented economy of the District, non-availability of institutional finance and extravagant habits of cultivators were the main factors which helped the money lenders to dominate the credit economy of the District and compelled the small traders, cultivators and other needy persons to approach them. Exorbitant rates of interest were charged in the past by the money lenders.

In order to make better provisions for the regulation and control of the transactions of money lending, the Money Lenders Act was passed in 1934. Under this Act registration of every person who carried on or intends to carry on the money lending business was made compulsory. According to provisions of the Act regular maintenance of accounts, supply of statement and receipts for repayment of loan to debtor by money-lender was also made compulsory. It cannot, however, be said with certainty that all persons doing this business got themselves registered. The number of un-registered money-lenders in the District is not available but estimated to be large. Tahsilwise number of registered money-lenders in Shahdol District are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 1
Registered Money-lenders In The District

Year	Sohagpur	Umaria	Beohari	Pushprajgarh
1970-71	97	Nil	Nil	Nil
1971-72	85	17	32	Nil
1972-73	83	18	14	Nil
1973-74	81	21	14	Nil
1974-75	96	40	36	Nil

Source :- District Registrar, Shahdol

In Sohagpur tahsil highest number of money lenders were registered during the last five years and this was followed by Umaria and Beohari, respectively. No money lender was registered in Pushprajgarh tahsil during last five years.

JOINT STOCK BANKS

History Of Commercial Banking

History of commercial banking in this region starts with the incorporation of the Bank of Baghelkhand in 1933. Its registered office was at Rewa. This was a non-scheduled class A-2 Bank with paid-up capital and reserves of over Rs. 5 lakh.

Since its advent, it opened banking offices all over the former Rewa State to facilitate local trade and commerce. All the State Treasury work was entrusted to the Bank and it was designated as "Raj Bechar". In 1947, the Bank had its branches at Shahdol and Umaria, and pay offices at Beohari and Pushprajgarh. This Bank was taken over by the State Bank of India in December, 1961. State Bank of India opened its first banking office at Shahdol in 1955. Subsequently, it opened its banking offices at Anuppur (1962), Umaria and Amalai (1970), and at Kotma. Union Bank of India started its banking office at Burhar in 1964 and after a decade it opened one more office at Shahdol in 1974. Bank of Baroda entered in this district in 1970 by opening a banking office at Dhanpuri. Central Bank of India had its offices at Shahdol and Johilla Colliery in 1972.

Branch Expansion

Thus, there were 5 banking offices of commercial banks in Shahdol District in 1967. The banking activities increased in the District after nationalisation of banks in 1969. By the end of 1970, the number of banking offices increased to 7, which further increased to 9 till 1972 and 10 in 1974. Apart from these, Central Co-operative Bank, Shahdol is also doing normal banking business in the District.

Spread Of Banking

By the end of December, 1967, average population per banking office in Shahdol District was 2,46,000 while the State average was 1,31,000. With the spread of banking, the average was reduced to 2,07,000 persons per banking office at the end of June, 1969 and the State average also reduced to 1,16,000. At the end of June, 1972, district average further reduced to 1,14,000 due to expansion of banking facilities in the District.

At the end of September, 1970, Shahdol district ranked 266 in average population per banking office in district-wise data arranged in ascending order of population served in the country.

Volume Of Business

The working of the commercial banks in the District, during the past few years has shown progress in all the important fields of their activities, viz., branch expansion, deposits and advances, and finances to weaker and priority sectors, etc. The number of banking offices and their deposits and advances in Shahdol District are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 2

Deposits And Advances Of Banks In The District

(Amount in Lakh Rupees)

Year (End of June)	Functioning Offices	Deposits		Advances	
		Reporting Offices	Amount	Reporting Offices	Amount
1970	7	6	1.26	5	88
1971	9	9	1.43	8	1.55
1972	9	4	99	4	1.68

Source :- Reserve Bank Of India Bulletins

Out of 9 banking offices in the District, 7 were in rural areas and 2 in semi-urban areas in 1972. Bank deposits and advances of 2 reporting offices in rural areas were Rs. 35 and Rs. 31 lakh, respectively. In semi-urban areas 2 banking offices reported deposits and advances of Rs. 64 lakh and Rs. 137 lakh, respectively. By the end of June, 1973, bank deposits and bank advances in the District amounted to Rs. 2.57 lakh and Rs. 2.16 lakh, respectively.

Outstanding Credit

As at the end of June, 1972, outstanding credit of 5 reporting banking offices in the District amounted to Rs 161.53 lakhs, of which Rs. 0.70 lakhs were reported in agriculture and allied activities, Rs. 14.64 lakhs in trade, Rs. 0.52 lakh in personal accounts, Rs. 1.07 lakh in other occupations and Rs. 144.60 lakh in industries (including Rs. 0.31 lakh in small scale industries). Total out-standing credit in industries included Rs. 143.01 lakh in manufacturing industries, Rs. 0.05 lakh in construction, Rs. 0.05 lakh in electric etc., Rs. 1.26 lakh in transport, storage and communication and Rs. 1,000 in other industries.

Finances To Priority Sectors

The banks are now meeting the credit requirements of cultivators, medium and small industrial units and also those of small traders. Special efforts are being made to meet the credit needs of the neglected sectors of the district's economy. By March, 1975, Bank of Baroda, Dhanpuri advanced loans of Rs. 1 lakh to 45 cultivators for agricultural purposes. By the end of February, 1975, Union Bank of India, Burhar advanced loans of Rs.8 lakh for agricultural purposes, which includes agricultural loans of Rs.2.50 lakh under the World Bank Project. As on 31 December, 1975, Central Bank of India, Shahdol advanced 110 loans of Rs.6.86 lakh to agriculturists, 16 loans of Rs. 0.57 lakh to retail traders, Loans of Rs.0.27 lakh to 32 professional and self-employed persons, loans of Rs. 0.18 lakh to 3 small scale industries and a loan of Rs.0.26 lakh to a transport operator. Between 1971 to 1975, Shahdol branch and Anuppur sub-branch of State Bank of India distributed 90 loans

of Rs.1.80 lakh to agriculture, one loan of Rs.1.64 lakh to one Agro-Service Centre, 17 loans of Rs. 0.62 lakh to small scale industries, 14 loans of Rs.0.24 lakh to small traders, 3 loans of Rs.1.02 lakh to truck operators and 35 loans of Rs. 0.09 lakh to weaker sections of the society on differential interest rate of 4 per cent. In 1975-76 the Bank further advanced 27 loans of Rs.0.89 lakh to agriculture, 7 loans of Rs. 0.48 lakh to small scale industries, 8 loans of Rs. 0.14 lakh to small traders and 35 loans of Rs. 0.09 lakh to weaker sections of the society under differential interest rate scheme.

Lead Bank Scheme

Under this scheme, Central Bank of India was designated as the 'Lead Bank' with the responsibility for taking the leading role in surveying the credit needs in development of branch, banking and extension of credit facilities in the District. The Bank is also expected to act as a constorium leader for opening of new branches, as well as meeting the credit needs of the District. Under the branch expansion programme three centres namely, Chandia, Karkeli and Kotma were surveyed by the Bank. Chandia and Karkeli centres have been dropped due to poor potentiality, and for Kotma proposal will be considered in 1977.

COOPERATIVE CREDIT**History Of Cooperative Credit**

The beginning of the cooperative credit movement in this region dates back to 1924, when the introduction of cooperative credit societies was announced in the former Rewa State. But in Shahdol District this movement was started in real sense after the attainment of Independence. After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh, the Vindhya Pradesh Cooperative Societies Ordinance was passed in 1949. By the year 1950-51, 48 cooperative societies were organised in Shahdol District. Apart from these societies, the Vindhya Pradesh Cooperative Central Bank, Rewa was also operating in this District. In 1953, the Cooperative and Local Bodies departments were amalgated, but due to increase in cooperative activities, a separate cooperative department was again established in 1955. With the beginning of planning era cooperative movement gained real momentum and the cooperative credit agencies shouldered the responsibility of providing credit facilities to rural population. In 1956-57, a branch of the Vindhya Central Cooperative Bank Ltd., Rewa was started at Shahdol. In 1960-61 the number of agricultural credit societies reached to 270. The cooperative credit movement in the District progressed well and in 1963 a separate central cooperative bank and a land developmen bank were established at Shahdol. By the year 1965-66 the number of agricultural credit societies increased to 460. This number was reduced to 258 in 1970-71 due to re-organisaation of these societies, though the membership, capital and other activities were increased. Thus, by the end of 1973-74, one district cooperative central bank, one district cooperative land development bank, and 258 agricultural and 9 non-agricultural cooperative credit societies were serving in the District. A brief description of the various cooperative credit agencies is given in the following paragraphs.

The Shahdol Central Cooperative Bank Ltd., Shahdol

The jurisdiction of the Vindhya Cooperative Central Bank, Rewa included Shahdol District also since 1949, and a branch office of the Bank was opened at Shahdol in 1956-57. Later, in 1963, a separate Central Cooperative Bank was organised in Shahdol District and took over the liabilities and assets of the branch of Rewa Bank, with headquarters at Shahdol. Area of operation of the Bank is the whole of Shahdol District. The Bank opened its branches at Anuppur and Umaria in 1963. In 1964 it started branches at Kotma, Rajendragram and Beohari. Sohagpur and Pali branches were started in 1965 and Jalsinghnagar, Burhar and Manpur branches in 1966. Further, in 1967, it opened one more branch at Gohparoo. Thus, at present 11 branch offices of the Bank are functioning in the District. Though the Bank deals in all types of banking business but its main function continues to be to finance agricultural operations through its affiliated cooperative societies. The progress and working of the bank is given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 3**The Shahdol Central Cooperative Bank, Shahdol**

(Amount in lakh Rs.)

Year	No. of Societies Affiliated	No. of Members	Share Capital	Working Capital	Deposits	Investment	Loans Outstanding Against Societies
1965-66	489	710	9.75	79.42	13.58	3.18	59.23
1970-71	318	664	12.35	96.27	21.27	7.78	69.08
1971-72	318	663	13.79	91.52	22.36	6.60	61.78
1972-73	318	663	15.15	98.65	26.46	6.90	71.41
1973-74	318	663	15.86	95.97	23.09	7.40	71.61

Source :- Shahdol Central Cooperative Bank, Shahdol

The Bank provides short-term and mid-term loans to cultivators and member societies. The bulk of the advances go to agricultural sector through the affiliated credit Societies. Non-agricultural sector financed by the Bank consists of marketing, industrial and consumers societies. The bank distributed loans of Rs. 12.13 lakh and Rs. 16.62 lakh to member societies in 1970-71 and 1971-72 and Rs. 17.96 lakh in 1972-73. The Bank earned net profit of Rs.0.10 lakh in 1972-73.

The District Land Development Bank Ltd., Shahdol

The District Land Development Bank was established in February, 1963, with headquarters at Shahdol. The area of operation of the Bank is whole of the District. The Bank opened three branches at Sohagpur in 1969, Beohari in 1972, and at Umaria in 1974. It is catering to the long and mid-term needs of the cultivators in the District.

The working and progress made by the Bank is given in Table below:

Table No. VI-4**The District Land Development Bank, Shahdol**

(Amount in Lakh Rs)

Year	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Investment	Loans Outstanding against Members
1965-66	786	0.14	2.49	N.A.	2.16
1970-71	2,939	0.83	13.30	N.A.	11.67
1971-72	3,109	0.88	12.88	0.50	11.23
1972-73	3,474	1.72	14.45	0.50	12.48
1973-74	4,034	2.28	20.42	0.63	17.89

Source :- The District Land Development Bank, Shahdol

The bank provides loans to cultivators for capital expenditure of permanent nature to be incurred primarily on agricultural operations. During the years 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73, the Bank distributed loans of Rs. 1.04 lakh, Rs.0.76 lakh and Rs. 2.91 lakh, respectively.

Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies

The main object of agricultural cooperative credit societies is to borrow funds from the members and other sources to be utilised for advancing loans to member cultivators and promotion of thrift. Some of these societies are also working as agents for the joint sale of agricultural and domestic requirements of their members, and for hiring of implements and machinery. Their progress in Shahdol District for the past few years is tabulated below.

Table No. VI - 5**Agricultural Credit Societies in Shahdol District**

(Amount in Lakh Rs.)

Year	No. of Societies	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Loans Advanced to Members	Loans outstanding
1960-61	270	4,389	N.A.	2.11	N.A.	N.A.
1965-66	460	14,012	N.A.	15.79	N.A.	N.A.
1970-71	258	37,358	15.14	69.21	4.12	51.48
1971-72	258	38,059	22.86	80.54	10.02	51.62
1972-73	258	39,369	24.68	95.13	16.02	58.27

Source :- Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

The facts given above indicate that agricultural credit societies have made considerable progress in the District. To make them more effective in operation efforts were made to reorganise these societies in a more sizeable and better organised shape. This has resulted in decreasing the number of these societies from 460 in 1965-66 to 258 in 1972-73, but the membership and working capital increased from 14,012 and Rs. 15.79 lakhs in 1965-66 to 39,369 and Rs. 95.13 lakhs in 1972-73. In Shahdol District average membership per society and average debt per society were 127 and Rs. 20,147 in 1970-71, which increased to 151 and Rs. 22,000 in 1972-73. In the same way average debt per member also increased from Rs. 138 in 1970-71 to Rs. 149 in 1972-73.

Non-Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies

Non-agricultural cooperative credit societies, in general, may be divided into banking societies of large and small size, which aim at doing banking business for providing finance to small traders, entrepreneurs and other individuals. The other societies are of wage earners. The main statistics regarding these societies are given in the table below.

Table No. VI - 6
Non-Agricultural Credit Societies In The District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)

Year	Number of Societies	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital
1969-70	7	3,000	1.99	5.78
1970-71	7	2,700	2.41	9.57
1971-72	7	2,985	2.44	5.94
1972-73	9	2,744	2.20	4.53
1973-74	9	3,344	2.19	5.83

Source:- Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

The total number and membership of these societies in the District increased from 7 and 3,000 in 1969-70 to 9 and 3,344 in 1973-74 respectively, while the share capital and working capital increased from Rs. 1.99 lakh and Rs. 5.78 lakh to Rs. 2.19 lakh and Rs. 5.83 lakh, respectively, during the same period. The non-agricultural credit societies in respect of their number, membership and capital stand no comparison with the agricultural societies.

OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Small Saving Schemes

The organisations attracting and mobilising the savings in the District are Post Office Saving Schemes and Life Insurance. The small saving schemes which continued their operations in Shahdol District are (1) Post Office Saving Bank Account, (2) 12 Years National Plan Certificates, (3) 15 Years Annuity Certificates,

(4) 10 Years Treasury Saving Deposits, and, (5) Cumulative Time Deposit Schemes. The gross and net deposits in these schemes in the District are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 7
Post Office Saving Schemes In The District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)

Year	Progressive Total		Yearly Net Target
	Gross	Net	
1967-68	25.87	5.24	6
1968-69	35.34	3.11	7
1969-70	36.01	7.85	10
1970-71	44.69	13.86	11
1971-72	44.87	10.49	12

Source :- Regional Director, National Savings, Indore

The small saving per capita at the 1971 Census was approximately Rs. 1.01 in 1971-72.

Life Insurance

Life Insurance business is the important source of attracting savings of the people with risk covering. The business of life insurance has registered rapid progress after its nationalisation in 1956. There is no branch office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Shahdol District, but it comes under the area of operation of the Katni branch of the Corporation. The business figures of Life Insurance Corporation in Shahdol District are given in the Table below :-

Table No. VI - 8
Life Insurance Business In The District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)

Year	No. Of Policies	Sum Assured
1970-71	976	60.32
1971-72	1,351	81.71
1972-73	1,423	110.35
1973-74	1,421	98.92
1974-75	1,241	115.90

Source :- Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Jabalpur

In 1971-72, the number of life insurance agents in Shahdol District was 91 which increased to 105 in 1973-74 but decreased to 95 in 1974-75.

Government Finance

Under the Agriculturist's Loans Act and the Land Improvement Act, the Government advances loans to agriculturists for agricultural purposes in the form of taccavi. The industries department of the State also extends financial assistance to small scale and cottage industries under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1958. Details regarding these have been given in the preceeding chapters.

Ware-housing

In Shahdol District two centres of the Madhya Pradesh State Ware-housing Corporation were opened at Burhar in January, 1967 and at Kotma in February, 1967. Burhar Centre was closed in June, 1970. Deposits in Burhar Centre in the Year 1969-70 and 1970-71 were also nil. Kotma Centre of the Corporation worked till August, 1973. The year-wise deposits in Kotma Centre are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 9
Deposits in Kotma Ware-house Centre

Year	Deposits (Weight in Quintals)
1969-70	11,842
1970-71	20,259
1971-72	7,549
1972-73	5,324
1973-74	395

Source :- M.P. State Ware-housing Corporation, Indore

The agriculturists and businessmen on production of their ware-house receipts, are entitled to take loan from commercial banks. Food-grains, pulses, oil-seeds and chemical fertilisers are the main commodities deposited in the centre.

Stock Exchange

There is no stock exchange in the District.

Currency And Coinage

As Shahdol was a district in the former Rewa State, coins of the erstwhile State were prevalent in this district also till 1868 when British coins were introduced. Till the reign of Jai Singh Deo (1809-33), there has never been a silver coinage in the State.¹ Later, researches revealed that Rewa State had silver coinage for three generations from Maharaja Jai Singh Deo to Maharaja Raghuraj Singh. A Copper coin called Baggha Shahi was issued in 1838. Gold and Silver coins, issued outside the State, such as Akbar Mohar (gold), Banarsi Sikka etc., were in use and circulation in the State. A silver rupee and a gold *muhar* of equal value of British *kaidar* was issued during the reign of Maharaja Gulab Singh, but it did not come into general circulation. It was used in *Shahi Darbar* for *nazar*, *nichhawar*, etc.²

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p.50.

2. Rewa State Directory, 1947, p.66.

A list of coins which formed the ordinary currencies of the erstwhile State before the introduction of the British rupee is given in Appendix.

With the accession of Rewa State to Indian Union, uniformity in coins and currency was introduced in the District in 1957.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Old Time Trade Commerce

Upto the end of 19th century there was little regular trade of any kind in the District. The whole of the commerce was concerned with the export of some agricultural produce and import of some commodities used in daily life. Timber, food-grains, oil-seeds, skins, ghi and lac were the main commodities of export and salt, sugar and cloth were main imports.¹ Detailed information regarding their volume of business is not available but some idea can be gathered from the amount of duties collected on it in 1907. The duties on export amounted to be about Rs.7 lakh a year of which tili and mustard seeds accounted for Rs.2.7 lakh, rice for Rs. 2.5 lakh and wheat for Rs. 1.3 lakh. Import duties amounted to be Rs. 4.5 lakh a year of which Rs. 1.8 lakh were for piece-goods and Rs.0.99 lakh for salt.²

The area became accessible with the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur railway and prospects of trade and commerce improved. The chief trading centres in the District were Shahdol, Chandia, Umaria, Burhar, Jaitihari, Khari, Sohagpur and Beohari-all on the Bengal Nagpur Railway Line. In this District country carts were scarce and the *lawanas* carried food grains to the railway station markets.³

Present Day Trade

Persons Engaged In Trade And Commerce

According to 1961 Census 6,790 persons were engaged in 'trade and commerce' in Shahdol District. Of these, 4,447 persons were in Sohagpur tahsil, 1,340 in Bandhogarh tahsil, 723 in Beohari tahsil and 280 in Pushprajgarh tahsil. Of the total 6,790 persons engaged in 'trade and commerce' in the District 4,420 were in rural areas and 2,370 in urban areas. Beohari and Pushprajgarh tahsils were entirely rural. Participation in this category was only to the extent of 1.49 per cent of the total working force. Most of the workers, about 90 per cent, were in retail trade. According to 1971 Census, 6,760 persons were engaged in 'trade and commerce' in the District which accounted 1.77 per cent of the working force. In recent years, there has been considerable expansion in commercial activities in the District, but the same is not reflected in the census returns, because the criteria for enumerating persons engaged in trade and commerce has been changed.

Course Of Trade

Shahdol District is rich in forest produce and mineral resources. The important minerals found in the District are coal, fire-clay and bauxite. Major forest produce are

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p.87

2. Ibid. pp. 101-102.

3. Ibid p. 91.

timber, round wood, char-coal, and bamboo, and minor forest produce are *kullugum*, lac, *harra*, *katttha* and tendu leaves, etc. Principal agricultural crops of the District are rice, wheat, maize, *juar*, pulses, sarson and til. The structure of the economy being based on agriculture and mineral resources, the trading activities of the District almost follow the same pattern and direction. Bauxite is supplied from this District to Renukoot in Mirzapur District in Uttar Pradesh. In 1971, 1,18,407 tonnes of bauxite was despatched from the District, while in 1973 only 36,427 tonnes of bauxite was dispatched. The fire-clay is supplied to Katni. In 1971, 11,240 tonnes of fire clay was sent to Katni, which increased to 14,755 tonnes in 1973. The Orient Paper Mill, Amlai is an important foreign exchange earner. The product of this mill is also exported to Japan, Malasia, Keneya, Tanzania, Burma, etc. In 1970-71 and 1973-74 3,525 tonnes and 1,139 tonnes of paper was exported.

Since the economic entity of districts and places is fast disappearing with the increase in transport and communication facilities, it is not possible to mention in absolute terms the volume and value of exports and imports of the commodities from and to the District. Inward or outward figures of some important mandies, however, may be dealt with.

Regulated Markets

The main aim of market regulation is to regulate the sale and purchase of agricultural produce and to ensure a fair deal to the producer in mandies. Regulated mandies have come up to solve many problems of agricultural marketing by making it orderly at assembling points. By the year 1974, Shahdol, Anuppur, Beohari, Burhar, Jaithari, Pali, Umaria, Kotma and Pushprajgarh mandies were regulated in the District.

Krashi Upaj Mandi, Shahdol

Krashi Upaj Mandi, Shahdol was established in April, 1967 and it was regulated in November, 1968. Wheat, rice, maize, pulses, oil-seeds and paddy are the main commodities traded in this mandi. Inward figures of some important commodities traded in this mandi are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 10
Arrivals In Shahdol Mandi

Commodities	(Weight in Qntls.)			
	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Wheat	5,215	9,671	10,021	12,580
Rice	2,955	6,035	9,070	3,710
Maize	661	563	499	8,894
Pulses	1,102	2,398	5,107	3,498
Oil-seeds	1,639	2,984	1,887	1,698
Paddy	13,689	8,599	672	176

Source :- Krashi Upaj Mandi, Shahdol

Apart from above commodities 2,616 quintals of *juar* and 1,083 quintals of gram were also traded in this mandi.

Krashi Upaj Mandi, Beohari

Krashi Upaj Mandi, Beohari was established in January, 1969 and was regulated in January, 1971. Wheat, rice, *juar*, *arhar*, *urad*, *tilli*, and *alsi* are the main commodities transacted in this mandi. Arrivals in Beohari mandi are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 11
Arrival In Beohari Mandi
(Weight in Qntls.)

Commodities	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Wheat	1,650	2,430	1,860	2,163	1,941
Rice	1,280	1,460	1,020	981	799
Juar	190	270	168	377	1,215
Jawa	200	372	453	567	1,330
Arhar	320	462	118	265	180
Urad	480	530	287	383	345
Tilli	370	479	413	513	630
Rai	678	360	862	482	646
Alsi	265	152	341	261	211
Gulli	360	480	268	173	630

Source :- Krashi Upaj Mandi, Beohari

Wheat is mainly sent out to Burhar and Shahdol from Beohari mandi. Pulses and oil-seeds are supplied to Satna, Banaras, Allahabad and Katni mandies and other commodities traded in this mandi are generally supplied to local market.

Centres Of Whole-Sale And Retail Trade

All the tahsil headquarters, banking and mandi centres in the District have whole-sale and retail trade facilities. The important business centres in the District are Shahdol, Anuppur, Beohari, Burhar, Pushprajgarh, Umaria, Jaithari, Pali, Amlai, Kotma, Sohagpur and Dhanpuri. Apart from these, bulk of the retail trading and commercial activities takes place in periodical village markets and fairs and melas.

Fairs And Melas

Fairs and melas have been an inevitable part of the district's religious life from early days. Later, they assumed commercial character also. In all 12 fairs and melas were held in Shahdol District according to 1961 Census. Of these, 2 fairs were held in Beohari Tahsil, 4 in Bandgarh tahsil, 4 in Sohagpur tahsil and 2 in Pushprajgarh tahsil. A list of fairs and melas held in the District is given in the Appendix.

Rural Marketing Centres

Weekly or fortnightly markets are a regular feature of our rural economy. Bulk of the trade and commercial activities in the rural areas of the District takes place on bazar days. In Shahdol District 59 periodical markets were held in rural areas in 1967, of these 26 were held in Shahpur tahsil, 16 in Bandhogarh tahsil, 9 in Beohari tahsil and 8 in Pushprajgarh tahsil.

Cooperative Marketing

The cooperative system of marketing was primarily introduced to bring prosperity to the cultivators and consumers by improving the system of agricultural marketing and distribution of essential commodities at a reasonable price. The cooperative marketing sector in the District consists of 2 cooperative marketing societies, 20 consumers cooperative stores and one branch office of the Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Marketing Federation.

Cooperative Marketing Societies

The Shahdol District had 8 cooperative marketing societies by the year 1973-74. These societies were opened at Jethari and Rajandragram in 1958, Kotma and Umaria in 1959, Burhar and Shahdol in 1960, and at Pail and Beohari in 1964. These societies are engaged in distribution of agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and agricultural implements and also in purchase and sale of agricultural produce. Besides, they also deal in general merchandise. The main statistics of cooperative marketing societies in Shahdol District for the past few years are given in the Table below :-

Table No. VI - 12

Cooperative Marketing Societies In Shahdol District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)					
Year	Member-ship	Share Capital	Working Capital	Purchases	Sales
1969-70	837	3.28	7.31	8.15	16.45
1970-71	851	3.54	8.80	6.77	7.16
1971-72	860	3.61	11.30	6.45	5.77
1972-73	860	4.07	16.00	18.42	14.42
1973-74	877	4.09	11.69	16.19	17.06

Source :- Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

These societies provided many facilities to agriculturists by reducing the rate of commission, providing immediate payment after sale, attempting to sell their produce at maximum rate by providing godown facilities.

Consumers Cooperative Stores

In all 18 primary consumers stores and 2 wholesale consumers cooperative stores were functioning in Shahdol District by the year 1974. The first consumers

cooperative store was started in the District in 1952 at Kotma. In 1953 two more stores were opened at Shahdol and Naurozabad. After a gap of a decade four new stores were started at Chachai, Dhanpuri, Jamuna Colliery and Vyankatnagar. In 1964 three stores were started at Ramnagar, Rojara Colliery and Rajnagar. Five more stores were opened at Amlai, Pali, Umaria and two at Shahdol. By the end of 1966 two more primary stores were established at Badra Colliery and Girai. Pali and Shahdol wholesale consumers cooperative stores were started in 1965, and 1966, respectively. These stores are responsible for proper distribution of consumer goods at a fair price and for controlling the highly increasing prices of essential commodities. Detailed figures regarding working of these stores in Shahdol District for the past few years are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 13

Consumers Cooperative Stores In The District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)					
Year	Number Of Stores	Member-ship	Share Capital	Working Capital	Purchases Sales
1969-70	20	4,654	—	1.49	1.02 12.31
1970-71	20	5,041	3.62	9.53	17.33 18.02
1971-72	20	5,630	3.73	13.25	15.83 16.54
1972-73	20	5,630	3.17	14.42	19.22 19.99

Source :- Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

M.P. State Cooperative Marketing Federation

The Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Marketing Federation opened a branch office at Shahdol in November, 1965. The area of operation of this branch is whole of the Shahdol District. The district branch of the Federation is trading in foodgrains, pulses, consumer goods and providing fertilisers, seeds and agricultural implements to cultivators at reasonable price. Purchase and sales of the Shahdol branch are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI - 14

M.P. State Cooperative Marketing Federation, Shahdol

(Amount in lakh Rs.)		
Year	Purchase	Sales
1969-70	13.35	11.74
1970-71	3.58	1.24
1971-72	5.65	3.63
1972-73	12.33	13.84
1973-74	1.71	4.14

Source :- M.P. State Cooperative Marketing Federation, Shahdol

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SHAH DOL

Weights And Measures

Shahdol is one among the four districts of the erstwhile Rewa State. Weights and measures of the former Rewa State were prevalent in Shahdol District also. The weights used in measuring corn and liquids were :-

2 <i>Pauthis</i> or <i>Chachuri</i>	= 3 <i>Adhi</i> or $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>seer</i>
2 <i>Addhis</i>	= 1 <i>Kurua</i>
4 <i>Kuruas</i>	= 1 <i>Palla</i>
4 <i>Pailas</i>	= 1 <i>Kurai</i>
20 <i>Kurais</i>	= 1 <i>Khandi</i>

In Sohagpur tahsil *Kurai* was of about $2\frac{1}{4}$ seers of grain.

Measures Of Weight

The measures used in weighing bulky articles were as follows :-

4 <i>Paisas</i> or (Pakka), or 5 <i>Tolas</i>	} = 1 <i>Chhatak</i>
2 <i>Chhataks</i>	= 1 <i>Adhpal</i> or <i>Adpasie</i>
2 <i>Adhpais</i>	= 1 <i>Pau</i>
2 <i>Paus</i>	= 1 <i>Bisi Sawaiya</i> or <i>Adh-seer</i> (used by cotton sellers)
4 <i>Paus</i>	= 1 <i>Seer</i> or <i>Arhaia</i>
2 <i>Seers</i> or <i>Arhaia</i> s	= 1 <i>Paseri</i>
5 <i>Seers</i>	= 1 <i>Panseri</i> (equal to 1 <i>Dhara</i> or 4 <i>Pakka Seers</i>)
8 <i>Panseri</i>	= 1 <i>Maund</i>

The *bisi* was then generally taken as equal to half a seer or 40 tolas, but originally the seer was equal to 100 tolas. The *sawaya* and *arhaiya* in *pakka* weight were equal to $1\frac{1}{4}$ *adhseer* and $2\frac{1}{2}$ *adhseer* of *kachcha* weights.

Jeweller's Weight

Jewellers used the following weights for weighing precious stones and jewellery :-

60 <i>Khashkhash</i>	= 1 grain (<i>Chawal</i>)
8 <i>Chawal</i>	= 1 <i>Ratti</i>
8 <i>Rattis</i>	= 1 <i>Masha</i>
12 <i>Mashas</i>	= 1 <i>Tola</i>

Surface Measures

Cubic measures were used by earth diggers and square measures were used in land survey. In earth work 4 *muthis* (Handful) were equal to 1 cubit and 4 cunits

were equal to 1 *kamri*. In Surveying land the *bigha* was the unit :-

20 <i>Kachwansi</i>	= 1 <i>Biswansi</i>
20 <i>Biswansi</i>	= 1 <i>Biswa</i>
20 <i>Biswas</i>	= 1 <i>Bigha</i> or 2500 square yards

Adoption Of All-India Standard

With a view to introducing a uniform system of weights and measures in the country, the Government of India enacted the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956 and the State Government enacted the Madhya Pradesh Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1959. According to provisions of the Act the metric weights and length measures were introduced in this District in 1961, and were made compulsory in 1962. The metric capacity measures were introduced in 1962 and were made compulsory in 1963.

CHAPTER - VII

COMMUNICATIONS

In the early days the state of transport and communication in Shahdol District as in other districts was far from satisfactory. The traffic was generally carried on by means of pack bullocks along rough tracks, most of which were not passable during the wet season. The cart traffic was confined to the fairweather months. During the rainy season those forced to travel were carried in palanquins by men of Bhoicaste or rode from village to village upon oxen. Importance of built up roads was realised very late in many parts. Till the first half of the 19th Century, there were hardly any Road built in Shahdol District.

Ancient Routes And Highways

There are no precise accounts available regarding the trade routes and highways existing in this District during the ancient period. But the location of Amarkantak (a great religious centre) and Bandhogarh (historical place) suggest that this district must have had links with other important places of the country. The river Narmada, one of the most sacred in India, originates from Amarkantak. There must have existed some ancient hilly tracks and other routes through the district to reach this sacred place. These routes must have been intended primarily for pedestrians rather than the transport of goods. Gradually, with the march of time and civilization, modern roads must have been aligned on the existing ancient routes considering them as shortest approach. after making the required modifications to suit the present conditions of traffic.

Bandhogarh is undoubtedly a place of antiquity, and was an important stronghold long before Baghel dynasty acquired the country.¹ Cunningham,² in his report mentions that a number of roads ran through the District. A road traversed from Mirzapur to Tewar (near Jabalpur) passing through the District to the west. A branch of this road appears to have started from Mukundpur and went towards Bandhogarh. It was quite a frequented road, connecting the tahsil of Manpur and Bandhogarh with Rewa. Another branch passed through Barai and Kaoria to Chandia. Cunningham remarked, "I have before observed that the great roads from Allahabad and Mirzapur meet at Mangowa Laur, where coalescing, they go on past Rewa; but a branch also strikes off here southwards in continuation of the Allahabad road, and crossing the range at Gaddi Ghat, goes south through Rampur, crossing the Son near Chandreha, whence it goes on south to Majholi; here it divides into two-one branch going towards Chutia Nagpur, the other towards Sohagpur and Amarkantak.

1. The Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol VI, 1908 p.358-59.

2. Report of Tours in the South-Eastern Provinces in 1874-75 and 1875-76; Archaeological Survey of India, pp.12-14.

That these lines of road were in use from the earliest times is evidenced by the abundance of old ruins on them." 'Roads' of Cunninghams accounts may be taken as 'routes' or 'tracks'.

In 1806 A.D., a big contingent of the Pindaries entered in Bilaspur District through Shagpur-Amarkantak route and they camped near Ratanpur.² Thus this region was inter-connected with other parts of the country.

HISTORY OF ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Shahdol district formed a part of erstwhile Rewa State till the formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948. A road traversed from Bilaspur through Pendra and Sohagpur to Rewa in 1868. This road was nothing more than a cart-track passing across the hills and through jungles along which travellers could not dare to move except when in groups. The importance of the route diminished owing to the opening of railway line in about 1890. In addition several fairweather roads were constructed to meet the local demands. In 1906-07, there were three roads with a total length of about 86 kilometres. The Umaria-Manpur road in north traueared for about 42 kilometres, Burhar-Maikal hill road in the south for 26 milometres and Sohagpur-Seoni-Sangam Road for 18 Kilometres in the central part.

Subsequently, more attention was paid to the devevelopment of roads in the District. The development of the railway system was necessarily followed by a change in the scheme of road construction. The feeder roads to the railways were constructed. Umaria-Tala road was a feeder road to Katni-Bilaspur rail section. Gradually the net work of roads in the District was expanded and improved. In 1918, Beohari-Shahdol road was aligned with a distance of about 80 kilometres, thus the total length maintained increased to about 166 kilometres.

The end of First World War saw the advent and development of motor transport and the need was felt for better road capable of withstanding the centuries old bullock cart traffic and the new form of transport. In 1926-27 following roads were in existence in the District.

Name Of Road	Metalled	Unmetalled	Total
1. Beohari-Govindgarh Road	20 km.	77km.	97km.
2. Umaria-Tala Manpur	10 km.	35 km.	45 km.
3. Umaria Bazar	4 km.	—	4km.
4. Shahdol-Sohagpur	1 km.	1 km.	2 km.

Besides the above, there were a number of well recognised fair weather tracks, which linked the interior with main roads and the railway. The Principal of them were the aligned fair weather roads form Kudri-Belbehera to Anuppur and Ramnagar-Beohari-Tendwar-Amidi and Chaudeora. Gradually the network of roads in the District was extended and improved. In the years of scarcity road works constituted a major relief operation.

1. Ibid. P. 14

2. Selections from the Nagpur Residency Records, part I P. 78.

With the formation of Vindhya Pradesh State, the road development programme was taken on priority basis as the District was comparatively poor in this respect. There was imperative need to 'open up' this area by a network of rail and road, where there were inaccessible areas, unbridged river cross-ways, weak bridges and culverts. In the post Independence period it has been recognised that the transport is the kingpin and focus of all economic development and without enlarging the system it is futile to think of expansion of trade, promotion of export or marketing of goods. In recent years, therefore there has been a remarkable growth and development of roads. In 1971, the District was served with 1409.8 km of roads, of which 825.7 km. were metalled and 584.1 km. unmetalled and there has been considerable progress in subsequent years also. The table below shows the progress of road development from 1951 to 1979-80 :-

Table No. VII - 1
Length Of Roads

Year	Bitum- inous	Water Bound Maca- dqm	Cement Conc- rete	Total Metalled	(In km.)	
					Unmet- alled	Mainte- nance Cost in Rs.
1950-51	—	193.00	—	193.00	869.00	10,13,500
1955-56	11.80	234.90	—	246.70	883.40	11,82,500
1960-61	120.60	284.20	—	404.80	781.00	16,02,500
1965-66	207.40	374.90	—	582.30	625.90	20,58,500
1970-71	370.30	455.40	—	825.70	584.10	27,67,000
1976-77	491.40	672.10	2.50	1066.00	695.70	53,67,400
1977-78	497.00	727.65	2.50	1227.15	641.15	51,82,850
1978-79	503.00	755.55	2.50	1261.85	610.45	60,09,000
1979-80	509.00	772.55	2.50	1284.95	999.75	71,01,500

Source : Executive Engineer, PWD (B & R) Shahdol.

It is clear from the above table that there has been rapid increase in kilometrage of roads since the area merged became a part of Indian union. During 1974-75 the water Bound Mecadum, surface roads covered the highest length of the total road kilometrage under Public Works Department. The Bituminous road surface comes next in order. Unmetalled roads cover about 35 percent of the total road length and maintenance cost increased nearly three times. This has been made possible, largely because of improvements and new constructions under the Five year Plans. There can be no doubt that, with the clearer appreciation of local needs as a result of economic planning and better estimation of the demands of new industries and increased agricultural production, plan for road improvement and construction have received more detailed and critical appraisal as part of the over all programme of road

development. Special attention is also being paid to the roads for development projects in rural areas as well as backward regions. After the States Reorganisation in 1956, road policy acquired a more uniform acceptance and application.

The Government of India, in 1957, prepared a Twenty Year Road Development Plan (1961-81) with a view to raise the average road milage to 52 miles per 100 square miles of area and to bring every village, (i) in a developed and agricultural area within 2 miles of metalled road and 1.5 miles of any road, (ii) in a semi developed area, within 8 miles of metalled road and 3 miles of any road (iii) in an under developed and uncultivable area within 12 miles of a metalled road and 5 miles of any road. Since the beginning of Third Five Year Plan efforts have been made to implement these commitments. Thus in the year 1979-80, Shahdol District was maintaining 2284.70 kilometers of road. There are 10.64 kilometres of road per 100 square kilometres for the whole area of the District, which is little above the state average of 9.7 kilometre. The pressure of population on roads is about 145 kilometre road per 10,000 persons in the District against the State average of 269 kilometres indicating an increase in the road length to be necessary.

CLASSIFICATION OF ROADS

The classification of roads is very essential for their efficient construction, maintenance and development. The history of development reveals that before 1943, there was no classification of the existing roads and there were no rules or principles on which it could be done. The absence of classification was one of the cause of slow and haphazard development of roads. The Nagpur Plan classified road into :- (1) National Highway (2) State Highway (3) District roads of major and minor importance, and (4) Village roads. The functional characteristics of roads are different from each other. The roads of Shahdol district may be classified in the following categories :-

Table No. VII - 2
Road Classification

Year	State Highways	Major District Roads	Village Roads	Community Development Roads
1950-51	—	193.00	869.00	—
1955-56	—	246.70	883.40	—
1960-61	—	408.80	781.00	—
1965-66	—	582.30	625.90	—
1970-71	476.00	353.80	524.60	55.40
1976-77	578.20	280.50	1003.00	—
1977-78	578.20	280.50	1009.60	—
1978-79	578.20	280.50	1013.60	—
1979-80	578.20	280.50	1426.00	—

Source : Executive Engineer PWD (B & R) Shahdol Division

There is no National Highway in Shahdol District. State Highway constitutes about 38.70 per cent of the total road length, while the village roads cover about 44.42 per cent. The roads of this District are under the administrative and executive control of Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (PWD) Building and Roads, Shahdol Division. All the state highways are black topped except for a few short stretches that come under the Water Bounde Macadam. There is considerable kilometrage of unmetalled roads under the Public Works Department also, but such roads are being gradually improved. The details of the existing roads are given below :-

State Highways

These roads are important trunk routes functioning as major intra-state links. These are all weather class one roads and are maintained by the State Public Works Department. Two State Highways pass through the District and important towns are linked by them. The State Highway No. 9, i.e., Mau (U.P.) -Badrachalam (A.P.) road traverse from north to south. It enters the District boundary after crossing the Son river and runs straight up to Shahol and then turns in southeastern part. The most important places situated on it are Beohari, Jaising Nagar, Shahdol, Burhar, Basania and Amarkantak. This road is open for traffic throughout the year. The other State Highway No. 14, i.e., Ranchi (Bihar) -Pratapgarh (Rajsthan) road enters from the eastern part and runs in a north-west direction. This road is the main artery in the communication line of the District and runs almost parallel to Katni-Bilaspur rail line from Burhar to Chandia road till it leaves the District boundary. The important places situated on it are Kotma, Burhar, Shahdol, Nowrozabad, Umaria, and Chandia Road.

Major District Roads

The Major District roads serve areas of production and markets, connecting them with one another or with the highways or the railways. These have been provided with a number of bridges, which are sufficient to keep the traffic going in rainy season. Total length of these roads in the year 1974-75 was 277.20 kilometres, which constitute about 18.85 per cent of the total road kilometrage. All these roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department.

Village Roads

Such roads are intended to serve the interior rural areas. They connect villages and groups of villages with District roads and small important mandi centres. In spite of their being most essential means of communications in the villages, they are in most cases, no better than mere tracks and are completely unpassable during the rainy season.

Forest Roads

Shahdol District is endowed with extensive forests where in roads built and maintained by the Forest Department facilitate movements inside the forests. The use of these roads is seasonal as they are used by forest contractors in open season. These roads become impassable in the rainy season. In

1960-61 total length of forest roads maintained by South Shahdol Forest Division was 459 kilometres, which increased to 491 in 1967-68 and 579 in 1974-75. Similarly, there were 717 kilometre forest roads in North Forest Division in 1970-71 which increased to 748 kilometres in 1974-75.

The following table shows the length of forest roads in Shahdol District from 1974-75 onwards.

Table No. VII - 3

Forest Roads

(In km.)

Forest Division	Years				
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
1. North Shahdol Division	748.132	748.132	748.132	748.132	748.132
2. South Shahdol Division	579.524	703.100	703.100	703.100	703.100
3. Umaria Division	648.620	648.620	648.620	603.120	603.120
4. Bandhogarh National Park Umaria				113.400	113.400
Total	1976.276	2099.852	2099.852	2167.752	2167.752

Source : Conservator of forest Shahdol

The agro-forest, mineral based industries can make much headway if proper road communications are provided. With this end in view, the State Directorate of Agriculture and Geology and Mining have proposed following roads for inclusion in the Fourth Five Year Plan.¹ These are :-

Agricultural Roads :-

1. Shahdol-Dindori-20 km.
2. Shahdol-Jaitpur, Via Rashmohini.
 - (a) Anuppur-Gerua-Jaitur, 42 km.
 - (b) Burhar-Rashmohini (1 link from Kodri to Rashmohini) -32 km.

Mining Roads :

1. Burhar-Manendragarh Road 72 km.
2. Amarkantak-Mukki Road 120 km.
3. Chandia-Katni Road 46 km.
4. Dindori-Amarkantak Road 85 km.

Other Roads :

1. Katni-Singrauli-Via. Beohari Road 256 km.
2. Amarkantak-Gourella Road 24 km.

1. Regional Transport Survey Report, pp. 348-351

VEHICLES AND CONVEYANCES

The railways and automobiles opened new horizons of passenger movement. People began travelling farther, more frequently, and for more varied purposes than ever before. The traditional slow moving means of conveyance gave way to new fast moving vehicles. At present the principal means of transport in the District are motor vehicles of all kinds, horse driven tongas, cycle-rickshaws, and bullock carts. The beasts of burden used in this district are chiefly bullocks. The use of Mules and horses is comparatively less. The bullock cart is the the chief means of transport in the rural areas. With the development of roads in the District ; means of transport too have undergone a radical change in recent years. Motor vehicles were introduced in the District towards the end of second decade of this century. Introduction and progress of motor transport has revolutionised the system of conveyance and road traffic in the District, especially in urban and road side rural areas. The cycles, motor cycles and private motor cars are also used in the towns. The goods are generally transported by trucks over long distances. Heavy diesel trucks have become quite common and have captured most of the goods transport business.

Automobiles

Road transport both for carrying passengers and goods is quite popular. The motor vehicles of the District are registered by the Regional Transport Authority, Rewa. The table below gives the details of the vehicles registered during the period 1950-51 to 1973-74.

Table No. VII - 4
Number Of Automobiles In Shahdol District

Year	Cart	Bus	Trucks	Motor Cycles	Taxies	Others
1950-51	9	12	107	21	2	9
1955-56	17	13	123	32	2	12
1960-61	23	15	139	31	2	17
1965-66	42	19	187	35	2	29
1970-71	124	18	382	94	2	99
1971-72	163	13	499	105	2	113
1972-73	219	25	514	100	2	131
1973-74	243	32	528	121	2	144

Source : Regional Transport Officer, Rewa

It is clear from the above table that the use of automobiles had increased appreciably in this District. There has been significant increase in the number of Cars, Trucks & Motor Cycles, indicative of improving economic conditions. Passenger buses have also multiplied but not in the same proportion, whereas taxis have not been able to make any head way.

Non- Power Driven Vehicles

In Shahdol district, bullock carts, donkeys, ponies and horses were the only means of transport before the mechanisation of the mode of conveyance. Despite the extension of railways and expansion of bus traffic for both passengers and goods which now traverse the length and breadth of the district, these pristine modes of transport still retain much of their former utility and importance.

Bullock Cart

The Bullock cart is still the basic means of transport, especially, in rural areas where the roads are few and their condition poor. The bullock cart has become an integral part of our rural economy, it can not be easily brushed away as an outmoded vehicle in any consideration of road transport development. Much of the internal goods traffic of the District is still carried by bullock cart as many villages are away from the roads and inaccessible by other means of transport. The carts in use in this region are of crude design and construction. It is difficult to correctly assess the total number of bullock carts in this District. However, according to figures supplied by the Directorate of Agriculture, there were 71,703 bullock carts in 1960-61, which increased to 74,023 in 1971-72. The bullock carts are also used in the urban areas, mostly for the transport of grain and heavy goods within the towns especially in narrow lanes. Shahdol Municipality registered 21 Bullock carts in 1969-70.

Horse-driven Tonga

These vehicles are used for the transport of goods as well as passengers for local distances. Their main advantage is flexibility of service because they take passengers right up to their house doors. These vehicles are locally manufactured and their maintenance is not costly. In the year 1969-70, about 23 registered tongas plied in Shahdol town. The rise in the price of horse feed has made tongas less profitable, more so, in a town like Shahdol where the competition from Cycle-rickshaws has been increasing.

Cycle Rickshaws

For short distances, it is a very cheap means of transport carrying two passengers. It is becoming very popular in Shahdol, Umaria and Anuppur towns. Shahdol Municipality registered 5 cycle-rickshaws in 1957-58, which gradually increased to 20 in 1960-61, 55 in 1965-66 and 97 in 1969-70.

Bicycles

The bicycles are much popular in rural and urban areas of the District due to their multifarious uses and cheapness. It is the vehicle of common man and is becoming very popular day by day. Shahdol Municipality registered about 221 bicycles in 1969-70.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The development of roads resulted in a growing demand for motor transport in the District. The Villages which are nearer to the metalled roads are already enjoying the benefits of mechanised transport. At present in Shahdol district both the private and the State owned public transport services ply side by side. The Privately

owned transport vehicles are transporting a larger load of the goods and passenger traffic of the District. They operate on all weather roads as well as fair weather roads. The Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (M.P.S.R.T.C.) runs their buses on important routes like Shahdol-Rewa, Shahdol-Sidhi and Shahdol-Katni routes.

The motor vehicles are regulated by the Indian Motor Vehicles Act of 1939. In 1956, the bus operators were required to form registered companies and operate under the control of the Regional Transport Authorities. This resulted in effective control over the operators and consequent better performance and services.

It was realised during the Second World War that the strength of the administration lies on the developed means of communication, and therefore the government wanted to provincialise the transport services. The operation of combined services, shared by Railways, State Government and the public was under contemplation. But for want of some agreement with the public, it could not materialise till after the attaining the Independence in 1947. This scheme was ultimately given the shape of nationalisation and the operation of passenger transport by government owned companies was decided upon. As a result of this, Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation was formed in June, 1962. A Sub-Depot of Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation was established in the year 1975 at Shahdol. The important routes operated are Shahdol-Rewa, Shahdol-Allahabad, Shahdol-Sidhi, Shahdol-Janakpur, Shahdol-Jaitpur, Shahdol-Barha, Shahdol-Jabalpur, Shahdol-Dindori, Shahdol-Raigarh, and Shahdol-Satna. The other routes passing through the District are Rewa-Anuppur, Rewa-Budhar and Rewa-Amarkantak. The Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation does not have a monopoly of passenger traffic on all routes and on certain routes the frequency of Private vehicles exceeds the frequency of State owned Transport Corporation.

Amenities To Passengers

The M.P.S.R.T.C. is a well managed concern and is trying to provide all possible comfort and convenience to the public. The corporation plies buses which have spacious bodies and are well-ventilated. The average seating capacity of these is about 52 exclusive of the seats of drivers and conductor. Facilities for booking and reservation are provided at all important stations and terminals. Basic amenities like passenger sheds, waiting rooms with sanitary fittings canteens and arrangements are made for visits to places of interest, pilgrimage centres, fairs, melas, etc., at extra trip rates. State Transport also provides casual contract service at standard reasonable rates. Regularity of service and speed limits are fairly strictly observed and relief buses quickly made available in case of breakdown. A box containing first aid equipment is kept in every bus and conductors are trained in first aid methods. Arrangements are also made for recording complaints from the public and every efforts are made to attend to such complaints promptly.

RAILWAYS

The District is connected by railways. The main broad gauge line of South Eastern Railway passes from north-west to south-east and eastern part of the

District. The construction of new broad gauge line between Katni-Singrauli (in Sidhi District) by the Central Railway is also in progress. This line traverses through the northern part of the District. This line will provide an alternative east-west route and relieve congestion at Mughalsarai (U.P.). It will also enable exploitation of undeveloped coal fields of Singrauli and the mineral and forest resources of the region. The total rail length in the District is about 215 kilometres and the route kilometrage per 100 square kilometre is 1.53¹. The pressure of population is about 20 kilometer per 10,000 persons in the District against the State average of 12.6 kilometers.

History Of Construction

The history of railways in the District begins with opening of the Katni-Umaria section on November 2, 1886 which was extended up to Birsinghpur on May 11, 1890. The line was further extended up to Bilaspur on February 1, 1891. The Katni-Bilaspur line then belonged to the old Bengal Nagpur Railway Company. Now it forms part of the South Eastern Railway. The section between Anuppur to Bijuri with a distance of about 47.65 km. was completed on 17.6.1928 while between Bijuri-Manendragarh (in Surguja District) on 25-4-1929². The construction of Katni-Singrauli Railway by the Central Railway is in progress.

Katni - Bilaspur Section

The Katni-Bilaspur line enters the District boundary after crossing Mahanadi in the north-western part. Chandia Road is the first Railway station within the District, followed by Lorha, Umaria, Karkeli, Nowrozabad, Birsinghpur, Chunghuti, Anuppur, Chhulha, Jaithari, Nagaura and Vankatnagar.

Anuppur - Chirmiri Section

The Anuppur-Chirmiri section shoots off from Anuppur junction and has much significance due to coalfields of Chirmiri. The railway stations falling within the District are Mauhari, Dhurwasin, Harad, Kotma and Bijuri.

Katni-Singrauli Section

The Katni-Singrauli section is being constructed by the Central Railway passes through the northern part of the District. The total length of this line will be about 60 km. in this District.

Shahdol and Anuppur are important railway stations in the District. The usual amenities like waiting rooms, refreshment rooms and enquiry counter has been provided at these Stations. On other stations facilities for drinking water, refreshment, etc., only exist. The following long distance trains are passing through Shahdol.

1. Bilaspur - Indore Express
2. Bilaspur - Bhopal Express
3. Utkal - Express - Bi-Weekly between Puri, Hazarat Nizamuddin.
4. Parcel - cum - Passenger train.

1. Regional Transport Survey Report of M.P. Page 262.
2. History of Indian Railways, 1964, p.137.

Rail - Borne Traffic

The railways are the main carriers of both goods and passenger traffic in the District. It may generally be said that the facilities offered by the railways on these sections in the District continue to provide a more economical and convenient mode of transport for traffic. The principal commodities exported through railways are timber, coal and other minor forest products. The following table shows the density of goods traffic (commodity wise) over different rail sections in the District.

Table No. - VII - 5
Density Of Goods Traffic

Sections	(In '000 tonnes)							
	Wood	Bamboos	Iron and Steel	Gram and Pulses	Coal	Cement	Lime-stone	other Commodities
1. Bilaspur-Anuppur	30	32	365	3	58	-	-	569
2. Anuppur-Bilaspur	3	92	8	31	415	108	141	142
3. Anuppur-Shahdol	67	44	354	2	1848	-	-	1386
4. Shahdol-Anuppur	1	7	18	31	70	150	141	856
5. Shahdol-Katni	71	44	334	2	2156	-	-	1026
6. Katni-Shahdol	-	7	18	31	38	152	141	403
7. Anuppur-Boridand	-	-	11	1	-	18	-	263
8. Boridand-Anuppur	20	2	-	-	1442	-	-	449
9. Boridand-Bishampur	-	5	1	-	-	7	-	139
10. Bishampur-Boridand	8	-	-	-	103	6	-	-

Source : Regional Transport Survey of M.P. 1964-67

It is clear from the above table that coal, forest products and agricultural commodities constitute the main items of goods traffic. The main centres of goods traffic originating in the District are Amlai, Burhar, Birsinghpur, Nowrozabad and Umaria.

In respect of passenger traffic originating in the District, the highest number is normally booked from Shahdol. The following table shows the growth of passenger traffic at main Centres in the District.

Table No. VII - 6
Growth Of Passenger Traffic

Station	(in 000')		
	1955-56	1960-61	1963-64
1. Anuppur	92	134	171
2. Shahdol	172	249	257
3. Umaria	110	159	167
4. Kotma	82	119	152

1. Regional Transport Survey Report of M.P., Page 288.

A glance at the above statement reveals that during 1955-56, nearly 37.5 per cent passengers were booked from Shahdol Station only. Other Stations which handle large number of passengers are Anuppur, Umaria and Kotma.

Rail-Road Competition

Railways which were introduced in the District in the latter part of the last century, challenged the pride of place which road transport had enjoyed among the means of communication, since early times. This was the case especially in those areas which were directly served by railways. With the advent of automobiles on the road after the close of World War I, roads began to regain their lost importance and by the end of World War II, a network of communications operated by motor vehicles had been built up. The post war years saw further progress in motor transport. A considerable number of motor owners engaged themselves in operating both passenger and goods vehicles. This progress, however, was not without its drawbacks and undesirable features of private ownership, viz., duplication of services, uneconomic competition, lack of amenities for passengers, etc.

With the improvement in the organisation and regularity of road transport, the railways have to face competition from road transport services. But railways continue to hold the traffic by careful adjustment of train timings and by speeding up of trains. The improvement of roads and the popularity of automobiles have contributed greatly to the increase in road traffic. The carriage of merchandise by private carriers on a few roads adjacent to the Railways affect Railway carrying to some extent. For example Chandia-Umaria-Shahdol and Burhar road runs nearly parallel to the Katni-Bilaspur Rail Section. Manendragarh-Kotma-Anuppur road also runs nearly parallel to Anuppur-Chirmiri rail section. The main exports from the District are bulky commodities like Coal, Wood and bamboo for which the facilities offered by the railways are found to be more economical and convenient mode of transport. Nevertheless, the buses have attained popularity mainly because they run through the heart of towns, whereas many railway stations are at some distance from the towns they serve and more than half the northern part of the District is not connected by rail. Movement of food grains and general goods by trucks are important in Shahdol district. The goods to and from places like Calcutta, Bilaspur, Raipur and Jabalpur are transported by trucks. The goods are delivered by trucks earlier than railways. All the goods transport business on roads is in the hands of the private sector.

Water Transport

Important rivers of the district are the Son and the Johilla. The Narmada and Banas flow only on its boundary for a short distance. None of them are utilised for navigation purposes.

Bridges

The various roads of the district are provided with number of bridges and culverts. There are about 577 bridges and culverts in the district. A major bridge on the Son river has been constructed by the State Government.

Air - Transport

There is no facility for air transport in the District. However, there is one air strip at Amlai (Lalpur) which is owned by M/s Birlas. Their permission is necessary for landing planes.

TRAVEL AND TOURIST FACILITIES

No account is traceable of ancient *Dharamshalas* and Rest Houses in the District. At present there are few *Dharamshalas*, hotels, lodges and Rest Houses at important places of the District for the use of travellers and tourists.

Dharamshalas

There are few *dharmashalas* in villages and towns where an ordinary traveller can take shelter for a temporary period. The *dharmashalas* are often attached to temples or are run by charitable trusts. Many *dharmashalas* have been constructed by charitable trusts and philanthropic persons at Shahdol, Umaria, Anuppur and Amarkantak. All these afford accommodation to the travellers free of charge.

Hotels And Lodges

The increase in passenger traffic has been mainly responsible for the establishment of hotels and eating houses. There are a good number of hotels and lodges in Shahdol, Umaria Amarkantak and Anuppur towns, which offer lodging and boarding facilities to travellers and tourists.

The hotels and eating houses are, however, a feature associated mainly with urban life. The rural areas too have few such hotels and eating houses. The villages on the road side have, however, small tea shops which offer passengers light refreshments and tea. During hot season some philanthropic persons voluntarily arrange for the supply of drinking water for the convenience of the travelling public.

Rest Houses And Circuit Houses

The primary purpose of maintaining the rest house is to provide facilities regarding boarding and lodging to touring Government officials coming to the District on duty. But they are made available to the public also at prescribed rates, if accommodation is available. The circuit house is intended for very important persons, Secretaries, Heads of Departments and other Officers of the higher category. The Collector of the District is the controlling authority for allotting accommodation in the circuit house, while the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (Building and Roads) is the controlling authority for allotting accommodation in Rest Houses. There are two Circuit Houses at Shahdol and Amarkantak and 12 Rest Houses at other places of the District. The following table shows the situation and category of accommodation available in Rest Houses of the District.

Table No. VII - 7
Situation Of Rest Houses

Situation	Tahsil	Category Of Accommodation
CIRCUIT HOUSE		
1. Shahdol	Sohagpur	4 suits
2. Amarkantak	Pusprajgarh	4 suits
REST HOUSE		
1. Shahdol	Pusprajgarh	4 suits
2. Burhar	Sohagpur	2 Suits and 1 V.I.P suit.
3. Anuppur	Sohagpur	2 suits
4. Kotma	Sohagpur	2 suits
5. Pali	Sohagpur	2 suits
6. Vamania	Bandhogarh	3 suits
7. Tala	Bandhogarh	2 suits
8. Jaisingnagar	Beohari	2 suits
9. Beohari	Beohari	2 suits
10. Rajendragram	Pusprajgarh	2 suits
11. Amarkantak	Pusprajgarh	6 suits
12. Janakpur	Pusprajgarh	2 suits

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D. (B. & R.), Shahdol

POST, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

In former days there was no regular postal system and letters were carried by special messengers. The village *Chowkidars* or *Kotwars* were bound to carry Darbar letters or other articles from village to village. As regards public letters, people, in urgent cases, had to send special messengers at their own expense, and in ordinary cases they had to wait for travellers who happened to be passing through the places to which they wished to send messages.

In earstwhile Rewa State, during the regime of Maharaja Visvanath Singh (1833-54) an improvement was effected by the enlistment of a reserve body of runners called *dhaurahas*, or *harkaras* whose business was to run with messengers on special occasions ; but no regular line of mail runners was established. In 1875 regular dak or postal system was started and this service was made available to various important places in the state. An overseer was also appointed to supervise the postal services. This arrangement was mainly for State business although private letters and other articles were also despatched on payment of postal charges

at the rate of one pie per tola. The system, however, did not prove satisfactory. In 1884, an arrangement was therefore, made with the Imperial Postal Department by which the postal services at all important places in Rewa State were to be managed by Imperial Department and assistance was to be provided by the Police Officials at the Local thanas and choukies. An arrangement or mutual exchange of letters and packets between offices in the State and in British India were made for articles passing over the State and Imperial Lines double postage was charged both by Government and the State at British India rates.

In 1905-06, Shahdol District was served by Imperial and State Post Offices. In all the towns and important villages there were Imperial Post Offices, while the State maintained a line of runners to places not connected by Government Post Offices, chiefly for transaction of official business. There were thirteen Imperial Post Offices in this district, which were located at Ramnagar, Tala, Manpur, Chandia, Umaria, Birsinghpur, Shahdol, Sohagpur, Burhar, Anuppur, Jaithari, Kothi and Khairi. The number of State Post Offices was 10, being at Burma, Majhau, Pathraura, Beohari, Khoumoudhi, Girari, Amarkantak, Nigwani, Kaachanpur and Jaitpur.

During the period 1918-22, the number of Post Offices increased to 63 in the State, of which 34 were Imperial and 29 State Post Offices¹. The State used to pay Rs. 430 per month to the Government Postal Department as subsidy in consideration for the transmission, of all covers on State service within the State territories, carried out free by that Department. In 1926-27, the number of Imperial Post Offices increased to 36. There were 15 lines of runners maintained by the State for State service connected with tahsils, Thanas and other places situated in the interior of the District. These lines were supervised by the Inspector of Dak. The total expenditure on postal system amounted to Rs. 11,664 out of which Rs. 4,111 were spent for the maintenance of Dak line.²

Present Set-up Of Post Offices

There has been an acceleration in the development and expansion of postal services since independence and formation of Vindhya Pradesh. As a result of the Five Year Plan, the progress has been systematic and continuous. There were 139 Post Offices in 1970-71 in this District, of which 119 were Branch Post Offices, 19 Sub Offices and one Head Post Office. The Detailed list of Post Offices in Shahdol District is given in the Appendix. By the year 1979-80 there were one Head Post Office, 32 sub-Offices and 233 Branch Post Offices in the District. The detailed list of Post Office in Shahdol District (as on 1-4-1980) is given in the Appendix. The sub post offices are located at Amlai Colliery, Amlai Paper Mills, Amarkantak, Anuppur, Ban Sagar, Beohari, Bijuri, Birsinghpur Pali, Burhar, Chachai, Chandia, Dhanpuri, Dhanpuri Colliery, Gohparu, Jaisinghpur, Jaithari, Jamuna Colliery, Karkeli, Kotma,

Kotma Colliery, Lalpur, Manpur, Nowrozabad, Rajendragram, Shahdol Bus Stand, Shahdol-Ganeshganj, Shahdol-Purani Basti, Shahdol Railway Station, Singhpur, Tala, Umaria and Venkatnagar.

Both postal and savings banking transactions are carried out at the sub-post office and in Branch Post Office of the District. In such Post Offices, the following facilities for small savings were provided.

1. Sale of gift coupons
2. Sales of 12-year National Plan-Savings Certificates
3. Post Office Saving Bank
4. Sale of Government Securities
5. Sale of Premium Prize Bonds, and
6. Sales of 12-Year National Defence Certificate

Telegraph Offices

The district is now well served with widespread system of Telegraph Offices. The question of introducing telegraphic communication was first taken in 1883, by the erstwhile Rewa State.¹ In 1908, a telegraph office was opened at Umaria town.²

After Independence the policy of expanding telegraph facilities particularly in the rural and semi urban areas was vigorously pursued by the Department. Until 1951, no scheme for opening a telegraph office could be taken up unless it was profitable. From 1951, onwards the policy was gradually liberalised. At first, special consideration was given to places where the loss in working would not exceed Rs. 500, and this was later raised to Rs. 1,000. In September 1953, it was decided to open telegraph offices at all district towns without any limit of loss and subject to a loss not exceeding Rs. 1,000 at Sub-Divisional and tahsil towns. During the Second Five Year Plan, the programme of extension of telegraph facilities to rural areas with a population more than 5,000 was taken up. There were 22 combined Post and Telegraph Offices in 1973-74 in Shahdol District.

Telephones

In 1973, there were 212 telephone connections in Shahdol and 34 telephone connections in Umaria town. In addition, there were Public-Call offices at Beohari, Bijuri, Manpur, Rajendragram, and Anuppur.³ There were 18 telephone exchanges in this District.

Radio and Wireless Stations

There is no radio stations or licenced wireless stations in Shahdol District. It is served by the Jabalpur station of All India Radio.

1. Report on the Administration of the Rewa State 1918-22 p. 137

2. Ibid. 1926-27 p. 66

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, p. 48

2. Imperial Gazetteer of India, 1908, p.286.

3. Madhya Pradesh Telephone Directory, September 1973.

CHAPTER-VIII MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The various miscellaneous occupations are largely covered under the 'Services' division of the Industrial Classification. But this classification discusses them according to industry viz., administrative, educational, medical or legal services, etc. Another census classification namely, the National classification of occupations, discusses them from a more specific occupational angle viz., officials or clerical and other staff, teachers, doctors, judges or lawyers, etc. However, the occupational classification has the drawback of not being available for 1971 census and thus though resorted to for details (as per 1961 census) in this chapter, the later position is sought to be presented through a broad coverage of industrial classification. Besides, the administrative and learned professions, many domestic services and petty sales workers also come within the scope of this chapter.

In the field of public administration, the district, according to the occupational classification, had a total of 925 persons classified as Government administrators and executive officials. These included the lower level village executives as well. Others included the higher placed officials under the Central Government, State Government and local Self Government organisations. Those administrators and executive officials working under the Central Government numbered 19, all males, of whom 5 belonged to the urban sector. Then, such officials working under the State Government numbered 208 (including 5 women), of whom 106 including one woman were placed in the urban areas. The Local Self Government administrators and executive officials numbered 35 in the District (with 12 women among them). Of these 9 (all males) belonged to the urban sector. Apart from these, there were 662 village officials (including 12 women workers) of whom only 162 were placed in the urban areas.

The clerical and related workers category of the occupational classification formed an essential offshoot of the public administration activity in the District. This category included all types of clerical and related workers, government or otherwise, in the District and totalled 2,624, in all. Among these, stenographers and other general clerks were the ones directly related with routine office work. Separately, the stenographers and typists class numbered 42 all male, with as many as 36 in the urban sector denoting their work requirements in headquarters. The other class of miscellaneous clerical workers totalled 1,238 with just one female in the District, of whom 749 were placed in the urban sector. In further break-up, this class consisted of 738 general and other ministerial assistants and clerks (524 in the urban sector with the one female clerk) and 450 record keepers, moharrers, etc. (225 in the urban sector). Among others were included 1,020

unskilled office workers (32 females) of whom 577 (17 females) worked in the urban sector.

The Government Servants' class which, besides the officials and clerks, also comprise many other professions in other fields like education, medical and health, engineering, etc., belong to the fixed - income earners' group. All these, though subject to the limitations of a fixed income differ much in their position, financial and otherwise, in the society. However, these differences are sought to be remedied on the governmental level through making them a part of common welfare schemes equitably implemented. Besides, they are all also in receipt of many regular benefits and amenities like Dearness, Travelling and other allowances, Medical Reimbursement, the Family Benefit Scheme, Old Age and Family Pension, Gratuity, government accommodation if available, and so on. The phenomenon of rising costs of living has also been well countered with regular revisions of dearness allowance according to rates recommended by the last Pay Commission. In all these respects, however, the lot of the Central Government employees is in general better than that of the State Government employees. In addition, the various district level branches of the State wide employees organisations of the different professions also function actively in the District headquarters in order to represent and redress their members grievances.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Learned professions, by their very nature are the most obvious means of advancement in a welfare society. They cover a wide range of activity from arts and letters to the medical professions and from teaching to the engineering profession.

Teachers

The teachers of all categories from primary to college level in the District, according to the occupational classification, totalled to 2,647 (178 women) with 665 of them placed in the urban sector. In the category of college or university level teachers were counted 34 persons, all male & all in the urban sector. The teachers of secondary school level numbered 164 at the time in the District including 21 women teachers. Of them 129 including all the women teachers were in the urban sector. Their largest number naturally belonged to the category of middle and primary school teachers which claimed 2,290 teachers (149 women) and only 431 of them (50 women) were located in the urban sectors denoting a large coverage by them in the rural areas as well. Though, proportionately speaking, many more teachers could still be taken up by the rural sector. Among the rest were the nursery teachers or those not classified in the above categories. All these totalled 139 (8 women) in the District with 71 in the urban sector and among them were included a paltry number of three nursery teachers too, all belonging to the urban area.

Doctors

In the field of medical profession, the occupational category of physicians, surgeons and dentists claimed 120 persons, in all, in the District which included 3 women medical personnel only. Separately, the allopathic system claimed the largest of them with 54 physicians and surgeons belonging to it among whom were

included all the three lady doctors as well. Of these, almost half, with 25 allopathic physicians, etc. including two lady doctors were placed in the urban sector. However, the indigenous system of Ayurved had comparatively greater number of its physicians in the rural sector. Thus, of the total 36 Ayurvedic physicians, 26 belonged to the rural sector. The Homoeopathic system of medicine too seemed somewhat influential and well rooted in the area with even a greater proportion of its physicians distributed over the rural areas. Thus, though third in respect of strength with a total of 18, only 4 of the homoeopathic physicians in the District were then shown in the urban sector. The rest of the physicians, etc., not described in any of the above classes totalled 12 in the District with 5 of them in the urban sector.

Nurses And Pharmacists, etc.

As clerks, etc. are necessary to the functioning of the administrative machinery so is the case with nurses, pharmacists and other medical and health technicians in relation to the doctors and hospitals. This occupational category claimed a total of 440 personnel in this District. Of these, the nurses' class claimed 100 including 25 male nurses among them which, perhaps could be attributed to the coverage of a large number of labour colonies in the industrial belt of the District. The urban sector shared 20 of these nurses with just one male nurse. Then, there were as many as 59 nursing attendants and related workers also (3 females) with 27 of them in the urban sector which again indicated their concentration in the largely non-urban industrial sector. In others were included 74 mid-wives and health visitors (26 in the urban areas), and these were largely distributed to attend to the needs of the interior areas as well.

Pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians totalled 70 (one female) while, the sanitation technicians numbered 80 in the District with their urban areas share being 29 and 27, respectively.

Veterinarians

The profession of veterinarians can also not be divested from the field of medicine and they were counted in the class of biologists, veterinarians and agronomists according to the occupational classification. Thus, out of a total of 39 persons falling in that category in the District, the veterinarians numbered 27, in all of whom 7 belonged to the urban sector.

Engineers, Surveyors, etc.

The District being important from the mining or industrial point of view the profession of engineering and related work had a special significance for the area. These were counted in the occupational class of architects, engineers and surveyors which showed 208 persons under the category in the District. In break-up, they included 70 civil engineers with 47 of them in the urban sector; 14 mechanical engineers with 4 of them in the urban sector; 10 electrical engineers with one in the urban sector; 11 mining engineers with 7 in the urban sector and 52 surveyors with 18 in the urban sector. Besides, there were as many as 51 persons under the

category which were not classifiable as above, of whom, only 14 were claimed by the urban sector. There was no female among them which could be attributed to the peculiar nature of their jobs.

Another occupational category of chemists, physicists and geologists, etc., claimed just 8 persons in the District which included one woman, with 7 of them, including the woman, in the urban sector.

Jurists

The legal profession comprise, on the one hand, the judges and on the other, the lawyers with the latter playing a most crucial role in the political and social life of the District. The lawyers as a class have always formed the nerve centre of the political awareness in the local people. They alongwith the judges and others in the legal profession were counted under the occupational category of jurists which consisted of 82 personnel in the District. In break up, it showed 4 judges and magistrates all located in the headquarters-towns, 60 legal practitioners and advisors (one woman) with 39 of them in the urban sector, 4 law assistants with one in the urban area and 14 other jurists and legal technicians including petition writers, etc. with 13 of them in the urban sector. The strength of all these classes has presumably gone up considerably since 1961 and the profession of legal practitioners has particularly drawn towards itself the increasing number of law graduates.

Auditors, Social Scientists, etc.

The category of social scientists and related workers in the District totalled 92 and largely consisted of 54 accountants and auditors and 30 (5 women) labour and social welfare workers. Of these, as many as 49 from the former and 8 from the latter including all the five women belonged to the urban sector.

Artists, Writers, Etc.

Journalists and writers, etc., also formed an exclusive section of the society in the District and were counted in the category of artists, writers and related workers which in addition to other artists included the professional singing or drama groups as well. This class showed a total strength of 171 of which, naturally the writing or painting sections had a far lesser number than the performing arts. Thus, in break up, 5 including one woman were in the editors, journalists and related workers class; 4 were in translators or interpreters class and 3 in painters and decorators class. The first and last of these, respectively, had 4 (one woman) and 3 of them in the urban sector. Besides these, there were 47 actors and related workers, all male and all of them in the rural sector; 89 (9 women) musicians and related workers with 9, (all male) of them in the urban sector and 23 dancers and related workers, all of them in the rural sector.

Sales Workers

Persons engaged in the small and varied type of sales business may also fall within the scope of this chapter and they formed a substantial number among the overall sales workers in the District. Thus, of the 4,612 working proprietors in both

the whole sale and retail trade the latter claimed 4,612 (1,077 women) sales workers and 1,421 of them (153 women) were in the urban sector. Besides these, there were a total of 1,453 in the class of salesmen, shop assistants and related workers which mostly consisted of the petty sales workers. Largely, these could be further divided firstly, into salesman, shop assistants and related workers in both the whole sale and retail trade, numbering 571 (164 women) and secondly, into hawkers, pedlars and street vendors numbering 881 (165 women) in the District. The share of the urban sector from the former was 213 (14 women) while, from the latter it was 230 (43 women).

PERSONAL SERVICES

In the field of personal services could be counted both the services of cooks, domestic servants, etc., and the professions like those of tailors, barbers, washermen, etc.

Tailors

These were included in the occupational category of tailors, cutters and furriers, etc, which totalled 958 in the District. Most of them apparently belonged to the class of tailors, dress and garment makers numbering 925 with 168 females, and 355 of them with 78 females were placed in the urban sector.

Launderers

The washermen and related workers of the District were included in the launderers, drycleaners and dressers category of the occupational classification, which totalled 189 including 84 female workers among them. The urban sector claimed 79 of them including 25 female workers. More and more of the washermen, specially in the town areas, have been establishing their own laundry shops now-a-days instead of going from door to door.

Barbers

Barbers as a class generally belonging to a particular community, besides their profession of hair cutting get almost a regular job of attending at the various religious or ceremonial functions in family. Traditionally, though their profession is pursued by men, their women folk enjoy even greater importance on such occasions. The occupational category of barbers and hair dressers in the District counted 522 persons, all male, and with only 122 of them in the urban sector were adequately distributed over the rural areas as well.

Shoe-makers

This profession was covered under the occupational class of leather-cutters, lasters, etc. which counted a total of 1,759 persons, of whom, the actual shoe makers and shoe repairers, etc. were counted at 1,691, including 128 female workers among them. This class was also well distributed over the rural sector with only 144, including one female worker being in the urban sector.

Domestic Servants

The various kinds of house-servants were counted under the category of house keepers, cooks, miads and related workers which totalled 1,089, including

483 female workers. Of these, only a little less than half, that is 428 (208 females) worked in the urban sector.

Cleaners, Sweepers, Etc.

These were counted in the building caretakers, cleaners and related workers category. In the District, however, all those coming under the category belonged to the cleaners and sweepers class and numbered 739 in all, with 84 females, and 79 of them (25 females) worked in the urban sector.

As said earlier, the above description according to occupational classification though excellent for delineating the rural-urban occupational pattern and describing the specific occupations, has the limitation of not being up-to-date. As such, some industrial classification figures as available through the Employment Market Reports of the District, are tabulated below for giving a general idea of the later position.

Table No.VIII-1

Category-wise Strength Of Employment

	At the end of March		
	1968	1973	1974
Public Services in the Administrative Departments and Offices of			
Central Government	—	42	41
State Government	2,501	1,983	2,012
Local Self and Quasi-Government Organisations	280	544	580
Educational Services (Technical)	—	267	278
Educational Services (Non-technical)	2,976	3,397	3701
Public Health and Medical Services	807	992	1,033

The figures as classified above, however, only give broad idea and do not refer to individual occupations. And besides these, the Employment Market Report for the year 1974 also contained some general statistics about a few occupations covered in this chapter and they could as well be utilized here. Thus, it showed 111 legal practitioners, 15 private doctors and 18 merchants in the field of medicine in the district. There were also shown, among others, 40 hoteliers and 400 *pan-walas* in the business section according to this report.

CHAPTER - IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Shahdol District is an example of poverty amidst plenty. The District is endowed with rich forest and mineral resources. Its fertile valleys are encased by hills. The Katni-Bilaspur Railway when it passes through the District is dotted with collieries. Orient Paper Mills and Amarkantak Power Station are its star-attractions. A Sizeable portion (48 per Cent in 1971) of the population continuous to be Tribal. There are numerous small industrial units scattered all over the District. Yet there is poverty, for there is a wide chasm between potential and exploitation. Agriculture still dominates the economic scene. The tertiary sector is pitifully undeveloped.

Livelihood Pattern

The fact of the predominance of agriculture and allied activities in the livelihood pattern has been emphasized repeatedly at the consecutive Censuses. The data are not strictly comparable for the concepts and definitions have been changed or refined from census to census and as such it may not be possible to gauge the degree of change that has taken place over the past decades. Yet the conclusion is irresistible that agriculture dominates the economy of the District and will continue to do so in the decades to come in spite of the tendency towards industrialisation and urbanisation.

Census Of 1951

At the Census of 1951, a little less than nine-tenths (88.93 per cent) of the population derived its livelihood from agricultural occupations comprising cultivation (73.62 per cent), agricultural labour (15.06 per cent) and others (0.25 per cent). All the other non-agricultural occupations supported a little more than one-tenth, i.e., 11.07 per cent of the people of the District. Production other than cultivation accounted for 4.98 per cent and the tertiary sector for the remaining 6.09 per cent. The degree of growth of the tertiary sector is an index of the advancement and prosperity or otherwise of a people. Comprised within the sector are commerce (2.18 per cent), transport (0.89 per cent) and other services, and miscellaneous occupations (3.02 per cent).

Census Of 1961

In the census of 1951, even dependents were counted with the earner for determining the category of livelihood. The Census of 1961 for the first time introduced the concept of worker. Thus all the persons who worked, i.e., were economically active were treated as workers. These workers were counted as 455,405 out of the total population of 829,649. This means that 54.9 per cent of the

population of the District was economically active. Degree of participation in the economic activity was higher in case of males than females, the respective figures being 58.4 per cent, and 41.6 per cent. The participation rate was the highest, 62 per cent in the predominantly rural Pushparajgarh Tahsil. It was the lowest, 52 per cent in Bandhogarh Tahsil and was 55 per cent in each of the two other tahsils of Sohagpur and Beohari.

The workers were divided into nine classes or working categories. The working categories are shown in the following table. The table besides portrays the livelihood pattern of the workers in the District as well as the constituent tahsils.

Table No. IX - 1
Livelihood Pattern, 1961 - Tahsilwise

Categories	District	Beohari Tahsil	Bandhogarh Tahsil	Sohagpur Tahsil	Pushpara- jgarh Tahsil
Total Workers	100	100	100	100	100
I. Cultivators	66.5	66.9	62.4	64.8	80.7
II. Agricultural Labourers	17.0	22.6	18.2	15.7	12.7
III. Mining, Quarrying, Livestock Forestry, Fishing Hunting, Plantation Orchards and Allied Activities	4.5	2.3	6.2	5.3	1.5
IV. Household Industry	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.6	1.7
V. Manufacturing Other than Household Industry	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.2
VI. Construction	1.3	0.7	0.7	1.9	0.9
VII. Trade and Commerce	1.5	0.9	1.5	1.9	0.5
VIII. Transport, Storage and Communications	0.7	0.1	0.7	1.0	0.1
IX. Other Services	4.6	2.8	6.0	5.2	1.7

The livelihood categories have been described in brief in the following paragraphs:

Category I And II Agriculture

Category I and II represent agricultural occupations comprising cultivation and agricultural labour. More than eight-tenths of the workers (83.5 per cent) derived their livelihood from this source. In the entirely rural, mostly tribal, Pushparaigarh tahsil dependence on agriculture was the highest, i.e., 93.4 per cent amongst the tahsils of the District. Beohari, another entirely rural Tahsil was next in the District in respect the size of working force in agriculture. The two tahsils, Sohagpur and Bandhogarh, endowed with mineral wealth had a little over 80 per cent of their working force in agriculture.

Category III- Mining And Quarrying, etc.

The proportion of the working force employed in this category ranks far below agricultural categories I and II and below category IX miscellaneous services by a very small margin. This high participation rate, i.e., 4.5 per cent is a natural consequence of high level of employment in coal mines and widespread forests in the District.

As may be expected, proportion of workers in the category was the highest in the coal-rich tahsils of Sohagpur and Bandhogarh and lower in Beohari and Pushparaigarh tahsils.

Forestry and logging accounted for 23.6 per cent workers of this category. Livestock and hunting absorbed 32.2 per cent of the workers which mainly included rearing animals for milk or power. Mining and quarrying were responsible for 38.2 per cent workers almost entirely engaged in coal-mining. Shahdol District is one of the principal coal mining areas of the State.

Category IV - Household Industry

Participation in the household industry was to the extent of 3.4 per cent of the total working force. Viewed from the point of view of participation in the working force, this category ranked fifth in the District. The important constituents of this category were wood and wooden products (employing 10.6 per cent workers of the category), indigenous iron-smelting and making of agricultural implements (13.9 per cent) leather and leather products (19.5 per cent) textile goods (9.9 per cent) manufacture of structural stone-goods, etc. (6.6 per cent) and making of edible oils by *kolhu* or *ghani* (8 per cent).

As amongst tahsils, Beohari, Bandhogarh and Sohagpur each had a little higher percentage in this category than that of the District as a whole, (i.e., 3.4 per cent) while Pushparaigarh Tahsil's percentage was only 1.7 indicating a very low level of development of household industry in the Tahsil.

Category V- Manufacturing, Other Than Household Industry

This category employed the least number of workers in the district, only 0.5 per cent. As amongst tahsils the highest proportion of workers in the category was found in Bandhogarh and the percentage came to a bare 0.8. Most of the workers in

this category were concentrated in manufacture of structural clay products, such as, bricks, tiles, etc, and in manufacture of paper and paper products. These latter workers were engaged in the construction of the paper mills at Amlai (since completed). A good production of workers returned in this category consisted really of those engaged in some cottage industry, like tailoring, etc., performed at a place other than the place of residence.

Category VI - Construction

This category employed 1.3 per cent of the total workers and was seventh in respect of size of participation of the total workers. About 56 per cent of the workers were engaged in the construction and maintenance of roads, railways, bridges, etc.

Category VII- Trade And Commerce

Participation in this category was to the extent of 1.5 per cent, of the working force of the District, a little higher in comparison to category VI. Most of the workers, i.e., 90 per cent were engaged in retail trade of goods and articles which constitute the primary needs of human existence, i.e., cereals, pulses, oil, vegetables, clothing etc.

Category VIII - Transport, Storage And Communications

Less than one per cent and to be exact, 0.7 per cent of the workers participated in this category. The low participation rate in the category shows how poorly the transport and communication facilities were developed. Beohari and Pushparaigarh tahsils with 0.1 per cent of their workers in this category were most ill-equipped in this respect. More than two-thirds of the workers of the District in this category were in transport by railways. Bus transport was next in respect of participation, claiming roughly eight per cent of the workers in this category. Participation rate in case of post and telegraph communications was to the extent of about 3.3 per cent of the working force of the District while that for storage and warehousing was negligible.

Category IX - Other Services

Workers comprised within this category belong to educational services, public services in Union and State Governments, personal services like cooks, launderers, hair-dressers, public health and medical services and those not elsewhere classified.

This category had 4.6 per cent of the working force - the participation rate being almost equal to that in category III. Educational services (mostly teachers in colleges, high schools and primary schools) absorbed 14.4 per cent workers of this category. Public services account for 9.8 per cent. Personal services roughly made up 11 per cent. Medical and Public health services were responsible for only 2.6 per cent. Roughly 44 per cent of the workers belonged to the unclassified services.

Census Of 1971

At the subsequent census of 1971, the definition of the worker was changed, rather it was made more realistic, a person being termed as a worker with reference to his principal activity. A person was categorised as worker whose main activity was participation in any economically productive work physical or mental. The liberal definition of 1961 had tended to inflate the number of workers.

There was also a departure from the 1961 census regarding the classification of workers into nine categories. Mining and quarrying was taken out of category III and constituted as a separate category, Category IV. Category IV Household industry, was merged with category V. Category V was split up into two sub-categories (a) household industry and (b) industry other than household industry, the number of categories remained the same. It may be seen that the figures of Census of 1961, and that of 1971 are not strictly comparable.

At this Census a total of 383, 148 workers were enumerated out of a population of 1029, 839. Workers thus constituted 37.2 per cent of the population of the District. Out of these workers 298, 458 were males and 84,690 were females, the respective percentage to total workers being 78 and 22.

A table given below shows the division of these workers into the different livelihood categories.

Table No. IX - 2
Classification Of Workers - Categorywise - 1971

Livelihood Category		Workers (No.)	Percentage to total workers.
1	Cultivators	206,264	53.83
2.	Agricultural Labourers	114,803	29.96
3.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantation, Orchards and allied activities.	4,655	1.22
4.	Mining and quarrying	13,470	3.49
5.	Manufacturing, Processing servicing and repairing		
	(a) Household Industry	10,207	2.67
	(b) Other than household industry	5,857	1.54
6.	Construction	723	0.19
7.	Trade and Commerce	6,760	1.77
8.	Transport, Storage and Communications	3,218	0.85
9.	Other services	17,191	4.48
Total :		383,148	100

Workers in agricultural occupations comprising categories 1 and 2 accounted for 83.79 per cent of the total workers and their dominating position had not changed compared to previous census.

There appears to be little change in the pattern of livelihood during the decade (1961-71), the proportion and ranking in respect of the different categories remaining almost unaltered.

Prices

During the period 1881-90 in Rewa State (prices for the area comprising Shahdol District proper are not available) wheat was selling at 20 *seers* a rupee, gram at 22 *srs.*, rice at 16 *srs.* 4 *chh.* and *kodon*, the staple food of the poorer classes at 29 *srs.* The famine of 1897 shot up the prices-wheat selling at 8 *srs.*, 12 *chh.* a rupee, gram and rice each at 10 *srs.*

From the year 1904 prices of principal agricultural produce are available for Sohagpur centre. In 1904 (March) in Sohagpur a rupee bought 16 *srs.* 8 *chh.* of rice, 22 *srs.* of *kodon*, 18 *srs.* of gram, 16 *srs.* of wheat and again 16 *srs.* of *arhar*. The famine of 1907-08, considerably depreciated the value of the rupee-prices of foodgrains become abnormally high, even for a famine year. In 1908 (March), the rupee, with its value shrunk by almost a half, could purchase only 8 *srs.* of rice, 10 *srs.* 4 *chh.* of *kodon*, 10 *srs.* of gram, 9 *srs.* of wheat 11 *srs.* of *arhar* and 10 *srs.* of *jowar*.

Then came the First World War. Even the remote, land-locked Shahdol District could not escape from its repercussions. Poor harvests further aggravated the situation. The two causes, hand in hand, contributed to the rise in prices. The prices though not as high as during the famine year of 1907-08, were much above the normal level, for example, in 1917, (September), rice was sold at 9 *srs.* a rupee, *kodon* at 14 *srs.* 8 *chh.*, gram at 13 *srs.* and wheat at 11 *srs.* However, the three successive good seasons relieved the situation to a considerable extent.

The people, hardly had sufficient time to take a sigh of relief when came the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 as also a famine which brought untold misery to the people. Villages were devastated. Crops were left unattended in the fields. Closely following on the heels of this misfortune came the famine of 1920-21. In 1922 (September) the prevailing prices were rice 6 *srs.* 12 *chh.* a rupee, *kodon* 8 *srs.*, gram 7 *srs.* 8 *chh.* and wheat 7 *srs.* With intervening spells of still lower prices in 1927 the prices had eased in comparison to 1922. In this year (1927), a rupee bought 8 *srs.* of rice and 8 *srs.* 5 *chh.* of gram and wheat.

Prices In Fifties

The farm harvest prices of agricultural produce are available since the year 1950-51 and give an indication of the trend in prices. In the year 1950-51, farm harvest price of rice (medium) quality, was Rs. 15 per *maund*, of *jowar* Rs. 9.0, of wheat Rs. 20.0 and of gram Rs. 130.0 per *maund*. In the year 1954-55., a general fall in prices was seen when rice came down to Rs. 13.0 per *maund*, *jowar* to Rs. 4.00, wheat to Rs. 8.0 and gram to Rs. 6.00. The subsequent year saw an improvement in prices and the following years maintained the normal level with little fluctuations. However, in 1961-62, the prices had tended to move upwards-rice was Rs. 14.08 per *maund*. *Jowar* Rs. 9.69 per *maund*, wheat Rs. 13.93 per *maund* and gram Rs. 14.49 per *maund*. The rise in prices during the Second Five Year Plan (1956-57 to 1960-61) was marginal.

Prices In Sixties

The sixties witnessed a period of unabated rise in prices as a result of the Chinese aggression (1962) and war with Pakistan (1965). Rice (medium), which was quoted at Rs. 43.81 per quintal in 1963-64 rose to Rs. 63.03 the next year and Rs. 98.55 in 1968-69. Wheat during the same years rose from Rs. 51.48 to Rs. 90.58. However, rise in prices in oilseeds was at a much faster rate. Sesamun whose farm harvest price in 1962-63 was Rs. 69.73 per quintal and that of linseed Rs. 53.58 per quintal gradually soared to Rs. 149.77 and Rs. 137.30 in 1969-70, and the prices did not rest at this level. This disturbing upward movement in prices could be attributed to the economic dislocation caused by war with Pakistan in 1965 and bad seasons occasioned by deficient different rainfall during the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1968-69. The years 1969-70 and 1970-71 relieved the anxiety of the people to some extent as the prices of foodgrains had sagged a little. Rice in the latter of these two years had come down to Rs. 89.62 per quintal and wheat to Rs. 85.30. The prices of some agricultural crops are given in the following table :

Table No. IX-3
Farm Harvest Prices

Year	(Rupees per Quintal)					
	Rice	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum	Linseed
1962-63	N.A	26.79	33.94	33.18	69.73	53.58
1963-64	43.81	39.14	51.48	N.A	62.64	N.A
1964-65	63.03	47.48	54.90	56.12	95.43	65.65
1965-66	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	126.23	106.00
1966-67	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	164.45	155.00
1967-68	97.88	N.A	76.50	N.A	153.36	0.0
1968-69	98.55	N.A	90.58	N.A	124.64	113.22
1969-70	91.31	N.A	93.44	N.A	149.77	137.30
1970-71	89.62	N.A	85.50	N.A	187.00	140.76
1971-72	88.12	N.A	85.00	N.A	174.97	137.10
1972-73	109.18	N.A	104.44	N.A	222.96	161.22

Prices In The Seventies

The trend of rising prices witnessed in the sixties was maintained and even aggravated during the seventies. The year 1972-73 is notable for the fact that the price level touched the all time high record. A quintal of rice (medium) was sold for Rs. 109.18 and wheat for Rs. 104.44. Oilseeds had gone still higher. A quintal of sesamum could be bought for Rs. 222.96 and a similar quantity of Linseed for Rs. 161.22. The unprecedented influx of refugees from Bangladesh and subsequent armed intervention by India, had their impact on the economy of the country and contributed in part to this upward thrust in prices. The upward movement in prices had as if, become the normal behavior of prices.

However, it is noted with satisfaction that with the declaration of Emergency and implementation of the 20 point programme of Prime Minister, the trend of rising prices has been reversed.

Information regarding wages is not available on a continuous and uniform basis. An effort, however, has been made to present the prevailing level of wages at different times in the following paragraphs.

Statistics of wage prevailing in the District during the period of Rewa State are not available. However, some idea of the level of wages can be had from the figures available for the whole state. In the Rewa State, in the year 1906, wages of skilled labour like masons and stone-carvers had doubled in comparison to those of 1880, while in case of others there was practically no change. During the years 1880 wages of a mason and stone-carver were Rs. 3-5 Annas alike. In 1906 they increased to Rs. 6-10 and Rs. 8-12 Annas, respectively¹. Wages of carpenter and blacksmith moved in a similar fashion from As. 3-5 Pies to As. 4-8 Pies wages of a shoe-maker rose marginally from As. 4-0 to As. 4-6 during the same period.

Wages prevailing in the State during the famine year 1907-08 were much lower. A mate got As. 2, a digger As. 1-9 Pies, a carrier As. 1-3 Pies, and a working child between one anna and nine pies. The famine wage apparently provided sustenance to the unfortunate people. The normal wages would have been higher. Though they look like a pittance these days but they meant something then.

Wages In Early Fifties

It was found by the Agricultural Labour Enquiry Committee (1950-51) that in Zone I comprising Sidhi ad Shahdol Districts of Vindhya Pradesh that on an average a casual male agricultural labourer got Rs. 0-11-4 for agricultural work and Rs. 0-11-3 for non agricultural work while a female got Re. 0-10-6 for agricultural work and Rs. 0-8-0 for non agricultural work. Of course the wage rates for different agricultural operations varied according to the nature and urgency of work. This is shown in the Table below

Table No. IX-4
Wages Per Day Per Casual Worker

Operation	Men	Women
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
1	2	3
A. Agricultural Operation :		
1. Preparatory	0 - 14 - 5	0 - 9 - 7
2. Ploughing	0 - 11 - 3	0 - 8 - 3
3. Showing	0 - 8 - 0	—
4. Transplanting	—	0 - 12 - 10

(Contd.)

1. Rupee was equal to 16 Annas, or 192 Pies. An Anna fractioned 12 Pies, or 4 Paise.

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1	2	3
5. Weeding	0 - 9 - 7	0 - 11 - 5
6. Harvesting	0 - 11 - 3	0 - 11 - 3
7. Threshing	0 - 14 - 5	0 - 6 - 5
8. Others	0 - 8 - 0	0 - 11 - 3
All Operations	0 - 11 - 4	0 - 10 - 6
B. Non-Agricultural Labour	0 - 11 - 3	0 - 8 - 0

In case of a male worker rates were highest for preparatory and threshing work, i.e., Rs. 0-14-5. Payments of wages were mostly, about three fourths of the total work made in kind only, about one-fifth were made in cash and the remaining partly in cash and partly in kind. Perquisites were allowed for 29.5 per cent of the man-days. Embanking and to some extent harrowing were the only operations paid for at piece rates. The mean daily wages taking all modes of payment together worked out to Rs. 0.12-5 and Rs. 0.10-9 for men and women, respectively. It was noticed that inside the zone itself there was not much dispersion in wage rates

Wages in Beohari

Wage rates separately for Beohari centre are available for the years 1957 to 1961 (for the month of June) i.e. for the period of the second Five Year Plan and are reproduced below.

Table No. IX - 5
Wage Rates Beohari Centre

(In Rs. & Decimals)				
Year	Carpenter	Blacksmith	Ploughman	Sowers and Transplanters
1957	3.0	3.0	1.0	1.00
1958	4.0	3.0	1.0	-
1959	3.0	2.0	-	-
1960	2.0	2.0	0.87	0.87
1961	3.0	4.0	1.25	1.00

There was little change in the wage rates during the period while the wages of a carpenter and sower/transplanter remained practically unchanged at Rs. three and rupee one, respectively, during the years 1957 and 1961, that of a black smith increased from Rs. three to Rs. four and of a ploughman from Rs. 1 to Rs. 1.25.

Wages in Sixties

Average daily wage rates for certain classes of skilled and unskilled agricultural labourer for Shahdol District are shown in the following Table :

Table No. IX - 6
Daily Wage Rates Of Rural/Agricultural Workers

(Rs. & Decimals)						
Year	Carpenter	Black-smith	Cobbler	Plough-man	Sower Reaper and transplanter	Harves-tor
1960-61	2.44	2.17	1.81	0.95	0.93	0.90
1961-62	2.94	3.13	2.39	1.19	1.15	1.14
1962-63	3.40	3.23	2.36	1.77	1.21	1.29
1963-64	3.50	3.31	2.63	1.22	1.25	1.17
1964-65	3.54	3.25	2.54	1.34	1.48	1.25
1965-66	3.59	3.42	2.50	1.63	1.54	1.75
1966-67	3.50	3.23	2.75	1.50	1.62	1.46
1967-68	3.50	3.25	2.83	1.68	1.83	1.60
1968-69	4.33	3.79	3.46	1.50	1.70	1.50
1969-70	4.34	4.08	3.53	1.57	1.81	1.59
1970-71	4.32	4.00	3.60	1.75	1.97	1.90
1971-72	4.54	4.43	3.93	1.99	2.00	2.25
1972-73	4.73	4.73	4.33	2.00	1.83	1.98

The sixties in respect of wages as in regard to prices mark a definite upward movement. But unlike the wages of skilled labour wages of unskilled labour shows no significant upward trend. It will be seen that wages of carpenter which were recorded as Rs. 2.44 in 1960-61 increased to Rs. 2.94 in 1961-62 and Rs. 4.33 in 1968-69. The daily wages of a blacksmith which were Rs. 2.17 in 1960-61 rose to Rs. 3.13 in 1961-62 and Rs. 3.79 in 1968-69. The wages of a cobbler hopped from Rs. 1.81 in 1960-61 to Rs. 2.39 in 1961-62 and Rs. 3.46 in 1968-69. The wage of a ploughman increased from Rs. 0.95 in 1960-61 to Rs. 1.19 in 1961-62, that of a sower transplanter from Rs. 0.93 to Rs. 1.25 and of a reaper-harvester from Rs. 0.90 to Rs. 1.14 during the same year. In the year 1968-69 they were receiving, respectively, Rs. 1.50, Rs. 1.70 and Rs. 1.50. Wages of unskilled agricultural labourers were not only lower in comparison to those of skilled labourers but also did not increase at the same pace. This period covered by Third and Fourth Five Year Plans, like prices has been one of rise in wages also.

Wages in 1972-73

The rising trend of wages, as of price, was maintained in the early seventies and high level of wages was recorded in 1972-73. A carpenter demanded Rs. 4.73, a blacksmith Rs. 4.73, a cobbler Rs. 4.33, a ploughman Rs. 2 and a reaper-harvester Rs. 1.98.

Standard Of Living

Standard of living of the people to a large extent depends upon the economic condition and the material resources commanded by the people. Concentration of the working force in agricultural pursuits and consequent lack of diversification of economic effort is an indication of the backwardness of the economy implying low standard of living and low levels of urbanisation and industrialisation.

The Agricultural Labour Enquiry, 1950-51, provides some interesting and useful information about the earnings and pattern of expenditure of the agricultural labour of Shahdol District (combined with Sidhi District).

On an average each family consisted of 4.8 persons of whom 2.5 were earners. The women wage earners were as important as men. This was mainly due to general poverty and low rates of wages. On an average a man worked for wages for 233 days and a woman for 142 days in a year in agricultural operations. Non-agricultural labour provided employment to a man for 54 days and woman for about 45 days. In the district coal mining and forestry are the main avenues of non-agricultural work providing employment during off-season and slightly higher rates of wages. In spite of these avenues of employment an adult casual male worker remained idle for 26 days in a year and an adult attached male worker for 36 days in a year.

Consumption Pattern

The annual income of agricultural labourer's family worked out to Rs. 388 and expenditure to Rs. 381 (excluding ceremonies). An analysis of the pattern of expenditure showed that 89.6 per cent of the total expenditure was covered by food, 4.6 per cent by clothing and footwear, 0.07 per cent by fuel and lighting and 5.1 per cent by services and miscellaneous group. The high percentage of expenditure on food and absence of expenditure on housing and repairs indicate the poverty of agricultural labour. The poor agricultural workers generally consume maize, barley and *kodon*. In summer he makes his meals tasteful by adding to his diet the mangoes which grow in plenty. *Mahua* flowers form an important item of food which workers consume as main diet. Vegetables are a luxury. Only in rainy season they grow some vegetables themselves or they pluck some green tender leaves of the gram plant which they use as vegetable.

The productivity of Indian agriculture is proverbially low. This statement had greater relevance in a District like Shahdol where more than a little half of the entire population is tribal, concentrated in rural areas. Then the agricultural holdings are small and scattered to the extent of being extremely uneconomic. This fact is primarily responsible for the low standard of living of the vast majority of the people inhabiting the District. An idea of the smallness of individual holdings, i.e. dwarf holdings can be obtained from the 1961 census regarding household cultivation, treating the household itself as the unit. The results showed that about six per cent of the cultivating households owned next to nothing in the name of land, the size of the holdings cultivated by them being less than one acre each. About one sixth (16.8

per cent) of the households cultivated holdings between one and 2.5 acres each. The highest proportion, a little less than one-fourth, of all cultivating households were returned as cultivating between 2.5 to 5 acres each. Thus about 46 per cent households held dispressingly small holdings of less than five acres each which cannot by any stretch of imagination be called economic holding. Cultivating households to the extent of 18.4 per cent cultivated lands above five acres but below 7.5 acres in size. Considering the generally poor nature of the soil and scarcity of irrigation in the District even these holdings could not be considered to be economically viable units though perhaps they could yield bare subsistence returns to their owners. The data presented above indicates that about two-thirds of the cultivating household cultivated uneconomic holdings of less than 7.5 acres each in size. Fragmentation of holdings is yet another aspect of the agricultural holdings which leads to wastage of human and cattle resources and impedes production.

20 Point Economic Programme

This programme introduced by the Prime Minister of India has opened new vistas for the economic betterment of the backward, poor and resourceless segments of society. The programme embraces such measures as allotment of land for construction of houses to the poor and the landless, fixation of minimum wages for agricultural labour, equity of wages between male and female for the same kind of work, abolition of the system of bonded and forced labour, extinguishment of the liability to pay bonded debt, imposition of moratorium on the existing debts to private money lenders to mitigate rural indebtedness, etc. The announcement and gradual implementation of the Programme has brought about a psychological change among the people and when its full impact is felt it would mean transformation of their economic life also.

Besides, the State Government has already taken up schemes for the amelioration of the economic condition of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. Several development schemes were implemented in the District during the year 1975-76 to improve the economic and social condition of the people belonging to these backward classes. Agricultural subsidies totalling Rs. 6.23 lakhs were sanctioned to 297 farmers of scheduled tribe and 20 farmers of scheduled castes. Stipends of Rs. 5.04 lakhs were given to 1161 students residing in tribal hostels of the District and scholarships totalling Rs. 2.19 lakhs awarded to 1,838 scheduled tribe, 523 scheduled castes and 92 students belonging to the denotified tribes. Similarly, post-matric scholarships amounting to Rs. 68 thousand were awarded to 143 college students. Book Bank Scheme benefited as many as 8,112 students of scheduled tribes and 963 scheduled caste students.

Employment Exchange

An Employment Exchange has been in existence in Shahdol. It serves as a useful agency in bringing together those in search of workers on the one hand and those in search of work on the other. It thus eliminates much of the time that would have been otherwise spent in finding out suitable employment. The increasing

volume of work at the Exchange suggests that its services are becoming popular and increasingly being utilised by the employers and the unemployed people alike. This is demonstrated by the following figures:

Table No. IX - 7
Working Of Employment Exchange

Year	Registrations	Placings	Live Register At The End Of The Year	Number Of Employers Using The Services Of The Exchange
1958	2,581	315	1044	109
1960	3,187	908	815	163
1965	5,033	1,465	1,987	186
1970	5,111	998	2,405	90
1971	4,756	791	2,835	104
1972	5,992	675	3,994	105
1973	4,515	641	3,383	130
1974	4,784	592	3,712	70

The number of registrations increased successively from 2,581 in 1958 to 3,187 in 1960 and 5,111 in 1970 and 5,992 in 1972 but fell to 4,784 in 1974. The reason for the increase may be that larger number of unemployed availed themselves of the services of the exchange as it became more popular. However, the number of registrations is no reliable indication of the magnitude of unemployment existing in the District, for not all the unemployed may have sought the services of the Exchange and conversely many of the employed may have got themselves registered at the Exchange in quest of better job. The number of placings has also simultaneously increased from 315 in 1958 to 908 in 1960 and 1,465 in 1965. However, there was some decline in the succeeding years in this respect.

There is yet another employment exchange of Burhar known as Colliery Employment Exchange. Established in 1959 it mainly serves to fill up vacancies in the collieries of the District.

Community Development Programme

It was in October 1953 that the Community Development Programme was inaugurated in the District as part of the nationwide effort for the multi-dimensional progress of rural India, embracing all aspects of development in the social and economic life of the rural community. This was to be brought about by the simultaneous development of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, minor irrigation, education, social education, health, small scale and cottage industries, etc. Clear targets of physical accomplishments were set against which actual achievement

could be precisely evaluated. The programme was designed so as to bring the Government agency closer to the people, thereby bringing the gap between the people and the Government, bring the people's representatives nearer to the people, so as to provide the necessary leadership, develop representative institutions of the people from the ground upwards and bring about a coalition between the people's representatives and the people's servants manning the Government agency for a concrete effort for the building of New India.

Steps were taken from time to time to revitalise the programme to make it more broad-based and to secure more effective participation of the people both in formulation and implementation.

The first Block was opened at Kotma in Sohagpur Tahsil on October 2, 1953. It covered 17.75 per cent of the total area, 17.58 per cent of the total villages and 22.31 per cent population of the District. After a gap of an year and a half the next Block was started at Jaithari in Sohagpur Tahsil on 1st April, 1955. Each of the succeeding three years saw the beginning of the Block at the Tahsil headquarters Pushparajgarh, Umaria and Sohagpur each on 1st April of 1956, 1957 and 1958, respectively. The last Block came into existence on the Second October 1959 at Jaisinghnagar (Beohari Tahsil). In this way the entire District has been brought under the coverage of the programme in progressive stages. A Table in Appendix shows the details of coverage of the programme.

The programme has succeeded in a large measure in changing the outlook of the rural people towards development and creating in them a will to work for their economic betterment and a higher standard of living. Apart from individual improvement both in the economic and cultural fields, the efforts of the people in promoting community welfare has been substantial.

Emphasis has been placed on the proper development of the basic village institution, the Panchayat by providing it with more resources.

On the programme side agriculture continues to receive the highest priority and the Block agency plays an effective role in the organisation of Kharif and rabi campaigns.

The block is evolving as the unit of planning and development with an increasing devolution of programmes and resources on the Block agency. Efforts are made for bringing the Block programmes in tune with the pace of development and shifts in current priorities (like agriculture and family planning).

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

In the second half of the 19th Century, Shahdol tract formed a part of the then Rewa State. Sohagpur and Amarkantak tract were assigned by the British to the Maharaja of Rewa, in lieu of his loyal services, rendered during the Great Revolt of 1857. The administration of the State was assigned by the Ruler to a Diwan. The State was then divided into 7 tahsils, which among others included the tahsils of Sohagpur and Ramnagar (Beohari)¹ also.

The Tahsildar was the Chief Revenue Officer of the tahsil. He was also a Deputy Magistrate having criminal and civil jurisdictions. The Tahsildar was assisted by a Naib Tahsildar, *Kanungos*, *Patwaris* and the usual village-level staff. A *Thanedar* or *Kotwal* dealt with police matters where as the school masters and medical assistants supervised education and medical-relief facilities, respectively.²

After India became Independent (1947), the Princely States were merged with the Indian Union. A new State, named Vindhya Pradesh, comprising the States of Baghelkhand and Bundelkhand, including Rewa State, was formed in April, 1948 with Shahdol as one of its constituent districts. In 1956 Vindhya Pradesh became a part of the new Madhya Pradesh.

The administrative pattern of the District is the same as prevalent in other districts of Madhya Pradesh. The District is the basic unit of administration. The Collector as head of the district administration is the key functionary of the Government, having wide powers and great responsibilities. He is the link between the State Government and the people of the District, the custodian of law and authority, the pivot on which the local administration turns. Being the Chief Executive Officer of the District, he exercises general supervision over the district-level officers of various departments in their non-technical work. Co-ordination of the activities of various departments at district-level, control over local self-government bodies, if necessary, contact with the public in committees or during interviews with visitors, execution of government schemes and miscellaneous functions relating to the Panchayats, Census, Elections and relief measures in times of emergencies like floods, epidemics etc., also come within his purview. The powers and duties of the Collector have assumed much greater importance after Independence. There is now greater emphasis on his role in the Economic, Social and Cultural development of the District.

1. Rewa State Gazetteers, p. 54.

2. Ibid. p. 55.

Collectorate

The Collector Shahdol is assisted by 11 Deputy Collectors including two posts vacant as in 1976. The District is divided into 4 Sub-divisions, namely Sohagpur, Beohari, Bandhogarh and Pushprajgarh. Each Sub-division is headed by a Sub-Divisional Officer of the rank of a Deputy Collector. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Sohagpur has his headquarters at Shahdol. So also, the head quarters of Sub-Divisional Officer, Bandhogarh and Pushprajgarh have their head quarters at Umaria and Rajendragram, respectively. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Beohari has his head quarters at Beohari. The remaining Deputy Collectors assist the Collector at Shahdol in the work relating to Land Revenue and Land Records, Law and Order, Development, Debt-Relief, Food and Civil Supplies elections etc. The narrative on the organisational set-up of the Collectorate may be divided into three main groups namely, (1) Land Revenue and Land Records, (2) Law and Order and (3) Development.

Land Revenue And Land Records

For the administration of the first group of subjects Shahdol District is divided into four tahsils, namely, Sohagpur, Beohari, Bandhogarh and Pushprajgarh. Each tahsil constitutes a Sub-Division also. The tahsil headquarters are the same as those of sub-Division's mentioned above. There is one Tahsildar posted at each tahsil, besides an Additional Tahsildar posted at Sohagpur. To assist the Tahsildars there are 14 Naib-Tahsildars. Of them 5 are posted at Sohagpur, 3 at Beohari, 3 at Bandhogarh and 3 at Pushprajgarh.

At the village-level, the Land Records and Land Revenue work is carried-on by Patwaris whose office in the past was hereditary, and their work is supervised by Revenue Inspectors. There are 25 Revenue Inspectors Circles and 402 Patwari Circles. Approximately, a Patwari Circle embraces 5 villages. Besides, four Patwaris are working as Work-Load-Patwaris. The following table gives details of the distribution of work.—

S.No.	Tahsil	No. of R. I. Circles	No. of Patwari Circles
1.	Sohagpur	12	184
2.	Bandhogarh	5	84
3.	Beohari	4	68
4.	Pushprajgarh	4	66
Total		25	402

At the district-level, a Superintendent of Land Records, assisted by three Assistant Superintendents of Land Records, supervises the work of Revenue Inspectors and Patwaris.

Law And Order

In the maintenance of Law and Order the Collector functions as District Magistrate, assisted by the District Magistracy and the Police. The Police force of the District is headed by a Superintendent of Police. All the Sub-Divisional Officers act as Sub-Divisional Magistrates to assist the Collector in this regard. One of the Deputy Collectors of head quarters Shahdol functions as Additional District Magistrate in this regard. Besides, the Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars also enjoy magisterial power under the Criminal Procedure Code as are necessary for the effective maintenance of Law and Order and the prevention and suppression of crimes.

Development

The Collector is assisted by a Deputy Collector in this regard. There are 12 Development Blocks in the district, namely, Sohagpur, Beohari, Pushprajgarh (Rajendragram), Kotma, Anuppur, Burhar, Karkell, Jalthari, Jai Singh Nagar, Manpur Pali No. 1. (Sohagpur), Pali No. 2 (Pali). Each Block is headed by a Block Development Assistant and the Block is Provided with a team of Extension Officers drawn from various departments including Agriculture, Co-operation, Social Welfare and Veterinary Department. Further down, as a whole 141 *Gram Sewaks* and *Gram Sevikas* are provided for the blocks who are provided for the blocks who are drawn from the Agriculture Department.

The Collector is also associated with a number of other committees in the District. Important among them is the District Advisory Committee, Constituted in 1958 in every district. The set-up of the Committee is as shown below :-

1. President :- A non-official member is elected president in every meeting only for conducting the proceedings of the meeting.
2. Members :-
 - (a) All members of Legislative Assembly elected from constituencies in the District.
 - (b) All members of Parliament elected from the constituency the major part of which lies in the District.
 - (c) Presidents of Janpad Panchayats.
 - (d) Presidents of Municipal Committees in the District.
 - (e) The President of the District Co-operative Bank.

3. Secretary

The Collector functions as Secretary of the Committee and he prepares the agenda of the meeting.

4. District Officials

The District Officials are also invited by the Collector to attend the Meeting as and when problems affecting their particular departments are under consideration in the meeting. The functions of the Committee are of an advisory nature. Problems of general public interests and local importance only are discussed by the Committee.

District Planning Board

For the economic development of the District, a District Planning Board is also set up in the District, as in other districts of the State. The constitution of the Planning Board is as under :-

1. President :- A Minister nominated by the Chief Minister for the District.
2. Vice President:— The Divisional Commissioner.
3. Member Secretary:— The Collector.
4. Members :-
 - (a) President of District Panchayat.
 - (b) President of the biggest Municipal Committee.
 - (c) President of the District Co-operative Bank
 - (d) President of the District Land Mortgage Bank
 - (e) District Manager of Lead Bank
 - (f) All M.L.As and M.Ps. of the District.
 - (g) Two social workers nominated by the Government
 - (g) A lady member (if there is no such member in list)

Statutory Powers Of Collector

Excise

The Collector is also vested with statutory powers under Excise Act, so as to enable him to implement the excise and prohibition policy of the Government. In this regard the Collector is assisted by an Excise Officer, who has been provided with a team of excise staff which includes an Excise Inspector, 11 excise Sub-inspectors 3 of whom are working as Ware housing Officers, a Head Constable, and 11 Constables.

Treasury

The power of control of the District Treasury and Sub-Treasuries is vested in the Collector. An officer of the Madhya Pradesh Accounts Services functions as Treasury Officer looking after the work of District Treasury at Shahdol. There are three Sub-Treasuries in the District located at tahsil head quarters at Beohari, Umaria (Bandhogarh) and Rajendragram (Pushprajgarh). The respective Tahsildars function as Sub-Treasury Officers.

Registration

Yet another responsibility of the Collector is the execution of the Registration Act. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Sohagpur functions as Ex-officio District Registrar of Shahdol District with head quarter at Shahdol. There are five sub-Registration Offices located at Shahdol, Sohagpur, Beohari, Umaria and Rajendragram, each under the charge of Sub-Registrar.

The Collector has also to look after, Food and Civil supplies, Nazul works, Diversion, Debt Relief and Election etc. The Deputy Collectors in charge of these branches assist the Collector in the discharge of these duties.

Food And Civil Supplies

To look after the work of food and civil supplies in the District, a Food Officer is posted at Shahdol to assist the Collector in this regard. The Food Officer is assisted by an Assistant Food Officer, 10 Food and Civil Supply Inspectors, 2 Assistant Food and Civil Supply Inspectors and usual staff.

Land Diversion (Assessment)

For reassessment of diverted land in the District a Superintendent of Land Records (Diversion) is posted at Shahdol, who is assisted by 6 Revenue Inspectors and 8 Chainmen. On completion of enquiry of diverted land by the Superintendent of Land Records, the concerned Sub-Divisional Officers pass the orders for fixation of reassessed land revenue. There is yet another Superintendent of Land Records looking after the ceiling work of land in the District.

Record Of Rights

For preparation of Record of Rights, two Assistant Record of Rights Officers are posted at Shahdol since 1966-67. They are assisted by 5 Assistant Superintendents of Land Records, 1 Draftsman, 7 Tracers, 2 Peshi Inspectors, 65 Additional Revenue Inspectors and usual staff.

Nazul Work

The Nazul work in the District is looked after by a Deputy Collector posted at headquarters, who is designated as Nazul Officer. In his work the Nazul Officer is assisted by a Tahsildar (Nazual) and usual staff.

Debt Relief

Two of the Deputy Collectors at the headquarters function as Presiding Officers of the Debt Relief Court. One post of the Presiding Officer was vacant, as in January, 1976.

The Collector represents the State Government in the District and is the Chief co-ordinating authority at the district-level. In Order to strengthen his position as the Chief Administrator of the District, the State Government has conferred upon him various powers. The Collector has been authorised to issue instruction of a mandatory nature to any District Officer, excepting Officers of Judiciary, Labour and Sales Tax Department and has been empowered to inspect any district-level office.

Other District Level Offices

The following is the list of various other Divisional and District Offices located in the District, which are under the control of their own Heads of Departments :-

1. The District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol.
2. The Superintendent of Police, Shahdol
3. The Civil Surgeon, Shahdol.
4. The District Family Planning-cum--Health Officer, Shahdol.
5. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Shahdol.

6. The Conservator of Forests, Shahdol.
7. Divisional Forest Officer, National Park, Umaria.
8. Divisional Forest Officer, Umaria Forest Division, Umaria.
9. Divisional Forest Officer, North Shahdol, Shahdol.
10. Divisional Forest Officer, South Shahdol, Shahdol.
11. Divisional Forest Officer, Plantation, Shahdol.
12. Divisional Forest Officer, Lumber Division, Shahdol.
13. Working Plan Officer, (South) Shahdol.
14. Divisional Forest Officer, Bamboo Division, Shahdol.
15. Director, Forest School, Amarkantak.
16. The Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R) Shahdol.
17. The Executive Engineer, Irrigation No.1, Shahdol.
18. The Executive Engineer, Irrigation No.2, Shahdol.
19. The Executive Engineer, Ban-Sagar Project, No. 2, Shahdol.
20. The Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Shahdol.
21. Assistant Director, Veterinary Services, Shahdol.
22. Officer on Special Duty, Govt. Milk Scheme, Shahdol.
23. Malaria Officer, Shahdol.
24. District Educational Officer, Shahdol.
25. District Public Relations Officer, Shahdol.
26. District Commandant, Home Guards, Shahdol.
27. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Shahdol.
28. District Organiser, Tribal Welfare, Shahdol.
29. Sales Tax Officer, Shahdol.
30. District Statistical Officer, Shahdol.
31. District Panchayat and Welfare Officer, Shahdol.
32. Assistant Director, Industries, Shahdol.
33. District Employment Officer, Shahdol.
34. Employment Officer, Colliery Employment Exchange, Burhar,
35. Assistant Fishery Officer, Shahdol.
36. Insurance Medical Officer, E. & I. Schemes, Amlai.

Central Government Offices

The Organisational set-up of the Central Government offices located in the District is described below. :-

Postal Department

The Post Master is incharge of the Head Post Office, Shahdol. He supervises

the work of all post offices of the District. The Post Master, Shahdol works under the administrative control of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Bilaspur Division, Bilaspur.

In his work, the Post Master is assisted by an Inspector of Post Offices, 17 clerks and usual class IV staff.

Welfare Inspector

For the Welfare of coal-miners of Vindhya Pradesh, Korea and Korba coal-fields, one office of the Welfare Inspector (Mines) Ministry of Labour, Government of India, was established at Shahdol in March, 1969. The Welfare Inspector Works under the administrative control of the Deputy Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner, Jabalpur. The Inspector is assisted by an Assistant Inspector, Labour Welfare (Mines) Dhanpuri a cooperative Inspector, three Co-operative Organisers and usual staff.

The Welfare Inspector is responsible for enforcement of the Coal Mines Pit Head Bath Rules and Mines Creche Rules, besides providing medical, recreational, educational and allied facilities to the miner and their families.

Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri

For the treatment of colliery workers and their dependents, a Regional Hospital was opened at Dhanpuri in 1957, under the charge of a Medical Superintendent. The Medical Superintendent, Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri has jurisdiction over the coal-fields in the Vindhya Pradesh region. He works under the administrative control of the Superintendent I/C Central Hospital, Manendragarh (District Surguja) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Coal Mines, Labour Welfare Organisation, Government of India.

The Medical Superintendent, Dhanpuri is assisted by a Junior Medical Officer (Women) a Ward Sister, a Staff Nurse, a midwife, an 'X' Ray Technician, a Laboratory Technician and a compounder together with the usual staff.

CHAPTER - XI REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Early System

In early days in the Rewa State from which this District has been carved out, the land was made over to farmers who held large tracts and paid a fixed sum into the State Treasury. The land revenue was collected mainly in kind, the system being known as *bhag* or share, in which a fraction of the produce, varying with the locality, was taken. Another important feature was that the cultivators enjoyed special privileges according to their castes also. Brahmins, Kshatriyas and Kayasthas paid the revenue in kind at the rate of one-seventh of the produce for land in which they held no proprietary right and one-eighth (or one-tenth in special cases) for land in which they held proprietary rights, such as, *bandh* (embankment) lands, etc. Cultivators enjoying no special privileges, such as, Kachhis, Kunbis, etc., paid one-sixth for lands in which they held no proprietary right and one-seventh for lands in which they held proprietary rights. One-tenth of the produce was taken for waste or *bagar* lands.

In addition to the *bhaghai* or *bhag* paying land, there was generally some land on which revenue was paid in cash, this was called *karta*. It was levied in *jagirs*, but only on highly improved land known as *kher* or *dih* or land that was formerly occupied by a village and was afterwards converted into fields. In certain cases, the cultivators received an allowance for agricultural expenses, but in that case the fraction of the *bhag* was higher. The general rule in *bhag* payment was that one-fourth of the total produce was allowed to the cultivator for his expenses, one-fourth or one-fifth as the case might be, being levied on the remainder as *bhag*. In Ramnagar and Sohagpur tahsils, the *bhag* rates ranged from one-ninth to one-twelfth of the total produce. In the southern portions of Ramnagar and in the hilly portions of Sohagpur, the cultivators were allowed to till as much hilly or waste land as they could with one plough on payment of one rupee as revenue. In such places, the cultivators could cover twenty *bighas* with one plough, but as the soil was poor, they could produce extremely small crops.

In the beginning of the 20th century, payments of revenue in cash was introduced in the *kothar* (*khalsa*) lands but *Thakurs* and *Zamindars* adhered to a certain extent to the old practice of levying revenue in kind, though there was a growing tendency to replace it by cash payments.

Tenures

The lands of the State were partly held by the Darbar direct, i.e., unalienated lands and were known as *kothar* (*khalsa*) lands and partly by *Thakurs* and *zamindars*, i.e., alienated lands under various forms of tenure, classed generally as *pawaiya* land. In *kothar* areas, the tenants had their land under the regular

settlement. They had only cultivating rights so long as they paid the revenue and had no proprietary rights. Cultivators who introduced improvement on land by constructing irrigation works, etc., however, were allowed to enjoy proprietary rights and were permanently assessed in the proportion of 55 to 45 per cent. Darbar receiving 55 and the cultivator 45 per cent of the gross revenue.

The important tenures in *pawaiya* or alienated lands were as follows :-

Mamla (meaning transaction)

Most of the *Mamladars* were the relations of the Ruling House being descendents of younger brothers of the former Maharaja. There were also *Thakurs* whose estates had been resumed by the Darbar. The grant might be hereditary and carried with it a liability to pay tribute, which could be enhanced on the recognition of a new successor. All *mamladars* had full revenue rights, except the rights of sale or transfer. Theoretically, the tribute paid was one-fourth of the *nikasi* (gross revenue) of the estate, but in practice was much less.

Paipalcher (washing the feet)

It was a form of religious grant made only to Brahmins. The grantees enjoyed all rights in the soil subject to the payment of *chouth* (1/4 of the revenue) to the Darbar from the fourth generation of grantee.

Brit

It was a revenue free tenure given to Rajputs and others. The grants were temporary and discretionary and the grantees had no right of alienation or transfer.

Jagire

This was the grant of land in return for personal service, mainly military service, in lieu of cash payment.

Murwar

Murwar or death grants were revenue free grants made to persons whose relations were killed while fighting for the State. These grants were hereditary and transferable, subject, in certain cases, to rendering military service.

Pachpan-Paintails

Under this tenure, the Darbar received 55 and the cultivator retained the remaining 45 per cent of the gross revenue. This tenure was usually a quasi-proprietary holding in which the *haq* was granted because the tenant had made an improvement on the land.

Dewarth

These were religious grants made either for support of the temples or to provide a dole for indigent persons. They were not transferable.

Nankar

It literally meant bread maintenance grants. These were made chiefly to *Thakurs*, whose estates had been resumed by the Darbar. They were heritable, but

not transferable.

Bhalp (bhai)

These were friendly grants, having most of the features of *britta*, and carrying similar rights. Theoretically, they were given as a mark of friendship and were to last as long as the friendship survived.

Thus many kinds of land tenures existed in Rewa State which were not so common in the neighbouring areas.

Settlement Of 1881-85

The first settlement was made during the years 1881-95. During this settlement, the rules of assessment were framed after ascertaining the previous payment in cash or *bhag*. The average produce of the field was estimated and an equivalent in cash was fixed as revenue. Caste of the cultivator was also taken into consideration. The rent was not increased during the currency of the settlement. The *thekedar* (contractor) merely collected rent from the cultivators and deposited into Tahsil Treasury after deducting his commission. The settlement was for a term of 10 years. The incidence varied in the different Tahsils from Rs. 1-7-8 to 2 annes 3 pies being lowest in Sohagpur Tahsil.

Settlement Of 1903-15

The second settlement (of 1903-15) was for 12 years and comparatively was a better effort as on this occasion the land was measured and each cultivator was given a lease (*patta*) for the land in his possession. The rates were determined on the crop bearing power of the soil, existence of *bandhs* and the position of the field as regards facility for export or sale of produce. In Sohagpur Tahsil, however, the lands were wholly alienated to *Thakurs* and *Illakadars*; the lands were neither measured, nor *pattas* were issued to the cultivators. Similarly, in Beohari and Bandhogarh Tahsils, lands were never measure and leases were not given to the cultivators, but the tenants, could not be ejected from their holdings by the *Thakurs* except for arrears of rent, remaining unpaid after passing of a decree.¹ The rent (*jama*) of each tenant was fixed by the Settlement Officer. Beohari Tahsil was settled during 1906-10. The revenue demand was raised from Rs. 58,537 as at previous settlement to Rs. 89,331 at this settlement i.e., by 52.61 per cent. Details of the other Tahsils are not available.

Settlement Of 1920-29

The third settlement of 1920-29 was organised on scientific lines, cadastral survey was made, maps were prepared and soils were classified. The settlement operations were conducted by Mr. Bomford, the Settlement Commissioner. The progress of the settlement was slow and not very satisfactory because of inexperience of workers and the occurrence of famine. During the year 1923-25, the Beohari, Sohagpur and Bandhogarh Tahsils were taken up for cadastral survey and soil classification.

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1905-06, pp. 2-3.

There was an immediate increase in land revenue aggregating Rs 63,605 in respect of the tahsils Beohari, Sohagpur and Bandhogarh as then constituted on the area held in kothar, 55/45 and *paipakhar* lands. The details are given in the table below.

Table No. XI - 1
Effect Of The Settlement

	Beohari	Sohagpur	Bandhogarh
Kothar			
Past	86,481	41,794	1,00,201
Present	1,13,318	55,095	1,19,415
Percentage	31%	32%	19%
55/45			
Past	231	—	970
Present	387	—	1,078
Percentage	68%	—	1%
Paipakhar			
Past	3,629	117	2,529
Present	6,345	322	2,607
Percentage	74%	75%	3%
Total of three tenures			
Past	89,341	44,911	1,03,700
Present	1,20,048	55,417	1,23,100
Actual enhancement on three tenures			
Percentage	34%	32%	19%
Assessment on other pawals			
	68,100	2,16,102	22,091

The term of the settlement was fixed for 20 years for the District.

Land Revenue And Tenancy Code, 1935

The Rewa Land Revenue and Tenancy Code was passed in the Year 1935. The settlement operations were hence forward to be made and revised according to the provisions of this Code. According to this Code the Darbar had right to appoint the Settlement Officers who were in charge of the settlement of the local area and as many Assistant Settlement Officers and Assistant Records Officers as may be necessary to work and to carry out the settlement operations (Sections 146 to 170) just on the lives of others adjacent territories. No new settlement has been made in this area. so far.

Abolition Of Jagirs And Land Reforms Act, 1952

In the changed conditions of the post- Independence period, institutions like *jagirdaris* and *zamindaris* came to be regarded as anachronism and popular demand was raised for putting an end to them.

After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh, the V.P. Abolition of Jagirs and Land Reforms Act was enacted in 1952 to abolish the *jagirdars* and *pawaidars* and to recognise the claims of the tillers of the soil. This was enforced from July, 1953. According to the Act, the *jagirdars* and *pawaidars* were allotted all *sir* or *khudkast* lands which they were personally cultivating for a continuous period of three years. In case of a *jagirdar* having no *sir* or *khud-kast* or if he had less than 250 acres, he could be allotted *sir* or *khud-kast* out of *jagir* land, subject to the availability of the land, to the extent of 250 acres. In all *jagir* lands excepting the *sir* or the *khud-kast* that had been allotted or the grove lands which a *jagirdar* was entitled to retain, all tenants of the *jagir* lands were made *pattedar* tenants. Thus, the tillers of the soil became masters of the land.

The following table shows the details of numbers of *pawals*, *jama nikasi* (gross income), cultivated area and compensation of *pawai* villages about Shahdol District.¹

Table No. XI-2
Details Regarding *Pawai* Villages

1. Number of <i>Pawai</i> villages	No.	1,402
2. <i>Jama Nikasi</i>	Rs.	4,45,728
3. Cultivated area	Acres	5,11,010
4. Self cultivated area (<i>Sir</i> of <i>Pawaidars</i>)	Acres	27,794
5. Deductions from the gross income to arrive at the net income -		
(a) Administrative Charges 17%	Rs.	75,764
(b) Revenue payable to Government	Rs.	84,357
(c) Valuation of <i>Sir</i> land	Rs.	24,201
	Total :	1,84,322
6. Net Profit of <i>Pawaidars</i>	Rs.	2,61,406
7. Amount of Compensation	Rs.	23,87,024

As no fresh settlement has been made in the District the prevalent rates continue to exist. The land revenue is collected in two instalments, the first instalment (*Kharif kist*) being due on the 15th January and the second instalment (*rabikist*) on the 15th May in all the tahsils of the District.

1. H.D. Malviya, Land Reforms in India, p. 268

Land Revenue Code, 1959

In the reorganised State of Madhya Pradesh, the whole position regarding land tenures and tenancy reforms in the constituent units was reviewed and, as a result, a unified Land Revenue Code, 1959 was enacted and brought into force from the 2nd of October, 1959. This Code incorporates all the important features of land reforms such as uniformity of tenures, protection of tenants against arbitrary ejection, rack-renting and conferring *bhumiswami* rights on them.

In place of several tenures existing previously, the Code provides for only one class of tenure holders of land from the State for agricultural purposes to be known as *bhumiswami*. A *bhumiswami* has rights of transfer subject only to one restriction that such transfer does not either create a holding above a prescribed limit or an uneconomic holding below ten acres. Subject to certain rules in respect of the cutting of certain species of trees, he will have full rights over all kinds of trees in his holdings. A *bhumiswami* has also a right to mortgage his land both by the simple or usufructuary mortgage.

The Code protects the rights of sub-tenants. All persons holding land from *bhumiswami* as lessees (sub-tenants) were to be termed as occupancy tenants. An occupancy tenant can be conferred *bhumiswami* rights on his paying 15 times the land revenue in five equal instalments. Occupancy tenants have taken advantage of this statutory provision. To protect the existing occupancy tenants of *bhumiswami* from being rack-rented it has been laid down that the maximum rent payable by an occupancy tenant shall not exceed four times the land revenue in the case of irrigated lands, three times in the case of lands under *bandhs* and twice in other cases. No sub-letting or leasing of land is now permitted except in very emergent cases, once in three years or by certain classes of persons, such as widows, unmarried women, minors, etc. The Code provides for the preparation of a new set of record of rights. The entries in them shall be kept up to date by bringing them on record annually.

Income From Land Revenue And Special Cesses

The revenue from land has always been an important source of income of the State. Figures of land revenue collection for the District for the earlier period are not available as the District had no separate existence of its own. However, the receipts from land revenue were Rs.6.49 lakhs in 1955-56, and Rs.5.65 lakhs in 1960-61.

The land revenue is collected by the Patwaris who are performing the duties of Patels under section 222(3) of the M.P. Land Revenue Code, 1959, except one Patel working at Keolari in Pushparajgarh tahsil. Twenty-four Gram Panchayats have also been assigned the work of the collection of land revenue as an experimental measure in the District.

As a measure of relief to the poor cultivators, the Madhya Pradesh Government exempted from the land revenue the holdings, the area of which did not exceed 7.5 acres and also the holdings of which the land revenue did not exceed five rupees by passing the M.P. Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1966, promulgated

on the 23rd December, 1966 and replaced by an Act No.6 of 1967. By the M.P. Act No.20 of 1968, the land revenue was abolished in respect of any holding used exclusively for agriculture from 1st July, 1968 and a new tax namely, Land Development Tax (*Krishi-Bhumi Vikas Kar*) was imposed on all holdings in excess of ten acres and they were taxed at the rate at which such holdings were assessed to land revenue under the Code immediately before the 1st July, 1968. The entire *Bhumi Vikas Kar* was to be spent on development of agriculture. But in 1969 again by an Act No. 5 of 1969 the land development tax was abolished and the land revenue under Section 58-A of the Code was again imposed, the exemption limit and the rates remaining the same. Thus, it amounted to practically a change in the nomenclature of the tax only. This section was again amended by the M.P. Act No. 23 of 1972 when the economic holdings were re-defined. Instead of ten acres, the area of exemption from land revenue was fixed at five acres.

Land in which commercial crops were grown, was beyond the scope of exemption. Land under commercial crops was taxed by an Act called *Vanijya Fasal Kar* Act, 1966 under which *Fasal Kar* was levied on the cultivation of commercial crops, such as, cotton, sugarcane, groundnut, poppy (opium), tobacco, etc. This Act was amended in 1970 by which an upward revision of the tax in different crops was made.

A surcharge was imposed from 1st July, 1972 on land revenue under the M.P. *Bhoo-Rajaswa (Adhibhar)* Act, 1972 (No.24 of 1972). This is charged on the individual holdings of more than 10 acres except such holdings of less than 10 acres which are in receipt of irrigation from any Government source.

This Act of 1972 was superseded by another Act (*Gramin Vikas Kar*, 1974) in 1974 by which *Gramin Vikas Kar* was imposed at different rates as per classification of land according to irrigated, non-irrigated, cultivated, uncultivated, etc. Income from this tax, it was stipulated, will be earmarked for schemes of rural development.

Cesses And *Siwal* Income

During the Princely Rule, cesses as distinct from land revenue were imposed by the Darbar and the *Pawaidars*. The settlement, road and school cesses were imposed in 1867 by the Darbar on *pawais*, but the settlement cess was abolished a few years later and the other two in 1891. All the *Pawaidars* were allowed to impose five cesses which were also collected by the Darbar in *Kothar* lands. These were (1) *Daljawan* imposed in 1903 by the Darbar payable for marriage in the Darbar's family; (2) *Bawal* levied on agricultural produce brought to *bazar* for sale; (3) *Chamari* cess was levied for the right of collecting hides on *Chamars*; (4) *Bokra Pichhaura* cess was a marriage cess paid only by limited 33 castes; and (5) *Chaukidari* cess was paid to *chaukidars* but it was abolished by the Darbar in the settlement of 1920-29.

An important change in this regard was made when Rewa State was merged in Vindhya Pradesh in 1948. A Panchayat cess was introduced under the Vindhya Pradesh Panchayat Act (1949) on land revenue and rentals of proprietors and tenants (other than sub-tenants). After the merger of the State in Madhya Pradesh,

the M.P. Panchayats Act, 1962 was enacted and according to it, a cess at the rate of 10 paise per rupee is levied only at the Panchayat level.

As regards the *siwai* (miscellaneous) income, the sources are the auction of the fruit trees, forest trees, river banks and utilisation of water.

LAND REFORMS

Relations Between Landlords And Tenants

Thekedari System

It is clear from the earlier history of the land revenue that under the *thekedari* system the fixed sum was deposited in the State Treasury and the *Thekedars* were so powerful that they could fleece the cultivators, who were left to all intents and purposes entirely to their own devices. The system was so pernicious to the cultivators that it came to be described as 'undesirable system' and the importance of land reforms began to be gradually realised by the Darbar. Only after the regular and summary settlement of 1881-95 and 1903-15, the position of the tenants improved considerably. The settlement officer made a thorough inspection of the villages and examined their condition at the time of settlement. During this period, it came to light that the administration had slackened as a result of which encroachments by powerful land owners against the right of Darbar and the holding of less influential individuals had become common. Therefore, at the time of revision such questions were examined and the rights of the State or of the tenants were decided.

As noted earlier, the unalienated lands were known as *kothar* or *khalsa*, where the tenants had no statutory right and the Darbar dealt with the tenants direct. The tenants received leases (*pattas*), from the Settlement Officer. Thus, the position of the cultivators in these villages was more secure. There was a fixity of State demand and undisturbed position of the land during the currency of the settlements, with a promise of continued possession of the holding in the next settlement if he accepted the new assessment. The pity was that under this system, the land revenue was collected through *thekedars* as per terms of the lease and in return, they were paid specified commission. These *thekedars* had a right to eject a tenant for arrears of rent and used to make arrangements for the land thus vacated during the currency of the settlement.

In Rewa State, a unique rule was in existence which helped the improvement of land known as *kher usalna*.¹ The cultivators who made *bandhs* (embankments) or made any improvement in land with the Darbar's permission (which was generally granted) acquired proprietary and transferable right in the land, thus improved. This acted as a great incentive for the acquisition of proprietary rights in land and a number of *bandhs* were built every year.

In the year 1924-25, the Darbar had sanctioned *Nautor* Rules under which tenants could be given large tracts of land of very favourable rates.² These Rules

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1904-05, p.3.

2. Ibid. 1924-25, p. 24.

were widely circulated so that the cultivators who had left the State, might come back and take *parti* (barren) lands for cultivation under the *Nautor* Rules.

Though, the Darbar was conscious of the problems of the cultivators and took measures to solve them but such measures could serve only as a palliative in face of the perpetuation of a declining, stagnant and inefficient rural economy. Reform of the agrarian structure and agrarian relationship between the Government and the tillers of the soil was a major item in this regard. However, all-embracing reforms could be facilitated through legislative action alone. Consequently, the Rewa Land Revenue and Tenancy Code was enacted in the year 1935 as has already been referred to. The Code defined the rights and obligations of the *pawaidars*, sub-*pawaidars* and tenants. Provisions relating to scientific settlement of land revenue were enforced and annual village papers were prepared accordingly. The Rewa Land Acquisition Act, 1935 also consolidated and declared the rules for acquisition of land needed for State purposes and companies and for determining the amount of compensation to be paid on account of such acquisition.

Land Reforms After 1948

However, a new area of land reforms started with the formation of Vindhya Pradesh when the legislation for the abolition of intermediaries between the State and tillers of the soil was passed in 1952. Thus ended the first and a very important phase of land reforms. Under the second phase, from 1953, measures for tenancy reforms were undertaken. The third phase started after 1956 with the legislation for imposition of ceiling on land holdings.

In order to save the cultivators from the exploitation by *jagirdars* or *pawaidars* and to recognise the claims of the tillers of the soil, the earliest land reform measure adopted in Vindhya Pradesh was the enactment of Vindhya Pradesh Abolition of Jagirs and Land Reforms Act of 1952 which came into force from July, 1953. This abolished all kinds of intermediaries between the State and the peasants. All types of *jagirdars*, *pawaidars*, *illakadars*, *zamindars*, *muafidars* or others were defined and all lands were resumed by the State free from all encumbrances. All rents and cesses payable to *jagirdars* henceforth became payable to the State. Mortgagees in possession of a *Jagir* land or any part thereof, were treated as simple mortgagees. Private wells, trees in *abadi* (habitation) and buildings belonging to a *jagirdar* or a tenants continued to belong to them, as the case may be. Transfer of any part of the *Jagir* land by way of sale or gift made on or after the 1st day of October, 1949 was not recognised.

Attempts were further made to rationalize the land revenue and tenancy laws. For this purpose, the Rewa Land Revenue and Tenancy Code was extended to the entire State with progressive and liberal amendments as Vindhya Pradesh Land Revenue and Tenancy Code, 1953, (III of 1955). It was enforced from 1st April, 1955. The conventional pre-reform rent, paid by the tenants as half the gross produce, was slashed down to one-third or one-fourth of the gross produce. Thus, a large number of tenants were benefited from the reduction, and the pre-reform exploitative

character of rent was to some extent mitigated, if not completely eliminated. The Code provided more rights to the *khud-kast* cultivators of land who could acquire proprietary rights in case they had kept the land in their possession during the preceeding 7 years. The land revenue assessment was made for every cultivator.

Formerly, a *pawaldar* or a *jagirdar* used to get a sub-tenant of *sir* ejected at his will and used to exploit such sub-tenant. In order to stop this evil practice, the government passed the Vindhya Pradesh Sir Land (Stay of Ejectment Proceedings) Act, 1952. Under the provisions of this Act, no civil or revenue court could entertain any proceedings for the ejectment of any tenant or sub-tenant from any *sir* land.¹

Land Reforms After 1956

In the reorganised State of Madhya Pradesh, the position regarding land tenures and tenancy reforms in the constituent units of the State was reviewed and as a result a unified M.P. Land Revenue Code, 1959 was enacted and brought into force from the 2nd October, 1959. This Code incorporates all the important features of land reforms, such as, uniformity of tenures, protection of tenants against arbitrary ejectment, rack-renting and conferring *bhumiswami* rights, on them. As such, the Code was an epoch-making event in the history of tenancy reforms of the State.

In place of several tenures existing previously the Code provides for only one class of tenure-holders of land to be known as *bhumiswami*. A *bhumiswami* has right of transfer subject to one restriction that such transfer does not either create a holding above the prescribed limit or an uneconomic holding below ten acres. Subject to certain rules in respect of the cutting of certain species of trees, he has full rights over all kinds of trees in his holdings. A *bhumiswami* has also a right to mortgage his land, both by simple or usufructuary mortgage, subject, however, to certain restrictions.

Under the Code, no sub-letting or leasing of land is permitted except in emergent cases, once in three years or by certain classes of persons, such as, widows, unmarried women, minors, etc.

Ceiling On Agricultural Holdings

The above land reforms affect more the type of tenure than the size of property. Some restrictions have been imposed in this respect. The Government of Madhya Pradesh enacted in 1960, special legislation which is known as the Madhya Pradesh Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Act. The Act was amended suitably in the year 1961 to incorporate the suggestions of the Central Committee for Land Reforms. But, it was again amended according to which the ceiling on possession of agricultural land was lowered from 25 standard acres to 10 to 18 standard acres, depending on the size of the family. It is 10 standard acres for an individual, while 8 standard acres have been allowed for dependants at the rate of 2 standard acres for every dependant member limited to 18 acres. The amended Act came into force from January 1, 1972. For the purpose of this Act, a standard acre means one acre

1. H.D. Malaviya, Op. Cit., 370.

of irrigated land irrigated from Government source available for more than one crop in a year or two acres of seasonally irrigated land, irrigated from Government source available for at least one crop or three acres of dry land.

The position of agricultural holdings in the District according to the size is given below:

Table No. XI-4
Provisional Number Of Operational Holdings, 1970-71

Size (Hactare)	Number ('000)	Percentage
Less than 0.5	45.1	26.3
0.5 to 1	23.5	13.1
1 to 2	27.9	16.2
2 to 3	16.2	10.6
3 to 4	12.3	7.2
4 to 5	10.0	5.8
5 to 10	22.0	12.8
10 to 20	10.6	6.2
20 to 30	2.2	1.3
30 to 40	0.6	0.3
40 to 50	0.2	0.1
50 and above	0.2	0.1

Source : Agricultural Statistics, 1972, pp. 7 and 8

It appears from the table that about 66.2 per cent holdings in the District were not bigger than three hectares, which numbered about 113 thousands. The number of big holdings (20 to 40 hectares) was not more than three thousands i.e. 1.6 per cent of the total holdings.

Due to one reason or other, the Government could not implement the provisions of this Act fully earlier. However, (since the declaration of Emergency), orders have been issued to the Collector to settle all the cases of agricultural holdings before December 31, 1975. After reviewing all the cases the excess land will be distributed as per Government policy. It is reported that more than 80 per cent cases had been reviewed.

Consolidation Of Holdings

There has been a common tendency amongst the cultivators to sub-divide and fragment their holdings even to the extent of five acres and below in size. Due to this evil practice, it became uneconomic and expensive to manage such fragmented small plots for agricultural purposes, located at different places and at a sufficient distance from each other. The Government considered this problem and started a scheme for the consolidation of holdings. This was, however, started as late

as in the year 1962-63 when a scheme was prepared for 14 villages. Gradually, the scheme has been extended and more villages have been covered under this scheme. Till 1973-74, the scheme covered a total of 237 villages, and consolidated an area of 1,54,254 acres. Consequently *khassra* numbers were reduced from 2,48,005 to 1,18,117. The yearwise progress is given in Appendix-A.

Bhoodan Movement

The Bhoodan or land gift movement was initiated in the country by Acharya Vinoba Bhave to solve the problem of landless labourers and it had its impact on Shahdol District also. To implement the plans for Bhoodan Yagna, the Government issued instructions to all the revenue officers to assist the Bhoodan workers in this matter. The applications for receiving the donated lands were exempted from the stamp duty. For facilitating this movement in Vindhya Pradesh, the Vindhya Pradesh Bhoodan Yagna Act was passed in 1955 and a Board was established at Gandhi Smarak Bhawan, Chhatrapur in 1956 to assist in its working. After the formation of Madhya Pradesh, its office was shifted to Bhopal. It receives an annual grant from the Government. In this District, land measuring 252 acres has been received from 7 donors as Bhoodan upto 31st March, 1974, out of which 32.38 acres of land has been distributed among 27 landless families. Only 219.62 acres of land remains to be distributed.

Present Position Of The Cultivators

As a result of all these measures of land reforms, all intermediaries between the tiller of the soil and the Government was abolished and cultivators became full-fledged occupants of the land held by them and a large number of cesses and other exactions have been done away with. The villagers and cultivators, therefore, have been greatly benefited by the abolition of these intermediaries and obnoxious levies. The monetary significance of these exactions was not small, but their nuisance value was still greater and their removal meant the lifting of a great burden. With the other enactments like Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Act, Bhoodan Yagna Act, etc., and the scheme of consolidation of holdings, no doubt, the economic condition of the cultivators and their relationship with the State have definitely improved during the post-reform period. The Government is fully alive to establish 'Ram Rajya' as dreamed by Mahatma Gandhi and is taking every step to eradicate the problems of the cultivators. Measures have also been taken by the Government to ensure that they get fair prices for their produce and they are relieved from the old debts taken from the money-lenders.

Other Sources Of Revenue - Central and State

As this District was formerly a part of Rewa State with no individual entity of its own as Shahdol District, separate figures for different sources of revenue during the State regime are not available. Formerly, besides the income from land revenue the other important sources of revenue were excise, customs, forests, *jagirs* and stamps. The fiscal system underwent a series of changes, after the State merged first in Vindhya Pradesh and later in Madhya Pradesh. There are two categories of

revenues 'Central' and 'state' at present. The important items of central revenues are Union Excise, Income-tax and Estate Duty. Some particulars about these revenues, so far as they concern this District are given in the following paragraphs.

Union Excise Duty

The main excisable commodities in the District are tobacco, vegetable, non-essential oils, cloth, sugar, cement, copper, yarn, matches, medicine, electric fans, wireless receiving sets, air conditioning machinery, etc. The receipts were Rs.210.32 lakhs in 1974-75.

Income Tax And Estate Duty

As regards Income Tax and Estate Duty, its assessment, levy and collection have been assigned to the Katni Circle, with headquarters at Katni. The receipts under Income tax had been Rs.16.60 lakhs in 1974-75 and Estate Duty Rs.3,550 in 1974-75.

Important sources of 'State' revenues, besides land revenue already covered, are State Excise, Forests, Sales Tax, Stamps, taxes on Motor Vehicles and Registration. A brief account of these items of taxation is given below.

State Excise

The income under this head is derived from levies on imported liquors, country spirit and fermented liquor, opium, *ganja* and *bhang*. The Collector is vested with statutory powers under Excise Act for the administration of State Excise. The receipts from this source are substantial and varied from Rs.7.04 lakhs in the year 1950-51 to Rs.9.09 lakhs in 1960-61 and Rs.38.33 lakhs in 1974-75.

Stamps

The income under this head is derived from the sale of stamps of various denominations, both judicial and non-judicial. The receipts under this head are subject to Indian Stamps Act (II of 1899) and of Court Fee Act, 1870, as applicable to Madhya Pradesh. The receipts under this head were Rs.0.56 lakhs in 1950-51 which increased year by year to Rs.1.04 lakhs in 1955-56, Rs. 1.50 lakhs in 1960-61 and Rs.6.67 lakhs in 1974-75.

Forests

The income from the forests to the State Exchequer has been the largest as Shahdol District is rich in forest wealth. It is mainly obtained from different sources, namely, (1) Departmental sales of timber and fuel, (2) auction of marked coupes consisting of timber and fuel trees, (3) sale of minor forest produce, and (iv) levy of licence fees.

There is an upward trend in the receipts due to nationalisation of forest produce, e.g., *tendu* leaves, etc. In the year 1955-56, the receipts were Rs. 43.89 lakhs and came down to Rs.41.47 lakhs in 1960-61, but again increased to Rs.603.53 lakhs in 1974-75.

Registrations

The income under this head is derived from registration fee, copying fee, etc., which are levied under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. The receipts from this source have been fluctuating year to year according to the volume of registration work. They were Rs.58,380 in 1974-75.

Taxes On Motor Vehicles

The income under this head is derived mainly from the registration of motor vehicles, issue of licences to drivers and conductors, etc., under Motor Vehicles Acts. The annual receipts under this head were Rs.3.84 lakhs in 1974-75.

Sales Tax

The Sales Tax is being levied under the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh General Sales Tax Act, 1958 (II of 1959), which was brought into force since 1st April, 1959. The Central Sales Tax has also been introduced in the District, since 1st July, 1957 under the Central Sales Tax Act of 1956. Both these Acts are administered by the Sales Tax Officer, Shahdol. Two more Acts, viz., Motor Spirit and Lubrication Act, 1957 and Professional and Employment Tax, 1966, came into force from September, 1957 and 1st April, 1966, respectively. The former has been abolished from 1st August, 1972. The schedule of Sales Tax has been revised from time to time and now foodgrains have also come within its purview. The receipts under this head were Rs. 4.57 lakhs in 1950-51, Rs. 5.99 lakhs in 1960-61 and Rs.166.96 lakhs in 1974-75.

Entertainment Tax

This Tax is managed by the District Excise Officer, Shahdol. It is levied on shows arranged for public entertainment on commercial basis at the prescribed rates, on the value of tickets sold. The receipts from this source have grown from Rs.92,033 in 1960-61 to Rs.4.45 lakhs in 1974-75.

The table in Appendix - A shows the annual revenue received under these various heads of taxation and the phenomenal growth that has taken place in revenue receipts.

CHAPTER - XII**LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE**

The history of a systematic organization of judiciary begins with the reign of Maharaja Viswanath Singh (1833-54). Prior to it all judicial powers were exercised by the *pargana* officers. Cases were usually decided by arbitration. Recognized committees of influential persons existed at many places. These committees presided over by the leading man of the locality were called *chouras* and represented the ancient institution of village *panchayats*. All complicated civil and criminal cases were referred to the *chouras* for decision. The Ruler, however, was the final authority in all matters. But criminal cases in which the Darbar may have taken interest were few. Even in such cases a fine was, as a general rule, the only punishment inflicted. Most of the civil cases were decided by making the parties undergo different ordeals or taking solemn oath. Ordeals like plunging the hand into a vessel full of hot water or lifting a red hot iron with the hand were commonly imposed. If the burns were healed within a time of three days, the accused was not held guilty.

Such primitive method of administering justice was abandoned when a court known as *Dharma Sabha* was established sometime during 1833-54. The presiding officer of the court called *pandit* decided cases according to *Dharma Shastras*. Petty disputes were settled orally and only in very important cases did the judges give written judgements called *Dharma Vyawasthas*.

In 1880 the administration of the State came into the hands of Britishers due to the minority of Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh. It marked the opening of a new era. A sound judicial system throughout the State was established. The State was divided into seven tahsils each under a tahsildar who besides being the chief revenue officer, exercised judicial powers also within his area. The court of the tahsildar who was styled as Deputy Magistrate was the court of first instance and exercised second class magisterial powers and civil powers to hear suits upto Rs. 500 in value. Two of these courts were in the present Shahdol District, one at Sohagpur and the other at Ramnagar. The Deputy Magistrates were assisted by Assistant Deputy Magistrates who had half of the powers of Deputy Magistrates. Besides, the *Thakurs* of Deorajnagar and Marwas were Honorary Magistrates for their respective *jagirs*. They had third class magisterial and civil powers to hear suits not exceeding Rs. 300 in value.

Above the courts of the Deputy Magistrates were the courts of Civil Judge, Rewa and the Magistrate, Rewa. The former was a civil court with original and appellate jurisdiction. In its appellate jurisdiction it heard appeals from the decisions of Deputy Magistrates and decided suits of the value upto Rs. 1,000 in its original civil

jurisdiction. Appeals from the decisions of Deputy Magistrates in criminal cases lay to the Magistrate, Rewa which was a court of criminal jurisdiction and exercised the powers of a District Magistrate.

The post of the Diwan who was next to the Ruler in power, was abolished in 1904. In its place two posts of Commissioners were created to assist the Ruler in revenue and judicial work. The Judicial Commissioner exercised the powers of a District and Sessions Judge as in British India. His original civil powers extended to suits over Rs. 1,000 in value and in his appellate jurisdiction heard appeals from the decisions of Civil Judge, Rewa in civil cases and the Magistrate, Rewa in criminal cases. The highest appellate authority in the State in both civil and criminal matters was the High Court presided over by the Ruler himself with unlimited powers.

No distinction was made between the Laws and Rules in the Former Rewa State. The Rules and Regulations issued under the authority of Darbar were known as *Hidayats*. The Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes, Penal Code and other important Acts of British India were followed generally with suitable modifications according to local conditions.

The courts of the Magistrate, Rewa, and Civil Judge, Rewa, appear to have been amalgamated and a new Court of District Magistrate and Civil Judge established for South Rewa with Headquarters at Ramnagar, which is in Shahdol District, some time during the first quarter of the present century. Their pecuniary jurisdiction in civil suits was also raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000. Consequently suits above the value of Rs. 2,000 only went to the court of the Judicial Commissioner. Side by side, the *chauras* (panchayat courts) also continued to function with only civil powers upto Rs. 50.

A scheme for the reorganization of judiciary and its separation from the executive was sanctioned by the Council of Regency in 1922. The post of the Judicial Commissioner was abolished and three posts of District and Sessions Judges were created under the new scheme. One of these District and Sessions Judges was posted at Umaria. Similarly, all the subordinate civil and criminal courts mentioned above were abolished and eight Courts of Deputy Magistrates-Munsifs were established.

The District and Sessions Judge had the powers of a Sessions Judge and District Magistrate under the Criminal Procedure Code and exercised all civil powers vested in a District Judge in British India. He also had the powers of a court of Small Causes from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.

The Deputy Magistrates-Munsifs, three of whom were posted in Shahdol District at Beohari, Burhar and Umaria were vested with full powers of Sub-Divisional Magistrate, First Class under the Criminal Procedure Code and civil powers to hear suits upto Rs. 1000 in value.

The practice of investing the *Thakurs* with powers of Honorary Magistrate was stopped. The existing Honorary Magistrates were, however allowed to exercise the powers of third class magistrate under certain restrictions. They were further

forbidden to take cognizance of any case unless it was transferred to them by the Deputy Magistrate.

With a view to discharging the judicial functions which were formerly performed by the Maharaja as the High Court, a Judicial Committee was formed. The post of the Judicial Commissioner was, however, revived in 1922 itself. He was given the charge of Judicial Department and made an *ex-officio* permanent member of the Judicial Committee which consisted of three other members. The Judicial Committee was thus the highest judicial authority in the State and was invested with powers to entertain and dispose of all civil and criminal appeals and review applications. However, the sentence of death alongwith some other cases, required confirmation by the Ruler.

In Vindhya Pradesh

The organization of judiciary remained more or less the same till the advent of Independence in 1947. In 1948 the State of Vindhya Pradesh was formed with present Shahdol as one of its districts. The Judicial Committee of the former Rewa State was replaced by the Court of the Judicial Commissioner which was the highest tribunal in Vindhya Pradesh. There were four Sessions Divisions, each under the charge of a District and Sessions Judge. The Shahdol District was in Satna Division. The judiciary was completely separated from executive. All offences under the Indian Penal Code were tried by the Munsif Magistrates. In 1954, the judiciary was reorganized. The posts of the District and Sessions Judges were reduced to two from four with headquarters at Rewa and Nowgong while five posts of Additional District and Sessions Judges were created. An Additional District and Sessions Judge was posted at Umaria in Shahdol District.

Separation Of Judiciary From Executive

As described earlier a beginning in the separation of judiciary from the executive was made by the Princely State of Rewa in the first two decades of the present century when a separate judicial staff was created. On the formation of Vindhya Pradesh a complete separation was effected. This scheme continued after the reorganization of States. The executive officers do not have any judicial powers except the powers conferred upon them by the Code of Criminal Procedure for the prevention of crimes and maintenance of law and order within their area of jurisdiction. For this purpose only, the Collector is the District Magistrate and the Deputy Collectors are Sub-Divisional Magistrates. All the civil and criminal judicial work is done by the Judicial officers consisting of the District and Sessions Judge and various other categories of Civil Judges, who are designated as Judicial Magistrates for criminal work.

INCIDENCE OF CRIMES

The crimes of common occurrence in the District are dacoity, robbery, murder, riot, burglary, thefts and kidnapping. Apart from these, other minor crimes are grouped under a separate category of miscellaneous crimes under the Indian Penal Code. The highest number of crimes relate to burglary followed by ordinary theft, riot,

cattle theft, murder, robbery, kidnapping and dacoity. The year wise number of these offences is shown below for some selected years.

Table No. XII - 1
Incidence Of Crimes

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	Riot	Burglary	Cattle theft	Ordinary theft	Kidnap- ping	Misc. I.P.C crimes
1955	2	4	13	35	339	15	122	5	102
1960	6	26	22	30	357	48	203	8	280
1965	3	10	34	34	323	50	275	19	298
1970	5	5	24	51	309	38	191	10	835
1971	9	7	18	32	260	26	210	6	371
1972	5	9	26	49	404	59	234	4	371
1973	3	9	28	59	390	55	298	3	439
1974	7	18	26	63	496	46	316	15	471

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

During the period from 1955 to 1974 the total number of crimes under all these heads was lowest in 1955 with 637 cases. With occasional fall in a few years, the total number of crimes gradually increased to 1497 in 1967. Though this number was 916 in 1968 and 931 in 1971, the figures showed an upward trend in other years and stood at 1,458 in 1974. The police made investigations in 95 to 99 per cent of cases reported. Out of the cases investigated 31 to 61 per cent of cases were detected. The following table depicts the number of cognizable offences reported, investigated, detected, sent up for trial and in which conviction was obtained.

Table No. XII - 2
Cognizable Offences

Year	Reported	Investigated	Detected	Sent up for Trial	Conviction Obtained
1955	637	628	353	353	115
1960	980	950	458	458	85
1965	1046	1019	468	468	63
1970	1058	1048	558	558	58
1971	971	971	330	330	57
1972	1161	1147	565	565	64
1973	1284	1278	525	525	80
1974	1458	1448	618	618	85

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

As is evident, all the cases detected were sent up for trial. It may also be noted that there is continuous increase in the number of cases reported and detected. The highest number of cases in which conviction was obtained was 115 in 1955. The number of persons tried for all these offences as also the number of persons acquitted or discharged and convicted is given in the table below.

Table No. XII - 3
Number Of Persons Tried

Year	Tried	Acquitted or Discharged	Convicted
1955	578	113	95
1960	435	215	125
1965	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1970	1179	603	328
1971	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1972	1238	631	289
1973	468	948	349
1974	661	258	234

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

Apart from the offences mentioned above, there are certain cases under special and local Acts also. No case under the Prohibition Act has been recorded from 1955 onwards. The number of cases under the Excise and Gambling Acts is detailed below :

Table No. XII - 4
Cases Under Excise And Gambling Acts

Year	Excise Act		Gambling Act	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
1955	31	31	58	522
1960	81	81	95	533
1965	59	62	65	467
1970	126	132	146	822
1971	148	148	226	834
1972	106	106	194	543
1973	74	74	322	864
1974	68	75	161	626

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

The number of cases shows fluctuations from year to year under both the Acts. However, the number has always been more under the Gambling Acts.

Theft Cases

The number of cases in which property was stolen varied greatly from year to year during the period from 1955 to 1974. The number was 1119 in 1967 as against only 264 cases in 1973. However, the value of the property stolen increased from year to year. The number of cases in which property was stolen and recovered as also the value of property involved are shown below.

Table No. XII - 5
Property Stolen

Year	No. Of Cases in which Property was		Total Value Of Property (In Rs.)	
	Stolen	Recovered	Stolen	Recovered
1955	482	390	1,02,895	6,562
1960	640	399	1,44,301	42,329
1965	613	550	1,86,342	36,343
1970	668	250	2,55,208	N.A.
1971	527	187	N.A.	N.A.
1972	722	227	4,31,867	58,270
1973	264	221	5,35,497	2,11,922
1974	905	300	7,87,789	3,05,855

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

The thefts of copper wire, cattle, cycles, motor cycles, and accessories and fire arms are included in the category of miscellaneous thefts. The figures of this crime also show an upward trend, the lowest being 34 in 1955 and highest being 148 in 1973. The cases of thefts of motorcycles and accessories were two in 1973 and six in 1974. No. such case was reported in other years from 1955 onwards. The theft of fire arms is also of rare occurrence being three cases each in 1967 and 1974, two each in 1968 and 1969 and one in 1973. The incidence of cattle theft is higher than others. The yearwise number of thefts of copper wire cattle and cycles is shown below :

Table No. XII - 6
Miscellaneous Theft

Years	Copper Wire	Cattle	Cycles
1	2	3	4
1955	7	15	12
1960	7	48	14
1965	2	50	29
1970	30	38	18

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
1971	19	26	22
1972	29	59	21
1973	63	55	27
1974	69	46	19

Source : Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

ORGANIZATION OF POLICE FORCE

In early times no regular and separate police organization existed. All the policing work was done by the village *Chowkddars* till about the last quarter of the 19th century when a regular police force was organized under a Superintendent of Police. The Subordinate staff consisted of *Kotwals*, *Thanedars*, *Moharrirs*, *Jamadars* and *Barkundaz*. The police force was distributed over the State and stationed at almost all the important places in *Kotwals*, *Thanas* and *Chowkies*. The Superintendent of Police was known as *Muntazim*. The State was divided into *Thanas* or police circles which, in turn, were divided into *Chowkies* or police stations. The *Thanas* were under the charge of *Thanedars* and *Chowkies* under *Jamadars*.

The village system of policing was allowed to continue as of old and in every big village or in a circle of villages a *Chowkddar* was appointed. The village *Chowkddars* were bound to convey to the police stations or *Chowkies* information of the occurrences of crimes and to keep an eye over the movements of criminals in their respective areas.

In the year 1906, two posts of Assistant Superintendent of Police were created. The State was divided into two circles, viz., North and South Circles. Each Circle was placed under the charge of an Assistant Superintendent of Police.

The Superintendent of Police was under the Magistrate of Rewa. In fact, the force formed a subordinate branch of Judicial Department and all the members of the magistracy from Judicial Commissioner down to Tahsildars were vested with certain administrative powers over the Police Department. After the inauguration of Regency in the Year 1918, a scheme was prepared to systematize the administration and working of the police force and to bring it at par with the modern system. Accordingly, the police force was taken out of the hands of judicial officers and put under the charge of an Inspector General of Police. All the out posts were abolished or converted into police stations. The force included Superintendent, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables, Constables and Mounted Police.

After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948, a new cadre of Deputy Superintendents was created to assist the Superintendent of Police. The District was divided into 12 police stations.

Present Organization

The organization and set-up of the Police force remained unchanged after the reorganization of States in 1956. In 1961 another post of Deputy Superintendent was

created. Later on, Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police were also appointed. In 1976 the total strength of the District Police was 525 including one Superintendent, two Deputy Superintendents, one Reserve Inspector, three Circle Inspectors, one Police Prosecutor, three Subedars, four Assistant Police Prosecutors, 25 Sub-Inspectors, 20 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 92 Head Constables, 369 Constables and 4 others.

The District Police is divided into different sections such as District Executive Force, Motor Transport, Radio, Special Branch, Prosecution Branch, District Crime Branch, Modus Operandi Bureau, etc. The District is divided into three Police Circles, namely Umaria, Shahdol and Jaithari. There are four police stations in each circle. Thus the total number of police stations in the District continued to be 12 with 13 out-posts under them. The police stations are located at (1) Beohari (2) Umaria (3) Manpur (4) Pali (5) Shahdol (6) Jaisinghnagar (7) Jaitpur (8) Burhar (9) Karanpathar (10) Rajendragram (11) Jaithari and (12) Kotma. The out-posts are located at (1) Chandia (2) Amarpur (3) Nowrozabad (4) Dhanpuri (5) Khairha (6) Chachai (7) Amlai (8) Amarkantak (9) Anuppur (10) Darsila (11) Bijuri (12) Dalod and (13) Jhalumada.

The police stations are under the charge of Sub-Inspectors. There are two Sub-Inspectors at Police Stations Umaria, Burhar and Shahdol and only one at the rest. The out-posts are generally under the Head Constables except the out-posts of Anuppur, Bijuri and Chachai which are under Sub-Inspectors. The number of Constables attached to these police stations and out-posts differs according to the need of various places. However, the number of Constables ranged from 8 to 30 at the police stations and 4 to 8 at the out-posts.

It is significant to note that like the number of police stations, the total strength of police force in the District has remained unchanged from 1956 to 1975 except the creation of an additional post of Deputy Superintendent and 20 posts of Assistant Sub-Inspectors.

Railway Police

There is one Railway Police Station at Shahdol. It is under the administrative control of the Superintendent of Police, (Railways), Raipur.

Home Guards

The scheme of Home Guards has been started in Shahdol District from 1963. It is a voluntary force on a quasi-military footing and is intended to supplement the civil powers and generally to assist the police in times of emergency. The administration of the force throughout the State of Madhya Pradesh vests in the Inspector General of Home Guards, Jabalpur. In Shahdol District the District Commandant is the Head of Home Guards organization. He is assisted by a Company Commandant, eight Platoon Commanders and other usual staff. The Collector and District Magistrate is empowered to detail the force for duty within the District for 15 days. The Divisional Commissioner can also detail the force for 60 days. Permission of the Government is necessary if the services of the force are required for a further period. The Inspector General of Home Guards has the powers to detail the force for duty any

where in the State. A strength of three companies has been fixed for the District. Whenever the number of Home Guards on roll decreases than the fixed strength, new Home Guards are recruited and trained. Since the inception of scheme upto May, 1975, fifteen training camps have been organized in the District in which 814 Home Guards were trained.

JAILS AND LOCK UPS

During the princely regime there was no jail at Shahdol and all prisoners were kept in Rewa Jail which was constructed in 1884. Certain industries, viz., carpet making, carpentry and blacksmithy had been set up in the jail for the benefit of the prisoners.

A Sub-Jail was established at Shahdol in 1970. From 1974, it has been upgraded into a District Jail, Class II. The Jail is under the charge of a Superintendent who is assisted by other usual staff.

Board of Visitors

A Board of Visitors consisting of official and non-official members has been constituted for the Jail.

Prison Discipline

There is a strict watch over the activities of prisoners confined in the Jail. The discipline of the prisoners is generally satisfactory.

Welfare Of Prisoners

Neither any industry nor any educational facility exist at the District Jail, Shahdol. However, the medical staff attached to the Jail looks after the health of the prisoners. Besides all other facilities admissible under the Jail Manual are given to the prisoners.

Treatment Of Special Class Of Prisoners

The prisoners are mainly divided into four classes namely, the casuals, the habituals, the adolescents and the juveniles. The adolescent prisoners are transferred to the Borstal Institute, Narsimhapur and the juveniles to the Reformatory School, Seoni. The number of persons dealt with under the Borstal Act in 1972 and 1973 was 26 and 16, respectively.

Number Of Prisoners

Since the establishment of the Jail on 28th February, 1970 upto 31st March, 1970, the number of prisoners received was 180 which rose to 976 during the next year. It was 915 and 889 in 1971-72 and 1972-73, respectively, and shot up to 1,230 in 1973-74. Thus the total daily average of prisoners in the Jail, which was 100.53 in 1970-71 increased to 101.47 in 1971-72 as against 112.43 in 1972-73 and 121.46 in 1973-74. The yearwise details of the number of prisoners are given below.

Table No. XII - 7
No. Of Prisoners

Year	At the Beginning			Received			Discharged			Remaining at the End		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1970-71	109	3	112	967	9	976	983	12	995	93	-	93
1971-72	93	-	93	888	27	915	889	27	916	92	-	92
1972-73	92	-	92	875	14	889	822	14	836	145	-	145
1973-74	145	-	145	1212	18	1230	1244	16	1260	113	2	115

Source : Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol

The figures relating to number of prisoners according to length of sentence show that there were no prisoners in the jail who were awarded imprisonment above 10 years or death sentence. The number of prisoners undergoing imprisonments from five to 10 years was very small being one in each of the years 1970-71 and 1971-72 and six in 1973-74. Similarly, there were six convicts in 1970-71 who were transported for life and four in 1971-72, three in 1972-73 and five in 1973-74. The convicts with one to three months of imprisonment were largest in number. The yearwise details are given below.

Table No. XII - 8
No. Of Prisoners According To Length Of Sentence

Year	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
1. Below 1 Month	88	110	61	143
2. 1 to 3 Months	90	111	70	136
3. 3 to 6 Months	66	35	37	31
4. 6 to 12 Months	7	5	18	13
5. 1 to 2 Years	13	5	18	11
6. 2 to 5 Years	24	4	5	9
7. 5 to 10 Years	1	1	-	6
8. Transportation for life	6	4	3	5

Source : Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol

ORGANIZATION OF COURTS

After the reorganization of States in 1956, the Court of the Judicial Commissioner was abolished and a new High Court of Judicature for the whole of Madhya Pradesh was created with headquarters at Jabalpur. The Madhya Pradesh Civil Courts Act was passed in 1958 providing for the establishment of courts in all the constituent parts on a uniform basis. Under the new Act the State was divided into 21 Civil Districts which were declared to be Sessions Divisions also under the Code of

Criminal Procedure. A District and Sessions Judge was appointed in each Civil District and Sessions Division. Shahdol District was included in the Bilaspur Civil District and Sessions Division and as such the District and Sessions Judge, Bilaspur exercised jurisdiction over Shahdol District also. The other courts located in the District were those of the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Umaria, Civil Judge, Class I, Umaria, Civil Judges, Class II, Umaria, Beohari and Burhar.

The Civil Districts were reshuffled in 1969. Shahdol was made a full fledged Sessions Division and Sidhi District was included in it. A court of the District and Sessions Judge was established at Shahdol. The constitution of other courts remained unchanged except that the seats of the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Umaria and Civil Judge, Class II, Burhar were shifted to Shahdol.

The Civil Districts were again reorganized in 1975. This time Bharatpur (Janaipur) Tahsil of Surguja District was included in Shahdol Civil District in place of Sidhi District. The number of courts in the District was raised to eight with one new court of Additional District and Sessions Judge at Umaria and one court of Civil Judge, class I at Shahdol.

Power Of Courts

All the courts located in the District have civil as well as criminal powers. Generally speaking the courts of the District and Sessions Judge and Additional District and Sessions Judge, apart from sessions cases, deal with civil and criminal appeals and criminal revisions. Civil suits over Rs. 50,000 in value are heard by the District and Sessions Judge and upto Rs. 50,000 by the Additional District and Sessions Judge who also has the powers of the court of small causes from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. All the Civil Judges exercise first class magisterial powers. On the civil side the Civil Judges, Class I hear suits upto Rs. 10,000 in value and small cause cases from Rs. 200 to 500. The Civil Judges, Class II have the powers to hear civil suits not exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value and Small Causes cases upto Rs. 200.

CASES HANDLED BY COURTS

Criminal Cases

Various offences under the Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Special and Local Laws constitute the criminal cases handled by the courts of the District. During the period from 1970 to 1974, the number of such cases was highest in 1970 and lowest in 1973 with 7456 and 2340 and cases, respectively. The number in other years was 3205 in 1971, 2369 in 1972 and 4105 in 1974. The details regarding the number of cases and persons disposed of by Magistrates as also those which remained pending in a year during the same period are shown below.

Table No. XII- 9
Disposal Of Cases

Year	No. Of cases		No. Of Persons	
	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending
1970	976	3766	5736	8411
1971	1188	3551	887	2812
1972	2262	3622	4004	6221
1973	2450	3435	6122	6701
1974	2634	3742	6169	6921

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

As the figures show the number of pending cases and persons is always greater than the number of disposal. It is, however, worthwhile to note that the disposal has also constantly increased from year to year.

During the period mentioned above, no person was convicted for offences relating to religion. The number of persons convicted for offences affecting public health has been very small being 20 in 1970, 26 in 1971, 13 in 1972, 63 in 1973 and 61 in 1974. As against this the persons convicted for offences affecting human body and property were greater in number as detailed below.

Table No. XII - 10
Persons Convicted

Year	Affecting Human Body	Against Property
1970	200	105
1971	146	433
1972	102	350
1973	318	401
1974	349	403

Source: District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Turning to the kind of punishment awarded to the persons found guilty, it is noticed that death sentence was not awarded during the period from 1970 to 1974. Similarly, only 18 and 9 persons were dealt with under the Borstal Act in 1972 and 1973, respectively. The number of persons from whom security was taken was highest in 1973 (23) followed by 22 in 1974 and 21 in 1972. Their number was 11 in 1970 and 8 in 1971. Greatest number of persons was found liable to be punished with fines than by imprisonment. Their yearwise number was as follows :

Table No. XII - 11
Persons Punished

Year	Imprisonment	Fines
1970	509	1651
1971	236	1633
1972	445	1369
1973	361	1603
1974	467	1505

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

The annual amount of fines imposed, realized and written off is given in the following table.

Table No. XII - 12
Amount Of Fines (In Rs.)

Year	Imposed	Realized	Written Off
1970	68618	N.A.	19577
1971	33514	33173	2390
1972	10078	N.A.	2450
1973	80506	71317	386
1974	44693	40154	740

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Civil Suits

The civil suits include the suits for money and movable property, title and other suits. During the period from 1970 to 1974, the number of suits for money and movable property was highest in 1974 with 318 suits and lowest in 1971 with 46 suits. The number of these suits in 1970, 1972 and 1973 was 184, 242 and 263, respectively. The title and other suits numbering 262, were highest in 1974 and numbering 34 were lowest in 1971. Their number in other years was 64 in 1970, 126 in 1972 and 185 in 1973. The number of civil suits disposed of by various courts was as follows.

Table No. XII - 13
Disposal Of Suits

Year	Suits Disposed Of By		
	District Courts	Subordinate Civil Courts	Courts Of Small Causes
1970	6	233	197
1971	31	427	157
1972	6	328	180
1973	24	348	226
1974	11	196	141

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

As is evident the number of civil suits disposed of by the subordinate Civil Courts was greatest followed by the Courts of Small Causes and the District Courts.

The details of the duration of cases, pending civil suits and their disposal, regular and miscellaneous appeals are shown in the tables given in appendix A.

NYAYA PANCHAYATS

In the erstwhile Rewa State there was the institution of *Chauras*. They had civil powers only to decide suits not exceeding Rs. 50 in value. Even after the establishment of civil and criminal courts, it was decided that the decisions of the Panchayats appointed by the parties to the suits were not subject to appeal except on grounds of misconduct or corruption. The *Chauras* Rules were framed and promulgated in 1931. The institution of *Chauras* continued to function till the promulgation of the Vindhya Pradesh Gram Panchayats Ordinance, 1949. Under the Ordinance new bodies called Nyaya Panchayats were organized with clearly defined powers. There were 73 Nyaya Panchayats in Shahdol District. The said Ordinance was superseded by the Madhya Pradesh Panchayats Act, 1962 and Nyaya Panchayats were organized more effectively under it. For the purpose of constitution of Nyaya Panchayats the area of a district is divided into circles and a Nyaya Panchayat is established in each circle. The total number of *Panchas* of a Nyaya Panchayat is equal to the total number of *Gram Sabha* included in the circle. The *Panchas* are elected by every Gram Panchayat from amongst the members of *Gram Sabha* included in the circle. The *Panchas*, in turn elect the *Pradhan* and *Uppradhan* of the Nyaya Panchayat from amongst themselves. As nearly as possible, one third of the *Panchas* retire on the expiry of every second year and new elections are held to fill up the vacancies. The Nyaya Panchayats have both civil and criminal powers. On the civil side the Nyaya Panchayats can entertain cases not exceeding Rs. 100 in value. In criminal cases the Nyaya Panchayats can impose fines only upto Rs. 100 for an offence under the Indian Penal Code as well as other specified Acts subject to the maximum limit of fines permissible under such Acts. The judgements, decrees and orders of the Nyaya Panchayats are final, though the Sessions Judge in criminal cases and the District Judge in civil matters have been empowered to call for and examine the records of such cases and pass such orders as they deem fit.

The number of Nyaya Panchayats in Shahdol District remained 73 upto 1971. Of these 35 were in Sohagpur Tahsil, 14 in each of the tahsils of Bandhogarh and Beohari and 10 in Pushparajgarh. The total number of Nyaya Panchayats has been reduced to 68 from 1972. There are 34 Nyaya Panchayat in Sohagpur, 14 in Bandhogarh, 13 in Beohari and 7 in Pushparajgarh.

The number of civil suits coming before the Nyaya Panchayats is greater than criminal cases. During the period from 1955 to 1973, the highest number of civil suits decided was 1,122 in 1971 whereas the highest number of criminal cases was 559 in 1969 during the same period. As against this, the lowest number of civil cases was 284 in 1969 and that of criminal cases was 115 in 1964. These figures also show that there is great variation in the number of civil and criminal cases from year to year.

The year-wise details of these cases can be seen in the table included in Appendix A.

Legal Profession And Bar Associations

In order to regularize the supply of *Vakeels* and petition writers and to train them in the professional skill, a Law Class was started in the Former Rewa State in 1924. The candidates were required to pass an examination. Licences to practise in the courts were granted to those who passed this examination and were desirous to carry on legal profession.

After the merger of the State in Indian Union, the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879 was extended to regularize the legal practice. Certain sections of the said Act were repealed by the Advocates Act, 1961 which has been enacted to amend and consolidate the law relating to legal practitioners and to provide for the constitution of Bar Councils. Under these enactments *Sanads* are granted generally to the law graduates of Indian Universities to function as lawyers in the courts. In 1961 the number of registered advocates and pleaders in Shahdol District was 46.

Bar Associations

Bar Associations are functioning in the district at Umaria, Beohari, Burhar and Shahdol. The Bar Association Umaria was formed in 1954 with nine members. Its membership increased to 17 by 1975. The Beohari Bar Association was established in 1950 with five members. The number of members on its roll in 1975 was 17. There is a District Bar Association at Shahdol. It was formed at Umaria in 1943 and was shifted to Shahdol in 1962. The number of its members in 1975 was about 85. In the same year the Burhar Bar Association had 10 members.

CHAPTER - XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Agriculture Department

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Shahdol is responsible for the general agricultural development of the district. Administratively, the Deputy Director is responsible for his work to the Joint Director of Agriculture, Rewa.

The Office of the Deputy Director Agriculture, which was set up at Shahdol in May, 1965 has jurisdiction over entire Shahdol District. The Deputy Director in his work is assisted by an Assistant Director, 2 Assistants, 9 Assistant Soil Conservation Officers, 36 Agriculture Assistants, 9 Demonstrators, 40 Surveyors, 10 Chainman, 141 *Gram sevaks* and usual staff.

Co-operative Department

The work of the Co-operative Department in the District is in the charge of an Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Shahdol. The Assistant Registrar has jurisdiction over Shahdol District. His Office functions under the administrative control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Assistant Registrar is assisted by an Audit Officer, 7 Senior Co-operative Inspectors, 18 Co-operative Inspectors, 21 Sub-Auditors and usual staff.

Employment Exchange, Shahdol

The District Employment Officer, Shahdol is responsible for collection of employment market information, guidance to employment seekers and their registration, and placement. The Employment Exchange was set up at Shahdol on 1st April, 1958, with jurisdiction over whole of Shahdol District except coal-mines establishments of the District. The Employment Officer works under the administrative control of the Director of Employment and Training, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur.

The Employment Officer is assisted by a Junior Employment Officer and usual staff.

Employment Exchange, Burhar

There is yet another Employment Exchange opened in October, 1959 at Burhar to meet the needs of employment of the colliery. The Employment Officer, Colliery Employment Exchange Burhar has jurisdiction over all coal-mines establishments of Shahdol District. He works under the administrative control of the Director of Employment and Training, Madhya Pradesh Jabalpur.

NOTE : For latest list of offices see Appendix - C.

The Employment Officer, Colliery Employment Exchange is assisted by an Assistant and usual staff.

Education Department

The District Educational Officer, Shahdol is responsible for the education upto Primary and Middle School Standard in the District. This Office was opened at Shahdol in 1942. The Educational Officer has jurisdiction over all the primary and middle schools in the District, excepting the schools in Tribal Blocks. His office functions under administrative control of the Divisional Superintendent of Education, Rewa Division, Rewa.

In his work the District Educational Officer is assisted by an Assistant District Educational Officer, 17 Assistant District Inspectors of Schools, and the usual staff.

Forest Department

Conservator of Forests Shahdol: The office of the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol was opened at Shahdol on 9 December, 1966. The Conservator has jurisdiction over whole of Shahdol District and part of Surguja district. He is responsible for his work to the Conservator-in-Chief of Forest Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

In his work Conservator of Forests, Shahdol is assisted by 10 Deputy Conservators of Forest, 17 Extra Assistant Conservators of Forest, an Assistant Accounts Officer, 87 Forest Rangers, 36 Deputy Rangers, 271 Foresters, 874 Forest Guards, 11 Draughtsmen and a host of ministerial and class IV staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, North Shahdol Division

The Divisional Forest Officer, North Shahdol Division is responsible for the protection, exploitation and utilization of forests under his charge. He works under the administrative control of the Conservator of Forest, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

In his work the Forest Officer is assisted by an Assistant Conservator of Forest with head quarters at Beohari, 18 Forest Rangers, 6 Deputy Rangers, 67 Foresters, 175 Forest Guards, 7 Surveyors and usual staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, South Shahdol Division

There is yet another Forest Division, named South Shahdol Division under the charge of a Divisional Forest Officer, South Shahdol. He is responsible for his work to the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

In his work the Forest Officer is assisted by an Assistant Conservator of Forest, 14 Forest Rangers, 8 Deputy Rangers, 40 Foresters, 21 *Moharrirs*, 190 Forest Guards, 20 Coupe Guards and usual staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Umaria Division

There is still another Forest Division at Umaria under the charge of a Divisional Forest Officer, Umaria Division. The Forest Officer has jurisdiction over the Bandhogarh tahsil of the District. He works under the administrative control of the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

The Divisional Forest Officer is assisted in his work by a team of officers and staff which includes 4 Extra Assistant Conservators of Forests, 14 Forest Rangers, 7 Deputy Rangers, 56 Foresters, 210 Forest Guards and Coupe Guards alongwith the usual ministerial staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Bandhogarh Division (National Park)

The Divisional Forest Officer, Bandhogarh Division with headquarters at Umaria is responsible for the protection and development of wild life and National Park at Bandhogarh.

This Divisional Officer was established on 15 January, 1975, having jurisdiction over the Bandhogarh National Park only. The Forest Officer works under the administrative control of the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol and under the over-all control of the Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Bhandogah Division is assisted by an Extra Assistant Conservator of Forest, one Forest Ranger, 3 Foresters, 13 Forest Guards, and usual ministerial staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Lumber Division Shahdol

The Divisional Forest Officer, Lumber Division, Shahdol is responsible for the disposal of Forest produce of timber and charcoal, received in depots under his charge. The Forest Officer controls 15 depots located at different places of Shahdol, Umaria and Beohari tahsils. He is responsible for his work to the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Lumber Division, Shahdol is assisted by 2 Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, 5 Forest Rangers, 13 Forester, 39 Forest Guards, 12 Coupe Guards and usual staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Bamboo Division

The Divisional Forest Officer, Bamboo (N) Division, Shahdol is responsible for carrying out the work of bamboo nationalisation and sale of bamboos in the districts of Shahdol and Surguja.

The Forest Division was established in 1973. It functions under the administrative control of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Bamboo Division, is assisted by an Extra Assistant Conservator of Forest and the usual ministerial staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Plantation Division

The Divisional Forest Officer, Plantation Division Shahdol is responsible for the Plantation work in Shahdol District. He works under the administrative control of the Coservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Plantation Division is assisted by 5 Range Officers, 15 Foresters, 30 Forest Guards and usual ministerial staff.

Divisional Forest Officer, Changbhakhar, Shahdol

An office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Changbhakhar, is also working, with headquarters at Shahdol. The office has jurisdiction over the Changbhakhar area of Surguja District. It works under the administrative control of the Conservator of Forests, Shahdol Circle, Shahdol. The Divisional Forest Officer Changbhakhar is assisted in his work by a team of officers and staff which includes Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, Forest Rangers, Deputy Rangers, Foresters and usual staff.

Fisheries Department

The work of fisheries development in Shahdol District is assigned to two Assistant Fishery Officers, with their headquarters at Shahdol. The Assistant Fishory Officers work under the administrative control of the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Rewa. The Assistant Fishery Officers are assisted by 3 Fishery Inspectors and usual staff.

Home Guard

The District Commandant, Home Guards, Shahdol is responsible for the recruitment, training and control of Home Guards in the District. He has jurisdiction over Shahdol District and he works under the administrative control of the Commandant General, Home Guards, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur. The District Commandant, Home Guards, Shahdol is assisted by 7 Platoon Commanders or Instructors alongwith the usual ministerial staff.

Industries Department

The Assistant Director of Industries, Shahdol is responsible for the development of Industries in the District. His office was opened at Shahdol in April 1959. The Assistant Director is responsible for his work to the Deputy Director of Industries, Rewa Division, Rewa.

The Assistant Director of Industries is assisted in his work by an Inspector of Industries and two Extension Officers of Industries alongwith the usual ministerial staff.

Irrigation Department

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division No. 1, is responsible for the supervision and execution of Irrigation works in Shahdol District. The Office of the Executive Engineer was established at Shahdol in 1955. It functions under the over-all administrative control of Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation Department, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The Executive Engineer in his work is assisted by 4 Assistant Engineers, 2 Junior Engineers, 18 Sub-Engineers, a work Assistant and usual ministerial staff.

Executive Engineer, Ban Sagar Division

The office of the Executive Engineer, Ban Sagar Dam Division No. 2 was opened in 1974 at Shahdol specially with a view to executing the scarcity works of the District. It has jurisdiction over Sohagpur and Beohari tahsils. The Executive

Engineer is responsible for his work to the Superintending Engineer, Rehar Kanhar Circle, Ambikapur (Surguja District).

The Executive Engineer is assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Officers (Assistant Engineers), 3 Junior Engineers, 27 Sub-Engineers, a Draughtsman, 6 Assistant Draughtsmen, 3 Tracers and usual staff.

Public Works Department

The Executive Engineer Public Works Department (B & R) Division, Shahdol, with headquarters at Shahdol, is responsible for construction and maintenance of Government buildings, roads and bridges in the District. He functions under administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, P.W. D. (B & R), Rewa Circle, Rewa.

The Executive Engineer in his work is assisted by 5 Assistant Engineers, a Junior Engineer, 31 Sub-Engineers, a Draughtsman, 7 Assistant Draughtsmen, 7 Tracers and usual staff.

Public Health Engineering Department

The Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Shahdol is responsible for survey, preparation and execution of water supply schemes in urban and rural areas of Shahdol and Sidhi District. The Office was established at Shahdol on 2nd October, 1971. It works under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Rewa Circle, Rewa.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by 7 Assistant Engineers, 1 Draughtsman, man, 4 Tracers, 38 Hand pump mechanic staff.

Public Health Department

Civil Surgeon

The Civil Surgeon, Shahdol is responsible for the public health activities and is in charge of District Hospital Shahdol and Civil Dispensaries in the District. He is responsible for his work to the Joint Director of Health Services, Rewa Division Rewa. The Civil Surgeon has been provided with a team of 17 Assistant Surgeons, 25 Vaidyas, Gynaecologist, 2 Assistant Medical Officers (Homoeopath) and other subordinate technical and executive staff which includes 1 Laboratory Technician, 4 B.C.G. Technicians, 1 'X' Ray Technician, 1 Lady Health Visitor, 39 Compounders, 17 Nursing Staff, besides the usual ministerial staff.

There are 4 Civil Dispensaries, 27 Ayurvedic Aushdhalayas and 2 Homoeopathic Dispensaries in the District.

Family Planning

The District Family Planning cum Health Officer Shahdol is responsible for execution, supervision and control of the Primary Health Centres in rural areas and Family Planning activities in Shahdol district. The office was opened at Shahdol in 1968. The Office functions under the overall control of the Director of Health Services, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The Family Planning cum Health Officer is assisted in his work by 1 Mass Education and Information Officer, 2 Deputy Mass Education and Information Officers, 42 Assistant Surgeons, 3 Assistant Medical Officers, 2 Para Medical Assistants, 19 Sanitary Inspectors, 53 Vaccinators, 5 Staff Nurses, 24 Lady Health Visitors, 113 Auxiliary Nurses cum Midwives, a Radiographer, a Laboratory Assistant, 13 Block Extension Educators, 11 Compounders, 40 Health Assistants, a Statistical Assistant and a field Evaluation Worker, besides the usual ministerial staff.

Publicity Department

To Publicise government activities through press, exhibition, film shows etc., a District Publicity Office was started at Shahdol in November, 1956. The Office, headed by a Public Relations Officer has jurisdiction over the entire Shahdol District and it works under the over-all administrative control of the Director of Information and Publicity, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Public Relation Officer is assisted by usual ministerial staff.

Social Welfare Department

The District Panchayat and Welfare Officer Shahdol is responsible for supervising the activities of Gram Panchayats, Nyaya Panchayats and Physical institution in the District, besides organising cultural and literary programmes. The Office has jurisdiction over the whole of Shahdol District. The Panchayat and Welfare Officer is responsible for his work to the Deputy Director of Panchayat and Social Welfare, Rewa Division, Rewa.

The District Panchayat and Welfare Officer is assisted in his work by a District Auditor, 7 Sub-Auditors, 13 Panchayat and Social Education Organisers, 72 Village Assistants, 21 Gram Sevaks, 7 Kalakars, a Radio Mechanic, a Cinema Operator and usual subordinate staff.

Statistical Department

The Office of the District Statistical Officer, Shahdol was started in 1958 at Shahdol with jurisdiction over Shahdol district. The office is responsible for collection compilation and interpretation of Statistical data received from Government and various other agencies. The Office works under the administrative control of the Director of Economics and Statistics, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Statistical Officer is assisted by two Statistical Assistants and usual staff.

The office maintains, "Village Index Cards" and carries out sample surveys. Besides, it prepares Plan Schemes and gives technical guidance to the District Planning Board.

Sales, Tax Department

The Office of the Sales Tax Officer, with jurisdiction over the whole of Shahdol District, was established at Shahdol in November, 1967. The Sales Tax Officer is responsible for his work to the Deputy Commissioner of Sales Tax, Satna.

The Sales Tax Officer, Shahdol is assisted by two Assistant Sales Tax Officers, four Inspectors of Sales Tax along with the usual staff.

Tribal Welfare Department

The District Organiser, Tribal Welfare, Shahdol is responsible for the Welfare of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes population in Shahdol District. He works under the over-all control the Director of Tribal Welfare, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The District Organizer, Tribal Welfare, Shahdol is assisted by a host of subordinate staff which includes Circle Organiser, Debt Relief Inspectors, Sub-Engineer, Social Workers, and other subordinate staff.

Veterinary Department

The Assistant Director of Veterinary Services, Shahdol is responsible for the working of Veterinary Hospitals and dispensaries in the District, besides controlling of epidemics of cattle, cattle breedings and implementation of their animal husbandry activities in the District. The Assistant Director is responsible for his work to the Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, Rewa Division, Rewa.

The Assistant Director is assisted by 20 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 93 Veterinary Field Assistants, 32 Dressers, 6 Cattle Attendants, besides one Manager Poultry Farm, 2 Poultry Supervisors, 2 Poultry Inspectors and usual ministerial staff.

CHAPTER - XIV

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

In India, the system of local self-government has existed since time immemorial. In Vedic age the village was treated as the unit of administration. This fact also finds a mention in the Rigveda. In the *Ramayana* period, the Janapada panchayats were highly advanced. *Vishnu* and *Manu Puranas* as well as the great epic *Mahabharat* have acknowledged the village as the smallest independent unit. During the Buddhist and Jain periods the institutions were so effective and popular that they had a legal ownership over the lands. As the villages developed and progressed, the functions of general administration as well as the administration of justice began to be shouldered collectively by elected representatives gradually. These institutions framed their own laws and rules. Only very important or grave matters were referred to the ruler for decision. But these old institutions degenerated during the regime.

The progress of local self-government in the District during the modern period dates back to the first quarter of the present century, when a Municipality was established at Umaria in A.D. 1920 though it was not a really representative body and had only *ex-officio* and nominated members. Similarly, the present form of Panchayat system was born only in the year A.D. 1900 when the village committees called the *chauras* were created in different places. By going through the following account, it will be observed that local self-government based on popular representation has been a plant of slow growth. At present, the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act of 1961 and the Madhya Pradesh Panchayats Act of 1962 regulate the working of the urban and rural local bodies, respectively.

Municipalities etc.

The municipal committees in Rewa State, which included Shahdol District, that were created in the first quarter of the 20th century were not really representative bodies because during that period the majority of their members were nominated by the State Government. This state of affairs continued to prevail until various Acts and enactments were passed and put into force in the District.

In Rewa State the first order for the constitution of Municipalities was issued by the Darbar in 1911 (order No. 9 dated 14th April, 1911). Subsequently, a municipality was established at Umaria, in November, 1920. At that time the principal source of their income was the large grant sanctioned from the general revenues of the State. In addition, the committee also levied a house tax but the collections from that item were poor. Another enactment for the improvement of Municipal administration was the Rewa State Sanitary and Municipal law, passed in 1922. It may be said that this was the first statutory enactment dealing with municipal administration in Rewa State. The Act, however, did not define the procedure for election or nomination of members of the Municipal Committees in the State. But they were authorised to

impose taxes and rates for meeting their expenditure-important among them being taxes on houses, carriage and carts, professions and trade, etc.

The Act also divided the municipal administration under two sections-sanitary and municipal. Municipal section was put under the charge of the municipal committees, headed by their Chairmen. While Sanitary arrangement was put under the charge of the Superintendent of Medical Department. At that time the Finance Commissioner of Rewa State was in the administrative charge of the Department. By virtue of the Act, Umaria Municipal Board had a strength of 5 members, out of whom 3 were *ex-officio* and 2 were nominated in 1923-24.

In the year 1939, a Municipal Board was constituted at Shahdol under the provisions of the Act of 1922. In 1943, Rewa Durbar appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government to study and suggest improvement in the conditions of the Municipalities, Sanitation and public health. The Development of Local Self-Government Institutions got a fillip when in 1945, a separate Municipal Department was created under a Municipal Development Officer.

The various recommendations made by the Constitution Committee of the Durbar were incorporated in the Rewa State Municipalities Act of 1946. Accordingly, fresh elections of Municipal Boards at Shahdol and Umaria were held in 1947 and the Municipal Boards were reconstituted. Two-thirds of the members in these Boards were elected while one-third were nominated. There were 8 elected and 4 nominated members in Shahdol Municipal Board. But the financial resources of the municipalities were poor and consequently, they could not perform any other function except that of conservancy. It may also be mentioned in this connection that the evidence of municipal taxation in Vindhya Pradesh was the lowest as compared with other regions of Madhya Pradesh.

After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948, the Rewa State Municipalities Act, was made applicable to the whole of the new unit. The work of re-organising and regularising the administration of municipalities was taken up in 1948. As a result, the municipal bodies were reconstituted and Shahdol and Umaria Municipal Boards continued to function as fully autonomous bodies under the Rewa State Municipalities Act, 1946. The elections for these bodies were held in the year 1948-49. This state of affairs continued till the merger of Vindhya Pradesh into new Madhya Pradesh in 1956.

In new Madhya Pradesh there was a great diversity in municipal laws prevalent in the four constituent regions of the new State. The State Government therefore, appointed the Urban Local Self-Government Committee in 1957 to suggest a new legislation for regulating the municipal bodies in Madhya Pradesh. Its recommendations were incorporated in the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1961 which was made effective from the 1st February, 1962. Under this Act the Municipal Committees are constituted by elected members, who elect their own President and Vice-Presidents. In addition, seats are also kept reserved for at least one woman member and representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes on the basis of population. The term of Municipality is for four years and could be extended by the State Government by one year.

Functions

The functions of the committee have been divided by the Act into two categories-obligatory and optional. All matters essential for the health, safety, convenience and welfare of the people fall under the former category while those which are not considered essential fall under the optional category, e.g. construction of public roads, culverts, markets etc.

Finances

The municipal bodies are empowered to levy taxation on many items like buildings and lands, taxes on vehicles, octroi on animals and goods, tax on dogs, and entertainment, taxes on trades and professions, etc. The rules prescribing the maximum and minimum rates have been formed. Although many taxes are levied by the Municipalities, yet in case they are in deficit their incomes are supplemented by government grants of recurring and non-recurring nature from time to time.

Present Working Of Municipalities

In the year 1976, the District had only two municipalities at Shahdol and Umaria whose growth has already been described in the earlier portion of this chapter.

Municipal Committee, Shahdol

The Municipality was established in the year 1939 under the Rewa State Sanitary Law of 1922. According to 1971 census, the town had a population of 28,490 persons and an area of 19.92 sq. km.

The membership of the Committee has increased gradually. In 1940, the Committee had a total membership of 9 persons and the number of wards was 4. All the members were elected. In 1946, the total strength of members increased to 10-6 members being elected and 4 nominated by the State. In 1951, the total strength of the Committee increased further to 11 members out of whom 8 were elected and 3 being nominated. The total number of wards was also increased to 8 in the same year.

In 1961 the strength of members was further increased to 13, out of whom 8 were elected and 5 were nominated. The total number of wards at that time was increased to 12. In 1966, the number of members remained unchanged but the proportion of elected members increased. Thus 12 persons were elected and only one was nominated. While in 1969, the total strength of the Committee was increased to 20 members, 16 being elected and 4 being nominated. In the same year, the number of wards was also increased to 16. At present seats from two wards are reserved for Scheduled Tribes, one for Scheduled Castes and the co-option of one woman member is essential.

The President is elected by all elected and selected members from amongst the members or from amongst any voter of the town. The Vice-President is also

elected out of elected and selected members only. The term of office of the President and Vice-President is for two years.

Resources

The table below shows the year-wise income and expenditure of the Shahdol Municipal Committee since 1953-54 to 1974-75 :

Table No. XIV- 1
Income And Expenditure (In Rs.)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1953-54	50,391	50,720
1960-61	68,246	86,058
1966-67	1,78,314	1,44,292
1970-71	2,77,252	2,24,080
1971-72	4,18,150	1,00,280
1972-73	3,17,995	2,97,586
1973-74	5,38,395	5,11,606
1974-75	6,37,838	5,94,050

Source:- (1) Shahdol District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 349

(2) Municipal Committee, Shahdol

A study of the above given figures shows that both income as well as the expenditure of the municipality have been rising constantly since the year 1953-54, except in the year 1972-73, when both the items registered a decline in comparison with the previous year 1971-72. These trends suggest that the municipal committee is engaged in providing various civic amenities to the people of the town.

Expenditure

The table below shows the various items over which the Municipal Committee has spent considerable sums of money during the period 1951-52 to 1974-75.

Table No. XIV-2
Expenditure (In Rs.)

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
1	2	3	4
1951-52	3,000	Nil	1,000
1961-62	25,000	-	2,000
1967-68	47,445	4,000	2,700
1970-71	69,965	56,303	46,825

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
1971-72	88,170	67,000	53,000
1972-73	92,474	50,115	90,798
1973-74	1,33,100	74,575	45,000
1974-75	2,07,066	22,000	80,000

The expenditure figures under various heads show slight fluctuations in some years though, generally they are all constantly on the increase. The figure under Public Works has been rising constantly since the year 1951-52. It registered a rise of more than 15 times in the 1967-68 over the expenditure of 1951-52. While in 1974-75 the rise is nearly 70 times. Under public works, assuming 1967-68 as the base year, the rise in expenditure was more than 14 times in 1970-71 and in 1973-74 it was more than 18 times. The expenditure under street lighting shows a tremendous rise. With the base year as 1951-52 the expenditure rose to about 47 times in 1970-71 and to about 91 times in 1972-73. These trends shows that Municipality has been devoting increasing attention towards the welfare activities of the people.

Achievement

Electricity was first switched on in the town in the year 1956-57 with 100 street lights. The number of street lights went up to 800 in 1974-75. The committee maintains 3 public latrines and 6 public urinals. At present drinking water is supplied to the town by means of tubewells. The scheme of water works is under execution by Public Health Engineering Department of State Government and its estimated cost is Rs. 80 Lakhs. It is to be completed by the year 1976. In the last ten years the Municipality has completed many important items of works in the town. It has constructed its own office building, a market and shopping centre, a vegetable market and a motor stand.

Municipal Committee, Umaria

The Municipal town has a population of 9,358 persons and area of 6.55 sq. km according to Census of 1971. The Municipality was established in November, 1920- under orders of Rewa Durbar. From 1922 onwards it began to be regulated by Rewa State Sanitary and Municipal Law of 1922. In 1923-24 the Committee had a total strength of 5 members, out of whom 3 were *ex-officio* and 2 were nominated. The year 1923-24 recorded an income of Rs. 3,749 and expenditure of Rs. 6,836 by the committee.

Fresh elections under the Rewa State Municipal Act of 1946 were held in the beginning of 1947 and the Committee was reconstituted. For Umaria Municipality two third of the members were elected and one-third were nominated. In 1950-51, the Committee had a total membership of 12 out of whom 10 were elected and 2 were nominated. The same strength continues till now. The Municipality has been dissolved since September 1973 and an Administrator appointed by State Government

is looking after its affairs. There is reservation of seats—one for the Scheduled Castes, two for the Scheduled Tribes and one for women.

The usual sources of income of the Committee are octroi, house and property taxes, conservancy tax etc. The table below shows the details of the income and expenditure of the Committee from 1923-24 to 1973-74.

Table No. XIV - 3
Income And Expenditure (In Rs.)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1923-24	3,749	6,836
1924-25	3,540	6,715
1930-31	15,894	15,908
1940-41	13,591	13,586
1947-48	50,766	52,481
1956-57	77,851	80,723
1966-67	74,827	78,863
1970-71	1,44,394	1,27,693
1971-72	1,43,294	1,30,736
1972-73	1,81,777	1,84,826
1973-74	2,05,011	1,94,632

Sources:- (1) Administration Report of Rewa State 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1930-31

(2) Municipal Committee, Umaria

The table above shows an increasing trend in both income and expenditure of the Committee during the last half a century. The income has increased from a mere Rs. 3,749 in 1923-24 to Rs. 2,05,011 in the year 1973-74. Similar is the case with expenditure.

Expenditure

The usual items of expenditure of the Committee are Public Health, Public Works and Street Lighting, which consume the major portion of its expenditure. The table below shows the year-wise break-up for some important years from the year 1930-31 on wards.

Table No. XIV - 4
Expenditure

(In Rs.)

Year	Expenditure On		
	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
1930-31	5,447	N.A.	418
1940-41	4,732	-	516
1951-52	13,172	-	119
1961-62	20,492	3,759	6,823
1970-71	49,223	9,346	11,351
1971-72	49,294	10,637	9,259

Source :- (1) Municipal Committee, Umaria

(2) Administration Report of Rewa State, 1930-31, 1940-41

The items of expenditure show a constant rise in all the items of expenditure since 1940-41 to 1971-72. The years 1951-52 and 1961-62, however show abnormally high increase of about 3 times in 1951-52 and 5 times in 1961-62, under Public Health as compared with the figure in 1940-41. It went up to 11 times in 1971-72. Similarly the expenditure under public works registered about three fold rise in 1970-71 as compared with the figures in 1961-62. The street lighting figures rose more than 16 times in 1961-62 and 28 times in 1970-71 as compared with the figures in 1930-31. This overall increase in all the items of expenditure gives an idea of the welfare activities being undertaken by the committee in different years.

Achievements

The town was provided with electricity in 1975. The disposal of sewage is being done by hand-carts. At present there are 6 public latrines and 5 urinals in the municipal area. The scheme of water works is under construction and nearing the finishing stage. The scheme is expected to cost Rs. 13 lakhs.

Notified Area Committees

In addition to two Municipalities mentioned above, there are also townships which are served by Notified Area Committees. These Committees in the District were originally gram panchayats but have now been upgraded into Notified Area Committees by the State Government. The Table below shows their relevant details.

Table No. XIV - 5
Notified Area Committees

Name of Committee	Tahsil	Date of formation	Population (1971)	Area
Dhanpuri	Sohagpur	16.12.1970	20,411	19.68
Naurozabad	Sohagpur	—	—	—
Chandia	Bandogarh	—	—	—
Burhar	Sohagpur	1969	8,756	14.08
Kotma	- do -	1974	7,047	N.A.
Beohari	Beohari	1969	8,124	27.11
Jaithari	Sohagpur	1975	—	—

Notified Area Committee, Dhanpuri

As stated earlier, the committee was established on 16 December, 1970. In 1971 the town had a population of 20,411 persons and an area of 19.65 sq.km. The Committee was constituted under the M.P. Municipalities Act, 1961. It has a strength of 11 members, all of whom are nominated by the state government. These include a representative of the Scheduled Tribes. The number of wards has not yet been fixed by Government and there have been no elections so far.

The committee caters to meeting the basic welfare needs of the residents like conservancy, street-lighting and public works. It derives its income from Bazar tax, ponds, cattle-pounds, and general rent and fares. The committee has not yet levied Octroi, which is supposed to be the source of largest income. The table below gives the details of income and expenditure since the time of establishment.

Table No. XIV - 6
Income And Expenditure

Year	Income	Expenditure
1971-72	33,554	18,923
1972-73	42,701	33,489
1973-74	54,086	35,535
1974-75	60,216	49,437

Source : Notified Area Committee, Dhanpuri

The figures of income in 1974-75 have nearly doubled as compared to 1971-72. Similarly, expenditure figures in 1974-75 recorded a three fold rise as compared with those of 1971-72.

Expenditure

The Committee spent mainly on items of public health, public works and

street-lighting. The table below shows the year-wise figures during the year 1971-72 to 1974-75.

Table No XIV - 7
Expenditure

Year-wise	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	No. of Street Lights
1971-72	348	3,257	1,504	40
1972-73	331	5,781	1,827	40
1973-74	565	4,687	1,995	66
1974-75	348	15,456	2,088	66

Source :- Notified Area Committee, Dhanpuri

While expenditure on other items shows fluctuation, the expenditure under street-lighting has been showing a constant rising trend indicating the maintenance of a satisfactory and need-based service in street lighting.

Achievements

The town was provided with electric street lighting in 1971-72, with 40 electric poles in the beginning. This number subsequently went up to 66 in the year 1973-74. A Homoeopathic hospital is also being maintained by the committee in the town. It has constructed and maintained a number of wells and tanks for provision of drinking water.

Village Panchayats

The administration of Rewa State was taken over by the Britishers in 1880-81, during the minority of Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh. "A sound judicial system throughout the State was established. Though various civil and criminal courts were established it was stipulated that the suits decided by Panchayats appointed by the parties to the unit were not subject to appeal except on ground of misconduct or corruption."¹ By the year 1900 recognised committees of influential persons, called the "*Chauras*", existed at convenient centres which were presided over by the leading men of the locality.² In 1927, during the rule of Maharaja Vishwanath Singh, "Dharam Sabha" courts were established.³

This account proves that the village was the unit of revenue administration and the ability of the panchayats was recognised universally. In 1931, Rewa Darbar promulgated *Chaura* Rules in May with a view to reorganise village panchayats. These *Chauras* continued to function till the promulgation of Village Panchayats Ordinance, 1949. This ordinance actually came into force in 1951. The ordinance stipulated the establishment of panchayats at tahsil level. Consequently 12 panchayats were established in 1953-54. The number of panchayats went upto 240 in 1935-36.

1. Administration of Rewa State (1881-1886), p. 186.

2. History of Local Self-Government in Vindhya Pradesh, by Dr. Ramayan Prasad, 1963, p.197.

3. Maulvi Rehman Ali Khan, Tawarikh- Baghelkhand (Urdu), p.42

The Act of 1949 fixed the term of a Village Panchayat at three years and the members of the Panchayats varied from 5 to 12.

Functions

The Act divided the functions to be performed by the Panchayats under two categories, namely, (1) obligatory and (2) discretionary. The important obligatory functions were construction, maintenance and lighting of streets, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, construction of public wells, tanks, cattle-pounds and opening of primary schools. The important discretionary functions were development of co-operative societies, planting of trees, improving breeds of cattle, distribution of seeds and implements, street lighting, reading rooms, libraries, dharmashalas, etc.

Sources Of Income

The main sources of income were (a) House tax, (b) Income from market and cattle-pounds. After the merger of Vindhya Pradesh into new Madhya Pradesh in November, 1956, the Act of 1949 continued to operate in the District till the enactment of the Madhya Pradesh Panchayats Act 1962, as a result of recommendation of the Madhya Pradesh Rural Local-Self-Government Enquiry Committee, 1957. This Act evolved a similar pattern for all the Panchayats in the four integrating units of new Madhya Pradesh.

Panchayati Raj

The new Panchayat Act of 1962, proposed that a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj should be established in the State :-

- (i) Gram Panchayat at village level
- (ii) Janapada Panchayat at the Block level
- (iii) Zila Panchayat at the District level

Gram Panchayat

Under this Act, the Gram Sabha, consisting of all the adults of the village, acts as a statutory body and holds at least two meeting in a year to consider the programme of work and the budget. The Sabha also elects the *panchas* of the *gram panchayat* in the ratio of 10 *panchas* for a population of 1000 persons and one additional *panch* from every 200 persons. Reserved seats are also provided for two co-opted women members, one representative of co-operative societies and one from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The area of the village panchayats is very limited and similarly their powers also. Every gram panchayat having an annual income of at least Rs.5000 is entitled to the service of a full time secretary.

Janapada Panchayats

The Janapada Panchayats act as the co-ordination committees between the Village Panchayats and Zila Panchayats. They render economic and technical help to the Village Panchayats. They also arrange for loans and grants for Village Panchayats. In fact, the Janapada Panchayats guide and control the working of the Village Panchayats.

The Janapada Panchayats consist of, in addition to elected *panchas* varying from 15 to 30, one member from the co-operative marketing societies, one from each municipal committee or notified committee of the area, one person from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, two women, and local members of Legislative Assembly. Every Janapada Panchayat is entitled for the full time services of a full time Chief Executive Officer. The Sarpanch and up-Sarpanch of the Janapada Panchayat are elected from amongst the members of the Janapada Panchayat or from amongst the members of any Village Panchayat.

Zila Panchayats

A Zila Panchayat is to be constituted for every District. The Zila Panchayat shall include Sarpanchas of all the Janapada Panchayats, all members of Legislative Assembly from the District, all members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, as well as all the District-level officers. If no representative from women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes find a place among the elected members, then a person from each of the groups is to be co-opted. Similarly, if not otherwise elected, there is a provision for co-option of a representative from the central Co-operative Bank or Co-operative Marketing Society. The members who are government officers have no right of voting. The term of the panchayat is for a period of 5 years. The affairs of Zila Panchayats are to be looked after by the District Panchayat and Welfare Officer.

Functions

The village panchayats are performing their various functions through standing committees which are several in number and they look after the promotion of agriculture, education, social welfare, co-operation and cottage industries and sanitation and conservancy. But the committees are not functioning impressively.

The main functions of the Janapada Panchayats are (1) promotion of community development programmes through the village panchayats, co-operative societies, various voluntary organisations and people's participation. (2) improvement in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries by distribution of improved seeds, fertilizers and insecticides, as well as provision of electricity and irrigation facilities, (3) maintenance and expansion of public health services, (4) construction and maintenance of public roads and means of communication. This is only an illustrative list and enumerates important functions only. These functions are performed by the Janapada Panchayats through seven standing committees on (1) Agriculture (2) Education (3) Social Welfare (4) Finance (5) Communications and Public Works (6) Co-operation and Industries and (7) General.

From June 1973 the village panchayats have been authorised to inspect all the primary and middle schools under their jurisdiction. Similarly, the Janapada Panchayats have been delegated powers to inspect all middle schools under their area and to suggest various means for their improvement through their standing committee on education. The panchayats will be assisted in the work by the Inspectors of Schools. Their suggestions are to be forwarded to the District Education Officer. The Janapada Panchayats have also been empowered to

transfer the primary and middle school teachers within their respective areas. The character rolls of all teachers of primary and middle schools are to be written by the Sarpanch of the Janapada Panchayat.

Similarly, the Janapada Panchayats have been authorised to collect irrigation rate from the public and it will form a part of their income. Tanks are also to be looked after by the Janapada Panchayats. The Janapada Panchayats have also been called upon to maintain those link roads whose length does not exceed more than 5 km. The main function of the Zila Panchayats is to supervise and guide the Village and Janapada Panchayats to co-ordinate their activities and to disburse funds among the Janapada Panchayats.

Financial Resources

The Panchayats derive their income from State grant as well as taxes levied by them. Under Section 332 of the Act they are entitled for specific grants from State Government and under section 80 they get a share from land revenue to the limit of one paisa per rupee. In addition, they can impose compulsory and voluntary taxes. They include house tax, conservancy tax, street-lighting tax, professional tax, cattle registration tax. The State Government has been giving specific grants to village panchayats for the construction of Panchayat Bhavans. The panchayats are expected to contribute an equal amount of money for this purpose.

The Janapada Panchayats are empowered to levy certain rates and taxes by section 157 of the Panchayats Act, 1962, important among them are (a) toll tax payable by vehicles when crossing over bridges built by the Janapada Panchayats (b) entertainment tax on various cultural and recreational programmes like (a) cinema (b) dramas (c) circus (d) carnival (e) Bouts (bouts) (f) other exhibitions, etc. (C) rents and hire charges for the use of land or property owned by Janapada Panchayat. (D) Fees on transfer of immovable property. (E) share from land revenue collection. But these sources are not quite sufficient to help the Janapada Panchayats in the efficient performance of their duties and functions. Therefore, they have to depend on government grants.

Present Working Of Panchayats

This District has a total number of 2,157 villages and it was envisaged to constitute 396 village panchayats out of which 3 were earmarked for Tribal Areas. Between 1969 and 1974 eleven village panchayats were upgraded into Notified Area Committees. So now the District has a total number of 385 panchayats, functioning under the supervision of 10 Janapada Panchayats. Considering Block-wise, the number of panchayats in 1970-71 was (1) Sohagpur 27 (2) Pall-39 (3) Kotma-Anuppur-36 (4) Jaithari-32 (5) Burhar-41 (6) Beohari-38 (7) Jaisinghnagar 36. The elections for 385 village panchayats were held in May 1970 while those for the ten Janapada Panchayats, in December, 1970. The total number of village panchayats members was 5,481 while the 10 Janapada Panchayats had total membership of 212.

Co-options

After the holding of elections for the village panchayats a process of co-option followed and 715 women, 110 members of Scheduled Castes and 129 persons from various co-operative societies were co-opted as members of village panchayats.

Similarly, for the 10 Janapada Panchayats of the District, co-option of members was done after the elections were completed in December 1970. Consequently, 19 women, representatives from co-operative societies and 2 representatives of the municipal committees were co-opted as members.

Income And Expenditure

The Panchayats of the District have devoted their attention towards the various obligatory and discretionary functions with which they are entrusted. The table below shows the income and expenditure of the 385 Panchayats in the district from 1957-58 to 1974-75.

Table No. XIV - 8
Income And Expenditure

Year	Income	Expenditure
1957-58	56,035	46,635
1960-61	53,462	49,969
1965-66	1,40,325	86,195
1970-71	2,06,283	1,99,164
1971-72	3,82,150	1,45,073
1972-73	5,49,195	5,49,084
1973-74	3,08,760	1,76,531
1974-75	4,78,149	4,39,200

Source :- District Panchayat and Welfare Officer, Shahdol

A study of the table of income and expenditure shows a constant rising trend except in the year 1973-74 with the previous years, 1972-73. Taking the year 1960-61 as base year the income increased by more than 2½ times in 1965-66, by nearly 3½ times in 1970-71 and by about 8½ times in 1974-75. On the expenditure side, we find that from the year 1960-61, the expenditure nearly doubled in 1965-66, rose by about 4 times in 1970-71 and by more than 8½ times in 1974-75.

Expenditure

The main items of expenditure of the Panchayats related to Public Works, Education (including social education), cattle pounds, and fairs and *melas*. The table below gives the details of expenditure during the recent years.

Table No. XIV - 9

Expenditure Of Gram Panchayats

Year	Public Works	Education and Social Education	Cattle Pounds	Fairs and Melas
1957-58	15,000	11,100	2,000	7,035
1960-61	25,375	4,900	915	3,900
1965-66	52,960	7,705	10,392	670
1970-71	10,782	49,734	17,363	2,909
1971-72	11,425	26,350	6,500	3,423
1972-73	65,513	64,575	26,894	67,910
1973-74	21,400	13,500	16,800	25,431
1974-75	1,77,700	57,000	36,000	21,000.

Source :- District Panchayat and Welfare Officer, Shahdol

The trends of expenditure under various items show a great degree of fluctuation from year to year. But they have all increased as compared with the year 1957-58.

In 1974-75 expenditure under Public Works increased by more than 11 times, under Education the increase was more than 5 times, under cattle pounds it increased by 18 times while under Fairs and *melas* by about 3 times. This is a healthy trend and proves increasing attention by the Panchayats towards the basic welfare activities.

Nyaya Panchayats

The institutions of Nyaya Panchayats were established under the Vindhya Pradesh Panchayat Ordinance, 1949 with a view to provide the villages with cheaper and speedier justice. The Nyaya Panchayats heralded a new era in the judicial administration. In former Vindhya Pradesh each Nyaya Panchayat usually comprised of three to five gram sabhas. The district was divided into circles comprising three to five gram sabhas. The number of panchas of these Panchayats ranged between 5 and 11. The Nyaya Panchayats had a term of three years. In Vindhya Pradesh the Nyaya Panchayats had jurisdiction over civil, revenue and criminal matters arising within their respective areas. They elected their own Chairman from amongst the members and their term of office was co-extensive with that of the panchayats. The powers and duties enjoyed by these bodies have continued, more or less, unchanged according to the Madhya Pradesh Panchayats, Act, 1962. There are 73 Nyaya Panchayats in the District. Their detailed working is described in the earlier chapter on Law and Order and Justice.

CHAPTER - XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Historical Background

The present District of Shahdol was a part of the erstwhile Rewa State. The rulers of Rewa had been great patrons of literature and learning. Several of them had also been good scholars of Sanskrit and Hindi. They always extended their patronage to persons noted for their learning and encouraged them to settle in the State by giving them grants of land. The large grants of land, made as *pal pakhar* or *punyarth*, show the extent of the patronage held out to Sanskrit and Hindi scholars in the State.

Maharaja Jay Singh Deo (1809-33 A.D.) wrote several books of which *Haritika* is the most significant. His successor, Vishwanath Singh (1833-54 A.D.), himself a good scholar of Sanskrit, was a great patron of Sanskrit learning. He invited scholars from different parts of the country to settle in the State and form Seminaries for teaching Sanskrit. He wrote criticism on Kabir's *Bijak* and Tuls's *Vinay Patrika* and other books namely, *Anand Raghunandan* (drama), *Kakahara*, *Ramaini*, *Shabda Mangal*, *Geetavali*, *Anand Ramayan*, etc. His son and successor, Raghuraj Singh (1854-80 A.D.), followed in the footsteps of his father and gave encouragement chiefly to Hindi. A poet of Hindi himself, he helped in building up a nucleus of Hindi writers and poets in the State. Some of his works were of considerable merit. He had an equal love for music also.¹

Beginning Of Western Education

The progress of Western education in the District was very slow in the pre-independence era. The State as a whole was backward in the field of education during all these years. The first State School was started in 1869 at the capital town of Rewa State.

Later the schools were also started at District and Tahsil headquarters of the State. In 1905-6, there were 32 vernacular schools, situated in important villages of the State including Baraundha and Chandla villages of Shahdol District. Of these 24 were primary and 8 secondary. No fees were charged in any of the schools of the State.

In 1918, the approximate number of schools in Shahdol District was 21 which increased to 26 in 1922. The first Anglo-Vernacular Boys Middle School was opened in the District at Umaria in 1921.

In 1922-23, a preparatory middle school was started at Beohari with the aim of preparing students for the Vernacular Final Examinations of the United Provinces.

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 69; Glories of Bandhogarh and its Rulers, Compiled by Ayaz Ali Khan, pp. 8-9; Vindhya - Bhumi, October, 1956, pp. 111-112.

The Sanskrit pathshala (private) at Shahdol, established in the beginning of the 20th century, prepared and sent students for the *Prathma* and *Madhyama* examinations of Banaras and Calcutta Sanskrit Colleges. Drill and physical exercises were introduced in the Vernacular schools of the State during the minority (1918-22) of the Maharaja of Rewa (Gulab Singh). Immediately prior to Independence and accession of the State into Indian Union, the Education upto high school level was free here. Scholarships to the poor and meritorious students was a regular feature. Entire expenses on uniform for boy scouts and girls guides and on sports were met by the State.

LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

Literacy

In 1951, the District had a literacy percentage of 5.2 which increased to 10.3 in 1961 and to 14.59 in 1971. In 1951, roughly 1 in every 20 (5.2 per cent) persons in the District could claim to be literate or educated while in 1961 the level of literacy (10.3 per cent) has almost doubled. In case of females, the rate of literacy which was 0.8 per cent in 1951 had more than trebled (2.9 per cent) itself in 1961. In case of males the percentage of literacy which was 9.4 in 1951 had almost doubled (17.4 per cent) in 1961.

This improvement in literacy during the decade (1951-61) could be possible because of the tremendous progress that has been made in the District in the growth of educational institutions. In 1951, the District had only 257 primary schools which steadily grew from year to year, and stood at 836 in 1960, which is more than three times the number of 1951. The number of male scholars had increased about 3.5 times of the 1951 number, while the number of female scholars which was incredibly small in 1951 had increased ten times, though it remained still small as compared with the number of male scholars. The number of male teachers also increased by more than four times since 1951 while the number of female teachers which was only 16 in 1951 was almost seven times that number (110) in 1961.¹

Considering the number of villages served by each school, we had one school for every 7.7 villages on an average in 1951. In 1961, we had one such school for only 2.4 villages on an average. In other words, while one school in 1951 served a geographical area of about 21 square miles (54.39 sq. km.), it served only 6.4 square miles (16.57 sq. km.) of area in 1961. Similarly, the number of children of school-going age (6-10 years) also increased considerably from 1951 to 1961.²

In 1971, further improvement was recorded and the literacy percentage increased to 14.59 from 10.3 in 1961. In case of males, the rate of literacy which was 17.4 per cent in 1961 increased to 23.20 per cent in 1971, and the rate of literacy among females which was 2.9 per cent in 1961 nearly doubled itself in 1971 (5.78 per cent).

1. Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1961, pp. 1viii-1ix and 351.

2. Ibid p.1ix.

In rural areas of the District, proportion of literate and educated persons is still lower, i.e., 8.6 per cent in 1961 and 11.46 per cent in 1971. This is partly because of the fact that rural areas have little awareness of the need of education but also partly because they did not have the requisite schooling facilities. Urban areas on the other hand have better schooling facilities and also a greater awareness of the need for education.

It is also well-known that men, with the responsibility of bearing the major share of earning a living, have greater awareness of the importance of education. Consequently, there are more literate and educated in males than in females. In Shahdol District, 9.4, 17.4 and 23.02 was the percentage of male literate population in 1951, 1961, and 1971, respectively. As against this, the proportion of literate women in the District has the exceedingly small value of .8 per cent, 2.9 per cent and 5.78 per cent in 1951, 1961 and 1971, respectively.

The following table gives distribution of literacy in the District for total, rural and urban areas in 1951, 1961 and 1971.

Table No. XV - 1
Growth Of Literacy Percentages By Sex And
By Total, Rural And Urban Areas
(1951, 1961 and 1971)

Year	Persons			Males			Females		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1951	5.20	N.A	N.A	9.40	N.A	N.A	0.80	N.A	N.A
1961	10.30	8.60	33.60	17.40	15.10	46.40	2.90	1.80	18.30
1971	14.59	11.46	37.9	23.20	19.27	49.03	5.78	3.40	24.70

Source :- Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1951, 1961 and 1971

Educational Standards

To ascertain the true quality of the population as regards education, the levels of education possessed by those returned as literate and educated must be considered. Thus of the 10.3 per cent persons returned as literate and educated in 1961, as many as nine-tenth were merely literates without any educational standards. Many of these might have left without passing the primary school examination. About 5 per cent of the literate and educated were returned with primary or junior basic levels (percentage for the State 22). All these have passed the primary school examination. Many of them might have studied in a middle school or a high school but could not pass the matriculation examination. About 5 per cent have been returned as possessing Matriculation or higher levels of education (percentage for the State 6.2). As regards educational levels, the District is lagging behind the State. There was a rapid increase in the number of primary schools from 1955 onwards, while the higher secondary schools increased especially from 1957 onwards. The

effect of this expansion in primary and higher secondary institutions, therefore, could not be reflected in the 1961 count. The following table shows the number of persons possessing various educational standards in the 1961 Census :-

Table No. XV-2

Educational Standards, 1961

Total Population			Literate (without educational levels)		
Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
8,29,649	4,24,042	4,05,607	76,945	68,302	10,643
(Contd.)					
Educational Levels					
Primary or Junior Basic			Matriculation and Above		
Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
7	8	9	10	11	12
4,171	3,546	625	4,307	4,015	292

Source :- Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1961

In the urban areas of the District, out of 19,387 literate and educated persons in 1961, 14,811 persons were merely literates without any educational levels. Those who possessed primary or junior basic level numbered 2,131. The number of persons passing Matriculation or Higher Secondary Examination was 2,006. The total number of persons having Technical Diploma or Degree was 148 only. Those who had either non-technical diploma or degree or post-graduate degree numbered 291. The following table shows the educational levels of literate and educated persons in the urban areas of the District at the time of 1961 Census:-

Table No. XV - 3

Sex And Education In Urban Areas Of Shahdol District, 1961

Total Urban Population			Illiterate		Literate (without any educational levels)		
Persons	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
57,760	31,418	26,342	16,844	21,529	10,663	4,148	
(Contd.)							
Primary or Junior Basic		Matriculation or Higher Secondary		Technical Diploma or Degree		Non- Technical Degree or Post Graduate Degree	
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1,660	471	1,844	162	139	9	268	23

Source :- Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1961

Spread Of Education Among Women

The first girls' school in Rewa State was started at the capital town in 1885-86, and by the year 1926-27, there were only 5 girls' primary schools in the State, of which 4 were at Rewa and one at Satna. The region comprising the present Shahdol District was without a Girls School during the Princely Rule and little was done to spread education among girls in the first three-four decades of the 20th century. It was only after Independence and more so during the First Five Year Plan period that enthusiasm was witnessed in the District for girls' education. As a result, the number of girls' schools and students increased to 61 (53 primary 7 middle) and 1 higher secondary) and 4,652 in the District respectively at the end of the First Five Year Plan period (1955-56). The number of schools increased to 69 in 1960-61 and to 72 in 65-66; and the number of girl students increased to 5610 in 1961-62 and to 7,876 in 1965-66. At present (1974-75), there are 108 girls' schools and 30,961 students, besides a few girls in the colleges of the District. The following table shows the growth of girls' education in the District during the last two decades.

Table No. XV- 4

Growth Of Girls' Education

Year	Primary Schools		Middle Schools		Higher Secondary Schools	
	No.	Students	No.	Students	No.	Students
1955-56	53	3,248	7	1,311	1	93
1960-61	60	3,785	7	1,584	2	241
1965-66	57	4,532	11	2,797	4	547
1970-71	62	8,544	25	4,973	4	1,662
1971-72	62	14,284	25	7,113	4	1,754
1972-73	72	30,913	27	7,327	5	1,707
1973-74	72	26,004	27	9,216	6	1,674
1974-75	74	20,715	28	8,322	6	1,924

Spread Of Education Among Backward Classes And Tribes

All classes of *Sudras* in the Rewa State were excluded from admission into the schools. During the regency (1918-22) of Sajjan Singh, the ruler of Ratlam, the bar had, however, been removed in respect of some of the high class *Sudras* for the first time. The bar, however, operated against others who were considered very low or belonged to the class of untouchables. The Regent, while sanctioning the proposal of the Council of Regency in this matter, remarked that in future "efforts should be made gradually to extend the privilege of education to all classes of Rewa subjects."¹

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1918-22, p. 114

It was only after Independence that facilities were provided and efforts were made to encourage education among these classes. After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh, Tribal Welfare Department was organised in 1952 which started 10 Harijan *Pathshalas* and 34 Night Schools in the State. The Gond Ashram of Girari, Harijan Sewak Sangh of Vindhya Pradesh and the Adivasi Balika Ashram of Patna were given grants-in-aid annually. Scholarships, stipends, freeships and uniforms were given to the students of Scheduled Castes, Tribes and other Backward Classes. Two Forest Schools were also started in Vindhya Pradesh during the year for the training of these classes.¹

In the following year, free supply of books and stationery articles was also made available to them. The Government of India sanctioned a scheme of Rs. 3 lakhs for their welfare. The Vindhya Pradesh Government also made a provision of Rs. 7,90,000 during the year for their benefit. The schemes included the following items of expenditure :-

- (i) Payment of Non-Government Fees;
- (ii) Free distribution of books and stationery articles;
- (iii) Hostels and Boarding houses with free boarding and lodging;
- (iv) Scholarships;
- (v) Night Schools;
- (vi) Opening and maintenance of new Ashrams;
- (vii) Forest Schools;
- (viii) Uniforms to Children; and
- (ix) Construction of Ashram buildings.

The Vindhya Pradesh Government granted a sum of Rs. 12,000 to Vindhya Pradesh Adimjati Sewak Sangh for the opening of 2 new basic residential Ashrams at Jwalamukhi and Barar in the District. The grant for the building of the Balika Ashram of Patna and grants to other non-official organisations - Gond Sewak Sangh and Harijan Sewak Sangh - were given during the year 1952-53.²

In 1953-54, the Government sanctioned scholarships for training students in certain crafts. Fifty adults' Schools, a few mobile schools and 6 harijan hostels were opened for them in the State. The Vindhya Pradesh Adimjati Sewak Sangh was given grants for running basic residential ashrams at Jwalamukhi and Barar. The ashrams at Patna and Girari were transferred from the administrative control of the Education Department to the Tribal Welfare Department of the State. The amounts were also sanctioned during the year for the construction and repairing of the buildings of these two ashrams.

The Adivasi Balika Ashram and Matra Mandir at Patna and the Adivasi Ashram for boys at Girari, previously run by the Vindhya Pradesh Adimjati Sewak

1. Vindhya Pradesh Administration Report, 1952, pp. 29-30 and 71-72.

2. Ibid. 1953, pp. 77-81

Sangh through grant-in-aid, were taken over by the Government with effect from 15th July, 1955. These were then maintained through the Collector of the District. Scholarships worth Rs. 1,218 were paid to 11 students of these classes for learning handicrafts in Government Technical Institutes of Vindhya Pradesh. The Forest Schools (2 in number) continued to function in which nearly 50 students of the State (Vindhya Pradesh) received training in forestry. Nearly 37 Economic Co-operative Societies were being run for Scheduled Caste people in the State. Non-official agencies continued to receive grants from the State Government.

The Tribal Research Bureau, established at Shahdol by the Vindhya Pradesh Adimjati Sewak Sangh in the year 1953-54, was taken over by the Government in 1954-55 to run the same departmentally. The expenditure incurred for the same during the year was Rs. 5,593.¹

After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh on 1st November, 1956, more facilities and concessions were provided by the Tribal Welfare Department of the State. The main educational schemes of the Department, for the upliftment of these classes, are given below :-

- (1) Scholarships for pre-matric and post-matric students (Appendix No. I)
- (2) Hostels with free boarding and lodging and stipends for pre-matric and post-matric students. (Appendix -II)
- (3) Residential institutions, popularly called Ashrams, for girls and boys.
- (4) Mid-day Meals programme in schools.
- (5) Free training in Industrial Training Institutes.
- (6) Free supply of text-books and stationery articles to primary school children.
- (7) Free training to candidates desirous of competing for Government service or seeking admission in Medical Colleges.
- (8) Concessions to persons desirous of seeking admission in Agricultural Colleges.
- (9) Opening of more schools in tribal areas.
- (10) Reimbursement of the tuition fees payable by them in non-Government schools, and Board Examination fees.
- (11) Opening of special residential Model Schools in selected towns for the promising students of these classes.
- (12) Reservation of posts in all Government Departments for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- (13) Balwadis for the children of these classes.
- (14) Free supply of school uniforms for girls of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Thus the Schedule Castes and Tribes are educationally much better off because of the continuous efforts made by the Government. The number of primary,

1. Ibid. 1955, pp. 76-80.

middle and higher Secondary schools, run by the Tribal Welfare Department in 1975-76, were 404, 60 and 8, respectively. The following table shows the number of students, belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in the educational institutions of the District.

Table No. XV - 5
Scheduled Caste And Scheduled Tribe Students In The Educational Institutions Of The District
(1960-61 to 1973-74)

Year	Primary		Middle		H.S.S.		Govt. Mining Polytechnic, Shahdol	
	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1960-61	3,031	13,524	446	918	6,113	137	—	—
1965-66	3,817	18,266	1,037	2,500	319	555	—	—
1970-71	2,050	14,242	942	3,002	292	981	2	—
1971-72	2,872	22,425	1,281	4,322	256	1,040	3	—
1972-73	6,989	47,600	340	1,526	208	859	3	—
1973-74	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
(Contd.)								
I.T.I. Shahdol					Colleges*			
S.C.		S.T.		S.C.		S.T.		
10		11		12		13		
—		—		—		—		
—		—		—		—		
7		38		31		50 (1 & 2)		
10		31		28		75 (-do-)		
17		56		250		80 (1, 2 & 3)		
20		44		10		75 (-do-)		

* (1) Government College, Shahdol (2) Government Girls College, Shahdol (3) Government Sanskrit College, Shahdol.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Pre-Primary Education

Pre-primary education in the District is of recent origin. There were no pre-primary schools in the erstwhile Rewa State prior to Independence. The aim of the pre-primary education was to run the institutions on modern lines for children aged three to six years. It was only during the Second Five-Year Plan period that efforts were made to start such a school in the District. In 1960-61, there existed only one

pre-primary school in the District which number increased to 3 in 1972-73. The number of students and teachers, in 1960-61, was 62 (36 boys and 26 girls) and 2 which increased to 413 (365 boys and 48 girls) and 12 in 1972-73, respectively. The number of pre-primary schools in 1973-74 remained the same but the number of students increased to 601 (376 boys and 225 girls) and the teachers decreased to 11 during the year. In the following year (1974-75), the number of schools, students and teachers was 3,379 (245 boys and 134 girls) and 6, respectively. The expenditure incurred on pre-primary education was Rs.38,172 in 1960-61 which declined to Rs.7,225 in 1970-71 but mounted to Rs.30,700 in 1973-74. The table given in the Appendix No. III depicts the picture of progress made in this field during the last 15 years.

Compulsory Primary Education

The Vindhya Pradesh Compulsory Primary Education Act, 1952 (IV of 1952) was introduced in the District during the following year. Under this Act, compulsory primary education centres, one in each tahsil, were started from July, 1953, and additional teachers with necessary equipment were provided to these centres.¹

In 1955-56, there were 76 schools in the District with an enrolment of 2,416 students and 82 teachers. The expenditure incurred on the scheme, during the year 1955-56, was Rs.29,397. The number of schools and teachers in 1960-61 increased to 89 and 110, respectively, but the number of students declined to 1,690. In 1965-66, the number of schools, students and teachers further declined to 3, 29 and 4, respectively. The expenditure incurred in 1960-61 was Rs.16,127 which decreased to Rs.5,697 in 1965-66. The compulsory primary schools were converted into ordinary schools with effect from 1966-67. The table given in the Appendix- IV gives us an idea about the compulsory primary education during the decade (1955-56 to 1965-66).

Primary Schools

As stated earlier, the erstwhile Rewa State opened very few schools in the region comprising the present District of Shahdol and the total number of schools was only 26 in 1922. After Independence the position changed radically. There were 297 primary schools in the District with an enrolment of 10,555 students and 313 teachers in 1951. This number increased rapidly in the successive years and it was 697, 38,089 and 929 in 1955-56 which increased to 1,035, 49,973 and 919 in 1965-66, respectively. The number further increased to 1,060, 56,182 and 2,184 in 1971-72 and mounted to 1,331, 82,760 and 2,363 in 1973-74, respectively. As regards expenditure incurred on primary education, it was Rs.10,64,852 in 1955-56 which increased to Rs.20,86,137 in 1965-66 and further rose to Rs.81,76,348 in 1973-74. Thus the expenditure on primary education increased nearly 8 folds since 1955-56. The following table shows the progress of primary education from the year 1955-56 to 1974-75.

1. Vindhya Pradesh Administration Report, 1952, p.27; 1953, p. 30.

Table No. XV - 6
Progress Of Primary Schools
(1955-56 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers		Expenditure (In Rs.)
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
1955-56	644	53	34,841	3,248	854	75	10,64,852
1960-61	728	60	34,990	3,785	1,109	96	17,65,565
1965-66	978	57	45,441	4,532	864	55	20,86,137
1970-71	998	62	33,545	8,544	1,629	179	55,74,915
1971-72	998	62	41,998	14,284	2,028	156	64,76,466
1972-73	1,098	72	63,067	30,913	2,153	155	73,84,651
1973-74	1,259	72	56,756	26,004	2,261	102	81,76,348
1974-75	1,174	74	51,811	20,715	2,020	120	81,22,044

Basic Education

Though a step in the direction was taken earlier in Rewa State by introducing agricultural training in some of the schools of the State in 1926-27, it was not till the formation of Vindhya Pradesh that a strong vocational bias was given to education in primary and middle stages. In 1952, 8 model basic schools were opened in the State - one in each District. A Basic Training School was started in 1952 at Kundeshwar (Tikamgarh District) to impart training to the teachers in basic education. A teacher was also sent for basic training at Wardha during the year 1953. Manual labour scheme was introduced in some educational institutions in 1952.

Some of the primary and middle schools of the District were converted into junior and senior basic schools and in 1955-56, there were 20 junior basic schools in the District with an enrolment of 2,075 students and 72 teachers which increased to 2,165 students and 78 teachers in 1960-61. In the following years the number of schools, students and teachers gradually declined and it was 12,977 and 34 in 1974-75, respectively. The expenditure however, increased from Rs.82,757 in 1955-56, to Rs.2,33,067 in 1974-75.

There was only one senior basic school, in 1955-56 and in 1965-66, there were three. The number of students and teachers also increased from 115 and 8 in 1955-56 to 539 and 13 in 1965-66. Though the number of senior basic schools remained the same in 1972-73, the number of students and teachers increased to 789 and 34, respectively. Since then their number has been fluctuating. The number of students in 1973-74 and 74-75 was 522 and 585 and the number of teachers 37 and 35. The expenditure on senior basic schools increased from Rs.13,672 in 1955-56 to Rs.1,99,521 in 1974-75. The tables in Appendices V and VI give us a view of the basic education in the District.

Middle Schools

In 1921, the first Anglo-Vernacular Middle School in the District was started at Umaria. It was only after the formation of Vindhya Pradesh that the number of schools increased rapidly. In 1952, steps were taken to convert all the vernacular middle schools of the State into Anglo- Vernacular Middle Schools and 15 primary schools into middle schools. In 1951, we had 37 middle schools in the District which increased to 49 in 1955-56. The number of students and teachers in 1951, was 5,011 and 214 which increased to 8,958 and 434, in 1955-56, respectively. The number of schools, students and teachers was 137, 18,331 and 907 in 1970-71 which mounted to 203, 31,313 and 1,449 in 1974-75, respectively. Thus, the number of middle schools increased nearly five and a half times from 1951 to 1974-75.

The expenditure incurred on middle schools was Rs.4,99,197 in 1955-56 which increased to Rs.25,94,463 in 1971-72 and further rose to Rs.33,67,585 in 1974-75. With the growth in the number of middle schools, expenditure also increased nearly six and a half times by 1974-75. The following table depicts the progress made in the field during the last two decades.

Table No. XV-7
Progress Of Middle Schools
(1955-56 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers		Expenditure (In Rs.)
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
1955-56	42	7	7,647	1,311	375	59	4,99,197
1960-61	44	7	7,668	1,584	474	81	6,79,224
1965-66	52	11	8,150	2,797	302	55	8,94,554
1970-71	112	25	13,358	4,973	800	107	21,99,723
1971-72	112	25	16,954	7,113	577	160	25,94,463
1972-73	161	27	17,648	7,327	741	150	32,22,682
1973-74	164	27	23,139	9,216	1,080	195	37,16,245
1974-75	175	28	22,991	8,322	1,236	213	33,67,585

High/Higer Secondary Schools

The first high school was started at Shahdol in the first half of the forties. Secondary education institutions in the District made rapid progress after Independence. The number of high schools increased from 3 in 1950-51 to 9 in 1955-56, of which one was a girls' high school. The number of students and teachers also increased from 532 and 46 to 1,587 and 94, respectively, during the period. The number of schools, students and teachers also rose from 21, 3,585 and 201, in 1960-61, to 44, 10,073 and 575, in 1974-75, respectively. While the number of schools increased nearly fifteen times during the period 1950-51 to 1974-75, the number of students and teachers increased nearly 19 and 12.5 times, respectively.

The expenditure incurred on these schools was Rs.2,49,161 in 1955-56 which increased to Rs.9,24,138 in 1965-66 and further rose to Rs.42,15,700 in 1974-75. Thus the expenditure on these schools also increased nearly 17 times during the period 1955-56 to 1974-75. The following table show the progress made in respect of high/higher secondary schools during the last two decades.

Table No. XV-8
Progress Of High/Higher Secondary Schools
(1955-56 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers		Expenditure (In Rs.)
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
1955-56	8	1	1,494	93	85	9	2,49,161
1960-61	19	2	3,344	241	182	19	4,06,586
1965-66	24	4	5,402	547	265	37	9,24,138
1970-71	29	4	7,472	1,662	422	48	24,17,730
1971-72	29	4	8,134	1,754	466	55	25,74,458
1972-73	31	5	8,494	1,707	461	57	29,84,862
1973-74	38	6	8,836	1,674	489	63	35,83,698
1974-75	38	6	8,149	1,924	513	62	42,15,700

As far as the schools by management are concerned, we find that very few schools are being run by private agencies. Most of the schools of the District are being managed by the Government. In 1955-56, we had in all 782 educational institutions in the District, of which only 6 were being run by private organisations. In 1969-70, we have, 1,231 Government and 21 private institutions which increased to 1,585 and 28, in 1973-74, respectively. The table in Appendix VII shows the position of schools by management, yearwise, from the year 1955-56 to 1973-74.

Collegiate Education

There were no arrangements for University education in the District till the year 1958 when the Intermediate College of Shahdol was upgraded to a Degree college. Then four private colleges sprang up at Burhar (1965), Beohari (1966), Kotma (1969) and Anuppur (1972) in the District to impart instruction in a number of subjects under the various faculties of the University. Then followed a private Degree college at Umaria in 1972 which was taken over by the Govt. next year. Thus out of six colleges in the District, four are being run by private agencies. A brief description of each of the colleges is being given in the following pages.

Government Post-Graduate College, Shahdol

The Intermediate College at Shahdol was upgraded to a Degree College in 1958. It later developed into a post graduate institution. It is affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa. The college imparts instruction in the subjects under

Arts, Science and Commerce faculties of the University. The post-graduate classes in the college include the following subjects.

1. Arts Faculty Political Science, English Literature, Economics, Hindi and Geography.
2. Science Faculty Chemistry, Physics, Zoology, Botany and Mathematics.
3. Commerce Faculty M.Com.

The number of students in the college was 68 in 1958-59 which increased to 1,212 in 1969-70 but it declined to 692 in 1973-74. The number of students, however, again rose to 904 in 1974-75. Similarly, the number of teachers in the college was 11 in 1958-59 which increased to 45 in 1965-66 and further rose to 57 in 1972-73.

The college has a library having 17,800 books in 1975. It has a reading-room which provides newspapers and periodicals to the students of the college. The University Grants Commission, has provided money for the purchase of text-books in the 'Book Bank' which issues books to the poor and deserving students for the whole session. The Poor Boys' Fund also provides text-books to the students on similar lines. It also has a hostel with an accommodation for 100 students.

In 1958-59, the college incurred an expenditure of Rs.68,667 which increased to Rs.5,34,990 in 1968-69. The expenditure further rose to Rs. 7,58,266 in 1971-72 and to Rs.8,53,499 in 1974-75.

The scheme of 'National Cadet Corps' (N.C.C.) and 'National Service Scheme' (N.S.S.) were introduced in the college in the years 1958-59 and 1971-72, respectively. The extra-curricular activities of the college include publication of college magazine, literary and cultural programmes, games and sports. The following table shows the progress of the colleges since its upgradation to a Degree College.

Table No. XV - 9
Progress Of Government Post-Graduate College, Shahdol
(1958-59 to 1974-75)

Year	Number Of Students				No. Of Teachers	Expenditure (In Rs.)
	Arts	Science	Commerce	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1958-59	66	2	—	68	11	68,667
1961-62	113	75	—	188	23	1,83,005
1962-63	171	96	—	267	28	2,53,635
1963-64	294	127	29	450	36	2,76,678
1964-65	371	202	39	612	42	4,44,456
1965-66	405	234	104	743	45	4,88,884
1969-70	487	612	113	1,212	53	5,99,744

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1970-71	367	441	104	912	53	6,38,095
1971-72	362	546	94	1,002	54	7,58,266
1972-73	359	312	96	767	57	6,69,806
1973-74	301	304	87	692	57	7,32,471
1974-75	400	384	120	904	57	8,53,499

Nehru Degree College, Burhar

A private college was established at Burhar in July, 1965 by Nehru Educational Society, Burhar, a registered body. The college is affiliated to the Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa. The college is managed by the governing body of the Society and receives grant-in-aid from the State Government.

In the beginning, the college imparted instruction upto degree level under Arts Faculty only. In 1968-69, Commerce and Law Faculties were added to it. Three years later (1971-72), students were admitted for B.Sc. course also. Thus, it is now a college in which the students receive education upto degree level in four faculties.

In 1965-66, the number of students in the college was 54, which increased to 147 in 1968-69 and further rose to 185 in 1974-75. The number of teachers also increased from 7 in 1965-66 to 20 in 1968-69 and further rose to 25 in 1973-74. At present (1974-75) there are 19 teachers in the college.

The expenditure incurred on the college was Rs.14,954 in 1965-66, Rs.55,007 in 1968-69 and Rs.1,58,888 in 1973-74. It increased to Rs.1,68,751 in 1974-75. The college received Rs.5,718, in 1966-67, Rs.82,723 in 1972-73 and Rs.61,165 in 1974-75 as grant-in-aid from the State Government.

The college has a library and a reading-room where students get books, newspapers and periodicals. It, however, possesses no hostel facilities at present. The table in Appendix VIII shows the progress of the college since its inception.

Arts And Commerce College, Beohari

The college was started at Beohari in July, 1966 by the Madhya Pradesh Kesarwani Education Society, Jabalpur, which is a registered body. The college imparts instructions under Arts and Commerce faculties. It is affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa.

The number of students in the college was 28 in 1966-67 which increased to 51 in 1972-73 and further rose to 102 in 1975-76. The number of teachers in the college was 6 in 1966-67 which increased to 8 in 1970-71 but decreased to 5 in 1975-76.

It has a library consisting of 2,263 books in 1975. It, however, possesses no hostel facilities. The reading room of the college subscribes towards news-papers and periodicals every year.

The college receives grant-in-aid from the State Government. In 1967-68, it received a grant of Rs.12,000 which increased to Rs.46,051 in 1970-71 but decreased to Rs.30,605 in 1973-74. The college incurred an expenditure of Rs.18,918 in 1966-67 which increased to Rs.77,199 in 1969-70 and further rose to Rs.60,849 in 1972-73 and to Rs.52,230 in 1974-75. The table in the Appendix No.IX shows the progress of the college since its inception.

Tulsi Degree College, Anuppur

The college was opened at Anuppur in June, 1972. It is managed by the Tulsi Degree Committee, Anuppur, which is a registered body. The college is affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa. The students receive education upto degree level in the subjects under Arts and Commerce faculties of the University.

The college had an enrolment of 34 students in 1972-73 which increased to 76 in 1974-75 and further rose to 139 next year. Accordingly, the number of teachers also increased from 5, in 1972-73, to 7 in 1975-76. The income and expenditure of the college was Rs.23,727 and Rs.23,593 in 1972-73 which rose to Rs.52,022 and Rs.50,982 in 1974-75, respectively. The college, however, receives no grant-in-aid from the Government.

It has a library and possesses a small hostel having four rooms in it. A 'Book Bank' has also been started to provide text-books to the poor and deserving students.

Maharaja Martand Degree College, Kotma

The Education Society of the town established a degree college affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa at Kotma in 1969. It imparts instructions upto degree level in the subjects under Arts and Commerce faculties. It receives grant-in-aid from the State Government and the University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

The number of the students and teachers in the College during the year 1960-70 was 73 and 10 which increased to 75 and 12 in the following year. At present (1974-75), there are 66 students and 10 teachers in the College.

The College has a library but possesses no hostel facilities. The income and expenditure of the College, in 1969-70, was Rs.55,549 and Rs.54,348 which increased to Rs.1,06,434 and Rs.90,526, in 1973-74, respectively. In 1974-75, the college had an income of Rs.82,761 and incurred an expenditure of Rs.82,029. The table in the Appendix-X shows the progress of the College since its inception.

Government Degree College, Umaria

A private college affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University Rewa was established, at Umaria in August, 1972. Next year it was taken over by the Education Department of the State.

It imparts instructions upto degree level in Arts subjects only. Initially, it had 16 students on its rolls which increased to 64 in 1974-75. The number of teachers

in 1972-73 was 2 which increased to 4 in 1974-75. The expenditure on the college was Rs.9,629 in 1973-74 which rose to Rs.81,740 in 1974-75.

The college has a library but possesses no hostel facilities.

Professional And Technical Education

As far as the professional and technical education is concerned, the Government Mining Polytechnic, the Law college and the Industrial Training Institute of Shahdol are the only institutions of note in the District. A brief description of each institution follows in the ensuing pages.

Government Mining Polytechnic, Shahdol

A Polytechnic was started by the Government at Shahdol in July, 1960. The institute is under the administrative control of the Director of Technical Education, M.P. and is affiliated to the Board of Technical Education, M.P., Bhopal. It imparts instructions for three-year Diploma courses in Mining, Mechanical and Electrical engineering.

In 1975-76, the number of students and teachers in the polytechnic was 203 (Mining 69, Mechanical-62 and Electrical-72) and 62 (Gazetted - 26 and Non-Gazetted - 36), respectively. It has a library containing 4,340 books. It also subscribes for certain news papers and periodicals every year. The "Book Bank" of the polytechnic provides text-books to the students for the whole session.

The expenditure incurred on the Polytechnic was Rs.2,52,509 in 1960-61, which increased to Rs. 4,83,021, in 1965-66, and further rose to Rs.5,31,338 in 1975-76.

Law College, Shahdol

The Law Education Society, founded at Shahdol in April 1961, started a Law College in July, 1961. The College is managed by a governing body of the Society consisting of 11 members. The college is now affiliated to Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa. The College receives no grants from the State Government.

The College imparts instructions upto degree level under Law Faculty. The number of students in the College was 37 in 1961-62, which increased to 62 in 1967-68, and further rose to 123 in 1973-74. The number of teachers in the College was 4 in 1961-62 which increased to 8 in 1972-73. Most of the teachers work in honorary capacity.

In the beginning the classes of the College were held in the buildings of the Government College, Shahdol. Later, its own building was constructed out of funds donated by Coal Companies, Orient Paper Mills and others.

The College has a library having books worth Rs.20,000. A separate building has also been constructed for the library which consists of a hall and two rooms. The building of the library was constructed from the funds received from University Grants Commission, New Delhi, Coal Companies, Orient Paper Mills and others. The college also received grants from the University Grants Commission, New Delhi for the purchase of Law books in the library.

The expenditure of the College was Rs.3,067 in 1961-62 which increased to Rs.27,153 in 1966-67 and further rose to Rs.28,977 in 1969-70. The College incurred an expenditure of Rs.22,000 in 1972-73.

Industrial Training Institute, Shahdol

The Institute was started at Shahdol in 1963 under the administrative control of the Labour Department, Madhya Pradesh. It imparts training in 14 different trades for a period ranging from 1 to 2 years.

Training is provided in the following trades.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Wireman | 8. Turner |
| 2. Welding | 9. Fitter |
| 3. Carpentry | 10. Machinist |
| 4. Motor Mechanic | 11. Electrician |
| 5. Diesel Mechanic | 12. Instrument Mechanic |
| 6. Tractor Mechanic | 13. Radio and Television Mechanic |
| 7. Cutting and Tailoring | 14. Stenography (Hindi) |

The minimum qualification required for the first 10 trades is middle examination and for the rest it is high school or higher secondary examination.

The Institute has workshops and machines for imparting practical training to the trainees. It has a library with 608 books. It also has a play-ground for out-door games. It possesses a hostel to accommodate about 84 trainees in it. The Institute has a colony having 9 quarters for its staff members. The number of seats available in the Institute is 388, of which 333 students were receiving training in 1975-76.

A Forest School has also been established at Amarkantak for imparting training to the students in forestry. The school has, in its main building, the exhibits of all sorts of trees, plants and herbs which grow in the forests of the region.

School For The Cultivation Of Fine Arts

Shri Saraswati Sangeet Kala Mandir, a private institution, is being run at Shahdol for imparting instruction in music to the students of the District.

Shri Saraswati Sangeet Kala Mandir, Shahdol

A music school was established at Shahdol in February, 1957 and was located at Jain Dharmashala of the town. In 1960, a Managing Committee of 10 persons was formed to run the Institution and it was registered.

In the beginning the number of students in the music school was nearly 10 which increased to 60 in 1962 but declined in later years. At present (1975-76) there are only 12 students in the Institution.

The Institution is affiliated to Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad and imparts instructions in vocal and instrumental music for its diploma and degree courses. It is a centre for the examinations of Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad and nearly 30 (regular and private) students appear at the various examinations.

Abhaynand Government Sanskrit College, Kalyanpur

A private Sanskrit College was established by a religious trust at Kalyanpur. It was later taken over by the Vindhya Pradesh Government in 1953. After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh, it was brought under the control of the Director, Collegiate Education, Madhya Pradesh.

The College is affiliated to Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varansi and imparts instructions for its various courses. It has a library containing nearly 2,000 books (1975). It also has a hostel providing lodging and boarding facilities for nearly 40 students.

The number of students in the College was 92 in 1971-72 which decreased to 64 in 1974-75. The number of teachers, in 1970-71, was 11 which decreased to 9 in 1972-73 but again rose to 11 in 1974-75. The expenditure incurred by the College was Rs.21,829 in 1970-71 which increased to Rs.92,800 in 1974-75.

Shri Adhyatma Vidyapeeth, Amarkantak

The Vidyapeeth was started at Amarkantak in 1969. It is being run by a registered body with its headquarters at Bilaspur. The Vidyapeeth imparts instructions in Yoga and principles of religion. It organises a camp every year where people are trained in Yoga and Adhyatma Vidya.

It has a library which contains primarily religious books. The Vidyapeeth also provides facilities and opportunities to religious scholars and students for propagating religious knowledge all over the country.

Education For The Handicapped**Deaf And Dumb School, Shahdol**

The School was established by the Government at Shahdol in 1972. It trains the deaf and dumb children in the following branches :-

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Speech Reading | 5. Sense Training |
| 2. Lip Reading | 6. Language |
| 3. Mathematics | 7. Craft Teaching (Tailoring) |
| 4. Auditory Training | |

The School had only 2 children on its roll in 1971-72 which increased to 14 in 1974-75. The expenditure incurred by the School in 1971-72 was Rs.1,221 which increased to Rs.1,282 next year and further rose to Rs.1,587 in 1974-75. It has only two teachers since its inception.

Adult Literacy And Social Education

It was only after Independence that efforts were made to spread literacy among adults and social education activities were started in the District. Under the 'Social Education Scheme', a mobile social welfare unit was established by the Vindhya Pradesh Government in 1952. Educational propaganda was then carried on by giving demonstrations through a cinema van. Social Education Day was celebrated in all the educational institutions of the District on 10th November, 1953.

Night schools and Adults' Schools were started, during the year 1953-54, for the spread of literacy among adults.

The Adult Education Scheme was transferred from the Education Department to the Panchayat and Social Welfare Department during the year 1955-56. There were 15 adult education centres/classes working in the District with an enrolment of 292 adults (235 men and 57 women), of which 226 adults (195 men and 31 women) were made literate during the year 1955-56. The number of these centres/classes increased to 25 in 1966-67 with an enrolment of 893 adults (878 men and 15 women), of which 646 adults (635 men and 11 women) were made literate during the year. The number further rose to 50 in 1971-72, with an enrolment of 1,525 adults (1,500 men and 25 women), of whom 1,349 adults (1,332 men and 17 women) were made literate in the year. In 1973-74, there were 60 classes/centres in the District with an enrolment of 1,025 adults (984 men and 141 women), of which 794 adults (706 men and 88 women) were made literate. These centres were supplied with necessary equipment and grants were sanctioned for their smooth running. The following table depicts the progress of adult education scheme in the District during the last two decades.

Table No. XV - 10
Progress Of Adult Education Scheme
(1955-56 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Centres or Classes Working	Adults Enrolled		Adults Made Literate	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
1955-56	15	235	57	195	31
1965-66	21	345	65	271	43
1966-67	25	878	15	635	11
1967-68	25	975	21	837	17
1968-69	10	834	17	731	13
1969-70	25	930	23	840	19
1970-71	50	1,450	15	1,031	13
1971-72	50	1,500	25	1,332	17
1972-73	50	1,009	13	712	6
1973-74	60	984	141	706	88
1974-75	38	589	144	429	111

The social education activities of the District include cinema shows, *kalapathak* programmes, drama shows and other audio-visual programmes arranged by the Department from time to time. The libraries (including circulating libraries) and reading-rooms also helped a lot in the progress of social education. Leaf lets, posters, newspapers, periodicals and folders are published by the Department to achieve this end. These measures help the diffusion of culture among the masses.

In 1965-66, 53 cinema shows, 139 *kalapathak* programmes and 154 drama shows were organised in the District which increased to 163, 131 and 200, respectively, in 1969-70. The number of cinema shows, *kalapathak* programmes and drama shows in 1971-72, was 163, 138 and 206 which increased to 154, 118 and 118, in 1974-75, respectively. The following table shows the social education activities of the District during the last ten years.

Table No. XV-11
Progress Of Social Education Activities
(1965-66 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Cinema Shows Organised	No. Of <i>Kalapathak</i> Programmes	No. Of Drama Shows
1965-66	53	139	154
1966-67	69	128	186
1967-68	42	142	186
1968-69	75	117	117
1969-70	163	131	200
1970-71	148	73	75
1971-72	163	138	206
1972-73	189	169	250
1973-74	159	136	136
1974-75	154	118	118

Cultural, Literary And Scientific Societies

A number of literary societies are reported to be functioning in Shahdol District. Of these, the following are worth mentioning¹ :

1. Pratibha Sahitya Parishad, Shahdol
2. Kiran Sahitya Parishad, Shahdol
3. Tarun Nirala Sahitya Parishad, Shahdol
4. Hindi Sahitya Parishad, Shahdol
5. Sadhana Sahitya Parishad, Sohagpur
6. Bandhava Sahitya Parishad, Sohagpur
7. Sahitya Parishad, Chandia
8. Jyotsana Sahitya Parishad, Kotma
9. Jyotasana Sahitya Parishad, (New), Kotma
10. Shri Amlai Sahitya Parishad, Amlai, and
11. Sahitya Parishad, Beohari.

1. *Yug Darpan*, Shahdol, 1971, p. 19.

The above mentioned literary societies have encouraged the literators of the District by organising symposia, *kavi-sammelans* and other literary programmes and have helped in the publication of a number of literary works in the District during the last 15 years.¹

A few institutions/organisations also encouraged the literary activities of the District. These include Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Kalyanpur; Virat Nagar Samiti, Sohagpur; Satsang Samiti, Sohagpur; Saraswati Sangeet Mandir, Sinhpur Road and Ramayan Pravachan Samit, Sohagpur.²

Cultural, Literary And Scientific Periodicals

As mentioned earlier, the District has a rich literary background. This background led to the publication of a number of Hindi monthlies, weeklies and dailies in the District from time to time. The first Hindi weekly published from Shahdol town was *Samay*, which started its publication from 2 October 1954. Then followed the publication of a series of weeklies from the District. *Dharati* (1956), *Praja* (1960), *Vindhyavani* (1960), *Yug Bharati* (1961), *Bauchhar* (1961), *Muktavani* (1962), *Virat* (1962), *Amardoot* (1962), *Shahanshah* (1962), *Rajdarshan* (1964), *Adhipatya* (1964), *Shahdol Times* (1965), *Manas* (1965), *Rashtrasarthi* (1968), *Sonanchal* (1972), *Badhitjan* (1972), *Gaon ke Nam* (1975) *Jan Saptah* (1972), and *Quake* (1975) are the Hindi weeklies of the District following *Samay*. Two Hindi monthlies *Apna Sahitya* and *Madhya Jyoti* - started their publication in 1970 from Shahdol. Only two issues of *Raktaranjit*, a Hindi fortnightly, were also published from Shahdol town during 1962. Many of these periodicals have ceased their publication at different times. At present (1976) only 3 dailies (*Janbodh*, *Bharati* and *Vindhyavani*), and 4 weeklies (*Samay*, *Praja*, *Sonanchal* and *Quake*), are being published from the District.

Except dailies, all weeklies and monthlies comprised mostly literary and cultural articles, short-stories, poems, etc., in their various issues. We, however, find no scientific periodicals being published in the District.

LIBRARIES

Ramkumar Sarvejanik Pustakalaya

Avam Vachnalaya, Shahdol

A library was established at Shahdol in 1952-53 with the contribution made by Ram Kumar Gupt., a rich merchant of the town, and the State Government grant. It is run by a Managing Committee which receives grant every year from the Education Department.

In 1975, the library had nearly 6,800 books on various subjects. It has a reading-room which subscribes to certain dailies and periodicals. It has a separate section for children also. The number of members in the library is 154 (1974) and nearly 150 persons attend its reading-room daily.

1. Ibid. pp. 20-21.

2. Ibid. p. 22.

The library is housed in a building donated by Ram Kumar Gupt which is now being maintained by the Public Works Department. The staff of the Government District Library, Shahdol, runs the library for which they get nominal allowances from the Managing Committee.

District Library, Shahdol

A few years later the Education Department of the State opened the District Library in the buildings of the Ram Kumar Public Library, Shahdol. The library contained nearly 10,200 books in 1975. It has also received some books (2584) as donation from Raja Ram Mohan Rai Library, Calcutta.

The library has also a reading-room which is located in the reading-room of the Ram Kumar Library, Shahdol. The reading-room remains open during morning and evening hours.

Mahila Pustakalaya, Shahdol

The library was started by the Zila Mahila Samiti, Shahdol in 1954. The number of books in the library was 864 in 1973-74 which increased to 926 in 1975-76. The number of members of the Library is nearly 30 (1974-75). It received grants from the State Government to the tune of Rs.3,100 and Rs.3,006 during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75, respectively. The Zila Mahila Samiti also runs Bal Mandir, Harijan Bal Mandir, Mahila Club and Adult Education Class for the women of the town. The Samiti incurred an expenditure of Rs.14,242 in 1973-74 which increased to Rs.19,246 in 1974-75.

The Municipal Committee, Shahdol started a reading-room for the people of the town in 1975. In the same year, the Sadhana Sahitya Parishad, a Literary Society of Sohagpur, had also established a library in the town.

The other library of note is the 'North-East Institute Library, Shahdol' which was opened in the town in 1949-50. It had nearly 5,607 books on its shelves in 1970 and subscribed for 9 dailies, 6 weeklies and 9 monthlies for its reading-room. The Orient Paper Mills, Amlai has opened a library with a reading-room attached to the Orient Club of the factory since 1965. The number of books in the library is 1,764 (1975). Its reading-room subscribes for 5 dailies and 18 periodicals.

GARDENS

National Zoological Park, Bandhogarh

The reserve forest of Tala Forest Division was declared the National Zoological Park in March, 1968. Previously it was a hunting ground for Rewa rulers. The park is at present under the administrative control of the Forest Department of the State. It is being developed now on a scientific basis.

At Sohagpur is a beautiful garden in the new palace of the ruler. It is called Rajabag which remains open for the masses. The Government Horticulture Garden Amarkantak is famous in the District. The garden in the premises of the Orient Paper Mills, Amlai, is also worth visiting.

CHAPTER - XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

References regarding early medical facilities in the District are scarce. Though this area came under the British in 1826 for a short period from 1826 to 1858, western medicines do not seem to have made their appearance before the close of nineteenth century. It can be inferred from scattered references that *ayurveda*, was the only known system of medicine prior to the advent of western medicines in the District.

The Rewa State Gazetteer (1907) has recorded that the State owned 17 hospitals and dispensaries and that while all these institutions were under the charge of either hospital assistants or compounders the one at Umaria Colliery was looked after by an Assistant Surgeon. The State Medical Department was placed under the Agency Surgeon, Baghelkhand, who had his headquarters at Satna. As the Chief Medical Officer of the State he also had the vaccination department under him. The Rewa State had its own subordinate medical service and almost "all the Hospital Assistants are local men trained at Indore at the cost of the Durbar".¹

Near about this time dispensaries were also opened in Beohari, Bandhogarh and Sohagpur tahsils - 2 each in Beohari and Bandhogarh Tahsils and 1 in Sohagpur. The exact dates of opening of these dispensaries are not available. One of the dispensaries in Beohari tahsil, i.e., the one at the headquarters of the tahsil was originally at Pathroua. It was transferred to Beohari in 1908-09.

Under a revised arrangement with the Government of India, the erstwhile State of Rewa appointed its own Superintendent of Medical Department with effect from 18th April, 1922 in place of the Agency Surgeon who held that post till then on a part time basis. The Superintendent of Medical Department also held the post of Superintendent of Sanitation in the State.

In 1947, i.e., just before the formation of Vindhya Pradesh, the District had, in all, five medical institutions, namely, four hospitals at Beohari, Sohagpur, Burhar and Umaria and one dispensary at Bandhogarh. The department of medicine and public health was under the administration of a Director of Medical and Public Health Services. The medical officers of hospitals and dispensaries also carried out the work of public health, as there was no separate staff for the same.

With the merger of the State in Vindhya Pradesh in 1948, the medical and public health activities gained further momentum. A District Hospital was established at Shahdol in 1948. A new hospital was opened at Kotma in 1952. Sufficient funds were also sanctioned for the construction of a new hospital building at Shahdol in the same year. In order to extend medical facilities to the interior of the District, the government decided to send two medicine chests each to the districts. These

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1906-07, p.13.

medicine boxes were sent to the school-masters of every village for distribution. Besides all patent medicines, these boxes also contained Paludrine tablets.

In the subsequent Plan period, medical and public health activities received greater attention. Many new institutions including *ayurvedic* dispensaries were established. Some of the existing dispensaries were upgraded into primary health centres with a network of sub-centres which greatly helped the rural areas. The following table will show the progress of medical activities in the District during 1956-61, after it had become a part of new Madhya Pradesh.

Table No. XVI - 1
Progress Of Medical And Public Health Activities 1956-61

Description Of Institution	Year	
	1956	1961
1. Primary Health Centres :		
(a) Number	7	7
(b) Number of Beds	50	50
2. Hospitals Including Nursing Homes :		
(a) Number	12	12
(b) Number of beds	99	99
3. M.C.W. Centres :		
(a) Number	4	8
(b) Number of Beds	—	—
4. Special Medical Institutions :		
(a) Leprosy Homes	—	1
(b) V.D. Clinics	—	—
(c) T.B. Clinics	—	—
(d) Mental Hospital	—	—
5. Number of Registered Medical Practitioners:		
(a) Allopathic	—	—
(b) Homoeopathic	—	—
(c) Ayurvedic	17	19
6. Number of Registered Nurses	—	—
7. Number of Registered Vaccinators	—	18
8. Number of Registered Midwives	—	—
9. List of Family Planning Clinics:		
(a) Government	—	7
(b) Non-Government	—	7

Source : Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. 353

It will be seen from the table above that during 1956-61, which corresponds to the Second Plan period maternity and child welfare and family planning received greater attention than other medical and public health activities. The number of maternity and child welfare centres had doubled during this period, while as many as 7 family planning clinics were newly established. Similarly, special institutions for the treatment of leprosy and venereal diseases also came into being during this period.

VITAL STATISTICS

Available records do not contain any reference regarding the mode of collection and registration of vital occurrences in the erstwhile Rewa State. Perhaps this responsibility rested with the local bodies in the urban areas, while the revenue officials looked into it in the rural areas.

The arrangement in Madhya Pradesh till 1970 was that the municipal committees and similar bodies recorded births and deaths in respect of urban areas, while these figures were collected and reported by the Kotwars in respect of the rural areas. The Kotwars' figures were passed on to the Civil Surgeon through the Police Station Houses. The municipalities also sent the figures to the Civil Surgeon who compiled separate figures for rural and urban areas and transmitted the same to the Director of Health Services, Bhopal.

Present Set-up

On the 1st of April 1970, the Registration of Births and Deaths Act XVIII of 1969, promulgated by the Government of India, came into force in Madhya Pradesh. Under this Act, the Station Officers in rural areas were declared Registrars of Births and Deaths. In the urban areas the Chief Municipal Officers, Health Officers of Corporations and Town Administrators of Public Sector Undertakings began to function as Registrars of Births and Deaths. In respect of forest villages, the Range Officer has to function as the Registrar. They send monthly returns of vital occurrences to the District Registrar (District Statistical Officer). The District Registrar compiles figures and sends them to the Chief Registrar of Births and Deaths (Director of Economics and Statistics), Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The District Registrar-cum-District Statistical Officer is responsible for imparting training to the primary agency in the urban and rural areas, as regards improvement in the collection of vital statistics. He is also responsible for the general supervision and inspection of the work done by the Registrars at the municipalities and at the Police Stations.

Births And Deaths

For want of separate figures in respect of the revenue District of Shahdol for the period upto 1964, it is difficult to make a critical examination of birth and death rates obtaining in the District. The following table will show the number of births and deaths and their rates in recent years.

Table No. XVI - 2
Births, Deaths And Their Rates

Year	Total No. Of Births	Total No. Of Deaths	Birth Rate Per Mille	Death Rate Per Mille
1965	3,897	1,808	4.21	1.35
1966	2,979	1,243	3.13	1.31
1967	4,478	2,422	4.59	2.48
1968	4,786	2,607	4.74	2.58
1969	3,818	1,626	3.68	1.57
1970	4,835	2,227	4.55	2.09
1971	3,926	1,631	3.79	1.57
1972	4,943	3,252	4.71	3.07
1973	6,274	3,659	5.82	3.39

Source : Chief Registrar of Births and Deaths, Madhya Pradesh

A study of the above table will reveal that the highest birth rate and death rate were recorded in 1973 i.e., 5.82 and 3.39 per mille, respectively, closely followed by 4.71 and 3.07 of 1972. In other years the birth rate varied from 3.13 in 1966 to 4.59 per mille in 1967 with the exception of 4.74 in 1968, while the death rate never exceeded 2.58 per mille (1968). The lowest death rate was in 1966 when it recorded only 1.31 per mille. The diseases which have been chiefly responsible for high mortality during this period were fever which includes malaria and typhoid, respiratory causes and bowel complaints. The highest number of deaths on account of fever was (1,280) recorded in 1973 followed by 1,254 of 1970, 1,231 of 1972 and 1,208 of 1967. In other years, it varied between 166 (the lowest) in 1966 and 1,078 in 1968. The other cause that had a place next to fever in contributing to the high mortality (327) of 1973 was respiratory diseases, the chief of them being T.B. In 1967 and 1972 - the other two years that recorded high mortality - respiratory causes were responsible for 252 and 241 deaths, respectively. Similarly in 1967, there were 326 deaths from bowel complaints (diarrhoea and dysentery) in the District, followed by 219 in 1968 and 209 in 1973. In other years during this period mortality from respiratory causes varied between 94 in 1966 and 162 in 1970 while bowel complaints never exceeded 157 (1965), the lowest being 33 in 1971. Deaths caused by other diseases during this period are tabulated in the Table ahead.

Infant Mortality

There is no specific mention of the causes of infant mortality in any of the administration reports or similar other records. But malnutrition, premature birth, unhygienic housing conditions, epidemics, bowel complaints, etc., are some of the common causes of infant mortality. However, arrangements for the pre-natal and post-natal care of mothers through the primary health centres and their sub-centres even in the interior of the District and provision for the supply of milk powder to the

underfed infants and their nursing mothers under the nutrition programme have considerably checked the infant mortality rate from going up appallingly. To supplement these activities the health department also undertakes health education and health publicity through the maternity and child welfare centres, besides organising baby shows, baby weeks, small scale exhibitions, cinema shows, etc. The following table presents the annual rate of infant mortality per 1000 live births and maternal mortality per 1000 total births in recent years.

Table No. XVI - 3
Infant Mortality

Year	Infant Mortality Per 1000 Live Births	Maternal Mortality per 1000 total births
1965	42	N.A.
1966	34	N.A.
1967	68.78	N.A.
1968	74.80	N.A.
1969	45.33	2.62
1970	58.12	2.28
1971	54.68	0.68
1972	56.03	4.45
1973	44.79	5.74

Source : Chief Registrar of Births and Deaths, M.P.

It will be observed from the Table above that after showing a decline from 42 in 1965 to 34 in 1966 the mortality rate of infants shot up to 68.78 in 1967 and further to 74.80 in 1968. Perhaps deaths of infants have also contributed to the high mortality rate in these two years which has been discussed earlier. In 1969 the infant mortality rate declined sharply to 45.33 only to go up again in 1970 to 58.12. There was only a moderate variation in the rates of 1971 and 1972, declining considerably in 1973. However, the maternal mortality rate was in direct contrast to this favourable decline for the highest rate of 5.74 was registered in 1973. In other years this rate varied from 0.68 in 1971 to 4.45 in 1972.

Diseases Common To The District

Malaria and typhoid fevers, influenza, diseases of the digestive organs, such as diarrhoea and dysentery, diseases of the eye and skin, T.B., etc., are some of the common diseases met with in the District. Serious diseases like cholera, small pox and plague also broke out occasionally, sometimes in an epidemic form. The mortality caused by some of these diseases in recent years is tabulated below.

Table No. XVI - 4
Deaths And Their Causes

Year	Cholera	Smallpox	Fever	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Respi- ratory Causes (T.B.)	Injuries Accidents	All Others	Total
1965	13	45	837	157	138	—	568	1808
1966	—	—	166	115	94	—	868	1243
1967	4	117	1208	326	252	47	468	2422
1968	14	208	1078	219	67	24	897	2607
1969	—	168	545	109	142	96	566	1626
1970	—	125	1254	75	162	79	532	2227
1971	—	1	964	33	120	71	442	1631
1972	32	96	1231	131	241	225	1367	3252
1973	4	48	1280	209	239	327	1552	3659

Source : Chief Registrar of Births and Deaths, M.P.

Cholera

Specific references or separate figures relating to the occurrence of cholera in the revenue District of Shahdol are not available for the early period. However, from general references regarding the visitation of cholera in the erstwhile Rewa State of which Shahdol was a district, it appears that cholera had visited the District several times in an epidemic form. The Administration Report of Rewa State for 1916-17 records that "unfortunately cholera almost invariably makes its appearance in the State in the hot weather and lingers on during the rains. The infection is usually carried from the Kumbha Mela at Allahabad".¹

The earliest available reference about the appearance of cholera in the District is of 1906 when there was an attack of this disease in a very large number of villages in the State of Rewa, immediately after the Magh Mela at Allahabad in January, 1906. Umaria was one of the most affected areas. The disease was at its height in Umaria in May and June, 1906. However, the number of deaths occurred is not known. In 1908 cholera appeared at Beohari and Bandhogarh and lingered there from May to August, 1908. Its intensity diminished slowly and it disappeared finally in November, 1908. In 1909 cholera was again prevalent at Bandhogarh. High mortality was caused by cholera in 1916-17, 1920-21, 1923-24 and 1926-27. In 1926-27 the infection was imported in the State by the pilgrims returning from Jagannath Puri. The outbreak at Beohari was very serious.

In recent years the District suffered from a virulent attack of cholera in 1957 and 1960 when the disease was responsible for 409 and 710 deaths, respectively.

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1916-17, p. 19

In 1958, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1972 and 1973 also there were mild attacks of cholera, killing 24, 13, 4, 14, 32, and 4 persons, respectively.

Anti-Cholera Measures

Whenever there is an outbreak of cholera, all preventive and curative measures are resorted to. The preventive measures include the disinfection of the source of water supply by potassium permanganate and mass inoculation campaign. At the time of serious outbreaks the medical and public health staff conduct mass inoculation, impart health education and distribute anti-cholera medicines. Infectious cases are also treated in the isolation wards of hospitals and in the hutments specially erected for the purpose. Emergency cholera regulations are also enforced under the Epidemic Diseases Act whenever the disease breaks out in an epidemic form. The compounders and *vaidyas* also help the public health staff for carrying out the inoculation work in times of emergency.

Smallpox

References regarding the incidence of smallpox in the administration reports of erstwhile Rewa State is of a general nature and, as such, a discussion on its intensity at any time is almost impossible. In 1904, smallpox was prevalent all over the State of Rewa and took a toll of 116 lives. It appears to have visited the District thereafter also occasionally, each time causing a considerable number of deaths. In 1926-27 in Bandhogarh alone it was responsible for 98 seizures and 9 deaths. Similarly, in 1954, it is reported that Shahdol was badly affected by smallpox, though figures in this regard are not available. In 1957 and 1958 smallpox visited the district causing 66 and 230 deaths, respectively. In still recent years also it visited the District practically every year from 1965 to 1973 with the exception of 1966, the number of deaths being 45, 117, 208, 168, 125, 1,96 and 45, respectively.

Vaccination

The only effective preventive measure to stamp out the disease is vaccination. The erstwhile Rewa State maintained a vaccination department under the Superintendent of the State Medical Department. In 1911 the staff of the vaccination department consisted of one Deputy Superintendent, two Assistants to the Deputy Superintendent, 35 Vaccinators and 3 paid probationers. Peons were supplied to the vaccinators during the seasons of work. The vaccination season commenced in October and ended in April. Lymph was being manufactured at Satna under the supervision of the Agency Surgeon from buffalo calves. In September, 1924 a new lymph factory was opened at Rewa.

National Smallpox Eradication Programme

Efforts to stamp out this disease was further intensified with the launching of the National Smallpox Eradication Programme (NSEP) in the District in April, 1964. The NSEP has a staff consisting of 2 paramedical Assistants, 53 vaccinators and others. Mass Vaccination campaigns were conducted under this programme regularly with a great measure of success. The following table will show the work

done by the NSEP Unit in the District.

Table No. XVI - 5
Vaccination

Year	Primary Vaccination	Revaccination	Total
1968	27,703	20,810	48,513
1969	34,499	22,513	1,57,012
1970	79,205	70,420	1,49,625
1971	59,718	10,4,663	1,64,381
1972	31,074	67,209	98,283
1973	49,389	16,0,279	2,09,668
1974	54,193	11,8,483	1,72,676
1975 (upto 31st Dec.)	27,703	34,407	65,110

Source : District Family Planning-Cum- Health Officer, Shahdol

Search Programme

Under the guidance of the World Health Organisation, in November 1973, an intensive smallpox search programme was launched. From November 1973 to November 1974 as many as 88 outbreaks were reported in which 854 seizures and 66 deaths occurred. The programme covered 16 searches and no cases were reported since 1974.

Malaria

In the administration reports, among the diseases that affected public health in the State of Rewa, Malaria fever gets a special mention. One of the reports says that "The malarial fever unfortunately is an annual visitor after the heavy rains of August, September and October."¹ However, details are not available in this regard. As a preventive measure quinine was supplied "to responsible officials of the Permit, Police, and Education Departments of the State for sale to the rural public. It is therefore proposed to extend this anti-malarial scheme next year throughout the State."²

An organised establishment to combat malaria came into being with the opening of the Malaria Control Programme in the District in 1953. This area was covered under the Unit at Rewa until April 1955 when a separate Unit was established at Shahdol which had jurisdiction over Satna district also. From the Control Programme it was subsequently switched over to Eradication Programme in 1959. The National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) envisages the reduction of parasite reservoir in human population to such a negligible proportion

1. Rewa State Administration Report, 1909-10, p.18.

2. Ibid. 1923-24, p.48.

that once it has been achieved, there is no danger of resumption of local transmission. This unit has 5 sub-units of which three are at Sohagpur, Beohari and Umaria in the revenue district of Shahdol. The following table show the staff position and area covered by these sub-units.

Table No. XVI - 6
Set-up Of NMEP Unit In Shahdol Revenue District

S. No.	Sub Unit	Area in Sq. miles	Number of		Population (NMEP) Census	No of S.M.I.	No of JMI.	No. of S.W.
			Towns	Villages				
1.	Sohagpur	2225	1	944	564317	2	15	52
2.	Beohari	1015	—	336	176601	1	5	17
3.	Umaria	2082	1	783	325207	1	10	36
	Total	5322	2	2063	1066125	4	30	105

Source : Malaria Unit Officer, I/C N.M.E.P. Unit, Shahdol

SMI - Senior Malaria Inspector.

JMI - Junior Malaria Inspector

SW - Surveillance Workers

Besides DDT spraying the officials of the unit also distributed anti-malaria drugs such as mepacrine, paludrine, resoquine, etc. in the controlled area. Side by side surveillance operation was also introduced.

Surveillance Operation

Surveillance operations are of two kinds-Active and Passive. Under the Active Surveillance, the specially appointed staff of the Malaria Eradication Programme would do house to house visit at periodical intervals, enquire about cases of fever, take blood smears and get them thoroughly examined under the microscope. If the results are found positive for malaria, a complete course of anti-malaria drugs would be supplied by the staff to cure the disease. Under the latter (passive) type the Government and private agencies connected with medical and public health services and the voluntary social welfare organisations would report suspected cases of malaria that come to their notice to the authorities. Here also blood smears are collected and examined and treatment prescribed. The active surveillance is chiefly meant for the rural areas whereas passive surveillance is best suited to the urban areas. The following table will show the anti-malaria work done in the District by the NMEP Unit- surveillance and spraying.

Table No. XVI - 7
Anti - Malaria Work Done By NMEP Unit
 (1) Active and Passive Surveillance

1. Year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
2. No. of Fever Cases Detected	66,625	72,223	70,793	64,909	55,547	89,147
3. No. of cases in which blood smears, collected	65,759	71,240	79,438	60,922	50,270	80,070
4. Result Positive	54	76	587	238	32	41
1	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	
	83,060	92,401	91,052	97,331	1,16,403	
	81,885	93,065	94,809	1,08,642	1,09,449	
	148	707	1,426	2,309	8,076	
(2) D.D.T. Spraying						
	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
5. No. of Villages in which DDT Spraying was done	2,050	977	781	2,045	2,065	2,067
5.	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	
	1,765	2,065	2,065	2,065	353	

Source : Malaria Officer, VC NMEP Unit, Shahdol

Plague

This frightful disease made its appearance for the first time in the State of Rewa in 1905-06, but did not spread to Shahdol District. The type was bubonic. However, the timely precautionary measures including of traffic quarantines at principal Stations in the State checked its virulence. In 1909-10 plague appeared again at Pali in Bandhogarh tahsil. The epidemic was at its height in April, but began to subside gradually thereafter. Segregation of cases and contacts was resorted to, but was found not practicable. Voluntary evacuation was also carried out by the people. The type of plague was bubonic in majority of cases. In all there were 23 seizures and 19 deaths reported from Pali alone. In 1917 there was an outbreak of plague in March, April and May at Shahdol. The infection was imported from Jabalpur. There were 72 attacks and 61 deaths. Plague repeated its visit to the State of Rewa again in 1924-25, the infection again having been imported from Jabalpur. Shahdol again was a victim of this epidemic. However, statistics are not available to show the intensity of its incidence. Further, occurrence of plague is not reported in

any of the relevant records available. It appears that the District has been free from this deadly disease in recent years.

The anti-plague measures included inoculation, evacuation, isolation, disinfection and rat-destruction by cynogassing of rat-burrows. Plague regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Act are also enforced temporarily at the time of serious outbreaks.

Tuberculosis

Quite a number of deaths are caused by TB in the District every year though the figures are not appalling. From 1966 to 1974 the number of deaths from TB varied between 4 (1974) to 25 (1972), mostly below 20. The BCG campaigns and other preventive and curative measures undertaken by the government during the Plan period have considerably helped reducing the mortality caused by this disease.

On the preventive side, to combat this disease, a BCG Team started its work in 1951. It tested 10,829 persons and vaccinated 3,502 in that year. The work was not done in the subsequent year as the team moved from district to district. A team visited the District again in 1956 and tested and vaccinated 50,358 and 19,259 persons, respectively. The work continued till 1959, the corresponding figures being 67,752 and 21,303 in 1957, 15,212 and 4,005 in 1958, and 7,513 in 1959. From 1963 to 1970 a BCG Team was attached to the District. The following is the work done by this team during this period.

Table No. XVI - 8
B.C.G. Campaign

Year	Total Registered	Total Vaccinated
1963	64,311	25,413
1964	63,148	14,468
1965	65,023	10,006
1966	61,990	8,237
1967	91,762	16,635
1968	72,311	10,900
1969	68,967	20,489
1970	31,237	4,461

Source : BCG Supervising Medical Officer, Bhopal

The team was again attached to the District in July 1975.

On the curative side, for the treatment of TB, there is a TB clinic at Shahdol with all modern facilities for treatment. In 1967 the National T.B. Control Programme was launched in the District. Under this programme there is a District Tuberculosis centre at the T.B. Clinic with a qualified staff trained at the National Tuberculosis

Institute of Bangalore. The District Tuberculosis Officer is the head of this team. The other staff includes two TB Health Visitors, one staff nurse, one compounder, one X-ray technician and others. The various medical institutions in the District, such as civil hospitals and dispensaries, primary health centres and their sub-centres known as Peripheral Health Institutions (PHIs) act as sub-centres of the District TB Centre in so far as they do diagnosis with the help of X-ray machines and microscopes or refer for specialised treatment after preliminaries.

Leprosy

The incidence of leprosy is not very high in the District. There is one survey Education and Treatment (SET) Centre for leprosy at the District headquarters since 1969 for the prevention and treatment of leprosy cases under a qualified non-medical Assistant. The SET centre covers a population of 31,153 spread over 60 villages. There are 29 leprosy patients under treatment at the Centre. Besides this, the primary health centres and other medical institutions in the District offer outdoor treatment to leprosy patients. In the beginning of 1975, there were 190 such cases receiving treatment.

Eye Diseases

Out of the many eye diseases the most common are trachoma and cataract. In order to assess the incidence of trachoma in the State, a Pilot Project Survey was conducted in 1959 under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research. The percentage of trachoma in Shahdol District was 39.4. The medical institutions at the district and tahsil headquarters and the primary health centres offer treatment for these diseases. In order to provide facilities for treatment, especially of cataract on a mass scale, eye camps are also organised by government and private agencies. One such eye camp was organised in 1957-58 at Tala in Shahdol District by Sant Parmanand. Another camp was conducted by Shri Mahavir Singh of Nagram village, Lucknow, at Jaithari in the District in 1959. A wide variety of eye diseases have been treated and the duration of the camps are not available. In 1960, in pursuance of the Government decision to hold eye camps departmentally, an eye camp was organised at Shahdol from 12th to 21st January 1960. Wide publicity was given through leaflets and posters to attract local population for attending the camp. As many as 634 patients were examined and 91 operations performed.

Bowel Complaints

Dysentery and diarrhoea are the two major bowel complaints that cause a considerable number of deaths every year. In 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960 dysentery alone claimed 40,98,159 and 133 deaths, respectively. From 1965 to 1974 deaths from these two diseases varied between 33 (in 1971) and 326 (in 1967), mostly above 100. Water being the main source of infection in the case of these two diseases, adequate measures have been taken to close or repair old wells and sink new wells wherever possible. On the curative side medical facilities have now been extended to the very interior of the District through primary health centres and their

sub-centres, which arrangement may reduce mortality from these diseases considerably.

Other Diseases

Among other diseases that affected public health in the District mention may be made of the countrywide influenza of 1918 and 1957. The former was very virulent and resulted in a number of deaths. However, details in this regard are not available.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

There are (as in 1975) 3 hospitals, one civil dispensary, 11 primary health centres, one TB clinic and 20 *ayurvedic* dispensaries in the District, managed by the Government. The hospitals are the District Hospital at Shahdol, Civil Hospital at Umaria and Jaitpur Hospital of the Tribal Welfare Department. The dispensary is located at Amarpur, about 82 miles away from Shahdol. These institutions together afforded medical relief to the following annually.

Table No. XVI - 9

Number Of Patients Treated In The District

Year	Indoor	Outdoor	Total
1960-61	3,109	1,17,975	1,21,024
1965-66	6,018	1,34,901	1,40,919
1970-71	8,066	2,15,427	2,23,493
1971-72	10,176	2,18,719	2,28,895
1972-73	7,084	4,46,653	4,53,737
1973-74	8,552	5,19,991	5,28,543
Tahsil-break-ups (1973-74)			
Sohagpur	6,825	3,89,479	3,96,304
Beohari	825	38,198	39,023
Bandhogarh	861	80,329	81,190
Pushparaigarh	41	11,985	12,026

Source : Shahdol District Statistical Handbook, 1974, p.14

District Hospital, Shahdol

Situated on the Rewa-Shahdol main Road, the District Hospital, Shahdol was established in April 1948. It is now a 94 bedded (40 male, 8 female, 16 maternity, 8 isolation, 8 others and 14 paywards) hospital, staffed by 7 doctors, 2 Women Assistant Surgeons, one gynaecologist, one radiologist, 3 nursing sisters, 5 compounders, one X-ray Technician, one laboratory technician, 10 staff nurses, 6 ANMs, 3 *dais*, one laboratory assistant, two dressers, 10 ward boys and others. A blood bank is functioning since 1972. An anti-rabic centre (since 1962) and a V.D. Clinic are also attached to this hospital. The hospital is equipped with all modern surgical and medical treatment facilities including X-ray and ECG machines. The number of indoor patients treated here annually during 1972, 1973 and 1974 were

4,382 and 80,798; 4,032 and 70,928; and 4,404 and 56,136 respectively.

Umaria Hospital

This is the oldest hospital in the District. Situated about 42 miles away from Shahdol, this medical institution was established in 1909. It has now 30 beds - 24 male and 6 female. The staff included 2 doctors, one woman assistant surgeon, 2 staff nurses, 2 compounders, 5 ANMs, one X-ray technician, one dresser, one *dai* and others. It has all modern facilities of treatment including an X-ray machine. The following table will show the number of patients treated here annually during recent years.

Table No. XVI - 10
Number Of patients Treated At Umaria Hospital

Year	Indoor	Outdoor
1968	3,829	44,623
1969	3,725	41,758
1970	N.A.	44,001
1971	N.A.	55,019
1972	558	62,172
1973	616	63,936
1974	660	64,828

Source : Civil Surgeon, Shahdol

Jaitpur Hospital

Situated about 67 km. away from Shahdol, Jaitpur hospital belongs to the Tribal Welfare Department. It was established in July 1955. The bed strength is 8 (4 male and 4 female). The staff consists of one doctor, one ANM, one dresser, two wardboys, one choudidar and two sweepers. On an average 25 indoor and 5,317 outdoor-patients received treatment here annually during 1968-74.

Civil Dispensary, Amarapur

Situated about 82 miles away from Shahdol, the Amarapur Civil Dispensary was opened on 24th January 1956. Its staff consists of one assistant medical officer, one compounder, one peon and one sweeper. The average number of outdoor patients annually treated here during 1968 to 1974 was 4810. There is no facility for indoor treatment.

Primary Health Centres

In order to provide medical facilities to the rural population, a number of primary health centres and their sub-centres were opened in the District during the Plan periods. They are located in the Community Development and National Extension Service Block areas. A primary health centre can be defined as an organisation providing or making accessible, under the direct supervision of at least one physician, the basic health services for a community. The primary health centres

which were established during the intensive phase of the Blocks were taken over by the public health department as and when they entered their post-intensive phase. In some case the existing dispensaries were upgraded into primary health centres. Each primary health centres has three or more sub-centres to extend medical facilities to the interior. Each centre is usually staffed with at least one medical officer, one compounder, one lady health visitor, four midwives, one driver, one ward-boy, one sweeper, one *dhobi* and one waterman. The medical officer in charge of the centre visits each sub-centre once in a week. The staff position varies according to the number of sub-centres and other requirements. The table in Appendices will show the number of primary health centres and their sub-centres along with their year of opening, staff pattern, etc.

Maternity And Child Welfare Centres

There are two maternity and child welfare centres in the District, attached to the primary health centres of Beohari and Pushparaigarh. Both these centres were opened during the First Plan period. The purpose of their being attached to the primary health centres is that the services of the doctor and other personnel of the PHCs would be available to the welfare centres as and when required. Each maternity and child welfare centre has separate staff consisting of one lady health visitor and 4 auxiliary nurse - cum- midwives each.

E.S.I. Dispensary, Amlai

There is one Employees' State Insurance Dispensary at Oriental Paper Mills, Amlai for the welfare of the employees and their families. It is staffed by two doctors, one compounder two dressers, one midwife and others. This dispensary is under the Director of Health Services of M.P.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries

There are 20 Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries in the District, most of them having been opened before 1st November, 1956. They have a uniform staff pattern which includes one *vaidya*, one compounder, one *dai*, one attendant and one part-time sweeper. The *vaidyas* of 'A' Class dispensaries belong to the State Gazetted Class II service. The following Table will show the names, location, class, etc., of these dispensaries.

Table No. XVI - 11
Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries

S.No.	Name	Tahsil	Class
1	2	3	4
1.	Badhwa Babda	Sohagpur	A
2.	Raipur	"	A
3.	Balkatnagar	"	B
4.	Anuppur	"	B

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
5.	Balhod	Sohagpur	B
6.	Mediaras (1970-71)	"	A
7.	Bamhani	"	B
8.	Bijuri (1.4.1959)	"	A
9.	Kalyanpur (1961-62)	"	A
10.	Chilhari (1962-63)	"	A
11.	Khannodhi (1966-67)	"	A
12.	Dhurwasin	"	A
13.	Agda (Abrar)	"	B
14.	Rehta (1971-72)	"	A
15.	Sarsi	Beohari	A
16.	Budwa	"	A
17.	Madai (1970-71)	"	B
18.	Amdih (1962-63)	"	A
19.	Bansukli (1961-62)	"	A
20.	Jhimkajiburi (1974-75)	Sohagpur	A

Source : Joint Director of Health Services (Ayurveda), M.P.

Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri

The Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India has a regional hospital at Dhanpuri for the benefit of the workers of the coal mines in that locality. Established on 15th August, 1958, it is a 30 bedded (16 male, 10 female including maternity and 4 isolation) hospital staffed by 2 doctors, 4 staff nurses, one wardsister, one midwife and 4 paramedical personnel. It has X-ray and other facilities, besides ambulance and a public health laboratory. The table below gives the number of patients treated here.

Table No. XVI - 12
Number Of Patients Treated At Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri

Year	Indoor	Outdoor
1968-69	11,656	5,852
1969-70	4,111	5,914
1970-71	56,555	882
1971-72	6,625	1,008
1972-73	7,375	1,051
1973-74	6,697	494
1974-75	7,736	1,019

Source : Medical Officer, Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri

Private Hospitals And Dispensaries

There is a 12 bedded Orient Paper Mills Hospital at Amlai. It is a small hospital with all modern facilities for medical and surgical treatment. Located in the Orient Paper Mills Colony, it offers Medical treatment to the residents of the colony. The Hospital was started in 1963, though it was housed in its present new building on 25th October, 1974 only. The staff consists of one doctor, 2 compounders, one dresser and one nurse-cum-midwife. The total number of indoor and outdoor patients treated here during the past three years (1973-75) was 99,328.

There is another dispensary, the Hukamchand Jute Mills Dispensary at Amlai. Opened in 1965 this dispensary is staffed by one doctor, one compounder, one part-time lady doctor, one dresser and others. There are two beds for indoor treatment. The number of patients treated at this dispensary annually from 1972 to 1975 was 17,222, 14,215, 18,433 and 14,032, respectively.

Municipal Homoeo Hospital, Shahdol

There is one homoeopathic hospital run by the Municipal Council of Shahdol. The exact date of its opening is not available. The incharge doctor, a trained homoeopath, is appointed by the Government. There is no facility for indoor treatment.

Family Welfare

In order to provide adequate medical advice to parents, especially mothers, in bringing up healthy children and in planning their families, a revised and modified family planning programme was chalked out in 1957 in the light of Government of India's proposals and the requirements of the State. Accordingly, a number of family planning centres were opened all over the State during the Plan period. The first family planning centre to be opened in the District was an urban centre attached to the District Hospital, Shahdol on 18th July, 1959. In 1960 another urban centre was opened at Civil Hospital Umaria. The rural family planning centres and their sub-centres in various primary health centres in Shahdol District were mostly opened in 1969. It was also decided that the Block areas should serve as the nuclei for family planning programme in rural areas. For the speedy implementation of family planning programme and to coordinate the working of the various family planning units in the District, a District Family Planning-cum-Health Officer was posted in the District in 1968. He is assisted by a team of Extension Educators, Social Workers and Health Visitors.

Though attached to the primary health centres, the rural family welfare planning centres have separate staff consisting of one or two doctors, one Block Extension Educator (BEE), Health Assistants, (HA), Computer, Auxiliary Nurse-cum-Midwives (ANMs), Lady Health Visitors (LHV), Accountant, village workers, driver, etc. The staff pattern may vary according to requirements. One of the nurses will be attached to the headquarters, while others will be posted to the family planning sub-centres at the rate of one for each sub-centre. Each family Welfare Rural Planning Centre is provided with a vehicle also. A rural centre usually has 3 sub-

centres under it. Each sub-centre is expected to cover a population of 10,000 under the Family Planning Programme. Some of the rural centres may have more than 3 sub-centres since the population exceeds the rate of 10,000 per sub-centre. The table in the Appendices will show the names and location of rural centres their staff position, dates of opening, etc The work done by these family planning centres during the past few years is shown in the table below:

Table No. XVI - 13

Work Done Under The Family Welfare Programme

Year	No. of F.P. Centres & Sub-Centres	Population Served by Each Centre	Vesectomy Done	Tubectomy Done	IUCD (Loop Insertion)
1960-61	7	11,852	—	—	—
1965-66	21	39,488	870	71	180
1970-71	21	49,007	1,764	173	538
1971-72	21	49,007	625	268	734
1972-73	21	49,007	7,556	180	237
1973-74	21	49,007	27	127	944
Tahsil Break-ups (1973-74) :					
Sohagpur	11	49,780	25	119	128
Bandhogarh	5	40,753	1	7	52
Beohari	3	54,608	1	1	754
Pushparajgarh	2	54,286	—	—	10

Source : Shahdol District Statistical Handbook, 1974, p.15

SANITATION

Details regarding the arrangements for sanitation and conservancy that existed in the District earlier are not available. Perhaps it was only with the establishment of municipalities in the State that this work was systematically attended to. The department of Sanitation was placed under the Superintendent of Medical Department in the 1920's following a division of Municipal administration into 'municipal' and 'sanitary'. The former was to rest with the Chairman of Municipalities. The latter department came under the Superintendent of Sanitation who belonged to the Imperial Medical Service. He advised the administration on all matters connected with sanitation and conservancy.

With the formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948 sanitation received attention. In rural areas, the Gram Panchayats, constituted under the Vindhya Pradesh Gram Panchayat Act, 1949, were responsible for the sanitation, cleanliness, prevention of epidemics and maintenance of public health of the villages. In 1952, for sanitation and cleanliness, every big gram panchayat and municipality sanctioned 6 *beldaris* each. They were paid by the government and were placed under the public health

department, but were under the control and supervision of the respective local Chairmen. The medical officers in charge of medical institutions in the locality were also asked to supervise the work of these *beldaris*. In 1955, it was decided that there should at least be one Sanitary Inspector for each Kanungo circle, having approximately a population of 40 to 45 thousand.

Under the present set-up, arrangements for sanitation in rural areas are looked after by the gram panchayats. The Blocks undertake this responsibility in respect of the areas under their jurisdiction. The chief centres of these activities in the Block areas are the primary health centres. The medical officer of the primary health centre acts as Health Officer for that area, assisted by Health Visitors and Sanitary Inspectors. The District Health Officer (District Family Planning-cum-Health Officer) supervises, controls and co-ordinates these activities in all primary health centres in his jurisdiction. He is responsible for his working to the Divisional Joint Director of Health Services, Rewa, who is responsible to the Director of Public Health and Family Planning, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The District Family Planning-cum-Health Officer (D.H.O.) is provided with sufficient technical and non-technical staff to carry out this work. In the urban areas, sanitation, public health and conservancy are the responsibility of the respective municipalities. In Shahdol District there are two municipalities namely, Shahdol and Umaria to look after the work.

Water Supply¹

The responsibility of providing drinking water in the urban areas rests with the respective municipalities. The Shahdol municipality has one tubewell from which pure drinking water is collected and supplied through taps in the town. A project to supply drinking water to a population of 2 lakhs is under construction with the Public Health Engineering Department. In Umaria a 13 lakh water supply scheme is nearing completion. The local population presently depends on wells and similar other sources for drinking water.

Drainage And Slum Clearance

Open drains are maintained by Shahdol municipality in the town. There is no underground drainage system in the District. No scheme of slum clearance has been taken up by the municipalities.

1. Also see Chapter - XIV

CHAPTER - XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

During the period of Princely rule the Rewa State could hardly take up any responsibility of Social Service and its administration was mainly concerned with the maintenance of law and order, and collection of revenue. Social services in the modern sense owe their development to the idea of Welfare State. The need of social services in fact attracted states' attention with the industrialisation and the demand for the welfare of work people and weaker sections all over the world.

The subject matter of this chapter include prohibition, advancement of backward classes and public trusts. The measures taken in respect of labour welfare and attainments in that field have already been given in Chapter V - Industries and Crafts.

PROHIBITION

This District continues to be a wet area since the State time. During the first decade of the 20th century liquor and drugs trade were controlled by the customs offices. The amount of poppy grown in the State was controlled by the customs offices. The amount of poppy grown in the State was quite insufficient for the local consumption and about 18 maunds were purchased yearly at Indore and imported. The cultivation was controlled by the Darbar. Only selected cultivators of Sohagpur tahsil and Teonthar, Bardi and Mauganj tahsils were allowed to grow poppy in about 150 acres, which was raised to 194 acres in 1906-07 in an attempt to increase the cultivation to meet the local demand.¹

Prohibition was not introduced even during the Vindhya Pradesh regime. The government policy had been to earn the maximum income with minimum consumption of intoxicants. Keeping in view the guiding principles the rates of excise duties were enhanced on liquors with effect from April, 1953. The issue price of *bhang* was raised in Shahdol district and duty on opium, hemp, and country spirit on border shops was raised. Opium Smoking Act, 1934 of Uttar Pradesh was extended to the whole of Vindhya Pradesh with effect from 28th March 1952. Opium smokers were registered under the Act but fresh entries in the list were stopped with effect from October 1, 1953. The quota was fixed reducing it at the rate of 10 per cent annually, aiming to stop the supply completely by March, 1959.²

A bill to amend the Rewa Excise Act, 1921 and to bring it in line with the neighbouring Part A States was assented by the President on 1st January, 1955, and enforced from February 17. It associated the Collectors in the Excise Administration.³

1. Rewa State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 65.

2. Vindhya Pradesh Administration Report, 1953, Rewa 1954, pp. 19-20.

3. Vindhya Bhoomi, October, 1956, p. 191.

The number of excise shops were curtailed year after year and the implementation of the Indian Power Alcohol Act progressed satisfactorily.¹

Administration

After the Reorganisation of States the Excise Administration was brought in the line with the administration prevailing in old Madhya Pradesh. Now the Excise Department is headed by a Commissioner at the State level and essential statutory powers are vested in the Collector in respect of Excise. The District Excise administration, as in other districts, is headed by a District Excise Officer and the usual supporting staff.

Temperance And Anti-Drink Movements

There were a number of temperance organisations working in the country even from the early days of British paramountcy. It was due to their propaganda that such measures, as the closure of shops, and reduction in the strength of liquor, were undertaken. After 1920 abolition of liquor and drug shops became the popular demand following its adoption by the Indian National Congress. Mahatma Gandhi included Prohibition among the eleven integrated demands of reconstruction and upliftment placed before the Viceroy in 1930 for the settlement of Indian problems, and refused to yield on the right to picket liquor shop even after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. This position was recognised by the then Viceroy.²

Though prohibition could not be introduced in the District, which is largely inhabited by tribals, the Government of Madhya Pradesh is trying to minimise the consumption of liquor and intoxicating drugs. The number of liquor shops have been dwindling year after year, while they have been shifted from the thickly populated areas to the outskirts of the locality. Prohibition week is celebrated in the first week (from 2nd to 8th) of October every year. The idea of prohibition and the horror of intoxication and drinking is highlighted through advertisements, pamphlets, cinema slides, film-shows and lectures in public functions especially in tribal and backward areas and in schools.

Dry Days And Reduction In The Strength Of Liquor

The State Government have declared 16 days for religious and national importance as dry days in a year in addition to 4 dry days to be declared at the discretion of the Collector and 3 days during elections. On all these days liquor shops in the District are required to be closed.

Reduction in strength of liquor is a step towards prohibition. Hence from 1 April, 1957 the strength of country spirit was reduced from 25 U.P. to 35 U.P. with a view to reduce it in due course to 45 U.P. ultimately.³ There are three ware houses in the District each at Umaria, Shahdol and Beohari.

1. Vindhya Pradesh Administration Report, 1955, Rewa, p. 21.

2. Prohibition Enquiry Committee Report, 1954-55, Manager of Publications, New Delhi, pp. 14-15.

3. M.P. Excise Administration Report for 1956 to 1958, p. 11.

Preparation of liquor by contractors have been stopped¹ and tribals are now free to prepare liquor for personal consumption since February, 1976.

Unification Of Excise Acts And Rules

Under the Madhya Pradesh Extension of Laws Act, 1958, the following Acts were extended in the rest of the areas integrated from the erstwhile states with effect from 1st January, 1959.

1. The Central Provinces Excise Acts, 1915.
2. The Central Provinces Opium Smoking Act, 1929
3. The Central Provinces Prohibition of Liquor Act, 1938, and
4. Opium (Madhya Bharat Amendment) Act, 1955.

Of these, the Prohibition Act of 1938 was not extended to Shahdol District. This District was covered by the remaining three Acts.²

Country Liquor

The District Excise administration is responsible to enforce these Acts, and Rules and orders there under in the District. It controls the quality and quantity of liquors and intoxicants produced and sold, imported and exported.

The age old *Katchi bhatthis* are allowed, the District being largely populated by the Adivasis, in most parts of the District, for distillation of country spirit. However, this was banned and contract supply system was introduced in Beohari Tahsil in 1956³ and from 1st April, 1957 in the northern portion of Pushparajgarh Tahsil between the Kotar and the Jhulla *nalas*.⁴ Since this system was followed first in Madras Presidency under the British, the preparation of liquor on commercial scale and its sale at convenient fixed point by contractors is called the Madras system.

Opium

Opium and hemp drugs including *Charas*, *ganja* and *bhang* are consumed mostly by poor and labouring classes and by *sadhus*. The Government of India have a monopoly of production and distribution of opium and their responsibility in this regard is greater than in cases of liquor and hemp drugs. It is also used as medicine and pain relieving drug. Under the Opium Smoking Act opium smokers were registered with the object of totally prohibiting oral consumption by the end of March, 1959.

Hemp Drugs

Charas, *ganja* and *bhang* are the products of the hemp plant. *Charas* consists of the resinous matter formed on the flowering tops of a species of the female hemp grown in Central Asia. *Charas* is the most concentrated narcotic, four times stronger

1. *Madhya Pradesh Shashan Ka Naya Sankalpa*, Directorate of Information and Publicity, Bhopal, 1976, p.6.

2. *Madhya Pradesh Abkari Vibhag Varshik Viveran*, 1958-59, Gwalior, 1962, p. 15

3. *M.P. Abkari Vibhag Varshik Viveran*, 1958-59, pp. 2, 15, Gwalior, 1962.

4. *M.P. Excise Administration Report*, 1956 to 1958, p. 11, Gwalior, 1959.

than *ganja*. It is totally prohibited in the whole of the State, and in old Madhya Pradesh since February, 1939.

Ganja consists of the flowering tops of the female hemp plant. It is generally smoked. *Bhang* consists of its leaves and is usually drunk. The issue prices of these drugs have been raised from time to time, to minimise their consumption.

Suppression Of Offences

Detection and prosecution of excise offences is carried out by the Excise Police and the District police. Data of various offences under Excise Acts are available for the years 1960-61 and from 1965-66 to 1974-75. The largest number of offences committed during the last ten years in Shahdol District was that of illicit distillation of liquor, followed by other offences of different nature in liquor, in hemp drugs and *Mahua* Rules, respectively. The total number of various offences, registered during the same period is given below.

Nature Of Offences	Number
Liquor	136
Illicit Distillation	3,611
Others	750
Illicit Cultivation of <i>Ganja</i>	36
Other <i>Ganja</i> Offences	421
Opium Smuggling	25
Other Opium Offences	20
Madak	7
Mahua Rules	393
Poppy Husk Rules	64
Total	5,463

For all excise offences the Department had to bring 4,005 persons for prosecution. Out of them 853 were convicted and 11 imprisoned. A total amount of Rs.44,169 was imposed as fines on them including Rs.27,963 from 393 offenders of *Mahua* Rules and Rs.2,055 from offenders of Poppy Husk Rules. But the Excise Department too had to spend Rs.10,362 (+) in rewarding the informers, captors, etc.

Advancement Of Backward Classes And The Scheduled Tribes And Castes Population

Shahdol is one of the Tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh. The Scheduled Caste form 48.24 per cent of the population and the Scheduled Castes 6.08 per cent and mostly reside in the rural areas.

Social Conscience

From times immemorial the so-called untouchables in India were suffering from various social and political disabilities traditionally prescribed and socially

imposed. This led to their seclusion and consequent economic and other miseries in life generation after generation. The efforts of the reformists and the work of the Arya Samaj and the Depressed Classes Missions notwithstanding, special attention was paid for the amelioration of the condition of these unfortunate people only when the movement for the freedom of the country gathered strength and when Mahatma Gandhi took up their cause. The area of Shahdol District, however, was under the rule of a Princely State where little was done to improve the social and economic condition of this section of the society, before independence.

Early Government Initiative

The programme for the upliftment of the backward classes, became the special responsibility of the Government after the country became independent and the Indian Constitution was passed. Under the Constitution the practice of untouchability in any form is forbidden and there is provision of special safeguards for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Enforcement of any disability arising out of untouchability is an offence punishable according to law (Article 17 of the Constitution). There is a reservation of seats for the Scheduled castes and tribes in Lok Sabha and in the State Legislative Assemblies and for appointment in public services.¹

The first scheme for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Tribes was prepared during the first popular ministry (2 April, 1948 to April, 1949) of Vindhya Pradesh.² Subsequently, the Backward Classes Welfare Department was established towards the close of the year 1952 and a four year plan of 15 lacs was prepared. The Government of India sanctioned several schemes. Under this programme works of educational and economic developments were carried out. All *Harijans* and *Adivasi* students from primary to postgraduate classes were provided free education at State expense since 1952-53. A large number of stipends and other concessions as free supply of text books, stationery (up to Class VIII), uniforms, boarding, etc., were also granted to them. The rates of scholarships were Rs.5.00 in class VI to Rs.25 in higher classes. Similarly grants for boarding and lodging ranged from Rs.20 to Rs.30 p.m. They were also exempted from the payment of non-Government fees, such as union, games and examination fees, the amount of which was paid by the Backward Classes Welfare Department. A number of night schools and morning adult schools were opened in the Scheduled Tribes areas.

Besides, a Balika Ashram and Matri Mandir, Patna was run by the Department. The Ashram admitted 25 inmates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes where girls were educated free and taught crafts such as spinning and weaving. Maternity cases were also attended free in the Matri Mandir attached to the Ashram. Similarly there was an Adivasi Ashram at Girari which was granted an annual aid. Free training and maintenance was also provided to Ashramites at Basic Residential Vocational Ashrams, one each, at Jwalamukhi and Batar.

1. Gazetteer of India, Vol. II, New Delhi, 1973, pp. 643-44.

2. *Vindhya Bhoomi* (Hindi), Rewa, October, 1956, p. 177.

The Vindhya Pradesh Adim Jati Sevak Sangh was running 8 Adivasi Vocational Ashrams where training in carpentry, smithy, stitching, weaving, etc. was imparted.

The Government of Vindhya Pradesh assisted a number of Economic Cooperative Societies and provided free tractorisation of 10 acres of land (costing Rs.250/-) and a subsidy of Rs.250/- for purchasing bullocks to each of the needy families in Shahdol District also. It sank a few wells and repaired a few more in dry areas for Scheduled Castes. In Scheduled Tribes areas field publicity was launched against superstitions, magic, sorcery, magic cure and the like. Clinics were opened in tribal areas.

Construction Of A Model Village

A model village, Rajendragram, was planned and constructed.¹ Each settler at the place was required to contribute a part of the labour free. They were granted Rs.350 each from the Government. The Government also provided a *Panchayat-gar* (Community Hall), a radio set, and fair weather roads for the village and assisted the individual settlers in purchasing bullocks, seeds, manure and agricultural implements.

Voluntary Organisations

Vindhya Pradesh Gond Sevak Sangh and Harijan Sevak Sangh were working among the down trodden of the State, including Shahdol District. They were provided grants in aid from 1953 onwards for fighting social evils, superstitions, untouchability, etc.

A conference of representatives of all Scheduled Tribes of Vindhya Pradesh was held at Rajendragram, the newly constructed model village, on 30 March, 1953. It was inaugurated by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India and was participated by the Lieutenant Governor, the Ministers and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government of India. The conference discussed matters relating to their welfare.²

The Vindhya Pradesh Adim Jati Sangh also held its session here. A sum of Rs.4,150 was sanctioned to the Gond Sevak Sangh for meeting the expenses in connection with this conference.

Accelerated Assistance

After the Reorganisation of States, the Backward Classes Welfare Department of Vindhya Pradesh was integrated into the Tribal Welfare Department, Madhya Pradesh. It coordinates the development activities of all other Departments in the Tribal areas and in respect of Harijans and other backward classes. A District Office of the Tribal Welfare Department, headed by a District Officer was established at Shahdol. It functions as an attached office of the Collectorate and the Collector

1. V.P. Administration Report, 1953, Rewa, 1954, pp. 80-81

2. Ibid. p. 81.

has been vested with superior financial and executive powers relating to the upliftment and safeguards of backward classes. Under the enhanced financial assistance and legal powers the welfare activities have been accelerated in the fields of education, agriculture, irrigation and water supply, housing settlement and roads, co-operation, industries etc. Much work has also been done in the field of mass-education among the backward people, removal of untouchability and debt relief in a short period. In addition an impressive Tribal Sub Project has also been taken up. These are detailed below.

Tribal Blocks

There are 12 development blocks in the District of which four, viz., Pushparajgarh, Anuppur, Kotma and Pali No.2 blocks are classed as Tribal Blocks due to excess of tribal population in these blocks. The dates of opening of these blocks, area and population are as follows.

Table No. XVII - 1
Particular Of Tribal Blocks

Name	Date of opening	Population 1971	No. Of Villages	Area (Sq. km.)
Kotma	2.10.52	44,923	79	750
Anuppur	2.10.53	66,446	96	592
Pushparajgarh	2.10.56	1,08,573	273	1,765
Pali II	1.4.61	39,642	108	865

A tribal development block comprises atleast 25 to 30 thousand population, atleast two thirds of it being tribal and has an area atleast of 360 sq. km. The T.D. blocks programme was first started under the Second Five Year Plan. It conforms to the basic needs of the tribal people. Economic Programmes like soil conservation, irrigation, agriculture and horticultural development, organisation of cooperative societies, education, etc. are receiving greater attention and a major part of the resources are now devoted to them. Provision of drinking water has also been accorded high priority.

Education

During the year 1964-65 there were in all 251 Primary, 13 Middle and 5 Higher Secondary Schools in these blocks. Eight years later their total number increased by 54 per cent. In 1972-73 the number of Primary Schools rose to 355, Middle Schools to 51 and Higher Secondary Schools to 8.

In the inaccessible areas 4 *Ashrams* were run by the Department. In all there were 210 students in these *Ashrams*. Hostel scholarships @ Rs.40 p.m. were provided to each of them. At the college level 198 hostellers were given Rs.33,991 in 1962-63. In 1972-73 the number of hostellers rose to 1,136 who were provided scholarships to the tune of Rs.4,54,400.

The spectacular rise, under the Compulsory Primary Education Programme,

in the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students is evident in the following table, though the figures for the year 1972-73 in respect of students in middle and high schools are depressing.

Table No. XVII - 2
Number Of Tribal And Harijan Students In Schools

Year	Primary		Middle		Higher Secondary	
	Harijans	Tribals	Harijans	Tribals	Harijans	Tribals
1960-61	3,031	13,524	446	918	6,113	137
1965-66	3,817	18,266	1,037	2,500	319	555
1970-71	2,050	14,242	942	3,002	292	981
1971-72	2,872	22,425	1,281	4,322	256	1,040
1972-73	6,989	47,600	340	1,526	208	859

Source : D.E.O., Shahdol, Zila Sankhyiki Pushtika, 1974, p. 21

The number of Harijan and Tribal students in the colleges, polytechnics and Industrial Training Institute are given below.

Table No. XVII-3
**Number Of Tribal And Harijan Students In
Colleges And Technical Institutions**

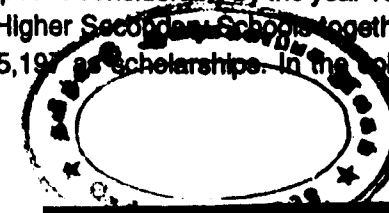
Year	Colleges		Polytechnic		I.T.I	
	Harijans	Tribals	Harijans	Tribals	Harijans	Tribals
1970-71	31	50	2	—	7	38
1971-72	28	75	3	—	10	31
1972-73	25	80	3	—	17	56
1973-74	10	75	3	—	20	44

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Pushtika, 1974, pp. 22-24

The above table shows a rising trend in the number of students of castes and tribes both but it is not very encouraging.

Scholarships

Scholarships to the tune of Rs.13,648 were sanctioned to 20,350 students of primary schools in 1963-64. But this was not awarded in cash. Instead books, stationery, slates, pencils, etc. were provided to them for that amount. A much higher amount, i.e., Rs.17,324 was incurred for the same purpose helping 25,330 primary students in the year 1970-71. In the Secondary Schools 664 students were given scholarships amounting to Rs.98,485 in 1962-63. The number of students as well as the amount of scholarship rose considerably by the year 1972-73. In that year 2,099 students of Middle and Higher Secondary Schools together were benefited with a total amount of Rs. 2,15,197 as scholarships. In the college there were only 11



students getting monthly scholarships which totalled Rs.6,665 in 1964-65. In 1972-73 the scholarship holder students increased about ten times and the amount had to be raised by about eight times. In that year 107 college students were given a total amount of Rs.50,378 in scholarships.¹

By the year 1972-73 in all 22,755 students from the masses including backward classes had been awarded loan scholarships for studies. These scholarships were given on merit basis to the wards of persons whose annual income was upto Rs. 4,000/- or less.

Book Banks

Under the directives of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and under point 19 of the 20 point programme for Development issued by the Prime Minister the State Government undertook a programme of establishing Book Banks for free supply of text books in primary and secondary schools for Harijan and Tribal students and also in Colleges. Madhya Pradesh has been the first State in implementing, and the leading State in speedily executing the programme. In Shahdol District by March, 1976 there were 26 Book Banks in the Higher Secondary Schools, 136 in Middle Schools, 857 in Primary Schools and 82 Books Banks in *up-shalas* (Branch Schools).²

Agriculture Development

As most of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population is dependent on agriculture assistance to them in this field may prove vital in improving their lot. With this aim in view the State Government aids, subsidies and loans are given to the agriculturists of backward classes. The amount of subsidy under dry farming is Rs.100/- per cultivator who owns up to 10 acres of land, Rs.200/- for manures, Rs.700/- for purchase of bullocks, Rs.100/- or 50 per cent of the expenditure of land development, and Rs.200/- for purchasing agricultural implements. A cultivator owning up to 30 acres of land may be allotted a subsidy upto Rs.2,000/- or 50 per cent of the expenditure for wells or for irrigation. Those who have got a well or any other facility of extracting water may be allotted a subsidy of Rs.1,000 or less and a loan of Rs.1,800/- for electric pump, service connection, spun-pipes or security deposit for electricity connection. The amount of subsidy is raised up to Rs. 2,400 or 50 per cent of the cost of a diesel engine of the cultivator who intends to purchase the same.

The amounts of such loans have been increasing year after year. During the year 1961-62, thirty three Harijans and Adivasis were given subsidies of Rs.19,080/- for the purchase of bullocks. Ten years later, in 1971-72, this subsidy amount was raised to Rs. 2,73,560 and the persons benefitted were 1,042. Similarly, as compared to Rs.16,000 in 1961-62, subsidies amounting to Rs.42,500 were given in 1971-72 for construction of bunds. Since the scheme of granting subsidies for

1. *Aap-ka-Zila* - Shahdol, Directorate of Information and Publicity, 1974, pp. 18-19.

2. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, Information and Publicity Department, Bhopal, 25 March, 1976, p. 9, by Collector, District Shahdol.

digging wells was launched an amount of Rs.1,84,000 has been sanctioned to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for digging 1,037 wells, up to the end of March, 1973. The amount sanctioned for 46 diesel pumps up to 1974 has been Rs.80,770 and for digging 1,110 wells for irrigation Rs.7,74,854.¹ The 20 point programme lays special emphasis on the early development of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Under the 20 point programme in 1976, Rs.3,78,000 have been earmarked for agricultural subsidies to the tribals and Rs.31,650 for Harijan agriculturists residing outside the Tribal Development Blocks. The amount of agricultural subsidy granted to Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the District has been generally increasing since 1971-72, as is evident from the following table.

Table No. XVII - 4

Agricultural Subsidy Granted To Harijans And Adivasis

Year	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	No. Of Persons	Amount (Rs.)	No. Of Persons	Amount (Rs.)
1971-72	55	24,500	796	1,91,200
1972-73	27	23,300	310	1,26,750
1973-74	75	28,850	277	2,18,300
1974-75	23	57,850	211	2,37,150
1975-76	20	31,300	297	5,91,746

Source : District Officer, Shahdol

Security Of Land Tenure

While the tribal people are mostly dependent on cultivation, their backwardness and hard financial conditions leave their small land holdings open for being sold or for being kept as security for loans taken by them. To protect them from being exploited, the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1959 forbids the sale of their lands to non-tribals, except under special permission obtained from the Collector. The Government has also decided *recently* (1976) to cancel any such deed or adverse possession of a tribal's agricultural land by non-tribals.

Tenure Of Trees On Personal Lands

Forest contractors and contractors of liquor and other exciseable articles were usually purchasing valuable timber and other trees at nominal prices from the Tribal and Harijan cultivators. The trees standing on the *Malik Maqubooza* lands of Adivasis were considered to be their private property. The poor tribal trying to meet his immediate needs was obliged to sell these at throw away prices. The contractors, purchasing such trees were also, in most cases, cutting trees illicitly from government forests. To stop this exploitation the government have now instructed not to issue permits for cutting trees even on private lands of the Adivasis. The permits already

1. *Aap-ka-Zila* - Shahdol, Directorate of Information and Publicity, 1974, p. 19.

issued have also been withdrawn. Alternatively it has been decided to cut timber in tribal areas through the government agencies, or through Tribal Co-operative Societies or through the Tribal Development Corporation.¹

Colonisation And Settlement Of Landless Persons

Under the scheme of colonisation and settlement of landless persons the Government made available 2066.68 acres of land of which 188.13 acres area was acquired from private persons. Among the applicants, 30,866 persons, were found eligible. Of these 224 belonged to Scheduled Castes, 20,650 to Scheduled Tribes and 8,072 others. About 84 per cent of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, together were granted housing sites for residential purposes up to December, 1975, as compared to 61 per cent from among others. These were given on individual basis only.

The following table shows the tahsil-wise details of available land and the number of persons to whom house sites were allotted.

Table No. XVII - 5
Area Of Available House Sites And Number Of Allottees

Tahsil	Area Of Land	Number Of Allottees			Total Allottees
		Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Others	
Sohagpur	865.83	867	9,102	2,535	12,504
Pushparaigarh	287.50	170	3,730	877	4,777
Bandhogarh	373.25	310	2,046	1,793	4,149
Beohari	540.10	359	2,615	949	3,823
District	2,066.68	1,706	17,393	6,154	25,253

Source : Collector, Shahdol

Housing

The Government has also been aware of the fact that the allotment of house sites only will not provide the desired minimum or better accommodation to the backward classes. Accordingly it extended housing loans and subsidies. The following table shows the number of persons benefited and amount of housing subsidies granted to each of these classes from 1957 onwards.

Table No. XVII - 6
Number Of Houses Constructed And Amount Of Government Subsidy

Year	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Total	
	No. Of Persons	Amount (Rs.)	No. Of Persons	Amount (Rs.)	No. Of Persons	Amount (Rs.)
1957-58	20	18,750	110	93,500	130	1,12,250
1958-59	—	Nil	40	30,000	40	30,000
1959-60	5	3,750	46	34,500	51	38,250
1960-64	5	3,750	175	1,83,750	180	1,87,500
1964-65	3	900	Nil	Nil	3	900
1965-66	5	7,200	Nil	Nil	5	7,200
1966-70	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1970-71	10	9,000	Nil	Nil	10	9,000
1971-76	—	—	100	4,30,000	100	4,30,000

Source : District Officer, Tribal Welfare Department

Under the Adiwasi Grih Nirman Yojna, 150 houses have been constructed at villages Amliha, Ghaunghuti and Mukaria. An equal number of houses were also nearing completion in villages Piparaha, Kirgi and Gijari in March, 1976. These are meant for accommodating the Tribals.¹

Tribal Co-operative Societies

Co-operation is the strength of the weak and the poor. The Government has been trying to organise the people, specially the weaker section, to form cooperative societies for working in various economic fields since the Merger of States. As early as 1948 an *Adiwasi* cooperative society was formed at Jeelang. This was followed by a few others in the following years. There were seven such societies in 1951, 9 in 1956, 17 in 1961. This gradual increase in their number continued till 1964. Then during the following three years a number of cooperative societies were formed. The years 1965, 1966 and 1967 registered 13, 6 and 12 societies, respectively, after which the formation of new Co-operative societies stopped suddenly till date. In the year 1975-76 there were 44 Adivasi Co-operative Societies, 9 Van Shramik (forest workers) Adivasi Cooperative Societies and one Bansa-Bent-Resha (Bamboo-cane-fibres) Industrial Co-operative Society. These cooperative societies provide consumer goods at moderate rates, save them from the business-men and money-lenders and help them in their agricultural operations. Loans by the Tribal Welfare Department have been provided to these societies, though not to all of them.

The total membership of these societies is 2,836. Individually the Adivasi Sahkari Samiti, Sajatola has the largest membership of 400, followed by those at

Koelari, Jaisinghnagar, Sohagpur, Kotma and Jeelang, each having more than 100 members. The share capital of Co-operative Societies at Khamba, Ghunghuti, Jeelang, Khaleshar, Karkeli and Bamboo Co-operative Society, Barati, is Rs.20,305, Rs.10,440, Rs.3,438, Rs.2,612, Rs.2,338 and Rs.2,228, respectively. However, in respect of working capital the Adivasi Co-operative Society at Barmania has the largest working capital amounting to Rs.82,786. This is followed by those at Amjhora (Rs.48,002), Beohari (Rs.25,778), Podi (Rs.33,210), Amarkantak (Rs.31,341), Kotma (Rs.32,268) and Jaithari (Rs.31,477). The amounts of loans are also shown to be the highest Rs.45,881 at Barmania followed by Payasi (Rs.30,219), Kotma (Rs.26,737) and Jeelang (Rs.18,479).

An Apex Tribal Cooperative Development Corporation has been organised lately with a view to provide necessary help and guidance to these societies.

Industries

The Government industrial schools and industrial training institutions have reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes trainees. The Government Training-cum-Production Centre, Sohagpur is one such centre serving the area in this way. The State Government provides industrial loans to these sections of the society for the establishment and development of industries and craft. The scheme was implemented in 1959 and it continued up to 1970. So far Rs.26,400 have been provided to Scheduled Castes, Rs.23,450 to Scheduled Tribes and Rs.3,700 to other backward classes. These loans have been extended mainly for the development of cottage industries and handicrafts, dealing with leather, bamboo, wood, stitching, roap and fibres, smithy and motor engineering. The section-wise amount of loans granted for each of the main trades is give below.

Table No. XVII - 7
Trade - wise Loans Granted to Castes and Tribes

Trade	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Other Backward Classes
Leather	20,900	—	—
Bamboo	2,200	—	—
Carpentry	1,300	13,900	2,750
Stitching	250	4,050	—
Hosiery	—	3,900	1,000
Smithy	—	400	—
Motor Engineering	1,000	—	—
Total	25,650	22,250	3,750

Source : District Industries Office

Recently under the 20-point Economic Development Programme, 53 Harijan and Adivasi families have also been given soft loans by the Nationalised banks.¹ An amount of Rs.10,200 was given upto 15th March, 1976.

State Budget

According to a policy decision of the State Government in 1974 all its development departments are now to spend atleast 21 per cent of their annual budget on schemes designed for the welfare of the tribes.² Earlier orders were issued to allot 21 per cent of their budgets for the upliftment of Harijans and 14 per cent for tribals for 1966-67.³

Reservations in Public Services

In line with the policies of the Union Government, the State Government have declared 18 per cent of class I and II posts and 20 per cent of Class III and IV posts reserved for tribals. Similar reservations of 15 to 18 per cent have been made for Harijans. A Committee headed by the Chief Minister was formed in 1974 to keep a watch on the recruitment against Reserved posts. The Government have also published a reservation calender which contains detailed information about the reserved seats in every department.

The Employment Exchanges located in the District have been giving priority to Harijan and Tribal candidates in their assistance in seeking jobs and trainings. The Employment Exchange, Budhar has provided employment to 837 Harijans and Adivasis up to November, 1975.⁴

Debt Relief

Madhya Pradesh was the first State in the country to enact legislation to provide relief to the poor masses from irredeemable debts. Accordingly all debts owed by *harijan* and *adivasi* farmers owing not more than one hectare of irrigated or two hectares of un-irrigated land, and others owing half the mentioned lands, and landless labourers and aritsans have been freed from their debts to private moneylenders. Besides one year moratorium has been placed on the repayment of debts in the case of farmers, who own and till more than one hectare of those owning more than one hectare but not more than two hectares of unirrigated land. Decrees awarded by the courts in satisfaction of debts and interests have been annulled and properties attached for the purpose released. In the case of farmers other than those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recovery proceedings in courts have been stayed for a year or even longer.⁵

Under the 20-point programme to speed up development work, from September,

1. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, 21 March, 1976 p. 9.

2. Tribal Welfare in M.P., Directorate of Information and Publicity, Bhopal, May, 1974, p. 2.

3. *Madhya Pradesh Shashan Ke Naye Sankalpa*, Information and Publicity Department, Bhopal, February, 1976, p. 10

4. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, 25 March, 1976, p. 9.

5. M.P. - The New Economic Programme, Information and Publicity Department, 1976, p. 8.

1975 to March, 1976, over 2,000 cases pertaining to the tribals and over 100 cases of the *harijans* have been decided.¹ While relief has been given to most of the indebted persons in terms of money and land and other articles, severe action has been taken against unscrupulous bankers. Fifteen of such bankers, who had charged exorbitant rates of interest were even arrested upto March, 1976.

The Debt Relief Courts were established in the Subdivisional (Revenue) Headquarters of the District in 1972. The largest number of cases were filed in the Court of the Presiding Officer, Sohagpur. During the four years ending December, 1975 the court decided 11,765 cases of tribals and relieved 11,062 of them with the liabilities of debts amounting in cash and properties totalling Rs.14,28,409. Similarly, 93 Debt relief cases of Harijans were also decided giving relief to 80 Harijans from the debt liabilities of Rs.8,550/- only.

Pushparajgarh Adivasi Up-Pariyojana

Pushparajgarh area of Shahdol District is the most backward area. It is mostly inhabited by the *adivasis*. In order to remove the regional imbalances in development works, the Government of India have launched an impressive sub project for the area. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3 crores. During the year 1975, Rs.6,46,500 were spent and Rs.10,89,000 have also been disbursed to the State Government for carrying out the work in 1976-77. The Project envisages development of small irrigation works costing Rs.4,62,000, agricultural development works costing Rs. 4,03,000, veterinary and animal husbandry Rs.84,000, land records Rs.73,000 and extension of cooperative societies and marketing Rs.52,000.²

Removal Of Untouchability

From times immemorial the so-called untouchables of this District too were suffering from various social disabilities traditionally prescribed and socially imposed by the so-called high caste Hindus. *Harijans* were even denied civil rights of using public places, wells, *sarais*, *dharamashalas*, schools, etc. The need to remove the evil was realised with the spread of education and political awakening in the country.

After Independence observance of untouchability was made an offence punishable in Article 17 of the Constitution. Now, in general, untouchability is not observed at public places in the District. However, Voluntary Bodies engaged in bringing social reforms and the publicity wing of the Government are still trying to fully implement the idea of equality among all castes and creed. Stray cases of defaults have been registered by the police and challaned. During the past 8 years from 1967-68 to 1974-75, ten cases were registered and 9 of them were challaned, one pending police investigation. The number of accused was 10 only. By now 4 of the cases have been decided in which one accused was obliged to pray for compounding the case and it was granted, and the other three cases resulted in acquittal.

¹ *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, March 25, 1976, p. 9

² *Ibid* p 9

Still there are 5 cases, involving 6 persons, pending with the courts.

Legal Aid

During the period from 1972-73 to 1975-76, the Tribal Welfare Department provided a legal aid of Rs.100/- each to two persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes and one person belonging to Scheduled Caste.

Charitable Endowments And Public Trusts

In Shahdol District also one may come across charitable endowments donated by individuals for various purposes. However, since it is still a tradition bound District, most philanthropists have preferred to extend their funds and properties for religious purposes, e.g., construction of temples, gurdwaras, mosques, tanks, wells, *dharamashalas*, etc.

Until recently all the charitable endowment properties were managed by the society traditionally. The system of registration with the Government, was unknown. After the passage of Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act the Collector has been made the Registrar of Public Trusts in the District. He is authorised to inspect property and records, make suitable arrangements of the trust property and its functioning.

CHAPTER - XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Representation Of The District In Union Legislatures

Till 1948 Shahdol District was a part of Rewa Princely State and, therefore, had no right to send its representatives to Union Legislatures. Therefore, the history of representation of this District in Union Legislatures dates back to the year 1951-52 when the First General Elections were held under the People's Representation Act of 1950.

The Indian Constitution created two Union Legislatures, namely, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The latter chamber has representatives of the States elected by the members of the State Vidhan Sabhas and not directly by the people. The members of Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people. First elections to the Lok Sabha were held in 1951-52 and for that purpose the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Vindhya Pradesh) Order, 1950, created Parliamentary Constituencies. The area covered by this District was included in the Shahdol - Sidhi Lok Sabha constituency. It was a two member constituency, having the right of electing two members. The constituency had 5,95,865 voters. In the election 1,59,557 valid votes were cast and two representatives for Lok Sabha were elected.

At the time of bye-election held subsequently for election of one member, the constituency had 6,42,762 voters. The number of valid votes cast was 87,014.

For the Second Lok Sabha Elections the Delimitation of Constituencies Order, 1956, created two-member Shahdol constituency changing its previous jurisdiction. One seat of the constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. The number of voters of the constituency was 7,84,252 while the number of valid votes cast in the election was 3,84,145.

As a result of Two-member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961, under the Delimitation of Constituencies Order, 1961, a change in the jurisdiction of former two-member Shahdol constituency was made. It was declared a single-member constituency, reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. During the Third Lok Sabha Elections of 1962, the constituency consisted of 4,58,328 voters. The number of valid votes cast was 1,34,079.

In the subsequent two Lok Sabha elections held in 1967 and 1971 no change either in the nature or in the jurisdiction of Shahdol constituency was made. Total number of votes and total number of valid votes cast at the time of those elections are shown below -

Table No. XVIII - 1
Lok Sabha Elections 1967 and 1971

Name Of Constituency	Total No. Of	
	Votes	Valid Votes Polled
1967 Shahdol	4,71,957	1,78,017
1971 Shahdol	5,02,886	1,66,321

Thus in the First and Second Lok Sabha the interests of this District were represented by the two elected members, while in subsequent Lok Sabha only one elected member represented Shahdol District.

Representation In State Legislature

After the integration of princely states of Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand areas in India in July 1948, a new State called Vindhya Pradesh was created. A Vidhan Sabha was constituted for the new Vindhya Pradesh. First General Elections to it were held in 1951-52. Prior to it, the Delimitation Order of 1950 divided the State into Vidhan Sabha Constituencies. Shahdol District was delimited into seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies, three of which were two-member constituencies. Thus, in the first Vidhan Sabha this District was represented by 10 members elected from these constituencies. Election details of these constituencies, namely, number of seats allotted, number of voters and number of valid votes polled are shown below :

Table No. XVIII - 2
Vidhan Sabha Elections 1951-52

Name Of Constituency	Seats Alloted	Total No Of	
		Voters	Valid Votes Polled
1. Beohari	2	56,831	20,820
2. Umaria	1	34,202	11,408
3. Amarpur	1	28,425	6,640
4. Burhar	1	28,720	8,952
5. Sohagpur	1	24,236	7,913
6. Pushparaigarh	2	62,486	24,198
7. Jaitpur-Kotma	2	56,365	29,286

Subsequently, by-elections for two seats of Jaitpur-Kotma were held. In these elections total number of voters remained unchanged but the number of valid votes polled decreased from 29,286 in general elections to 18,136 in these bye-elections.

Under the provisions of the States Re-Organization Act of 1956 a new State of Madhya Pradesh was reorganised with the merger of Vindhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and the Mahakosal regions of Madhya Pradesh. A new Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha was reorganised. The Delimitation of Constituencies Order, 1956

delimited the constituencies of the State for the elections of 1957 to the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. This order divided this District into five territorial Vidhan Sabha constituencies, two of which were two member constituencies. One seat of two-member Kotma constituency and Pushparajgarh constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. Bye-elections were twice held for one seat in Kotma constituency. Details of all the General and bye-elections are shown in the table below e.g., the name, seats and voters of the constituencies and valid votes cast in those constituencies.

Table No. XVIII - 2
Vidhan Sabha Elections (1957) And Bye-Elections

Name Of Constituency	No. Of Seats	Total No Of	
		Voters	Valid Votes Polled
1. Beohari	2	1,03,180	44,031
2. Bandhogarh	1	53,059	11,073
3. Sohagpur	1	54,528	20,224
4. Pushparajgarh	1	51,055	9,956
5. Kotma	2	1,05,505	49,707
6. Bye-election	1	1,10,414	8,516
10.5.59			
25.4.60	1	1,01,658	9,098

Thus the District was represented in the re-organised Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, after the General Elections of 1957, by the seven members, elected by the above mentioned constituencies. Two of the seven members were from Scheduled Tribes.

Consequent upon passing of the Two-Members Constituencies (Abolition) Act 1961, revised Delimitation Order redistributed the areas of Shahdol District into seven territorial constituencies abolishing the former two-member constituencies. All were one member constituencies, three of them viz. Pushparajgarh, Kotma and Jaitpur being reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. Elections to Vidhan Sabha were held in 1962 and the District returned its seven representatives to it. Names of constituencies, total number of votes and valid votes cast in each of the constituencies are shown below :

Table No. XVIII - 3
Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1962

Name Of Constituency	Total No. Of	
	Votes	Valid Votes Polled
1. Beohari	59,654	23,075
2. Bandhogarh	60,686	16,876
3. Burhar	56,151	20,229
4. Sohagpur	65,939	23,213
5. Pushparajgarh	49,932	10,996
6. Kotma	53,335	7,085
7. Jaitpur	53,919	9,814

For the General Elections of 1967 the Constituencies were rearranged by the Delimitation Commission. Under Delimitation Order, 1964, the Commission divided Shahdol District into eight Vidhan Sabha Constituencies. Four of them namely Naorozabad, Jaisinghnagar, Pushparajgarh and Jaitpur were declared reserved constituencies for the Scheduled Tribes. In 1967 elections, the District elected eight members for the Vidhan Sabha. On 4 May 1967, a bye-election was held in Umaria Constituency. The constituencies and reservation remained undisturbed till 1972 when again General Elections to Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha were held. The name, the total number of voters and the number of valid votes cast in each constituency during elections of 1967, bye-election and elections of 1972 are given in the table below :

Table No. XVIII - 4
Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1967 and 1972

Name Of The Constituency	No. Of			
	1967	1972	1972	1972
	Voters	Valid Votes Polled	Voters	Valid Votes Polled
1. Beohari	60,884	28,345	68,666	34,238
2. Umaria	54,177	18,681	60,639	23,200
3. Naorozabad	59,983	21,392	66,921	22,363
4. Pushparajgarh	52,806	15,179	61,294	17,784
5. Jaisinghnagar	57,266	15,356	62,860	19,767
6. Sohagpur	63,944	32,103	77,373	40,831
7. Kotma	64,127	27,484	68,783	28,739
8. Jaitpur	58,770	16,542	62,997	18,643
Bye-Election				
Umaria				
4.5.1967	54,177	22,876	—	—

Eight elected representatives, including four belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, represented the District in the Vidhan Sabha, after the elections of 1967 and 1972.

POLITICAL PARTIES

Though the seed of political awakening in the Baghelkhand region was sown by the Indian National Congress, as early as the second decade of this century, it was quickened to bear fruits in the third decade. Baghelkhand region was attached to Ajmer Prantik Congress Committee, established some times after 1921, which conducted and guided the Congress Programme here.

On 30 May, 1931 the Indian National Congress permitted the congress workers of this region to organise Baghelkhand District Congress Committee and accordingly the Committee, with its headquarters at Rewa, was formed. Since then this Committee was placed under the jurisdiction of Mahakosal Pradesh Congress Committee. At tahsil-level, Tahsil Congress Committees were also formed. These tahsil committees supervised the work of Mandal Congress Committees.

In February, 1932 the Baghelkhand District Congress Committee submitted a memorandum to the Maharaja of Rewa demanding establishment of Responsible Government, elected by the adults of the State. The demand was turned down and the leaders were put behind the bars. The Congress was declared an illegal body, still the Congress worked for the welfare of the masses and thus attracted them to its fold.

In 1934, All India States People's Conference, under the guidance of Indian National Congress Committee, was organised to co-ordinate, guide and conduct movements for responsible Governments in princely states of India. Praja Parishads and Praja Mandals, under the above mentioned all India body, were organised in various princely states at later dates.

Besides Baghelkhand District Congress Committee, Rewa State Praja Mandal attached to the All India States' People's Conference was also organised here when the functioning of the Congress here was not allowed by the State authorities but the workers of both the bodies which had deep roots in this land were mostly the same.

After Independence the Praja Mandals merged their entity into Vindhya Pradesh Congress Committee, which was subsequently integrated with the Madhya Pradesh State Congress Committee.

The popular support enjoyed by the Congress as well as other political parties in the District is reflected through the elections held from time to time for Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha. Following description of election results shows the influence of Congress Party and also of all other political parties established subsequently.

Indian National Congress

In Lok Sabha

In the first Lok Sabha elections, held in 1951-52 the Indian National Congress did not participate in two-member Shahdol-Sidhi Lok Sabha constituency. However,

in subsequent bye-election, held for one seat of the same constituency, the Congress set-up its candidate and won the seat. The Congress contested two seats of Shahdol Lok Sabha constituency in 1957 and came out successful. In 1962 the Congress lost the Lok Sabha seat of single-member Shahdol constituency. The Congress again improved its position in 1967 when it captured the seat of the same constituency. In 1971 elections the Congress could not retain the seat. It was won by an independent candidate.

In Vidhan Sabha

In the election for the first Vidhan Sabha, held in 1951-52, the Congress party contested all the ten seats, allotted to the seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District. It won seven seats, but lost three. In Umaria, Amarpur, Burhar, two-member Pushparajgarh and two-member Jaitpur-Kotma constituencies the Congress captured the seats while it suffered defeat in Sohagpur and two-member Beohari constituency. In subsequent bye-elections held in Jaitpur-Kotma constituency, the Congress Party retained both the seats.

At the time of Second Vidhan Sabha General Elections the Congress party captured six of the seven seats allotted to the five Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Shahdol District. It lost one of the two seats of Beohari constituency and won those of Bandhogarh, Sohagpur, Pushparajgarh and two-member Kotma constituencies. In subsequent bye-elections twice held on 19 May, 1959 and 25 April, 1960 for one seat of two-member Kotma constituency, the Congress came out victorious.

The Congress had to suffer reverses in five of the seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies, namely, Beohari, Bandhogarh, Burhar, Pushparajgarh and Jaitpur, at the time of elections held in 1962. The Party could succeed only in Sohagpur and Kotma constituencies.

In 1967 Vidhan Sabha elections, the Congress greatly improved its image and succeeded in winning all the eight seats of eight constituencies of this District. However, in 1972 the Congress party could retain only five of the eight Vidhan Sabha seats from this District. It lost seats in Beohari, Jaisinghnagar and Pushparajgarh constituencies, retaining five seats of Umaria, Naorozaabad, Sohagpur, Kotma and Jaitpur constituencies.

Socialist Party

In Lok Sabha

This All-India Party had established its unit in the State in about 1948-49 when socialist workers, till then forming a socialist wing in the Indian National Congress, decided to break away from their parent body and form an independent party.

In 1951-52 Lok Sabha elections the Party contested and won one of the two seats of Shahdol-Sidhi Lok Sabha constituency. A candidate of this Party again won Lok Sabha election in 1962 when he captured Shahdol Lok Sabha seat.

In Vidhan Sabha

Nine members of the Party contested Vidhan Sabha elections in 1951-52 from

six of the seven constituencies of the District. All of them except one of the two candidates of Beohari constituency, were defeated. Its candidate did not contest election from Umaria Vidhan Sabha constituency. In 1962 Elections the Socialist Party fielded its six candidates in six of the seven constituencies of this District. Four of these were declared successful in Beohari, Bandhogarh, Burhar and Jaitpur constituencies and failed in Kotma and Sohagpur constituencies. In the elections of 1972, the Party set up seven candidates in seven of the eight constituencies of the District but lost all the seats.

Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party

In Lok Sabha

This regional party contested two Lok Sabha seats of two member Shahdol-Sidhi constituency in 1951-52 elections and won one seat uncontested. The Party lost the second seat. Subsequent merger of Socialist Party and this Party gave birth to Praja Socialist Party.

In Vidhan Sabha

In the elections of 1951-52 the Party fielded its six candidates in four of the seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Shahdol District and won only one seat of two-member Beohari constituency. In one seat of Beohari, two seats of two-member Jaitpur-Kotma, one seat each of Umaria and Pushparajgarh its candidates suffered reverses.

Praja Socialist Party

In Lok Sabha

The Party entered the field of Lok Sabha election in two-member Shahdol-Sidhi constituency in 1952. Later in the same year bye-election for one seat was held in which the party candidate was defeated. Subsequently, the Party contested Shahdol Lok Sabha seat in all the elections held between the years 1957 and 1971. On all occasions it had to face a defeat.

In Vidhan Sabha

In case of Vidhan Sabha elections also the Party first contested bye-election for two seats of Jaitpur-Kotma constituency held after the General Elections of Vidhan Sabha which took place in 1951-52, but lost both of them. In 1957 the Party contested and lost five Vidhan Sabha seats of the District. In second bye-election alone held for one seat of Kotma constituency on 25 April, 1960 it contested the seat and lost it. In 1962 the party contested Vidhan Sabha elections from Beohari, Jaitpur and Pushparajgarh constituencies and succeeded in winning seat in Pushparajgarh. In Bandhogarh, Burhar, Sohagpur and Kotma constituencies, the Party did not contest elections.

The Praja Socialist Party contested Vidhan Sabha elections for six seats in six out of the eight constituencies in this District in 1967 and lost all of them. In constituencies of Beohari and Umaria it did not participate in elections. It also did not contest Vidhan Sabha elections from this District in 1972.

Ram Rajya Parishad

In Lok Sabha

This Party for the first time contested and lost Lok Sabha election from Shahdol-Sidhi constituency in which bye-election for one seat was held after the General Elections of 1951-52. It again unsuccessfully contested Lok Sabha Election for one of the two seats of Shahdol constituency, held in 1957. It did not contest any subsequent Lok Sabha Election

In Vidhan Sabha

As regards Vidhan Sabha Elections the Parishad in vain contested bye-election on one of the two seats of Jaitpur-Kotma constituency held after the General Elections of 1951-52. Again the Parishad fielded its candidate for the Vidhan Sabha election on one of the two seats of Kotma constituency in 1957. He was defeated. The Parishad never again participated in Vidhan Sabha elections subsequently held till the year 1972.

Bharatiya Jana Sangh

In Lok Sabha

This all India Party contested Lok Sabha elections for two seats of two-member Shahdol constituency in 1957, for one seat of single-member Shahdol constituency in 1962 and again for the same seat in 1967. On all the three occasions, however, the Party was defeated. It did not participate in Lok Sabha election from this District in 1971.

In Vidhan Sabha

In Vidhan Sabha elections of 1951-52, the Party contested election for the seat of Sohagpur constituency only and was defeated. In 1957 elections the Party set up five candidates from four of the five constituencies of the District. All the five candidates - two in two-member Beohari, one each in Bandhogarh, Sohagpur and two-member Kotma constituencies-were defeated. The Party did not contest subsequent bye-elections, twice held in Kotma constituency.

The Sangh fielded its six nominees in six of the seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District during the General Elections of 1962 but none of them could win the election. In 1967 also its seven candidates contested elections from seven of the eight Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Shahdol District and failed to win any of them. With the same result this Party contested bye-election held on 4 May, 1967 in Umaria constituency. Again the Jana Sangh contested Vidhan Sabha elections in six of the eight constituencies of this District in 1972. Except one seat in Beohari constituency, all its candidates were defeated.

Samyukta Socialist Party

This all-India Party contested and lost Lok Sabha elections in 1967 as well as in 1971 from Shahdol constituency. Similarly it fielded its candidates one each from eight Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District. All of them were defeated. In 1972 Vidhan Sabha elections the Party was conspicuous by its absence.

Communist Party Of India

This all-India Party for the first time contested Lok Sabha elections without success from Shahdol constituency in 1971. The Party set up its candidates in Sohagpur and Jaitpur Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District in the election in 1967. Both of them were, however, defeated. It did not contest Vidhan Sabha elections in 1972.

Communist Party Of India (Marxist)

The party only once contested Vidhan Sabha election from Sohagpur constituency in 1967. The seat was however lost.

NEWS PAPERS

Weekly *Samaya*, a Hindi paper devoted to news, views and current affairs, is the first newspaper of the District. It appeared on 2 October, 1954 from Shahdol. In the beginning it was printed at Allahabad as there was no printing press in the District. The paper still continues its publication. The second Hindi Weekly entitled *Dharati* also given to news, views and current affairs appeared from Shahdol in 1956. The weekly ceased its publication from March 1958. The third news-paper of the District is *Praja*. This Hindi paper of Shahdol first appeared as a fortnightly from July, 1958 and continued in the same form till October, 1960 when it assumed the form of a weekly. It still appears in this latter form.

The year 1960 witnessed the publication of Hindi weekly paper *Vindhya Vani* which became an evening daily from 1 May, 1975 and continues publication. *Yugabharati* and *Bauchhar* both Hindi weeklies appeared from Shahdol in January and August, respectively, in the year 1961. In the year 1962, four Hindi weeklies started publication at Shahdol. They were *Muktavani* (February, 1962) *Virat* (February 1962), *Amardoot* (August, 1962) and *Shahanshaha* (July, 1962). The last named paper was devoted to religion and philosophy. These papers continued for sometime and ceased their publication. *Rajadarshana* and *Achhapatiya* both Hindi weeklies of Shahdol appeared for some times in April and August, 1964 respectively in the year 1964.

Of the two Hindi weeklies which started publication from Shahdol in 1965, *Shahdol Times* (January) subsequently appeared as a daily. It changed its name to *Dainik Bharati* in 1972 and continues publication. Another weekly *Manas* (February) was published for some time and ceased its publication. Fortnightly Hindi paper named *Raktaranjit*, appeared at Shahdol in September 1965, ceased its publication after two issues. Two Hindi monthlies *Rashtra sarathi* (September, 1968) and *Apara Sahitya* (March, 1970) both appeared from Shahdol and enjoyed a short life. The Hindi weekly *Madhya Jyoti* (August, 1970) also ceased its publication within a short period.

Dainik Janabodh, a Hindi daily, started its publication from Shahdol in June, 1971 and continues in 1976. In the beginning of the year 1972 a Hindi weekly called *Janasaptah* began its publication from Virsinghpur Pali. Similarly, another Hindi

weekly *Bodhitjana* was also started at Kotma in the same year. Both the weeklies ceased their publication in 1974. Shahdol witnessed the publication of a Hindi weekly called *Sonanchal* in 1972. The paper is still in circulation. Two Hindi weeklies called *Gaon ke nam* and *Quake* respectively appeared in February and July of 1975 from Shahdol and Umaria, respectively. The former ceased its publication in September, 1975, while the latter still continues.

In the beginning of the year 1976 *Dainik Janabodh*, *Dainik Bharati*, *Sandhya* *Dainik Vindhya Vani* weeklies like *Samaya*, *Praja*, *Sonanchal* and *Quake* were continuing their publication.

In spite of the circulation of District papers the reading public of Shahdol District subscribes to the papers published outside the District for news, views and knowledge of current affairs. Among such papers which have a wide circulation in the District figure dailies, weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies, published mostly either in Hindi or in English.

Hindi Dailies And Weeklies

Hindi dailies commanding wide circulation in the District include *Nava Bharat* (Jabalpur, Bhopal), *Naveen Duniya* (Jabalpur), *Yuga dharma* (Jabalpur), *Jagaran* (Rewa), *Bandhaveeya Samachar* (Rewa), *Hindustan*, *Nava Bharat Times*, *Janayug* and *Veer Arjun* (all of Delhi). Important Hindi Weeklies like *Dharma Yug* (Bombay) *Dinaman*, *Saptahik Hindustan*, *Panchajanya*, (all of Delhi). *Vindhya Kesari* (Rewa), *Rewa Samachar* (Rewa), *Samaya* (Sidhi), *Krishak Jagat* (Bhopal), *Nagar-Jyoti* (Satna), etc., command good circulation.

Hindi Fortnightlies and Monthlies

Beside Hindi dailies and weeklies a few Hindi fortnightlies and monthlies devoted to news, views, current affairs, literature, film world, stories, etc. are in good circulation in the District. Prominent among them are *Yojna*, *Kurukshetra* (both of Delhi) and *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh* (Bhopal), all fortnightlies. Hindi monthlies widely read are *Sarita*, *Mukta*, *Kadambini*, *Film World* (all from Delhi), *Chandamama* (Madras), *Navaneet* (Bombay) *Maya* (Allahabad) *Manohar Kahaniyan* (Allahabad), *Madhuri* (Bombay) *Aajkal*, *Samaj Kalyan* (both from Delhi), etc.

English Papers

Hitawada, *Madhya Pradesh Chronicle* (both from Bhopal) *Patriot*, *Times of India*, *Hindustan Times*, *Statesman*, *Indian Express* and *National Herald* (all from Delhi), are the English dailies read by the English knowing public. *Illustrated Weekly of India* and *Blitz* are the prominent English weeklies devoted to current affairs and read by the public. A film weekly called *Screen* is also in good circulation in the District in addition to *Filmfare*, a fortnightly both published from Bombay.

Voluntary Social Service Organisations

Deaf And Dumb School, Shahdol

With a view to promoting the welfare of physically disabled and handicapped children like deaf and dumb, this organisation was established at Shahdol in the year

1971-72. The institution imparts education and vocational training to deaf and dumb children without any fees.

Mahila Samiti, Shahdol

The *Samiti*, established in 1953, takes interest in welfare activities conducted for the children and women of the town. It runs a *Balmandir* for the children and a club for the ladies. It has also developed its own library. During the years 1972-73 to 1974-75 this *Samiti* received Rs.9,450 as grant-in-aid from the Directorate of Panchayat and Social Welfare.

Virat Vyayamshala, Shahdol

This organisation was established at Shahdol in 1960 with the aim of promoting physical welfare of the youth. It provides facilities required for physical exercises and Indian and Western games.

Rajendra Club, Shahdol

This is the oldest club of the District as it was established as early as 1935. Its main object has been to provide recreational facilities to the members. Facilities of indoor and outdoor games have also been made available to the members.

Balwadi Samiti, Burhar

The *Samiti* was established in 1963-64 to organise *Balwadi* for pre-primary and primary education of the children. It runs *Balwadi*, imparting primary and pre-primary education. It is recognised by the Directorate of Panchayat and Social Welfare which sanctioned grant-in-aid to the tune of Rs.9,500 in three years i.e. from 1972-73 to 1974-75.

CHAPTER - XIX PLACES OF INTEREST

Amarkantak (22° 40' N and 81° 46' E)

A famous pilgrimage of India, Amarkantak is a township in the Pushparaigarh tahsil. It is situated on the eastern extremity of the Malkara range of the Vindhya, at an altitude of about 2564 metres above sea-level. Its distance from Shahdol town, with which it is connected by a good asphalt road, is about 105 km. From the Pendra railway station of Bilaspur district, the place is about 40 km. away. There are circuit and rest houses for the tourist to stay. Buses are available to reach Amarkantak from Shahdol, Umaria, Pendra, Anuppur and Jabalpur. Amarkantak enjoys a religious sanctity as the source of the Narmada and also of the Son, nearby.

It is believed to be associated with the heroes of the Mahabharata. It is said that Yudhishthira came to this place, where the hermit Markandeya resided. Markandeya gave him a discourse on the origin and course of the Narmada, which afterwards came to be known as the *Reva Khanda* of the *Puranic* literature. It is interesting to note that the immortal poet of India, Kalidas, knew the river as *Reva*. In his *Meghaduta* he referred to Amarkantak as Amrakuta with its lofty ridges' crest.

The famous preacher of Hinduism, Bhagwan Shankaracharya, is believed to have come to this place and constructed the ruined *Surya Kunda* to specify the origin of the Narmada. There is another *Narmada Kunda* to its north, similarly claiming to be the origin of the river. It was excavated by a Bhonsala Prince.

On one of its banks stands a temple of Narmada Devi. The idol is made of black stone. Facing her is the stone linga of Amarkanteshwar, enshrined in another temple. Around the *Kunda* are several shrines of Vishnu, Bhawani-Shankar, Durgamata, Tripuri-Sundari, Murali-Manohar, Akadash Rudra, Annapurna, Rama, etc. The place is always crowded with pilgrims. One temple of this place is known as Pataleshwar Mahadeva Mandir. It is said that its idol was installed by Shankaracharya and the temple was afterwards erected by the Kalachuri king, Kamadeva (A.D. 1041-1073). During 1964-65, the plinth of this temple was exposed, open joints pointed and a modern platform at its side was removed by the Department of Archaeology.¹ The most interesting edifice of Amarkantak, namely, the Karna-mandir, as well as the neighbouring Vishnu-mandir are also ascribed traditionally to the same monarch. It is said that after vigorous churning when Goddess Lakshmi came out of the sea she resided at this place, till her marriage with Lord Vishnu. The marriage itself is said to have taken place here. Towards the south of the *Narmada Kunda*, there is a small hole in a huge stone amidst a dense forest. It is known as the *Bhrigu Kamandulu* (small pitcher of Bhrigu). It is believed that the place is the hermitage of the saint. Besides there are also temples of Keshavanarayan and Machhendranath.

1. Indian Archaeology - A Review, 1964-65, p. 90.

Karna Mandir

The Karna Mandir has an appearance of three distinct temples, arranged like a trefoil leaf on a large raised platform, and connected with a great *maha-mandapa*, that was never completed. In plan it seems to be the second specimen of the unique type of temple that exists at Makarbai, near Mahoba. It has three lofty and profusely sculptured towers of graceful outline. The mouldings are bold, plain but elegant. The upper portions of the towers look like a horse-shoe, like that of the smaller Jain temple at Khajuraho. The spire is, similarly, of the graceful curvilinear form. The sanctum has an inner roof of intersecting squares within the tower roof, and a gargoyle projects from the outer face of the tower to emit water of libations. The architraves of the sanctum have lotus symbols in the centre. It is the oldest temple of Amarkantak, but it is rather neglected now. Some other Brahmanical temples around this one, have Ganesh on the doorway. One temple with a four armed Vishnu idol, is known to belong to the Son river god with four arms. Incidentally it may be mentioned here, that by common belief the Son has its origin at Amarkantak where the Narmada too rises. But the real source of the Son is at Son-Munda (Son-Kunda), to the east of Pendra Road in Bilaspur district.¹ Another temple of this place, enshrining Hara-Gauri resembles that of Seorinarayan, where Siva forms a symbol on *Yoni* with his hands on his breasts.

The Kapildhara or Dudhdhara of the Maikal range presents enchanting view. It is a waterfall on the Narmada which, after about 3 km. from its source, falls over a descent of about 64.14 metres. Two other waterfalls, viz., Shambhudhara and Rudraganga exist in the dense forest of Amarkantak. A spot of scenic beauty is Kabir-Chabutra, where, according to heresay, Bhakta-Kabir stayed for some time and attained salvation.

After the formation of Vindhya Pradesh there was a proposal to locate the summer capital of the State at Amarkantak. As a first step of implementation of this plan "the Amarkantak Township Development Board" was established and all effects and properties of the Narmada temple were vested in it. This Board is analogous to a municipal board. The Board manages the annual *mela* of this place, which meets in February/March for 3 days, on the occasion of *Shivaratri*. It is attended by about 15,000 to 20,000 pilgrims.

During 1901, Amarkantak was populated by 214 persons and during 1971 by 2,465 persons. There are primary school, post office, dispensary and electricity for its inhabitants.

Amarpur (23° 58' N and 80° 54' E)

A large village of Bandhogarh tahsil, Amarpur lies on the State Highway No. 10, that is Pantha-Amarpur-Barahi Road, at a distance of about 69 km. from Umari. Its distance from Shahdol is about 39 km., with which it is connected by a metalled road. Formerly, Amarpur was a village of the Ramnagar tahsil in the erstwhile Rewa

State, and lay on the western border of the tahsil, adjoining Jabalpur tahsil. The nearest railway station is the Umari railway station on Katni-Bilaspur section of the South Eastern Railways, lying at a distance of about 69 km.

There is a fine tank at this place with an old temple on its bank. Formerly, it had a good bazar, a police outpost and a vernacular school. Now it possesses a post office, primary, middle and higher secondary schools, rural health centre, dispensary etc. The weekly market meets on Sundays. In 1901 its population was 975. In 1971 the population was 1854.

Anuppur (Samastpur) (23° 6' N and 81° 41' E)

An important village of Sohagpur tahsil, Anuppur lies on the Rewa-Amarkantak road, at a distance of about 56 km. from Shahdol. Regular buses ply on this road. Anuppur is also an important railway junction on the Bilaspur-Katni section of the South Eastern Railway. Some old temple-sites are lying at Anuppur as well as its neighbouring villages Piparia (about 3 km. south of it) and Samastpur (about 2 km. away). It seems that there was a small temple consisting of a single cell at Piparia, but it is completely ruined. At Samastpur, however, there is an old temple, with shallow carvings on the entrance to the sanctum and on its four pillars. The entrance has a Ganesha sculptured on it, while the four pillars contain sculptured warriors on chariots, each of which is drawn by horses. One charioteer has an umbrella over his head, representing probably Indra and his Airavat. The *mandapa* or the hall of the temple is open all round.

Anuppur has a college, post and telegraph offices, a primary health centre and a gram panchayat. The weekly market of Samastpur meets on Wednesdays. There is a P.W.D. rest house at Anuppur.

Anuppur was populated by 251 persons in 1901, while the population figure of 1971 was 3,509.

Bandhogarh Fort (23° 41' N and 81° 3' E)

Bandhogarh is the name of a tahsil at the south-east portion of Shahdol District. Formerly it was the capital of the Bandhogarh Kingdom of the Magha dynasty, then the head-quarters of the tahsil. At present its headquarters is Umari. The fort of Bandhogarh is a place of considerable archaeological and historical importance. It is a natural impregnable fort and stands on a hill, at an altitude of about 2430 metres above sea-level. The Bamnia hill is also a part of the fort, because it is enclosed by a rampart. The fort is on the Rewa-Umari road, at a distance of about 120 km. from Rewa and about 41 km. from Umari Town.

Who built this fort is not known but Ptolemy, probably knew it as Batantipyrgan, as one of the towns of Adeisathroi, Cunningham thinks Adeisathroi to be a Greek rendering of Haya-Kshetra, the land of the Haihayas. According to tradition the early rulers of this castle belonged to the Baland tribe. Some people say that in the 2nd century A.D. the fort was in the possession of the Magha Kings. About 10th and 11th

1. Beglar, Archaeological Survey of India, Vol. VII, p. 236.

century it came under the Kalachuri kings.¹ From them it passed on, as a dowry, to Karna Deva Baghela, when he married a Kalachuri princess in the 13 century A.D. The Muhammadan historians referred to the fort as Bandhu and its Baghel chief as the Raja of Bandhu.

In 1498-99 Salivahan was the lord of this fort, who refused to marry his daughter with Sikandar Lodi. In retaliation the emperor invested Bandhogarh, but failed to occupy it. Ultimately he retired, but in revenge sacked the country as far as Banda. During 1563 Akbar's general Afzal Khan besieged the fort unsuccessfully. In 1597 some internal disturbances took place within the fort and Raja Patr Das was sent to besiege it. The siege lasted for about 8 months, at the end of which it fell to the Mughal general, who was made the governor of the fort. It remained with the Mughals till A.D. 1602 when it was given to Raja Vikramaditya.

The main gate of Bandhogarh is very big. At the top of the fort there is a temple of Lakshman. Near about it exists the old arsenal. There is one large and deep tank within the fort, while a rock cut tank, called Kshirshayi, is at a lower level. There is a chamber in the fort, known as the *Udal Kothri*, where Raja Saranghadeva is said to have kept Udal as a captive, when he attacked the fort on behalf of his king Raja Paramaradideva Chandella.

About 8 km. away from this place there is a small rest house for the tourists to stay.

Baraundha (24° 8' N and 81° 7' E)

An important village at Beohari tahsil, Baraundha lies on the right bank of the Son, at a distance of about 35 km. to the west of the District headquarters. It is situated on the Beohari-Baraundha *Kutchha* road, at a distance of about 36 km. from Beohari. Formerly, Baraundha was the headquarters of the old Ramgarh tahsil. It is situated about 6 km. to the south-west of Ramnagar.

Baraundha is a commercial place, inhabited by many traders in food grains. An annual fair is held here on the bank of the Son, on the occasion of *Makara Sankranti*. The village contains a higher secondary school, a primary health centre, a P.W.D. rest house and a post office.

During 1901 Baraundha had a population of 1,378 persons and in 1971 it was 1,699.

Burhar (23° 13' N and 81° 33' E)

A town of Sohagpur tahsil, Burhar lies on the Shahdol-Amarkantak road, at a distance of about 21 km. to the south-east of the District headquarters. It is also a railway station on the Katni-Bilaspur section of the South-Eastern Railway. The Lalpur air-port is situated at a distance of about 5 km. from this place. There is a rest house in this town.

During 1901 the population of this place was 506, for whom there were police and forest outposts. During 1961 there were post and telegraph offices, primary and

higher secondary schools, dispensary, rural health centre, maternity and child welfare centre, dispensary and a municipality. In 1971 the town had a population of 8,756 persons.

Chandia Khas (23° 39' N and 80° 42' E)

A large village of Bandhogarh tahsil, Chandia is situated near the western border of the District, on the Umaria-Katni road, at a distance of about 21 km. from Umaria. The railway station of Chandia Khas, known as the Chandia railway station, is about 6 km. from the village.

The most important spot of Chandia Khas is a small temple, enshrining Goddess Kalika. Her mouth is wide open, but her out-stretched tongue is broken.

There is also an old temple of Lord Rama and his consort Janaki. It was the seat of the Thakur of Chandia. The place had police and custom outposts and a vernacular school in 1901, for its population of 3,469 persons. At present there are primary, middle and higher secondary schools, post and telegraph offices, hospital and dispensary.

About 8 km. to the north of Chandia Khas there is a village, named, Patharhata. The two places are connected by a motorable *kutchha* road. There is a small hillock in Patharhata, on the bank of the Kasli *nulah*, locally known as garhi. Near about this place a few Jain statues have been picked up. A stone inscription has also been found in the same village. About 7 km. away there is another village, known as Kaudia, where some Jain remains were spotted.

According to the Census of 1971, the population figure of Chandia was 5,356. A small annual fair meets at Suraswahi Chandia for 3 days in February/March, on the occasion of *Shivaratri*. It is managed by the local gram panchayat and attended by about 1000 pilgrims. The weekly market is held on Fridays.

Lakhbariya (23° 10' N and 81° 30' E)

A village of Sohagpur tahsil, Lakhbariya is 9.5 km. south of Burhar. The nearest main road is Burhar-Bahmi Road.

Lakhbariya is considered to be an old place and contains old statues of Shiva. There is a hillock in this village, where there are a few rock chambers. According to local belief there were about a lakh of such rock cut chambers. A small annual fair meets at Lakhbariya during *Vasant Panchmi* in January/February.

Pali Birsingpur (23° 22' N and 81° 3' E)

A village of Sohagpur tahsil, Pali is situated on the Umaria-Shahdol Road, at a distance of about 36 km. from Umaria. Another road goes from Pali to Mandla town via Dindori. Pali is also a railway station, and there is a rest house for the tourists to stay. The station is known as the Pali-Birsingpur station.

Near the railway station there is a temple, enshrining Barasinidevi. By popular belief she is Goddess Kali, represented here as a skeleton Goddess, but with her mouth closed. Many remains of old Jain idols are kept here in some Hindu temples. Formerly it was the chief seat of the Gond Thakur of Singhwara. During 1901 the

1. *Vindhya Bhumi, Pradesh Parichaya Anka*, p. 28

population of this village was 1,212, for whom there were police, customs and forest outposts. At present there are primary and middle schools, public library and reading room, post and telegraph offices, bank, primary health centre, electricity for domestic and agricultural use and a cinema house.

The market meets at Pall on Sundays, while annual fairs are held both in October and March, on the occasion of *Navaratri*, near the temple of the goddess.

Shahdol (23° 18' N and 81° 22' E)

Shahdol is the headquarters of the District of the same name. It is situated in the Sohagpur tahsil. Sohagpur is an old village, the area of which is now included in the urban area of Shahdol Town. The place is connected by metalled roads with Bhopal, Amarkantak, Rewa, Katni, Manendragarh, etc. Shahdol is also a railway station of the South-Eastern Railway. Shahdol is a town of scenic beauty on the bank of the Muraha.

It is believed that the modern Sohagpur was known in ancient times as Virat-puri, that is, the capital of king Virat, where the Pandava brothers spent their period of exile, incognito. A small step-well near about this place and known as Banganga is said to have been created by Arjun by splitting the earth with his arrow. There is a mound at this spot, from where many carved stones have been dug, and taken away by the people of Shahdol to construct their own houses. The place contains many other ancient wells of varying sizes. It is said that there is a ruined subterranean path in this area. The Arjungaon village is about 3 km. away from this place, and next to it is the place, named Bhimadongri or Kichak dongri. Some carved images of this place are now kept in the Rajabag garden of Shahdol. These included statues of Gautam Buddha, Saraswati, the Vaman and boar incarnations of Vishnu, Uma-Maheshwara, Lakshmi and Vishnu. In an old temple near this mound is installed a brass image of goddess Bhuvaneshwari, who is none other than the titular goddess of the Sohagpur *rajas*.

In the centre of the old settlement there is a large palace, or monastery, consisting of heterogeneous mass of buildings around a large courtyard. It is made partly of bricks and partly of stones, mostly taken from older buildings. It has many pillars, similarly gathered from older shrines, differing from one another in design and ornamentation. Many other remains, some of these of Jain origin, are scattered at a little distance. The most notable edifice of this old settlement is the huge Virateshwar temple, enshrining a *Shivalinga* and standing in a moderate state of preservation, although the front portion of the temple is in a dilapidated condition.¹ In pattern and ornamentation it resembles the Khajuraho temples. People say that the temple was existing in the Mahabharata age, when the Pandava brothers came to take shelter in it. Red, yellow and blue stones were utilised to build this beautiful temple, facing east. The plan of it shows a square sanctum with pilasters at the

corners, supporting the inner roof of intersecting squares. The pillars are plain square ones, ornamented with mouldings and bracket capitals. The dome rests on eight double pilasters, ornamented with fine carvings and crowned with usual corbelled cruciform capitals. On these corbelled caps are placed a few stone females, supporting the lowest circle of the dome. They are extremely graceful, giving an impression of weightlessness. The temple has its *mahamandapa* and *antarala*. On two sides of the *mahamandapa* there are openings, leading to the projecting windows, with seats and back-rests, after the style of the Khajuraho temples. One side has collapsed and the remaining wall has been plastered by the Department of Archaeology. On the architrave over the entrance into the sanctum is a sculptured male figure, with eight arms. Above this sculpture is a sculptured Ganesha. The tower of this shrine is its most beautiful part. "The great tower is of very elegant shape and rises up with a gentle curve, most nearly approaching in form the curves of the towers of the Jain group of temples at Khajuraho, . . . it is ornamented by clusters of similar shaped towers, smaller, rising up along its faces and angles to varying and progressively increasing heights, thus giving it the appearance of rising up through a great forest of similar smaller towers; it is crowned with the amalaka in the usual way; the tower is adorned exteriorly by deep rich moulding at the base, surmounted by two tiers of large and one tier of smaller statues, like the temples of the Jain group at Khajuraho; above these the faces and facets of the tower are ornamented by the horse-shoe type of sculpture used in the Jain temples mentioned before." The sculpture is much in style of the Khajuraho sculptures; there are a number of *mithuna* couples, but they are placed in retired corners.¹ Internally, the walls of the temple are plain but its pillars, roofs and doorway to the sanctum are profusely sculptured.

Among the innumerable sculptures on the left side of the doorway of the sanctum, figures of Saraswati, Siva-Parvati, two Siva-linga worshippers and four-armed goddess are noticed. The four-armed goddess is holding *Vina* in the two hands, a lotus in the third and a *Kamandala* in the fourth. The right side of the doorway is similarly sculptured. There are also sculptures of Ganga and Jamuna. Inside the temple, the sculpture of the eight-armed Siva is very artistic and exquisitely beautiful.²

The age of this shrine is not ascertained, but from the resemblance of its structure and ornamentation it seems to have been built at the age of the Khajuraho temples. The building is in the care of the Department of Archaeology. During 1964-65, the top of its *antarala* was made water tight and cracks and cavities in the surface of its *shikhara* were filled with cement mortar.³ To the east of this temple there were eight groups of other temples, from where numerous stones were carried away to build the new town of Shahdol. In some nearby ruins are spotted about 21 *sati*

1. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh (Weekly)*, Gwalior, dt. 8th July, 1972.

1. *Archaeological Survey of India*, Vol. VII, pp. 242-243

2. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh (Weekly)*, Gwalior, dt. 8th July, 1972.

3. *Indian Archaeology - A Review*, 1964-65, p. 90

monuments, a fine fragment of a 20 armed female, Surya with three horses, a seated Buddha, flanked by two Bodhisatvas, etc. About 5 km. away from Sohagpur there is a village, named Jamni, containing two old temples, one with a *Shiva-linga* and the other with a fine sculpture of Lakshmi, Vishnu and Garuda installed within. Several old temples of Rama and Janki are still standing in Shahdol. Another old shrine belongs to *Burhimata*. The presiding idols of a few newly built temples are Shankar, Durga, Hanuman and Jain deities. In front of the circuit house of Shahdol there is a temple of Kali. The idol is small but well-carved.

While approaching Shahdol Town by train the place gives the impression of being an undulating country, surrounded by hillocks. Beyond the railway station lies the railway colony; then comes the newly established town, known as Shahdol, containing the main market and important buildings. Proceeding ahead (about 4 km. away from the railway station) is reached the old town of Sohagpur. Formerly Sohagpur was the main town, while the area now covered by Shahdol Town was an insignificant forest area. Then the railway colony went in the name of Shahdol, while Sohagpur was the headquarters and the main township of the District. An old garhi (known as the Kothi palace and built by a former Chieftain) still exists at Sohagpur. A new residential mansion, known as Rajbagh, has now been built in the same area on the Rewa road, beyond Virat temple by a descendant of the former Chieftain.

Near the township there is a religious *ashram*, known as Shahanshah's *ashram*, whose *samadhi* lies in near proximity on the bank of a tank. Shahanshah was a resident of Lahore and came to the spot in course of his wandering through the country. He died here and his disciples constructed the *ashram*. On the otherside of the tomb a river flows. The place is of much scenic beauty. Near it, on the Pall road stands the Sanskrit college of the town, known as the Kalyanpur Sanskrit College.

Shahdol can be termed as an industrial town, in as much as in its near proximity are situated the Amlai Paper Mill of the Birla concern and the Amarkantak Thermal Power Station, P.O. Chachai. About 5 km. away from the town lies the Nowarangabad colliery, apart from other nearby coal mines. Coal from these mines is easily available to run the mill and the power house. The power house consists of two Turbo-Alternator sets, producing 30 megawatt each, four boilers of radiant type, and a water treatment plant on the Son, with settling tanks and filtration plant. By the Fifth Five Year Plan period the power house is expected to produce 300 megawatt of electricity, as per its expansion programme. At present it has 12 substations all located in the District.

Shahdol is surrounded with forests of good quality timber, from where it is exported to other parts of the country for building purpose. Firewood is also sent out.

The educational institutions of the place are schools and colleges for boys and girls, basic training institute, public library and reading rooms. In the field of public health, there are dispensaries and a District Hospital.

The civic affairs of Shahdol is looked after by a Municipality, established in

1939. The scheme of the water works of the town is in progress. Water would be drawn from the Saraf *nulah*, flowing at a distance of about 13 km. Electricity is available for all purposes.

The weekly market meets on Sundays, while two annual fairs are held during April/May and January. The former, known as *Shah-Baba Mela*, meets for 3 days at Deo-Talao area and draws about 200 visitors. The other *mela* meets on the occasion of *Makar-Sankranti* for 5 days. It is managed by the Police and visited by about 5,000 devotees.

According to the Census of 1971, the population figures of Shahdol is 32,236. In 1901 it was 1,598.

Singhpur (23° 12' N and 81° 25' E)

A village of Sohagpur tahsil, Singhpur lies on the Shahdol-Singhpur Road, at a distance of about 8 km. from Shahdol. Regular buses ply on that road.

Towards the southern corner of Singhpur, there is a small fort, that housed the office of the Singhpur Nyaya Panchayat, till 1973. By local belief the Chalukya kings constructed the fort, who are said to have built the Siva temple of the village. Near about are several tanks, big and small, with stone images on their banks. The Chowdury tank and the Umai tanks have small temples too. On the bank of the Rajatalao there are old temples of Siva and a goddess, and a big statue of Mahabir. Some *sati* pillars are standing in near proximity. The fort faces east and contains a square courtyard inside. Encircling this open space there are several rooms and *varandahas*, one of which towards the west is known as *Darbar*. Its pillars have some similarity with those of the Siva temple.

The Siva temple of Singhpur has lost its main deity, a *Siva-linga*. On both sides of its main entrance are standing images of Lord Vishnu. The one on the right has a *Kaustav* gem on his breast and his other usual ornaments. He has his female attendants and his incarnations like *Varaha*, *Narasimha*, *Kurma*, etc. carved in stone. The Vishnu image on the left side has four arms. He too has his female attendants and other incarnations like *Vamana*, *Varaha*, *Narasimha*, *Meen* etc. A bearded *Brahma* can be spotted above him and some male and female images, holding *Kamandala* and a garland. The doorways of the temple are decorated with statues of several females with coconut, flowers, and fans in hands. Several *munis* are there, sitting in *padmasana* (lotus pose).

On the octave of one door-way are placed stone statues of Brahma with his usual crown, beard, trident and books; Vishnu, carrying his wheel and Siva on the back of Nandi, holding his *kamandala* and trident.

The stone columns of this temple are decorated with carvings of the usual Brahmanical deities like Siva, Brahma, Ganesh, Kartik, etc., and musicians playing different musical instruments, females doing facial make-up, etc. The animal world is represented, in the columns, in the shape of lion, garuda, peacock, snake, and crocodile.

Just to the north of this Siva temple there is a smaller one, known as *Devi-jika-mandir*, enshrining a skeleton goddess, most probably of goddess Kalika or Kal-Bhairavi. The pillars of this temple are similar to those of the Siva temple. The image of the goddess is about 70 inches high and it has eight arms. She is in a *tandava* dance pose. She is a Kankali Devi (skeleton goddess) no doubt, but her image has been cut with such fineness that several spots on her back look like fine lace. This fineness, again, is the cause of her four broken arms. Under her foot is a dead male figure in lying position, but his head is lifted to look at the goddess. Near her are some lesser idols and dead bodies. On both sides of her 6 males and females are worshipping her.

The other two main idols of the temple are Lord Vishnu, standing near the doorway, and dancing Ganesha, accompanied by instrumental musicians. Outside the shrine there are three Jain and one Brahmanical statues, belonging to Uma-Maheshwar. Two other Jain figures are kept outside the temple, on whose heads there are snakes in the shape of umbrellas. Some other smaller Hindu idols can be seen near these Jain divinities.

Two small annual *melas* meet at Singpur, one on the occasion of *Ramnavami* in March/April and the other on the occasion of *Durga-navami* in October/November.

According to the Census of 1971, the population of Singhpur is 2,558 for whom there are primary and higher secondary schools, post office and dispensary.

Umaria Town (23° 31' N and 80° 46' E)

The headquarters town of the Bandhogarh tahsil, formerly Umaria was the headquarters of the South Rewa District. It is situated at a distance of about 69 km. from Shahdol, the District headquarters. Good metalled roads connect the town with Katni, Rewa, Shahdol, etc., on which regular buses ply. Umaria is also a railway station on the Katni-Bilaspur section of the South-Eastern Railway.

Near the railway station stands a Siva temple, known as the Sagara temple. It was an old shrine, recently remodelled. Its main gates are still intact with beautiful stone statues, carved in Khajuraho models. Near about is the jwalamukhi temple. About 6.5 km. away from the town, there is another temple, with similar carvings of the Khajuraho pattern. It is known as the Mariwal temple. Its old idol has been removed and a new *Siva linga* is installed instead. About 41 km. away from the town stands the fort of Bandhogarh. About 33 km. away from the Umaria railway station is situated the famous National Park of the District, in the reserve forest of Tala. The village lies on the Rewa-Umaria road and reached by regular buses from Katni, Satna, Khajuraho, etc. The village contains P.W.D. and forest rest houses for the tourists to stay. The park abounds with beautiful spotted deer and other animals like bison, wild boar, tiger, *neel-gai* and other types of deer.

Umaria is famous for its coal mines, which were opened in 1881 by the Government of India and transferred to the Rewa Darbar in the same year, mainly to meet the requirement of the railway at Katni. Coal was raised in small quantity and sent to Katni on mules. The Umaria coal is of a special quality, giving white ash. Thus

it was in demand by some industries. In 1935 the working of these mines was entrusted to two managing agents. Afterwards the mines were found unprofitable and abandoned. In 1974, however, the Government of India has restarted the working of the mines.

Formerly there was a Shallac factory at Umaria. It was located in a huge building, with a floor area of about a lakh square metres. But the factory was closed and the Forest Department took the premises.

The civic affairs of the town is in charge of a municipality, which runs its public library, having about 4000 books. Other items of civic amenities are primary and higher secondary schools, technical institute, hospital, maternity and child welfare centres, dispensaries, post, telegraph and telephone offices, banks, cinema hall and electricity for all purposes. Umaria is the centre of a Community Development Block of the same name. Three weekly markets meet on Sundays in this place in three different municipal wards.

The town was populated by 10,249 persons in 1971. It had a population of 5,381 persons in 1901.

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APPENDIX - A

Table No. 1
Normals And Extremes Of Rainfall

Station	No. Of Years Of Data	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sohagpur	50 a	27.4	29.5	20.6	16.0	13.2	143.5	388.4	384.1
	b	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.4	1.3	7.5	17.5	16.7
Umaria	19 a	39.1	31.0	19.1	11.2	8.6	168.7	408.9	388.9
	b	2.8	2.6	1.8	0.9	0.7	8.8	19.2	16.8
Pushparaigarh	13 a	53.3	46.5	33.0	29.2	23.4	243.6	364.5	407.7
	b	3.5	3.5	3.2	2.3	1.9	11.8	18.8	20.3
Beohari	27 a	30.2	23.4	15.0	9.4	8.6	128.8	349.5	326.9
	b	2.9	2.7	1.8	1.0	1.0	8.4	17.8	15.7
Shahdol	a	37.5	32.6	21.9	16.5	13.5	171.1	377.8	376.9
	b	2.8	2.8	2.1	1.4	1.2	9.1	18.3	17.4

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days of with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

(Contd.)

September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest Annual Rainfall as % of Normal & Year *	Lowest Annual Rainfall as % of Normal Year **	Heaviest Rainfall in 24 hours.* Amount (mm.)	Date
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
218.4	51.6	15.7	6.3	1314.7	157 (1926)	61 (1919)	307.1	1923, Aug. 19
10.5	3.0	1.0	0.5	65.5				
227.3	43.7	20.1	8.1	1374.7	143 (1946)	52 (1941)	365.3	1923, Aug. 19
10.7	2.3	1.1	0.7	63.4				
206.8	68.1	16.8	7.9	1500.8	180 (1946)	64 (1941)	419.1	1946, June 25
12.4	4.3	1.0	0.7	83.7				
150.8	36.8	12.2	7.9	1108.5	130 (1946)	57 (1932)	175.3	1953, Aug. 18
10.5	2.5	0.6	0.7	65.4				
203.1	50.1	16.2	7.5	1324.7	138 (1901)	60 (1941)		
11.0	3.0	0.8	0.7	70.7				

* Based on all available data upto 1960

** Years given in brackets

Table No. 2
Frequency Of Annual Rainfall In The District
 (Date 1901-1950)

Range in mm.	No. of Years	Range in mm.	No. of Years
701 - 800	1	1301 - 1400	11
801 - 900	1	1401 - 1500	5
901 - 1000	4	1501 - 1600	5
1001 - 1100	8	1601 - 1700	0
1101 - 1200	6	1701 - 1800	3
1201 - 1300	4	1801 - 1900	1

Data available for 49 years only

Table No. 3
Normals Of Temperature And Relative Humidity
(Umaria)

Month	Mean Daily Maximum Temperature		Mean Daily Maximum Temperature		Highest Maximum Ever Recorded		Lowest Minimum Ever Recorded		Relative Humidity	
	°C	2	°C	3	°C	4	°C	5	°C	6
1										
January		24.9		8.8		34.4		1943, Jan. 24		0.0
February		27.2		10.8		36.7		1954, Feb. 20		0.6
March		32.7		15.1		40.0		1955, March 31		5.0
April		37.7		20.8		44.4		1942, April 29		12.8
May		41.3		26.6		45.6		1954, May 25		17.5
June		37.1		26.8		45.6		1945, June 15		20.0
July		30.3		24.0		39.6		1958, July 7		20.4
August		29.3		23.5		35.0		1945, Aug. 10		20.0
September		30.4		22.8		35.6		1958, Sept. 7		17.8
October		30.4		17.3		35.0		1957, Oct. 18		9.4
November		27.6		11.3		32.8		1957, Nov. 3		3.9
December		25.3		7.9		31.7		1941, Dec. 12		0.5
Annual		31.2		10.0						

* Hours I.S.T.

SHAH DOL

Table No. 4
Mean Wind Speed in km./hr.
(Umaria)

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
3.4	3.9	4.7	5.6	6.1	7.2	6.4	6.1	4.8	3.1	2.6	2.7	4.7

Table No. 5
Special Weather Phenomena
(Umaria)

Mean No. of Days with	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Thunder	3.7	2.7	3.6	4.1	2.7	7.3	9.1	4.9	5.1	1.3	0.1	0.3	44.9
Hail	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Dust-Storm	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Squall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	00.0
Fog	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.7

Table No. 6
Land Utilization Statistics

Year	Area (according to village papers)	Forests	Land Utilization Statistics										(In '000 ha.)
			Area Not Avail- able For Cultivation	Area Under Permanent Pastures and Other Grazing Lands	Area under Misc. Tree Crops and Groves	Culturable Waste	Old Fall- ows	Current Fall- ows	Net Area Sown	Area Sown More Than Once	Gross Cropped Area		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1950-51	1, 315	242	47	-	-	-	-	-	105	292	66	358	
1955-56	1, 385	543	62	80	5	1.4	130	75	88	410	43	453	
1960-61	1, 387	569	50	76	39	1.6	66	113	53	420	48	469	
1965-66	1, 386	503	58	78	47	36.4	103	78	61	422	38	460	
1971-72	1, 386	493	75	73	45	2	109	69	63	457	55	512	

Table No. 7
Area Under Principal Crops

Year	Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Maize	Barley	Kodan Kutki	Gram	Fruits and Vegeta- bles	Condi- ments and Spices	Sesamum	Rage and Mustard	Linseed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1950-51	191	17	3	15	6	-	11	1.3	.09	28	7	2
1955-56	170	29	6	20	7	-	21	1.6	.11	41	14	5
1960-61	192	35	5	21	7	-	18	1.0	.21	14	13	9
1965-66	190	34	6	22	3	90	18	1.3	.26	19	11	10
1970-71	191	36	9	24	5	117	18	-	-	22	13	10
1971-72	195	41	8	24	5	112	19	1.2	.28	20	14	12
1972-73	199	46	7	24	6	110	21	-	-	19	15	15
1973-74	199	48	7	25	7	111	22	-	-	20	16	16
1974-75	196	43	7	26	5	108	21	-	-	19	16	15

Table No. 8
Production Of Principal Crops

Year	Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Maize	Barley	Kodon-Kutki	Gram	Sesamum	Rape and Mustard	Linseed
(000 M. Tons)										
1950-51	42.7	8.1	0.5	5.7	3.0	-	6.1	2.0	2.0	0.5
1955-56	89.5	27.2	2.1	9.7	2.6	-	13.4	10.6	3.7	1.3
1960-61	112.9	20.6	4.5	-	4.0	-	8.0	1.1	5.5	1.8
1965-66	65.6	12.7	4.7	20.1	1.1	16.5	6.8	1.9	1.4	1.3
1970-71	105.3	21.1	5.7	19.6	2.7	31.9	6.3	2.1	1.8	1.4
1971-72	166.3	18.1	3.7	14.4	3.4	33.3	8.6	1.6	3.4	2.5
1972-73	135.3	19.7	5.5	15.9	2.8	25.2	7.2	2.6	3.7	3.4
1973-74	161.0	13.2	4.9	17.4	3.1	28.0	6.3	2.4	4.3	3.0
1974-75	71.5	20.1	4.8	14.9	2.3	24.5	8.0	1.8	5.4	2.7

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Table No. 9
Sourcewise Irrigated Area

Years	Canals	Wells	Tanks	Other Sources	Irrigated Area
(In hectares)					
1950-51	-	632	195	9	836
1955-56	-	445	121	40	607
1960-61	-	162	114	30	305
1965-66	661	1,229	112	174	2,176
1970-71	2,600	900	100	100	3,700
1971-72	2,900	1,000	-	100	4,000
1974-75	1,982	1,035	166	1,838	5,021

APPENDIX-A

Table No. 10
Total Livestock And Poultry

Year	Cattle	Buffalows	Sheep	Goats	Horses and Ponies	Donkeys	Mul-Camels	Pigs	Total Livestock	Poultry
										Fowls Ducks Total
1960-61	8,14,831	1,65,071	10,343	1,42,659	6,000	103	69	5	5,889 11,45,438	1,90,774 -
1965-66	7,01,452	1,76,017	13,853	1,63,412	5,769	459	180	19	5,828 10,66,999	1,70,769 3,285 1,74,054
1970-71	7,78,926	2,06,684	19,632	1,76,083	6,550	228	100	-	9,718 11,97,921	1,84,713 2,718 1,87,431
1971-72	8,78,152	1,75,723	12,218	1,65,659	5,572	126	13	-	9,458 12,38,921	2,54,558 -
1972-73	8,03,623	1,71,329	12,638	1,52,833	5,262	292	23	-	8,437 11,54,437	3,41,344 2,049 3,43,393
Tahsils :										
Sohagpur	3,93,685	96,237	800	71,883	1,114	210	14	-	4,434 5,68,387	2,49,025 1,416 2,50,441
Bandho-garh	1,84,290	32,381	4,688	40,248	835	82	9	-	1,723 2,64,256	23,803 56 23,859
Beohari	1,43,883	28,175	7,070	25,515	286	-	-	-	1,490 2,06,419	24,924 577 25,501
Pushpa-rajgarh	81,765	14,536	80	15,187	3,027	-	-	-	790 1,15,385	43,392 - 43,592
1974-75	801.6	211.7							1284.1	233.4
(In '000)										

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Table No. 11
Community Development Coverage

Name of Block	Name of Tahsil	Date of Inception	Area in Sq. Kms.	Percentage of Total Area of the District Covered	No. of Villages Covered	Percentage of Villages of the District Covered	Population Covered	Percentage to Total Population of District Covered
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Kotma	Sohagpur	2-10-53	1,437	17.75	234	17.58	91,921	22.31
Sohagpur	Sohagpur	1-4-58	888	10.96	160	12.02	67,697	16.43
Jaithari	Sohagpur	1-4-55	951	11.74	146	10.97	67,115	16.28
Pushparaigarh	Pushparaigarh	2-10-56	1,764	21.78	272	20.43	66,283	16.09
Umaria	Umaria	1-4-57	1,621	20.02	319	23.97	64,643	15.69
Jaisinghnagar	Beohari	2-10-59	1,437	17.75	200	15.03	54,416	13.20

Note : By the Census year of 1961 the two blocks, namely, Pali and Burhar in Sohagpur tahsil, were added to the existing six. In 1962 three more blocks were created in Bandhogarh, Beohari and Sohagpur tahsils with headquarters at Manpur, Beohari and Anuppur. Subsequently another block, namely, Pali-II was added, raising the total number to 12.

Table No. 12
Receipts From Different Sources of Revenue

Head	1950-51	1955-56	1960-61	1965-66	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
CENTRAL										
1. Income Tax										16,59,837
2. Excise Duty										2,10,32,155
3. Estate Duty										3,550
STATE										
4. Excise	7,04,168	6,20,789	9,09,383							38,33,171
5. Stamps	55,875	1,04,755	1,50,285							6,66,507
6. Forests	- -	43,88,590	41,70,078							6,03,53,158
7. Registration										58,380
8. Taxes On Motor Vehicles										3,84,031
9. Sales Tax Under : 4,56,692	3,06,225	5,99,253								1,66,95,135
(a) General Sales Tax Act										50,25,533
(b) Central Sales Tax Act										1,16,69,361
(c) Motor Spirit and Lubrication Taxation Act										241
(d) Professional Tax										
10. Entertainment Tax			92,033							4,45,326

Source : Shahdol District Census Hand Book, 1961 and Treasury Officer, Shahdol

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APPENDIX-A

Table No. 13

Consolidation Of Holdings

Year	No. of Villages for which Schemes were Prepared and Confirmed	Area Consolidated (In Acres)	Khasra Numbers before Chakbandi	Khasra Numbers excluded for Chakbandi, e.g., Baria, Kothars, etc	Net Khasra Numbers after Chakbandi	Reduction of Col. (6) on Col. (4) in Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1962-63	14	6,161	11,676	1,401	4,875	58%
1963-64	49	25,493	50,835	6,100	22,363	56%
1964-65	40	26,928	38,874	4,664	23,172	40%
1965-66	19	14,106	21,739	2,090	10,526	51%
1966-67	23	15,921	28,652	2,394	11,889	58.5%
1967-68	20	13,295	22,835	2,428	10,834	52.5%
1968-69						
1969-70						
1970-71	22	15,773	17,921	2,781	9,375	48%
1971-72						
1972-73	6	2,512	4,863	822	2,147	56%
1973-74	44	34,065	50,610	6,400	22,936	54%

Source: Consolidation Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 14
Duration Of Cases

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
1. Without Trial	23,668	17,715	35,015	32,125	44,453
2. Exparte	21,072	39,501	11,119	62,321	44,044
3. Admission	1,214	342	1,412	1,401	6,231
4. Compromised	19,921	38,250	26,050	45,664	18,117
5. After Full Trial	73,272	98,633	66,691	1,41,210	45,615
6. Referred to Arbitration	-	-	342	-	-

Source: District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 15
Pending Civil Suits

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
1. Pending at the Beginning	414	367	681	655	657
2. Instituted	148	552	396	456	542
3. Reinstited	22	10	14	21	6
4. Otherwise Received	20	48	88	42	3
5. Total for Disposal	1061	1633	1176	1173	1630
6. Disposed off By Transfer	20	459	81	33	3
7. Otherwise Disposed	268	158	440	566	349
8. Pending at the End of the Year	310	254	456	574	818

Source: District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 16
Appellate Cases

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Regular Appeals					
1. Pending at the Beginning of the Year	230	277	1303	182	178
2. Instituted and Reinstited	178	221	78	101	55
3. Otherwise Received	-	-	85	139	97
Miscellaneous Appeals					
1. Pending at the Beginning	44	67	18	25	35
2. Instituted and Reinstited	31	12	17	35	27
3. Otherwise Received	7	9	4	2	3

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 17
Number Of Cases Decided By Nyaya Panchayats

Year	Civil	Criminal
1955	332	159
1956	1,001	488
1957	1,011	262
1958	1,023	356
1959	1,000	308
1960	950	371
1961	942	556
1962	942	297
1963	942	152
1964	755	115
1965	961	182
1966	842	297
1967	787	340
1968	522	443
1969	284	559
1970	991	461
1971	1,122	300
1972	658	265
1973	683	353

Source: District Panchayat and Social Welfare Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 18
Scholarships Awarded To Adivasi And Scheduled Castes Students
(1962-63 to 1975-76)

Year	Pre-Matric-No. of Scholarship Holders		Amount Distributed (Rs.)	Post-Matric-No. of Scholarship Holders		Amount Distributed (Rs.)
	Adivasi Schedul- ed Castes	Total		Adivasi Schedul- ed Castes	Total	
1962-63	550	114	664	98,485	-	-
1963-64	776	191	967	59,545	-	-
1964-65	675	188	863	98,787	10	1
1965-66	1,069	255	1,324	85,985	21	8
1966-67	1,530	260	1,790	1,08,043	49	14
1967-68	1,273	216	1,489	1,66,772	39	15
1968-69	1,241	288	1,529	1,43,176	61	24
1969-70	1,449	297	1,746	1,85,176	64	27
1970-71	1,346	354	1,700	1,85,589	63	23
1971-72	1,675	360	2,035	1,95,035	53	17
1972-73	1,635	400	2,035	2,14,831	80	28
1973-74	1,604	461	2,065	2,18,420	73	17
1974-75	1,685	443	2,128	2,01,896	118	45
1975-76	1,838	532	2,370	2,17,209	96	46

Table No. 19

Progress Of Hostels For Scheduled Caste And Scheduled Tribe Students

Year	No. of Hostels for all Scheduled Caste and Tribe Students		No. of Seats available	No. of Inmates		Amount Spent (Rs)
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	
1962-63	9	--	310	198	--	33,991
1963-64	17	--	330	244	--	57,532
1964-65	23	--	510	401	--	68,336
1965-66	23	--	510	477	--	1,03,575
1966-67	25	--	590	585	--	1,13,898
1967-68	27	--	790	612	--	1,12,792
1968-69	32	--	890	618	--	1,58,000
1969-70	32	--	890	660	--	2,26,940
1970-71	39	--	970	810	--	2,13,000
1971-72	46	--	1,140	810	--	2,26,940
1972-73	46	--	1,140	865	--	2,26,889
1973-74	48	4	1,340	824	80	2,08,456
1974-75	48	4	1,340	1,133	80	4,21,576
1975-76	48	4	1,340	1,161	80	5,03,882

Table No. 20
Progress Of Pre-Primary Schools
(1960-61 to 1974-75)

Years	No. Of Schools	No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers	Expenditure (Rs.)
		Boys	Girls		
1960-61	1	36	26	2	38,172
1965-66	1	72	52	1	5,859
1970-71	1	165	43	3	6,889
1971-72	1	169	56	3	7,225
1972-73	3	365	48	12	29,522
1973-74	3	376	225	11	30,700
1974-75	3	245	134	6	20,020

Table No. 21
Progress Of Compulsory Primary Education
(1955-56 to 1965-66)

Year	No. Of Schools	No. Of Students	No. Of Teachers	Expenditure (Rs.)
1955-56	76	2,416	82	29,397
1960-61	89	1,690	110	16,127
1965-66	3	29	4	5,697

Note:- The Compulsory Primary Schools were converted into Ordinary Schools with effect from 1966-67

Table No. 22
Progress Of Junior Basic Schools
(1955-56 to 1974-75)

Years	No. Of Schools	No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers		Expenditure (Rs.)
		Boys	Girls	Males	Females	
1955-56	20	1,542	533	69	3	82,757
1960-61	20	1,922	243	69	9	90,274
1965-66	19	1,747	110	38	-	86,864
1970-71	15	918	383	56	3	1,41,563
1971-72	15	967	397	58	3	1,51,876
1972-73	13	746	215	56	2	1,84,014
1973-74	13	798	221	60	-	1,90,259
1974-75	12	742	235	32	2	2,33,067

Table No. 23
Progress Of Senior Basic Schools
 (1955-56 to 1974-75)

Years	No. Of Schools	No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers	Expenditure (Rs.)
		Boys	Girls		
1955-56	1	113	2	8	13,672
1960-61	1	130	7	8	9,464
1965-66	3	537	2	13	44,144
1970-71	3	662	42	36	1,01,215
1971-72	3	686	71	33	1,21,146
1972-73	3	720	69	34	1,23,290
1973-74	3	515	7	37	1,30,710
1974-75	3	580	5	35	1,99,521

Table No. 24
Number Of Schools By Management (1955-56 to 1973-74)

Year	Government Schools												Private Schools	
	Pre-Primary				Primary				Middle				H.S./H.S.S.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1955-56	-	-	663	54	43	7	7	1	-	2	2	2	2	2
1960-61	1	-	778	60	45	7	19	2	-	2	2	2	2	9
1965-66	2	-	997	57	55	11	24	4	-	2	2	2	2	6
1966-67	3	-	998	63	107	23	28	4	1	4	5	5	11	11
1967-68	3	-	993	62	112	24	28	4	1	4	5	5	9	9
1968-69	2	-	996	62	113	25	29	4	-	6	5	5	10	10
1969-70	1	-	997	62	113	25	29	4	-	6	5	5	10	10
1970-71	1	-	1,013	62	115	25	29	4	-	8	7	7	6	6
1971-72	1	-	1,013	62	115	25	29	4	-	8	7	7	6	6
1972-73	3	-	1,111	72	164	27	31	5	-	9	7	7	8	8
1973-74	3	-	1,272	72	167	27	38	6	-	9	7	7	12	12

Table No. 25

Progress Of Nehru Degree College, Burhar

(1965-66 to 1974-75)

Year	Number Of Students					Number Of Teachers
	Arts	Commerce	Science	Law	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1965-66	54	-	-	-	54	7
1966-67	72	-	-	-	72	7
1967-68	84	-	-	-	84	8
1968-69	107	1	-	39	147	20
1969-70	108	19	-	33	160	16
1970-71	56	43	-	26	125	18
1971-72	51	63	27	48	189	20
1972-73	38	39	36	43	156	21
1973-74	56	26	50	45	177	25
1974-75	57	46	33	49	185	19

Year	Income (In Rs.)	Government Grant (Rs.)
1	8	9
1965-66	14,954	-
1966-67	44,721	5,718
1967-68	26,186	11,436
1968-69	55,007	22,724
1969-70	70,408	23,335
1970-71	88,656	54,271
1971-72	1,01,535	39,530
1972-73	1,21,8	82,723
1973-74	1,58,888	73,219
1974-75	1,68,751	61,165

Table No. 26

Progress Of Arts And Commerce College, Beohari

(1966-67 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Students	No. Of Teachers	Government Grant (In Rs.)	Expenditure (In Rs.)
1966-67	28	6	Nil	18,918
1967-68	49	6	12,000	46,532
1968-69	47	7	25,078	64,705
1969-70	47	7	33,097	77,199
1970-71	36	8	46,051	88,144
1971-72	42	6	29,821	51,697
1972-73	51	6	23,621	60,849
1973-74	51	6	30,605	48,508
1974-75	62	6	14,600	52,230

(1st Instalment)

Table No. 27

Progress Of Maharaja Martand Degree College, Kotma

(1969-70 to 1974-75)

Year	No. Of Students	No. Of Teachers	Grant-in-aid from State Government (In Rs.)	Grant-in-aid from U.G.C. (In Rs.)	Total Income (In Rs.)	Expenditure (In Rs.)
1969-70	73	10	-	-	55,541	54,348
1970-71	75	11	-	6,625	91,357	91,357
1971-72	75	10	-	2,750	87,848	77,746
1972-73	61	10	5,000	-	76,705	74,682
1973-74	47	11	42,994	-	1,06,434	90,526
1974-75	66	10	-	-	82,761	82,029

Table No. 28
Family Welfare Centres As On 31.3.1975 (Urban/Rural)

S. No.	Name of Family Planning Centres	Exact Location	Date Of Opening	Staff			Other Facilities		
				Doctors		Nurses	Dais	Others	
				Male	Female				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
URBAN :									
1.	Urban Family Planning Clinic, Shahdol	District Hospital Shahdol	-	1	1	Nil	Nil	H.A.-1 E.E.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.M.-1 Actt. } Part-time } Sweeper } Attendant-1	
2.	Urban Family Planning Centre, Umaria	Civil Hospital Umaria	-	1	1	Nil	Nil	E.E.-1 H.A.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.M.-1 Actt.-1 Sweeper-1 Attendant-1	

(Contd.)

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1.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
RURAL :									
3.	Beohari	P.H.C. Beohari	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-1 A.N.Ms-4 L.H.V.-1 Actt.-1	
4.	Manpur	P.H.C. Manpur	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-4 A.N.Ms-5 L.H.V.-1 Acctt.-1 V.Workers-8	
5.	Karkeli	P.H.C. Karkeli	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-3 A.N.M.-6 L.H.V.-1 Acctt.-1 V. Workers-9	

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	Jaisinghnagar	P.H.C. Jaisinghnagar	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-3 A.N.Ms-4 L.H.V.-1 Acctt.-1 V. Workers-7	
7.	Pali	P.H.C. Pali	1968	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-4 A.N.Ms-5 L.H.V.-1 Acctt.-1 V. Workers-8	
8.	Singhpur	P.H.C. Singhpur	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-4 A.N.Ms-6 L.H.V.-1 Acctt.-1 V. Workers-9	(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Burhar	P.H.C. Burhar	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-4 Acctt.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.Ms-4 V. Workers-7	
10.	Anuppur	P.H.C. Anuppur	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-3 Acctt.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.Ms-5 V. Workers-8	
11.	Kotma	P.H.C. Kotma	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-3 Acctt.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.Ms-4 V. Workers-7	(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Jaitahari	P.H.C. Jaitahari	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-3 Acctt.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.Ms-6 V. Workers-9	
13.	Pushparaigarh	P.H.C. Pushparaigarh	1969	1	-	Nil	Nil	B.E.E.-1 Computer-1 H.A.-4 Acctt.-1 L.H.V.-1 A.N.Ms-6 V. Workers-9	

Source:- District Family Planning-cum-Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 29
Primary Health Centres As On 31.3.1975

Sr. No.	Name Of P.H.C. and Exact Location	Date Of Opening	Name Of The Sub-Centres	A.M.O.	S T A F F				General Beds		
					Health Visitor	Sanitary Inspector	Midwives ANMS	Dai	Male	Female	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1.	Singhpur, Village Singhpur	1961-62	1. Chhatwai 2. Lapur 3. Bandha-wabara	Asstt. Surgeon-1 Asstt. Surgeon-1 Asstt. Surgeon-1	1 1 1	1 2 2	ANM-4 ANM-4 ANM-4	- - -	4 4 4	2 2 2	
2.	Burhar, Village Burhar	2.10.1961	1. Keshawahi 2. Khamnarisa 3. Channori	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2	
3.	Anuppur, Village Anuppur	26.1.1966	1. Malga 2. Khodri 3. Choripondli	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	1	ANM-4	-	4	2	
4.	Jaitahari, Village Jaitahari	1956	1. Velatnagar 2. Patna 3. Anuppur	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	1	ANM-4	-	4	2	
5.	Kotma, Village Kotma	1956	1. Bijuri 2. Kothi 3. Nigwani	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	1	ANM-4	-	4	2	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Pushparaigarh,	1956	1. Beniwar 2. Darnehri 3. Lerhara	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2
7.	Pali Village, Pali	1962	1. Kaura/Gohparu Asstt. 2. Badkora	Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2
8.	Karkeli, Village Makeli	Second Plan Period	1. Harrabah 2. Kauria	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2
9.	Manpur, Village Kanpur	1959	3. Mazmani Kala 1. Damoy 2. Bejauri 3. Balhaur	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2
10.	Beohari, Village Beohari	Feb. 1969	1. Baroundha 2. Khadda 3. Bholahra	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2
11.	Jaisinghnagar, Village Jaisinghnagar	IIIrd Plan	1. Deora 2. Sidhi 3. Kanol	Asstt. Surgeon-1	1	2	ANM-4	-	4	2

Source : District Family Planning-cum-Health Officer, Shahdol

APPENDIX - B

Table No. 1

List Of Trees, Shrubs, Undershrubs, Climbers, Grasses And Other Plants
(Botanical Types In Each Of The Categories)

List - A (Note : All names in Italics)

Standard Hindi Name	Botanical Name	Family
1	2	3
I - LARGE TREES		
Achar	<i>Buchananis lanzan</i> , Sprang.	Anacardiaceae
Arjun	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> , Bedd.	Combretaceae
Am	<i>Mangifera indica</i> , Linn.	Anacardiaceae
Aonla	<i>Embllea officinalis</i> , Gaertn.	Euphorbiaceae
Imli	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae - Caesalpineae
Kalla	<i>Dillenia pentagyna</i> , Roxb.	Dilleniaceae
Kasai	<i>Bridelia retusa</i> , Spreng.	Euphorbiaceae
Kari	<i>Miliusa tomentosa</i> J. Sinclair.	Anonaceae
Kala Siris	<i>Albizzia - lebbak</i> , Benth.	Leguminosae - Mimoseae
Kumbi	<i>Careya arborea</i> , Roxb.	Myrtaceae
Kulu	<i>Sterculia urens</i> , Roxb.	Sterculiaceae
Kusum	<i>Schleichara oleosa</i> , Oken.	Sapindaceae
Kekad or Ghoghar	<i>Garuga pinnata</i> , Roxb.	Burseraceae
Kalam	<i>Mitragyna parvifolia</i> , Korth	Rubiaceae
Khair	<i>Acacia catachu</i> , Willd.	Leguminosae- Mimoseae
Siwan	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> , Roxb.	Verbenaceae
Umar	<i>Ficus glomerata</i> , Roxb. or, <i>F. racemosa</i> .	Moraceae
Chichwa	<i>Albizzia odoratissima</i> , Benth.	Mimoseae
Chitrol	<i>Holoptelia integrifolia</i> , Planch.	Ulmaceae
Jamun (bari)	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> , Skeels.	Myrtaceae
Jalmangal	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> , Vent.	Bignoniaceae
Tendu	<i>Diospyros malanoxylon</i> , Roxb.	Ebenaceae
Dahiwas	<i>Cordia macleodii</i> , H.F. & Th.	Boraginaceae

(Contd.)

1	2	3
Dhaman	<i>Grewia tiliaefolia</i> , Vahl.	Tilizceae
Dhaora	<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> , Wall.	Combretaceae
Dhobin	<i>Dalbergia Paniculata</i> , Roxb.	Leguminosae- Papilionaceae
Palas	<i>Butea monosperma</i> Taub.	Leguminosae Papilionaceae
Pakar	<i>Ficus lacor</i> , Buch. Ham.	Moraceae
Padar	<i>Stereospermum suaveolens</i> , D.C.	Bignoniaceae
Panjra	<i>Erythrina suberosa</i> , Roxb.	Leguminosae- Papilionaceae
Baranga	<i>Kydia calcina</i> , Roxb.	Malvaceae
Bar	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i> , Linn.	Moraceae
Bahera	<i>Terminalia bellerica</i> , Roxb.	Combretaceae Leguminosae
Bijasai	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> , Roxb.	Papilionaceae
Bel	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> , Correa.	Rutaceae
Bhira	<i>Chloroxylon swietenia</i> , D.C.	Meliaceae
Bhonmal	<i>Hymenodictyon excelsum</i> , Wall.	Rubiaceae
Mahua	<i>Madhuca indica</i> , Cmel.	Sapotaceae
Mokha	<i>Schrebera swietenoides</i> , Roxb.	Oleaceae
Hiwar	<i>Acacia leucophloea</i> , Willd.	Leguminosae- Mimoseae
Rohan	<i>Soymida febrifuga</i> , A.Juss.	Meliaceae
Lasora	<i>Cordia dichotoma</i> , Frost. F.	Boraginaceae
Shisham	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> , Roxb.	Leguminosae- Papilionaceae
Safed Siris	<i>Albizia procera</i> , Benth.	Leguminosae- Mimoseae
Sagwan	<i>Tectona grandis</i> , Linn. f.	Verbenaceae
Saj	<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> , Wetern.	Combretaceae
Sal	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , Gaertn.	Dipterocarpaceae
Salai	<i>Boswellia serrata</i> , Roxb.	Burseraceae
Lendia	<i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> , Roxb.	Lythraceae
Semal	<i>Salmalia malabarica</i> , Schot & Endl.	Malvaceae

(Contd.)

1	2	3
Son pakar	<i>Ficus tomentosa</i> , Roxb.	Moraceae
Harra	<i>Terminilia chebula</i> , Retz.	Combretaceae
Haldu	<i>Adina cordifolia</i> , Hook.F.	Rubiaceae
II - SMALL TREES		
Amaltas	<i>Cassia fistula</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
Amta	<i>Bauhinia malabarica</i> , Roxb.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
Apta	<i>Bauhinia recemosa</i> , Lamk.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
Kachnar	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
Kala phetra	<i>Randia uliginosa</i> , D.C.	Rubiaceae
Keolari	<i>Bauhinia Purpurea</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
Gongal	<i>Cochlospermum religiosum</i> , Alston.	Bixaceae
Gilchi	<i>Casearia graveolens</i> , Dalz.	Samydaceae
Ghont	<i>Zizyphus xyiopyra</i> , Willd.	Rhamnaceae
Jamrasi	<i>Elaeodendron glaucum</i> , Pers.	Celastraceae
Tilwan	<i>Wendlandia exserta</i> , D.C.	Rubiaceae
Thuar	<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i> , Linn.	Euphorbiaceae
Papra	<i>Gardenia latifolia</i> , Ait.	Rubiaceae
Safed phetra	<i>Gardenia turgida</i> , Roxb.	Rubiaceae
Ber	<i>Zizyphus Mauratiana</i> , Lamk.	Rhamnaceae
Bhillma	<i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> , Linn.	Anacardiaceae
Kharasni	<i>Streblus asper</i> , Lour.	Moraceae
Mainphal	<i>Randia dumetorum</i> , Lamk.	Rubiaceae
Roli	<i>Mallotus philippensis</i> , Muell.	Euphorbiaceae
Thuar	<i>Bauhinia retusa</i> , Ham.	Leguminosae Caesalpineae
III - SHRUBS AND UNDERSHRUBS		
Akal	<i>Alangium salvifolium</i> , Wang.	Cornaceae
Adusa	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> , Nees.	Acanthaceae
Chirchira	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> , Linn.	Amaranthaceae

(Contd.)

1	2	3
Kereta	<i>Sida acuta</i> , Burm. f.	Malvaceae
Bhandar	<i>Colabrookia opositifolia</i> , Smith.	Labiatae
Kuda or Indrajaya	<i>Holarrhena antidysenterica</i> , Wall.	Apocynaceae
Khatua	<i>Antidesma diandrum</i> , Roth.	Euphorbiaceae
Gursukri	<i>Grewia hirsuta</i> , Vahl.	Tiliaceae
Gokhru	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> , Roxb.	Compositae
Chipti	<i>Moghania strobilifera</i> , R.Br.	Leguminosae- Papilionaceae
Chireta	<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> , Nees.	Acanthaceae
Safed ironi	<i>Zizyphus rogersii</i> , Lamk.	Rhamnaceae
Bhu-kumhi	<i>Careya</i> Berberaceae, Roxb.	Myrtaceae
Tarwad	<i>Cassia auriculata</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae- Caesalpinieae
Jilbili or dhawai	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> , Kurz.	Lythraceae
Nirgundi	<i>Vitex negundo</i> , Linn.	Verbenaceae Leguminosae
Tarota	<i>Cassia tora</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae- Caesalpinieae
Baibirang	<i>Embelia tejeriam-cottam</i> , A.DC.	Myrsinaceae
Bothi	<i>Eriolaena hookariana</i> , W. & A.	Sterculiaceae
Murorphali	<i>Helicteres isora</i> , Linn.	Sterculiaceae
Raimunia	<i>Lantana camara</i> , Linn.	Verbenaceae
Sitaphal	<i>Annona squamosa</i> , Linn.	Anonaceae
Harsingar	<i>Nyctanthes arbortristis</i> , Linn.	Oleaceae
Halduli	<i>Waltheria indica</i> , Linn.	Sterculiaceae
IV - CLIMBERS		
Kewanch	<i>Mucuna pruriens</i> , Hook.	Leguminosae- Papilionaceae
Keoti	<i>Ventilago calyculata</i> , Tul.	Rhamnaceae
Gunja	<i>Arbus pracatorius</i> , Linn.	Leguminosae Papilionaceae
Gurar	<i>Acacia caesia</i> , Wet A.	Leguminosae- mimoseae

(Contd.)

1	2	3
Ganj	<i>Milletia auriculata</i> , Baker	Leguminosae Papilionaceae
Dhimarbel	<i>Ichnocarpus frutescens</i> , Br.	Apocynaceae
Tupbel	<i>Derris scandens</i> , Benth.	Leguminosae
Nagbel	<i>Cryptolepis buehneri</i> , R. & S.	Asclepiadaceae
Palasbel	<i>Butea superba</i> , Roxb.	Leguminosae Papilionaceae
Baichandi	<i>Dioscora daemona</i> , Roxb.	Dioscoreaceae
Makar	<i>Zizyphus oenoplia</i> , Mill	Rhamnaceae
Malkangani	<i>Celastrus paniculata</i> , Willd.	Celastraceae
Mahul	<i>Bauhinia vahlii</i> , W. & A.	Leguminosae Papilionaceae
Chilati	<i>Acacia pennata</i> , Willd.	Leguminosae Mimoseae
V - GRASSES		
Munja	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i> , Linn.	Gramineae
Kush	<i>Desmostachya bipinnata</i> , Stapf.	-do-
Kusul	<i>Heteropogon contortus</i> , Beauv.	-do-
Chhir	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> , Beauv.	-do-
Doob	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> , pers.	-do-
Nal	<i>Phragmites karka</i> , Trin. ex Steud.	-do-
Phulbahar	<i>Thysanolaena maxima</i> , O.Ktzi.	-do-
Bhurbhusi	<i>Eragrostis tenella</i> , Beauv. ex Rcem. & Schult.	-do-
Marwel	<i>Dichanthium annulatum</i> , Stapf.	-do-
Rusa	<i>Cymbopogon martinii</i> , Wats.	-do-
Sabal	<i>Eulaliopsis binata</i> , C.E. Hubb.	-do-
Sama	<i>Echinochloa colonum</i> , Link	-do-
VI - OTHER PLANTS		
Amarbel	<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> , Roxb.	Convolvulaceae
Bhui Chhind	<i>Phoenix acaulis</i> , Buch.	Palmae
Bandha	<i>Dendrophthoe falcata</i> , Elting.	Loranthaceae
Bans	<i>Dendrocalamus strictus</i> , Nees	Gramineae

Table No. 2

List Of Irrigation Projects

(Maintained By Irrigation Department)

Name Of Work	Location	Year Of Start Of Work	Year Of Completion Of Work	Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Designed Area (In Acres)
1	2	3	4	5	6
PRE PLAN SCHEMES					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium	Nil				
(c) Minor	Nil				
1st PLAN WORKS					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium	Nil				
(c) Minor	Nil				
Singhpur Weir	Sohagpur	11/55	3/71	12.80	1,600
IInd PLAN WORKS					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium	Nil				
(c) Minor					
Majgawan Nala Div.	Sohagpur	3/63	3/64	1.45	166
IIIrd PLAN AND LATER (upto 1975) WORKS					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium	Nil				
(c) Minor					
Majgawan Nala Div.	Sohagpur	3/63	3/64	0.31	150
Bargawan Nala Div.	Sohagpur	10/63	6/71	1.30	200
Katna Nala Div.	Sohagpur	10/63	6/71	1.17	300
Deodaha Nala Div.	Sohagpur	10/63	6/68	1.21	200
Chandas Nala Div.	Sohagpur	6/63	3/69	0.72	300
Nargara Nala Div.	Sohagpur	5/63	3/70	1.60	200
Beria Nala Div.	Pushparajgarh	5/64	6/67	0.65	100
Batki Nala Div.	Pushparajgarh	5/63	3/70	0.60	200
Amha Nala Div.	Pushparajgarh	6/63	8/69	0.60	200

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
COLLECTOR SECTOR WORKS					
Ramsagar Tank	Sohagpur	12/60	3/64	0.25	200
Nakti Tank	Sohagpur	10/61	3/64	0.16	120
SCARCITY WORKS					
Karkati Tank	Sohagpur	12/66	3/70	1.10	250
IVth PLAN WORKS					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium					
Johilla Reservoir	Pushparajgarh	1/75	3/79	117.06	5,750
(c) Minor					
Later Tank	Sohagpur	1/74	3/76	19.08	1,300
Pakaria Kachhar Tank	Sohagpur	1/74	3/76	2.93	200
Kewai Lift Irrig.	Sohagpur	1/74	3/76	1.78	300
Murna Lift Irrig.	Sohagpur	1/74	3/75	0.83	200
Vth PLAN WORKS					
(a) Major	Nil				
(b) Medium	Nil				
(c) Minor (Scarcity Works)					
Imp. of Singhpur Weir.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/75	0.37	433
Imp. of Majgawan Div.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/75	0.15	60
Imp. of Karkati Tank	Sohagpur	12/74	3/75	0.076	60
Imp. of Chandania Tank	Sohagpur	12/74	3/75	0.50	223
Imp. of Ramsagar Tank	Sohagpur	1/75	3/75	0.054	50
Imp. of Vatki Tank	Pushparajgarh	12/74	3/75	0.095	50
Sakola Colliery Drg.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	0.208	100
Jamuna Colliery Drg.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	0.243	200
Bhadra Colliery Drg.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	0.208	105
Kotma Colliery Drg.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	0.319	200
Kotma Colliery No.4	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	0.133	100
Jalditola Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	3/76	0.42	15
Kirgi Lift Irrig.	Pushparajgarh	12/74	3/76	1.451	200
Koni Lift Irrig.	Sohagpur	12/74	3/76	1.08	280
Gahira Lift Irrig.	Sohagpur	12/74	6/76	1.271	175

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jhiria Lift Irrig.	Sohagpur	10/75	6/76	1.771	200
Jodhpur Tank	Sohagpur	5/75	6/77	7.34	370
Sagra Tank	Sohagpur	12/75	6/76	1.992	410
Chhatwai Tank	Sohagpur	1/75	6/76	2.478	126
Pongri Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	6/77	8.90	450
Buchki Tank	Sohagpur	1/75	3/77	9.84	550
Karkat Tank	Sohagpur	1/75	3/77	6.08	340
Duladar Tank	Sohagpur	6/75	3/77	4.26	220
Harridih Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	6/77	3.34	156
Harribarri Lift Irri.	Sohagpur	2/75	6/77	11.51	1,000
Bateera Lift Irri.	Sohagpur	2/75	6/77	7.15	600
Kunuk Nala Div.	Sohagpur	3/75	6/77	9.03	1,100
Deori Tank	Sohagpur	4/75	6/76	0.50	42
Soonl Tank	Sohagpur	4/75	6/76	0.33	50
Kothi Tank	Sohagpur	6/75	3/76	1.991	105
Bannauda Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	6/76	7.06	300
Imarhi Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	6/76	14.34	1,000
Barbaspur Tank	Sohagpur	2/75	6/76	14.54	800
Bhautra Tank	Sohagpur	4/75	6/76	7.165	370

Table No. 3

List Of Veterinary Institutions In The District (upto 1975)

I. VETERINARY HOSPITALS	
1. Shahdol	8. Manpur
2. Beohari	9. Jaisinghnagar
3. Umaria	10. Burhar
4. Pushparajgarh	11. Anuppur
5. Pondi	12. Jaitthari
6. Pinoura	13. Kotma
7. Kerkoli	14. Pali.
II. VETERINARY DISPENSARIES	
1. Reosa Pondi	4. Khodda
2. Thengharaha	5. Madai
3. Bansukli	6. Barondha

(Contd.)

7. Budwaa	25. Bartar
8. Chachai	26. Amalai
9. Padkhuri	27. Bamhani
10. Amarpur	28. Patna
11. Chansura	29. Cholna
12. Chandia	30. Venkatnagar
13. Harrawah	31. Bijuri
14. Majmanikala	32. Kothi
15. Kanchanpur	33. Amarkantak
16. Karua	34. Karpa
17. Chuhari	35. Benibari
18. Ghunghuti	36. Karandi
19. Chonri	37. Tarera
20. Channodi	38. Singhpur
21. Jaitpur	39. Khairaha
22. Khannodhi	40. Beldongri
23. Jhink Bijusi	41. Chauripondi
24. Khanda Rampur	
III. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION CENTRE AT SHAHDOL WITH 10 KEY VILLAGE UNITS	
IV. DISTRICT MOBILE UNIT.	
V. REGIONAL POULTRY FARM	

Table No. 4

Particulars Of Amarkantak Power Station

(As In January, 1975)

1. Turbo Alternator Sets	- Two sets of 30,000 Kw each
2. Boilers	- Four Boilers of radiant type
3. Coal Handling Plant	- Equipped with rotary type wagon tripler, duplicate coal crushers, conveyor belts, etc. The Plant has a capacity of 200 ton per hour
4. Water Treatment Plant	- This complex consists of Pump House on the river Son and settling tanks, filtration and coloration plant, etc.

(Contd.)

5. Transformers - 33 MVA T.X. 11 KV/132 KV 2
12.5 MVA T.X. 132 KV/33 KV 2
6 MVA T.X. 33 KV/3.3 KV 1
4 MVA T.X. 11 KV/3.3 KV 2
6 MVA T.X., 33KV.
6. Length Of Transmission Lines : 1974-75 - 33KV - Gen LIS - 621.0 KM 11
KV - R.E.C. - 60.0 KM Scheme
LT- Gen. LIS - 393.0 KM LT -
REC Scheme - 18.7 KM 11
KV- LIS - 207.0 KM
7. Sub-Centres - Twelve Sub-Centres at :
- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Shahdol | 7. Chachai |
| 2. Umaria | 8. Kotma |
| 3. Chandia | 9. Burhar |
| 4. Beohari | 10. Dhanpuri |
| 5. Pali | 11. Amarkantak
Birsinghpur |
| 6. Anuppur | 12. Jaithari |
8. Segregation Of Demand 1974-75
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. No. Of Consumers | 9,877 |
| 2. Units Generated | 32,02,08,000
kwh |

Table No. 5

List Of Small Scale Industries - Product And Employment, 1974-75

Sl. No.	Name Of The Industry	Product	Employment Average Daily
1	2	3	4
1. M/s.	Oriental Metal Industries, Burhar Road, Shahdol	Coal Tub, Box, Trolley, Almirah	10
2. M/s	Ajanta Industries, Ganj Road, Shahdol	Tarpaulin	20
3. M/s	Vindhya Metal Industries, Panchayati Mandir Road, Shahdol	Brass Utensils	4
4. M/s	Rama Candle Industries, Shahdol	Wax Candles	5
5. M/s	Ganesh Bakery, Shahdol	Bread and Biscuit	3

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
6. M/s	Atha Chemicals, Shahdol	Detergent Soap Powder	7
7. M/s	Bharat Bakery, near Kiran Talkies, Shahdol	Bread and Biscuit	2
8. M/s	U.P. Bakery, Shahdol	Bread and Biscuit	2
9. M/s	Labour Industries, near Shankar Talkies, Shahdol	Iron Steel Structural Works	4
10. M/s.	Bharat Trunk Factory, Station Road, Shahdol	Steel Boxes	2
11. M/s.	Tripathi Paper Mart, Ganj Road, Shahdol	Exercise Copy Books & Register	
12. M/s	Bharati Press, Main Road, Shahdol	Printing	8
13. M/s	Sharada Press, Station Road, Shahdol	Printing	4
14. M/s	Janbodh Press, Shahdol	Printing	12
15. M/s	Samaya Press, Shahdol	Printing	16
16. M/s	Santosh Shoe Makers, Burhar Road, Shahdol	Shoes & Chappa	2
17. M/s.	Azad Welding Works, Umaria	Steel Boxes	2
18. M/s	M.P. Mining & Ceramic Industry, Chandia, District Shahdol	Pottery Goods, Barni, Jars,	60
19. M/s.	Yakub Leather Goods Manufacturing, Lapri		29
20. M/s.	Kisan Cooperative Rice Mill, Burhar	Rice	29
21. M/s.	Narmada Agency Burhar	Cane Basket	6
22. M/s.	Arunodaya Industries Shahdol	Candles, ink, oil, etc.	14
23. M/s.	Khandelwal Enterprises Nowrozabad, Shahdol	Detergent Powder	3

(Contd.)

Table No. 6
List Of Registered Trade Unions
 (As In January, 1975)

Sl. No.	Name Of The Union	Year Of Registration	Industry
1	2	3	4
1.	Colliery Labour Union, Nowrozabad, Shahdol	1953	Coal Mining
2.	Colliery Labour Union Dhanpuri, District Shahdol	1953	-do-
3.	Colliery Mazdur Sabha, Birsinghpur Pali, Shahdol	1954	-do-
4.	Johilla Colliery Mazdur Sangh, Birsinghpur Pali	1955	Industry Works
5.	Colliery Mazdur Sabha, Kotma, Shahdol	1959	A.C.C. Colliery
6.	Rungta Colliery Mazdur Sabha Burhar, Shahdol	1959	Coal Industry
7.	Colliery Mazdur Union Jamuna, Bhadrawali Colliery, Kotma, Shahdol	1964	Coal Industry
8.	Paper Mill Mazdur Sangh, Kotma, Shahdol	1967	-do-
9.	Colliery Mazdur Sabha, Birsinghpur Pali, Shahdol	1967	-do-
10.	Jamuna Colliery Mazdur Sangh, Kotma, Shahdol	1967	-do-
11.	Castic Soda Factory Kamgar Samiti, Amlai	1968	Amlai Castic Soda Industry
12.	Orient Paper Mills Labour Union, Amlai, Shahdol	1968	Paper Industry
13.	Colliery Kamgar Sangh, Kotma, Shahdol	1969	Coal Industry
14.	M.P. Vidyut Mandal Mazdur Congress, Chachai, Shahdol	1969	Electric Production
15.	Jamuna Colliery Kamgar Sangh, Jamuna, Sohagpur, Shahdol	1971	Coal Industry

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
16.	Vindhya Colliery Mazdur Sangh, Bhadra Colliery, Kotma, Shahdol	1971	Coal Industry
17.	Bhadra Colliery Kamgar Sangh, Bhadra Colliery, Kotma, Shahdol	1972	Coal Industry
18.	Paper Mill Karmachari Sangh, Amlai, Shahdol	1972	Paper Industry
19.	Coal Mines Technical Sangh, Sohagpur, Dhanpuri	1973	Coal Industry
20.	Hindola Karmchhari Sangh, Amarkantak, Amlai, Shahdol	1973	Aluminium
21.	Motor Mazdur Union, Shahdol	1973	Motor Transport
22.	Rajnagar Colliery Mazdur Sabha, Rajnagar Colliery, Shahdol	1973	Coal Industry
23.	Shramik Krishak Sangh, Umaria, Shahdol	1973	-do-
24.	Lok Nirman Mazdoor Sangh, Shahdol	1974	Public Works
25.	Coal Mines Lipik Sangh, Dhanpuri, Shahdol	1974	Coal Industry
26.	Mining and Ceramic Mazdur Sangh, Chandia, Shahdol	1974	Mining and Ceramics
27.	Pottery and Fire-Clay Union, Chandia, Shahdol	1974	Pottery and Fire Clay
28.	Bauxite Kamgar Sangh, Amarkantak, Shahdol	1974	Bauxite Mining Industry
29.	Adivasi Kisan Mazdur Sangh Nowrozabad, Shahdol	1974	Agriculture Industry
30.	Koyla Mazdur Sabha, Dhanpuri, Shahdol	1974	Coal Industry
31.	Chuna Pathar Khadan Mazdur Sangh, Devgaya, Shahdol	1975	Chuna Pathar Industry

Table No. 7

List Of Coins Prevalent In The Former Rewah State¹
(Before 1868)

Name Of The Coins	Weight In Mashas	Average Exchange Value In British Coins
<i>Gold Coins :</i>		
1. Akbari Muhar	11 mashas	Formerly 24 rupees (Kaldar) now 30 rupees (Kaldar)
2. Shah Jahani	11 mashas	-do-
<i>Silver Coins :</i>		
1. Banarsi Sikka or Kashi Sikka (Machhalidar)	11 mashas 5 rattis	9/8 of a (Kaldar) rupee before 1863
2. Satrah San	-do-	-
3. Solah San	12 mashas	-
4. Purh	11 mashas	15/16 of a Kaldar
5. Farrukhabadi or Gararidar	12 mashas	-do-
6. Nagpuri	10 Mashas 7 rattis	13/16 of a Kaldar
7. Waziri	10 mashas 9 rattis	14 ¹ / ₂ /16 of a Kaldar
8. Srinagari	10 mashas 9 rattis	Less in value than a Nagpur rupee
9. Pathan Shahi	11-1/2 mashas	10/16 of a Kaldar
10. Gwaldasi	-	-
11. Gauhar Shahi	11 mashas	9/16 of a Kaldar
12. Farrukhabadi Round (Plain)	12 mashas	-
13. Top Shahi	10 mashas	-
14. Shah Jahani	11 mashas 1/2 rattis	-
15. Muhammad Shahi	10 mashas 7 rattis	-
16. Akbari	11 mashas	12/16 of a Kaldar
<i>Copper Coins :</i>		
1. Madhu Shahi	15 mashas	3/4 of the British palsa
2. Bala Shahi	-do-	-do-
3. Ekaidar	-do-	-do-
4. Baggha Shahi	-do-	14 gands or 56 palsas for a Kaldar

1. Rewah State Gazetteer, 1907, pp. 60-61.

Table No. 8

List Of Post Offices In Shahdol District
(As on 1-4-1980)

SHAH DOL H.O.

(1) AMLAI COLLIERY

1. Batura
2. Patnakalan
3. Kelhauri

(2) AMLAI PAPER MILLS

1. Bargama

(3) AMARKANTAK

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Bhejeri | 4. Khati |
| 2. Johila Project | 5. Khurkhuri Dader |
| 3. Karaundi | 6. Umenia |

(4) ANUPPUR

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Anuppur Bastri | 12. Khamhidol |
| 2. Balbahra | 13. Khoh |
| 3. Bahagarh | 14. Latar |
| 4. Bamani | 15. Malga |
| 5. Barbaspur | 16. Mauhari |
| 6. Channaudi | 17. Mediyaras |
| 7. Chhilpa | 18. Pasla |
| 8. Dhangama | 19. Piparia |
| 9. Dhanwasin | 20. Rampur |
| 10. Jamudi | 21. Sametpur |
| 11. Keshwahi | |

(5) BANSAGAR

1. Chachai
2. Madal

(6) BEOHARI

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Akhetpur | 8. Dhonda |
| 2. Barachh | 9. Khadda |
| 3. Baraundha | 10. Kharpa |
| 4. Bashi | 11. Kuwari |
| 5. Chauri | 12. Mou |
| 6. Chauri | 13. Naudhiya |
| 7. Dhari No.2 | 14. Papeurdh |

(Contd.)

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 15. Papderi | 19. Sapta |
| 16. Pathrohi | 20. Sarsi |
| 17. Pondi Rossa | 21. Tikheue |
| 18. Saman | |
- (7) BIJURI
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Baharabandh | 8. Kothi |
| 2. Baihatola | 9. Malga |
| 3. Bangawan | 10. Rajnagar Colliery |
| 4. Bijuri Colliery | 11. Ramnagar Colliery |
| 5. Dala | 12. Thangaman |
| 6. Jheemar Colliery | 13. Semara |
| 7. Katkona | |
- (8) BIRSINGHPUR PALI
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bandhwabada | 6. Raipur |
| 2. Bhuibandh | 7. Sendur |
| 3. Ghunghunti | 8. Shahpur |
| 4. Pachgaon | 9. Sunder Dadar |
| 5. Pongari | |
- (9) BURHAR
- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| 1. Amraha | 8. Kathautiya |
| 2. Bartara | 9. Khairha |
| 3. Birhuli | 10. Kudri |
| 4. Bodri | 11. Padmaniya Khurd |
| 5. Deori | 12. Samantpur |
| 6. Dhurwar | 13. Sarai Kapa |
| 7. Jodhpur | 14. Rungta Colliery |
- (10) CHACHAI
- (11) CHANDIA
- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Akhrar | 6. Kaudia |
| 2. Baroda | 7. Lorha |
| 3. Banka | 8. Narwar |
| 4. Bilaspur | 9. Dbara |
| 5. Harrawah | 10. Pathrehasta |
- (12) BHANPURI
- (13) DHANPURI COLLIERY

(Contd.)

(14) GOHPARU

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Amliha | 16. Kolhuwa |
| 2. Aswari | 17. Kudeli |
| 3. Bakeli | 18. Laundi |
| 4. Barali | 19. Lapda |
| 5. Barkoda | 20. Malmathar |
| 6. Chandela | 21. Nawgaon |
| 7. Chauri | 22. Palsau |
| 8. Chhatwari | 23. Pailwah |
| 9. Chuhiri | 24. Patasi |
| 10. Deogaon | 25. Rasmohini |
| 11. Diyapiper | 26. Sakhi |
| 12. Jaitpur | 27. Salaiya |
| 13. Karkat | 28. Tikuri |
| 14. Khannaudhi | 29. Unchehra |
| 15. Khairhani | |

(15) JAISINGHNAGAR

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Amdih | 8. Karki |
| 2. Amjhore | 9. Khend |
| 3. Banskli | 10. Kubra |
| 4. Chitraon | 11. Bithi |
| 5. Darati | 12. Sichi |
| 6. Deora | 13. Themgraha |
| 7. Giruibadi | |

(16) JAITHARI

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Amgwan | 4. Gorsl |
| 2. Dhangaon | 5. Laharpur |
| 3. Gaurella | |

(17) JAMUNA COLLIERY

(18) KARPELI

(19) KOTMA

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Badra Colliery | 5. Dhodaha |
| 2. Baianadi | 6. Harad |
| 3. Baltikuri | 7. Jamgeon |
| 4. Deogawan | 8. Jhik Bijuri |

(Contd.)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 9. Khartola | 14. Phunga |
| 10. Lamatola | 15. Reuse |
| 11. Nigwani | 16. Tenghs |
| 12. Paosn | 17. Urhen |
| 13. Payari | |
- (20) KOTMA COLLIERY
1. Bhad
- (21) LALPUR
- (22) MANPUR
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. Balhaom | 4. Kathar |
| 2. Bijauri | 5. Nawgawan |
| 3. Gobamda | 6. Semars |
- (23) NOWROZABAD
- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Bandhwatola | 7. Nowrozabad R.S. |
| 2. Baskuta | 8. Parsal |
| 3. Gopalpur | 9. Pathari |
| 4. Jarhe | 10. Pinsura |
| 5. Kanchanpur | 11. Rsnhata |
| 6. Kudri | |
- (24) RAJENDRAGRAM
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Achalpur | 12. Jaina |
| 2. Amdari | 13. Jeslang |
| 3. Amgawan | 14. Kachhatola |
| 5. Baldangri | 15. Karanpatnar |
| 6. Banibari | 16. Karpa |
| 7. Damehri | 17. Khamody |
| 8. Budhmaniya | |
| 9. Dhimutola | |
| 10. Gnoutri | |
| 11. Girari | |
- (25) SHAHDOL BUS STAND
1. Soneapur
- (26) SHAHDOL GANESH GAN
- (27) SHAHDOL PURANI BASII
- (28) SHAHDOL R.S.

(29) SINGHPUR

(30) TALA

(31) UMARIA

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Baderi | 11. Kothari |
| 2. Barahhad | 12. Majwani Kalan |
| 3. Snarewa | 13. Nahnoi |
| 4. Chilhari | |
| 5. Chansura | |
| 6. Dhanwar | |
| 7. Indwar | |
| 8. Dohi | |
| 9. Kachharwar | |
| 10. Khalnach | |

(32) VENKATNAGAR

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| 1. Barbaspur | 4. Lapta |
| 2. Beed | 5. Pordi |
| 3. Chollna | |

Table No. 9

List Of Places Of Interest With Population Figures

S.No.	Name Of The Place	Population (1981)	Population (1991)
1.	Amarkantak	4,465	-
2.	Amarpur	9,196	-
3.	Anuppur	9,728	12,471
4.	Bandhogarh	-	-
5.	Barounda	1,796	-
6.	Burhar	12,401	16,525
7.	Chandia Khas	9,140	11,990
8.	Lakhbariya	-	-
9.	Pali Birsinghpur	14,335	19,670
10.	Shahdol	44,342	60,572
11.	Singhpur	3,122	-
12.	Umaria	15,667	20,239

Source: Census Report, 1981 and 1991 (Provisional)

Table No. 10

List Of Freedom Fighters

1. Late Shambhunath Shukla, Shahdol
2. Late Lal Rajendra Singh, Sohagpur
3. Late Roop Chandra Jain, Shahdol
4. Late Chhotelal, Village Tiguri, Tahsil Umaria, Shahdol
5. Shri Dharam Chandra Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
6. Shri Shiv Prasad Gupta, Buddhar, Shahdol
7. Shri Shiv Prasad Singh, Buddhaar, Shahdol
8. Shri Ram Khilavan Mishra, Jamuri, Shahdol
9. Late Madhav Chand Birduli, Shahdol
10. Shri Krishnapal Singh, Birduli, Shahdol
11. Shri Ram Sunder Goutam, Buddhar, Shahdol
12. Shri Saraswati Prasad Patel, Buddhar, Shahdol
13. Late Jageshwar Prasad Devhar, Shahdol
14. Shri Danbahadur Singh, Khairaha, Shahdol
15. Late Madhava Prasad, Birhuli, Shahdol
16. Late Sumat Chandra Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
17. Shri Devidin Napit, Vaketi, Shahdol
18. Late Sitaram Nai, Nadpur, Shahdol
19. Late Ravi Shankar Gupta, Purani Basti, Shahdol
20. Shri Sonkatha Prasad, Buddhar, Shahdol
21. Shri Rammilan Patkar, Nipania, Norajabad, Shahdol
22. Late Bhagirath Singh, Birsinghpur, Shahdol
23. Shri Rambalak Dwivedi, Amarkantak, Shahdol
24. Shri Nasir Ali S/o Zahir Ali, Sohagpur, Shahdol
25. Late Mulayam Chandra Jain, Shahdol
26. Shri Chandrakant Shukla, Shahdol
27. Late Sadhooram Brahman, Purani Basti, Buddhar
28. Late Rammanohar Brahman, Purani Basti, Buddhar
29. Shri Amar Sagar Chandra Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
30. Late Nanak Chandra Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
31. Late Ratan Chandra Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
32. Late Kunjal Singh, Patna, Shahdol

(Contd.)

-
33. Shri Pannalal Jain, Buddhar, Shahdol
 34. Late Tarkeshwar Prasad, Balabhara, Shahdol
 35. Late Kunjbiharilal Agrawal, Buddhar, Shahdol
 36. Late Adhar Singh, Patna, Shahdol
 37. Late Ram Shobhit Tiwari, Devhara, Shahdol
 38. Late Atmaram, Taraikapa, Buddhar, Shahdol
 39. Late Nagarmal, Buddhar, Shahdol
 40. Late Mahadev Dwivedi, Shahdol
 41. Late Nervada Prasad Patel, Buddhar, Shahdol
 42. Shri Hiralal Jain, Kotma, Shahdol
 43. Shri Gyan Datt Pathak, Sohagpur, Shahdol
 44. Late Shital Prasad, Bari Mohalla, Shahdol
 45. Shri Umadatram, Anuppur, Shahdol
 46. Late Mustafa Khan, Kotma, Shahdol
 47. Late Baboolal Jain, Shahdol
 48. Late Bhagwandas S/o Haridin Gupta, Village Taleeya, Tahsil Katni,
District Jabalpur
 49. Late Mangal Prasad Soni, Purani Basti, Shahdol
 50. Shri Happalal Namdev, Shahdol
 51. Shri Prahlad S/o Bhagwandas, Purani Basti, Shahdol
 52. Late Shyamsundar Namdev, Shahdol
 53. Shri Purushottam Prasad S/o Rameshwar Prasad Mishra, Shahdol
 54. Late Naraya Prasad Tiwari, Anuppur, Shahdol
 55. Shri Ram Pattan Singh, Rajnagar, Kalri, Shahdol
 56. Late Balbhadra Charaya, Laxmanbug, Rewa
 57. Shri Padam Chandra Garg S/o Gulab Chandra, Shahdol
 58. Shri Deendayal Gupta S/o Banarsidas Gupta, Budhar Road, Shahdol
 59. Mohammad Ibrar Ahmad S/o Sarif Ahmad, Purani Basti, Ward No. 20,
Shahdol
 60. Shri Asarfi Lal Verma S/o Shri Lal Verma, Matni Tola, Shahdol
 61. Shri Man Chandra Soni, S/o Balorslal Soni, Birsinghpur Pall
-

APPENDIX-C

Table No. 1
Administrative Divisions

Sub-Divisions	Tahsils	Area in sq.km.	Number Of Inhabited Villages	Number Of Towns
1. Sohagpur	Sohagpur	3,856	574	4
2. Beohari	Beohari	1,095	159	2
	Jaisingh Nagar	1,532	192	1
3. Bandhovagarh	Bandhvagarh	3,629	483	3
4. Anuppur	Anuppur	1,574	226	3
	Kotma	408	70	2
5. Pushparajgarh	Pushparajgarh	1,763	264	-

Source: District Statistical Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 2
New Tahsils Created After 1971

Name Of Tahsils	Date Of Creation Of Tahsils	Tahsil Headquarter	Area In Sq. km.	Population 1981	Population 1991*	Number Of Villages	Created From Tahsil
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Jaisingh Nagar	4.2.83	Jaisingh Nagar	1,532	1,01,225	1,33,117	205	Beohari
2. Anuppur	4.2.83	Anuppur	1,574	2,24,684	3,03,360	233	Sohagpur
3. Kotma	4.2.82	Kotma	408	57,435	79,466	72	Sohagpur

* State/District Primary Census Abstract, 1991

Source : District Statistical Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 3
Normals And Extremes Of Rainfall

Stations	Years	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Sohagpur	Highest	5.2	19.8	-	1.4	-	187.4	511.4	538.1	193.8	5.2
	Lowest	3.4	-	2.2	24.8	-	150.4	266.0	320.1	88.6	39.0
	Lowest	5.6	31.2	2.0	-	-	38.8	196.6	382.7	40.0	-
2. Pali	Lowest	6.0	-	1.0	-	-	160.0	193.0	149.0	70.0	-
3. Budhar	Highest	-	41.0	8.0	-	22.0	456.0	340.0	178.0	327.0	150.0
4. Gohparu	Lowest	-	-	-	-	-	170.7	113.2	314.3	106.5	-
5. Bandhovaigarh	Highest	-	86.8	3.6	0.3	23.1	314.5	300.0	242.6	480.3	37.6
6. Manpur	Lowest	11.0	-	-	-	-	117.0	284.0	203.0	112.0	8.0
7. Beohar	Highest	-	-	-	-	-	205.1	481.6	455.4	168.9	-
8. Pushparaigarh	Highest	40.0	12.4	10.0	-	-	316.3	509.1	347.7	403.7	13.2
	1985	168.4	21.2	-	-	-	155.4	709.0	407.6	134.8	32.0

APPENDIX-C

(Contd.)

Stations	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest Annual Rainfall As % Of Normal Years	Lowest Annual Rainfall As % Of Normal Years	Heaviest Rainfall In 24 hours		
						Amount (mm.)	Date	
1	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
1. Sohagpur	-	45.6	1502.9	(+) 13%	-	110.0	15.7.80	
	Lowest	-	894.4	-	(-) 32%	91.4	18.9.81	
	Lowest	16.0	712.9	-	(-) 46%			
2. Pali	-	33.0	621.0	-	(-) 53%			
	Highest	-	1522.0	(+) 14%	-	110.0	20.6.90	
3. Budhar	-	18.0	722.7	-	(-) 45%	120.0	21.6.90	
4. Gohparu	-	-	1488.8	(+) 16%	-	138.0	2.7.90	
5. Bandhovagarh	-	-	729.00	-	(-) 47%	104.2	16.7.90	
6. Manpur	-	24.0	1335.0	(+) 17%	-	100.0	15.7.80	
7. Beohari	-	19.0	1671.4	(+) 10%	-	105.4	15.7.80	
8. Pushparaigarh	-	-	1628.4	(+) 8%	-	214.0	18.9.80	
	Highest	-	-	-	-	183.6	11.7.85	

Table No. 4
Frequency Of Annual Rainfall In The District Excluding The Hilly Regions
 (Period 1950-91)

No.	Range In mm.	No. Of Years	Range In mm.	No. Of Years	Range In mm.	No. Of Years
1.	-	1950	1348.3	1964	1190.6	1978
2.	-	1951	755.5	1965	630.3	1979
3.	-	1952	1002.9	1966	1535.4	1980
4.	1293.0	1953	1484.0	1967	1006.2	1981
5.	-	1954	803.2	1968	974.2	1982
6.	-	1955	1222.5	1969	1358.3	1983
7.	1328.0	1956	1299.4	1970	1185.8	1984
8.	959.0	1957	1446.0	1971	1103.3	1985
9.	1195.3	1958	1140.5	1972	1083.7	1986
10.	1248.8	1959	884.9	1973	1116.1	1987
11.	1247.6	1960	801.8	1974	940.8	1988
12.	1629.7	1961	1749.3	1975	1030.7	1989
13.	1084.9	1962	1031.8	1976	1176.1	1990
14.	1086.5	1963	1504.3	1977	1030.8	1991

Source: Superintendent, Land Records, Shahdol

Table No. 5
Stationwise Number Of Rainy Days And Rainfall

No.	Stations	1975		1980		1985		1986	
		No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Sohagpur	-	-	55	1531.0	58	1317.6	58	1271.1
2.	Pali	-	-	-	-	62	1012.0	56	1105.0
3.	Budhar	-	-	-	-	61	1281.0	53	1215.0
4.	Gohparu	-	-	-	-	49	987.1	44	954.6
5.	Bandhovahgarh	64	1174.5	60	1441.6	57	997.1	56	935.2
6.	Manpur	-	-	-	-	52	948.3	32	826.2
7.	Beohari	-	-	59	1410.0	50	990.3	46	1024.0
8.	Jaisingh Nagar	-	-	49	1400.0	93	1003.0	49	893.3
9.	Pushparajgarh	-	-	60	1759.1	66	1653.2	69	1338.5
10.	Anuppur	-	-	-	-	63	1093.0	59	1125.0
11.	Jaithari	-	-	-	-	65	982.0	65	1164.5
12.	Kotma	-	-	-	-	52	909.1	53	1201.0
13.	Kothi	57	1724.0	-	-	-	-	-	-

(Contd.)

		1987		1988		1989		1990		1991-92	
		No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall	No. Of Rainy Days	Rainfall
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
48	952.6	47	884.4	57	1150.6	53	1127.2	30	678.1		
52	1262.2	52	908.0	47	724.0	65	1150.0	39	1058.0		
36	1045.0	39	1141.0	38	922.0	54	1451.0	35	1300.0		
34	1004.0	45	810.0	47	774.9	63	1060.8	37	847.5		
51	1472.3	53	948.9	51	1222.4	67	1404.2	38	1326.2		
34	1064.0	35	729.0	34	773.0	47	986.0	35	987.0		
41	1173.0	40	981.0	51	956.0	59	1162.0	36	946.0		
44	1040.5	45	885.8	55	1093.3	57	958.6	34	1054.8		
64	1218.2	54	1250.9	61	1317.8	67	1469.6	48	1223.2		
42	843.0	41	810.0	44	925.0	60	1166.0	41	978.0		
52	975.0	52	867.0	37	920.0	55	1113.0	40	848.0		
47	1138.0	48	935.0	42	1093.0	54	1111.0	50	1059.0		

Source: Superintendent, Land Records, Shahdol

Table No. 6
Normal Temperature

No.	Year	January		February		March		April	
		Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	1960	30.4	4.0	30.8	1.8	37.5	9.6	43.5	25.7
2.	1971	24.0	3.0	33.2	5.2	39.0	8.5	41.5	15.7
3.	1985	24.0	10.6	26.6	9.4	34.7	15.8	38.0	21.4
4.	1986	30.3	8.4	25.8	15.0	39.3	16.4	37.9	22.2
5.	1987	23.6	9.0	26.2	11.9	32.7	15.6	38.7	22.1
6.	1988	26.6	7.3	29.5	10.5	34.3	14.6	38.1	20.2
7.	1989	25.5	7.4	29.4	12.0	32.7	17.8	39.0	24.1
(Contd.)									
No.	Year	May		June		July		August	
		Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	1960	43.9	22.6	43.1	22.3	35.0	20.4	33.0	22.2
2.	1971	41.2	19.8	38.8	18.9	31.7	21.0	32.0	21.1
3.	1985	42.0	25.2	39.0	25.0	31.6	24.0	30.9	24.3
(Contd.)									

No.	Year	September		October		November		December	
		Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum	Mean	Minimum
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1.	1960	33.3	20.8	32.0	18.1	27.2	11.2	23.2	5.8
2.	1971	35.1	20.2	30.6	12.7	29.0	8.1	27.3	6.0
3.	1985	31.2	23.5	30.0	18.0	28.5	11.3	26.1	9.9
4.	1986	34.8	23.1	31.9	16.4	32.3	12.8	26.8	10.3
5.	1987	30.0	21.5	30.0	17.2	27.9	12.0	24.5	6.7
6.	1988	32.9	23.7	32.3	24.3	29.7	14.7	27.3	9.1
7.	1989	31.6	22.5	32.3	17.0	30.8	12.5	25.8	8.7
(Contd.)									

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, 1990, Zila Shahdol

Table No. 7

Area And Population, 1981, 1991

S.No.	Tahsil	Year	Area (Sq.Km.)	Population		
				Total	Males	Females
1.	Beohari Tahsil	1981	2,627.5	2,19,789	1,12,806	1,06,983
		1991	1,097.23	1,52,564	78,501	74,063
2.	Bandhogarh Tahsil	1981	3,629.7	2,65,746	1,35,241	1,30,505
		1991	3,588.39	3,47,186	1,78,359	1,68,827
3.	Sohagpur Tahsil	1981	5,839.2	7,24,838	3,74,489	3,50,349
		1991	3,888.95	5,60,137	2,90,268	2,69,869
4.	Pushparajgarh Tahsil	1981	1,763.7	1,34,752	67,859	66,893
		1991	1,764.14	1,68,039	84,611	83,428
5.	Jaysinghnagar Tahsil	1991	1,530.91	1,33,117	68,533	64,584
6.	Kotma Tahsil	1991	411.38	79,466	41,214	38,252
7.	Anuppur Tahsil	1991	1,525.27	3,03,360	1,57,184	1,46,176
District Total		1981	14,028.00	13,45,125	6,90,395	6,54,730
		1991	14,028.00	17,43,869	8,98,670	8,45,199

Note:- The total of area figures of the tahsil will not tally with the District figures because the former represent "land use."

Source: 1. Census of India, 1981

2. District Primary Census Abstract 1991(Provisional)

Table No. 8

Decadal Variation In Population, 1901-1991

Year	Persons	Decadal	Decade Variation (Percentage)
1901	4,06,792	-	-
1911	4,65,225	+ 58,433	+ 14.36
1921	4,32,136	- 33,089	- 7.11
1931	5,20,706	+ 88,570	+ 20.50
1941	5,94,798	+ 74,092	+ 14.23
1951	6,50,757	+ 55,959	+ 9.41
1961	8,29,649	+ 1,78,892	+ 27.49
1971	10,29,839	+ 2,00,190	+ 24.13
1981	13,45,125	+ 3,15,286	+ 30.62
1991	17,43,869	+ 3,98,744	+ 29.64

Source:- 1. Census of India, 1981

2. District Primary Census Abstract, 1991 (Provisional)

Table No. 9

Rural-Urban Variation In Population 1901-1981

				(Percentage)	
Year	Total	Rural	Urban		
1901-11	+ 14.36	+ 14.40	+ 11.65		
1911-21	+ 7.11	- 7.03	- 13.35		
1921-31	+ 20.50	+ 20.18	+ 46.25		
1931-41	+ 14.23	+ 13.27	+ 78.55		
1941-51	+ 9.41	+ 2.58	+ 301.29		
1951-61	+ 27.41	+ 29.47	+ 5.87		
1961-71	+ 24.13	+ 17.63	+ 110.93		
1971-81	+ 30.62	+ 21.75	+ 96.68		
1901-1981	+ 230.67	+ 175.41	+ 4,553.00		

Source: Census of India, 1981

Table No. 10
Sex - Ratio, 1901 to 1991

Year	Sex-Ratio
1901	1,001
1911	1,016
1921	998
1931	995
1941	987
1951	969
1961	957
1971	955
1981	948
1991	940

Source:- Census of India, 1981 and 1991

Table No. 11

Rural-Urban Distribution, 1981 and 1991

S.No.	Tahsil	Year	Number Of Towns	Number Of Villages	
				Inhabited	Un-inhabited
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Beohori	1981	2	353	29
		1991	--	--	--
2.	Bandhogarh	1981	3	482	76
		1991	--	--	--
3.	Sohagpur	1981	10	866	30
		1991	--	--	--
4.	Pushparaigarh	1981	--	267	6
		1991	--	--	--
5.	Jaysinghnagar	1991	--	--	--
6.	Kotma	1991	--	--	--
7.	Anuppur	1991	--	--	--
District Total		1981	15	1,968	141
		1991	--	--	--
S.No.	Tahsil	Year	Population		
			Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	7	8	9
1.	Beohori	1981	2,19,789	2,02,925	16,864
		1991	1,52,564	1,29,094	23,470
2.	Bandhogarh	1981	2,65,746	2,28,737	37,009
		1991	3,47,186	2,96,926	50,260
3.	Sohagpur	1981	7,24,838	5,39,095	1,85,743
		1991	5,60,137	3,97,706	1,62,431
4.	Pushparaigarh	1981	1,34,752	1,34,752	--
		1991	1,68,039	1,68,039	--
5.	Jaysinghnagar	1991	1,33,117	1,26,292	6,825
6.	Kotma	1991	79,466	41,288	38,178
7.	Anuppur	1991	3,03,360	2,16,328	87,032
District Total		1981	13,45,125	11,05,509	2,39,616
		1991	17,43,869	13,75,673	3,68,196

Note :- 1991 figures for number of towns, number of inhabited and Un-inhabited villages are not available

Source :- Census of India, 1981 and 1991

Table No. 12

Religious Composition Of Population, 1981

S.No.	Religion Stated	Population	Percentage To Total Population
1.	Hindus	12,99,350	96.60
2.	Muslims	37,272	2.77
3.	Christians	2,059	0.15
4.	Sikhs	1,703	0.13
5.	Buddhists	--	--
6.	Jains	2,354	0.18
7.	Other Religions	2,193	0.16
8.	Religions not Stated	195	0.01

Source :- Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, District Shahdol, 1990

Table No. 13

Population Of Scheduled Castes And Scheduled Tribes

S.No.	Tahsil	Year	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
			Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1.	Beohari	1981	16,722	15,411	1,311	97,789	94,815	2,974
		1991	11,746	10,155	1,591	59,426	55,523	3,903
2.	Bandhogarh	1981	22,079	18,059	4,020	1,11,934	1,04,317	7,617
		1991	30,216	24,194	6,022	1,50,394	1,39,600	10,794
3.	Sohagpur	1981	53,559	37,455	16,104	3,23,518	2,93,848	29,670
		1991	40,803	26,156	14,647	2,61,723	2,40,116	21,607
4.	Pushparaigarh	1981	2,816	2,816	--	1,04,978	1,04,978	--
		1991	4,605	4,605	--	1,31,607	1,31,607	--
5.	Jaysinghnagar	1991	10,717	9,959	758	68,527	66,740	1,787
6.	Kotma	1991	8,063	4,546	3,517	24,686	17,456	7,230
7.	Anuppur	1991	28,145	19,479	8,666	1,11,401	95,451	15,950
District Total		1981	95,176	73,741	21,435	6,38,219	5,97,958	40,261
		1991	1,34,295	99,094	35,201	8,07,764	7,46,493	61,271

Source :- 1. Census of India, 1981 -

2. District Primary Census Abstract, 1991 (Provisional)

Table No. 14
Women Workers, 1981

S.No.	Occupation	Number Of Workers		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1.	Cultivators	49,328	48,135	1,193
2.	Agricultural Labourers	74,840	71,768	3,072
3.	Household Industry, Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs	2,554	2,015	539
4.	Other Workers	14,933	11,586	3,336
Total Workers		1,41,644	1,33,504	8,140

Source :- Census of India, 1981

Table No. 15
Women Workers, 1991

S.No.	Occupation	Number Of Workers		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1.	Cultivators	83,603	82,293	1,310
2.	Agricultural Labourers	84,591	81,121	3,470
3.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantation, Orchards and Allied Activities	500	300	200
4.	Mining and Quarrying	761	187	574
5.	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs in Household Industry	2,791	2,174	617
6.	Manufacturing, Processing Servicing and Repairs in other than Household Industry	990	435	555
7.	Construction	705	467	238
8.	Trade and Commerce	1,506	843	663
9.	Transport, Storage and Communication	97	73	24
10.	Other Services	4,923	2,037	2,886
District Total		1,80,467	1,69,930	10,537

Source :- District Primary Census Abstract, 1991 (Provisional)

Table No. 16
Number Of Cases Registered Under Dowry And Gambling Acts

Year	Dowry Act	Gambling Act
1980	--	269
1985	3	277
1986	7	246
1987	11	401
1988	12	543
1989	13	622
1990	13	725
1991	16	771
1992	8	166

Source: Superintendent of Police, Shahdol

Table No. 17
Number Of Cases Registered Under The Special Marriage Act

Year	No. Of Cases Registered	Solemnized	Rejected
1980	1	1	-
1985	-	-	-
1986	5	2	3
1987	2	2	4
1988	6	2	4
1989	16	5	11
1990	4	1	2
1991	14	3	7
1992	4	3	-

Source: Collector and Marriage Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 18

Land Utilization Statistics

Year	Geographical Area	Forest	Land Put To Non Agricultural Uses	Barren and Unculturable Land	Permanent Pastures & Other Grazing Lands	Misc. Tree Crops & Groves	Culturable Waste		Fallow Lands		Net Sown Area	(In '000 Ha.)	
							Current	Old	Current	Old		Area Sown More Than Once	Gross Cropped Area
1975-76	1,386.0	479.9	71.5	69.7	82.0	1.8	70.7	55.7	65.1	55.7	472	70	542
1980-81	1,386.0	530.6	83.1	65.1	58.7	1.5	58.5	81.3	79.7	81.3	427.5	58.8	486.3
1985-86	1,386.0	557.4	81.0	40.1	40.4	1.4	68.5	68.4	63.2	68.4	465.6	72.0	537.6
1986-87	1,386.0	557.5	80.7	40.1	40.3	1.4	69.3	67.3	64.0	67.3	465.4	77.5	542.9
1987-88	1,386.0	557.3	93.2	37.9	39.7	1.4	58.2	67.5	65.6	67.5	465.2	85.6	550.8
1988-89	1,386.0	556.7	83.0	41.4	39.4	1.6	66.4	71.5	80.1	71.5	445.9	61.7	507.6
1989-90	1,386.0	554.3	85.7	38.6	38.9	1.6	63.7	72.1	74.1	72.1	457.2	68.9	526.1

Source :- (i) Agricultural Statistics (M.P.), 1976, 1981 and 1988

(ii) Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, District Shahdol, 1990

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Table No. 19
Area Under Principal Crops

Year	Paddy	Jowar	Wheat	Maize	Barley	Gram	Tur	Urad	Rape & Mustard	Soya-bean	Sesamum (Ramtil)	Niger	Linseed	Sugarcane	(In '000 Ha.)	
															Total	Total
1975-76	198.0	7.3	51.1	26.3	6.9	21.6	12.2	16.3	18.1	-	19.4	24.3	16.7	0.1	0.5	1.4
1980-81	205.8	6.5	52.7	27.4	7.6	13.2	9.3	15.7	14.6	-	12.6	17.9	9.6	0.09	0.3	1.4
1985-86	221.1	5.7	60.4	30.2	4.4	16.1	13.3	18.4	18.8	0.5	15.9	19.8	13.5	0.05	0.3	1.7
1986-87	223.7	5.4	64.7	30.2	4.4	17.6	12.0	19.5	19.7	0.2	15.0	19.0	14.1	0.05	0.4	1.7
1987-88	220.3	5.4	70.4	30.6	4.0	20.2	13.9	18.3	21.0	1.2	11.9	18.8	14.4	0.05	0.4	1.7
1989-90	221.0	4.1	56.6	30.1	2.7	15.0	13.2	18.4	20.5	1.8	13.5	-	9.7	0.05	0.3	1.7
1990-91	225.8	4.0	63.7	32.4	2.6	16.9	14.4	19.4	22.0	2.0	13.8	-	10.5	0.04	0.4	1.8

Source :- (i) Agricultural Statistics (M.P.), 1976, 1981 and 1988

(ii) Madhya Pradesh Kij Adharbhoot Krishi Sankhyiki (1986-87 to 1990-91)

(iii) Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, District Shahdol, 1990

APPENDIX-C

Table No. 20
Production Of Principal Crops

Year	(In '000 Tonnes)									
	Paddy	Jowar	Wheat	Maize	Barley	Gram	Tur	Urad	Mustard	Soya-been mum
1975-76	142.2	5.6	25.8	21.2	3.9	9.1	7.3	3.2	6.4	2.2
1980-81	168.2	4.9	29.8	17.6	5.6	6.3	4.2	2.7	4.4	1.4
1985-86	174.9	5.6	37.8	24.5	2.0	7.2	7.3	3.7	4.6	0.3
1986-87	161.4	4.2	45.9	19.5	2.6	9.0	7.8	4.2	4.7	0.1
1987-88	144.0	4.4	45.2	24.6	2.1	9.1	8.2	4.5	7.6	0.6
1989-90	143.9	3.8	43.6	36.5	1.5	7.1	8.8	4.1	--	1.1
1990-91	175.1	4.0	47.0	30.7	1.5	7.3	10.8	--	--	1.4
										2.3
										0.3
										1.6
										2.6
										3.6
										4.8
										2.2
										2.0

Source :- (i) Agricultural Statistics (M.P.) 1976, 1981 and 1988

(ii) Madhya Pradesh Ki Adharboot Krishi Sankhyid (1986-87 to 1990-91)

(iii) Zila Sankhyid Pustika, District Shahdol, 1990

SHAHDOL

Table No. 21
Source-wise Gross Irrigated Area

(In '000 Ha.)

Year	Canals	Tanks	Wells	Other Sources	Total Gross Irrigated Area	Area Irrigated More Than Once	Total Net Irrigated Area
1975-76	2.0	0.3	1.2	1.9	5.4	--	5.4
1980-81	6.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	7.0	--	7.0
1985-96	7.9	2.3	1.3	1.5	13.0	--	13.0
1986-87	7.9	1.1	1.4	4.2	14.6	--	14.6
1987-88	7.0	1.3	1.9	3.8	14.0	--	14.0
1988-89	9.3	1.6	2.1	3.1	16.1	--	16.1
1990-91	8.8	0.9	3.0	5.3	18.0	--	18.0

Source :- Agricultural Statistics (M.P.) 1976, 1981 and 1988

- Madhya Pradesh Ki Adharboot Krishi Sankhyiki (1986-87 to 1990-91)
- Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, District Shahdol, 1990
- + Net Irrigated Area

Table No. 22

Crop-wise Irrigated Area (In '000 Ha.)

Year	Paddy	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Linseed	Sugar- Cane	Total Cereals	Total Pulses
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1975-76	0.7	3.7	0.06	0.03	--	0.03	4.4	0.03
1980-81	0.5	5.6	0.1	0.01	--	0.02	6.2	0.01
1985-86	0.4	11.0	0.1	0.02	0.04	0.02	11.6	0.2
1986-87	2.2	10.9	0.1	0.1	--	0.01	13.2	0.1
1987-88	0.6	11.9	0.09	0.2	--	--	12.6	0.2
1988-89	0.7	13.9	0.1	0.1	--	--	14.6	0.2
1989-90	0.5	13.3	0.08	0.2	--	0.01	13.9	0.2

(Contd.)

Year	Total Oil Seeds	Total Condiments & Spices	Total Fruits & Vegetables	Total Food Crops	Non Food Crops
1	10	11	12	13	14
1975-76	—	0.2	0.5	5.3	0.1
1980-81	--	0.1	0.7	6.9	0.1
1985-86	0.1	0.1	1.0	12.9	0.1
1986-87	--	0.1	1.1	14.5	0.1
1987-88	--	0.1	1.1	13.9	0.1
1988-89	0.05	--	--	16.0	0.1
1989-90	0.07	--	--	15.5	0.1

Source:- Agricultural Statistics (M.P.) 1976, 1981 and 1988; Madhya Pradesh Ki Adharbhoot Krihi Sankhyiki (1986-87 to 90-91); Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, District Shahdol, 1990

Table No. 23

Per Hectare Use Of Fertilizers

(On Cropped Area) (In Kilogram)

Year	Nitrogenous	Phosphatic	Potassic	Total
1975-76	0.65	0.46	0.05	1.16
1980-81	0.62	0.48	0.05	1.15
1985-86	1.68	1.35	0.11	3.14
1986-87	1.42	1.02	0.03	2.47
1987-88	1.58	1.29	0.06	2.03

Source:- Agricultural Statistics (M.P.), 1976, 1981 and 1988

Table No. 24

High Yielding Varieties Coverage

(In '000 Ha.)

Year	Paddy	Jowar	Wheat	Maize	Total
1975-76	7.2	9.7	0.2	0.4	17.5
1980-81	42.0	16.0	0.3	1.1	59.4
1985-86	68.0	20.4	0.8	0.8	92.0
1986-87	69.0	24.7	1.0	3.0	97.7
1987-88	--	20.3	--	--	20.3

Source :- Agricultural Statistics (M.P) 1976, 1981 and 1988

Table No. 25

Number Of Agricultural Machinery & Implements

Year	Ploughs		Sugarcane Crushers		Irrigation Pumps		Tractors	
	Wooden	Iron	Carts	Power Driven	Bullock Driven	Oil Engine	Electric	
1975-76	1,71,035	1,763	72,187	409	186	1,100	114	47
1980-81	1,85,852	15,267	81,435	31	158	1,285	372	89
1985-86	2,09,620	5,041	85,836	23	120	1,636	927	284
1986-87	2,36,968	12,434	63,124	32	109	1,630	1,105	404
1987-88	2,92,475	2,109	74,345	4	48	2,273	1,083	260
1990-91	2,16,688	1,267	--	--	--	--	--	509

Source :- Agricultural Statistics (M.P.), 1976, 1981 and 1988; Madhya Pradesh Ki Adharbhoot Krihi Sankhyiki (1986-87 to 90-91)

Table No. 26

Livestock and Poultry

(Nos. in '000)

Year	Cattle	Buffa- loes	Sheep	Goats	Horses	Pigs	Others	Total Lives- tock	Cocks & Hens
1975-76	829.0	212.5	15.8	175.7	6.3	14.5	--	--	218.9
1980-81	794.6	209.6	18.5	164.3	5.2	6.8	--	--	193.4
1985-86	914.9	229.5	17.4	189.6	5.3	15.3	0.3	1,372.1	266.7
1986-87	781.8	208.0	15.0	177.1	4.8	10.9	0.6	1,198.2	242.2
1990-91	899.8	231.2	—	216.7	—	—	—	1,347.7	303.3*

Source :- Agricultural Statistics (M.P.), 1976, 1981 and 1988; Madhya Pradesh Ki Adharbhoot Krihi Sankhyiki (1986-87 to 1990-91)

* Total Poultry

Table No. 27
Population : Distribution Of Workers

Categories	1981	1991
1. Population	13,45,125	17,43,869
2. Main Workers	5,24,903	6,55,807
3. Cultivators	2,59,186	3,47,986
4. Agricultural Labours	1,46,379	1,66,667
5. Manufacturing, Processing, and Repairs in Household Industries	12,984	11,725
6. Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other then Household Industries	--	13,269
7. Construction	--	7,250
8. Trade and Commerce	--	20,041
9. Transport, Storage & Communication	--	6,488
10. Mining & Quarrying	--	37,622
11. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Huntlings Plantation, Orchards & Allied activities	--	5,430
12. Other Services	--	39,517
13. Marginal Workers	64,876	1,02,538
14. Non Workers	7,55,346	9,85,532

Source :- 1. Census of India 1981

2. State/District Primary Census Abstract

Table No.28
Large And Medium Scale Industries

S.No.	Name And Address Of Industries	Year Of Establi- shment	Item Of Product- ion	Annual Capacity	Invest- ment	Employ- ment
1.	Hukumchand Jute Mills Ltd., Amlai, Shahdol	1965	Kastic Soda Liquid Chlorin	26,805 T Per year 18,700 T Per Year	4,230.00	308
2.	Cement Paper Mills Ltd. Amlai	1964-65	W & P Paper	1,50,000 T per Year	2,827.00	1,861

Source:- Madhya Pradesh Shandesh, 1991

Table No. 29
Number Of Registered Factories And Employment

Year	Food Products		Furniture Industries		Building Construction Industry		Paper Industry		Other	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
1980-81	35	313	36	1,676	--	--	--	--	--	--
1985-86	59	382	37	327	7	286	--	--	4	1,238
1986-87	64	389	38	332	7	286	2	1,018	2	220
1987-88	70	420	40	354	8	277	2	1,018	2	220
1988-89	70	420	40	354	10	497	2	1,018	2	220
1989-90	--	--	--	--	10	497	2	1,018	2	220

Note: A. Number Of Factories

B. Average Daily Employment

Source : 1. Zila Sankhyiki Sargansah, 1990

2. Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, 1990

Table No. 30
Minerals Production And Value

Year	Coal		Bauxite		Fire Clay		Stone	
	Production	Value	Production	Value	Production	Value	Production	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1980-81	45,97,816	51,91,404	58,870	2,379	19,091	301	1,54,562	1,546
1985-86	85,75,076	16,35,504	77,992	6,492	21,304	426	2,46,747	4,913

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1986-87	44,43,205	8,18,270	33,074	29,625	12,910	201	2,60,526	5,123
1987-88	71,28,992	1,16,10,36,960	18,375	25,84,535	18,087	3,63,710	--	--
1988-89	12,80,736	1,44,23,37,682	8,805	2,00,01,768	22,344	44,688	2,56,000	38,54,037
1989-90	91,80,736	2,78,23,43,936	4,401	10,00,760	19,020	40,430	221 300	33,20,100

(Contd.)

Year	White Clay		Sand		Clay		Murum	
	Production	Value	Production	Value	Production	Value	Production	Value
1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1980-81	--	--	50,766	528	2,561	179	4,691	38
1985-86	--	--	3,20,152	5,753	21,304	42,680	13,252	371
1986-87	80,52,759	402	36,52,326	14,60,93,000	80,52,750	4,02,67,000	7,71,332	38,566
1987-88	70	2,100	--	--	--	--	--	--
1988-89	100	6,500	2,01,000	24,17,205	68,000	13,82,280	37,200	7,45,505
1989-90	100	7,000	1,71,300	34,26,400	43,000	8,61,200	47,200	9,44,300

Source :- Zila Sankhyiki Sarganthi, 1990

Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, 1990

Table No. 31
Power: Distribution Centres And Length Of Transmission Lines

Year	Number Of Power Distribution Centres	Length Of Transmission Lines	
		(Length in Kv..)	
		66/33 (K.M.)	11 KV.(K.M.)
1980-81	15	699	1,140
1985-86	22	810	2,200
1986-87	23	840	2,745
1987-88	24	895	3,390
1988-89	24	960	3,930
1989-90	25	1,013	4,430
1990-91	25	1,065	5,182
1991-92	25	1,076	5,231

Source :- E.E.(O and M) MPEB Shahdol

Table No. 32 Power : Segregation Of Demand						(In Kwh.unit sold)	
Year	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Water Works	Irrigation	Street Lighting	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1980-81	4,682	6,963	1,13,724	714	536	385	
1985-86	13,613	7,634	1,62,595	2,347	1,253	992	

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1986-87	18,665	7,596	1,71,703	1,911	2,432	1,027
1987-88	32,639	6,122	1,94,467	2,386	2,979	1,036
1988-89	38,286	6,437	2,10,890	2,432	3,365	1,107
1989-90	47,523	6,340	2,37,307	2,452	2,834	1,358
1990-91	45,147	6,860	2,54,841	2,721	5,374	1,290
1991-92	48,598	7,221	2,58,772	3,158	6,247	1,472

Source:- E.E. (O & M) MPEB Shahdol

SHAHDOL

Table No. 33
Power : Number Of Consumers

Year	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Water Works	Irrigation	Street Lighting
1980-81	12,834	4,291	522	28	964	71
1985-86	34,042	6,044	750	91	2,151	124
1986-87	42,640	6,574	877	93	2,418	151
1987-88	50,765	7,015	940	98	2,655	176
1988-89	61,870	7,483	1,049	97	2,820	193
1989-90	74,756	7,955	1,114	103	3,030	210
1990-91	79,648	8,336	1,173	115	3,315	222
1991-92	82,146	8,756	1,194	118	3,118	222

Source:- E.E (O & M) M.P.E.B. Shahdol

Table No. 34
Number Of Pumps And Area Sown

Year	Number Of Pumps	Net Area Sown		Gross Area Sown	
		Hectares	Number Of Pumps Per Thousand Hectares	Hectares	Number Of Pumps Per Thousand Hectares
1980-81	176	528	333	880	201
1985-86	193	--	333	965	200
1986-87	229	579	333	1,145	200
1987-88	252	756	333	1,260	200
1988-89	261	783	333	1,305	200
1989-90	261	783	333	1,305	200
1990-91	239	--	321	1,195	200
1991-92	230	717	320	1,150	200

Source:- E.E(O & M) MPEB Shahdol

Table No. 35
Number Of Villages Electrified By Tahsils

S.No.	Name Of Tahsils	Number Of Inhabited Villages 1991	Number Of Village Electrified (As on 31st March)									
			1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1.	Pushprajgarh	264	20	40	43	66	96	115	137	171	176	
2.	Bandhogarh	485	135	298	310	330	346	379	434	465	471	
3.	Beohari	160	38	66	76	95	105	116	128	136	136	
4.	Jaisinghnagar	192	31	51	60	65	88	112	134	160	161	
5.	Shohagpur	565	108	207	266	308	359	397	422	454	454	
6.	Anuppur	314	61	157	188	198	224	250	282	288	289	
Total :		1,980	393	8,109	943	1,062	1,218	1,369	1,537	1,674	1,687	

Source: E.E.(O & M) MPEB Shahdol

Table No. 36
Particulars Of Amarkantak Power Station
(As In March 1992)

1.	Turbo Alternator Sets	4 Nos.
2.	Boilers	6 Nos.
3.	Coal Handling Plants	2 Nos.
4.	Water Treatment Plant	2 Nos.
5.	Transformers	42 Nos.

Source: E.E. (O & M), MPEB, Shahdol

Table No. 37
Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies
(Amount In Lakh Rs.)

Year	Number	Membership	Working Capital
1975-76	260	47,568	148.91
1985-86	108	1,16,608	507.56
1986-87	108	1,23,675	573.74
1987-88	108	1,31,873	654.74
1988-89	108	1,34,386	650.88

Source: Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, 1977, 1989, Shahdol

Table No. 38
Non-agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies
(Amount In Lakh Rs.)

Year	Number	Membership	Working Capital
1975-76	7	3,146	3.66
1985-86	8	4,438	8.92
1986-87	10	4,483	9.00
1987-88	10	4,483	9.00
1988-89	12	4,694	9.45

Source: Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, 1977, 1989, Shahdol

Table No. 39

District Cooperative Central Bank, Shahdol

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)						
Year	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Loans Advanced	Loans Outstanding	Percentage Of Recovery
1975-76	1.00	125.50	600.00	150.00	255.00	55%
1980-81	1.10	130.50	750.00	222.00	339.65	50%
1985-86	1.16	139.60	850.00	250.00	327.22	50%
1986-87	1.20	153.44	860.23	300.00	355.00	52%
1987-88	1.23	158.19	863.23	321.00	401.96	55%
1988-89	1.24	170.75	1,029.91	350.00	416.24	50%
1989-90	1.38	180.00	1,309.73	375.00	439.41	58%
1990-91	1.39	170.00	1,011.54	510.00	545.00	55%
1991-92	1.43	162.26	663.70	450.00	610.00	60%

Source : Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

Table No. 40

District Cooperative Land Development Bank, Shahdol

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)						
Year	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Loans Advanced	Loans Outstanding	Percentage Of Recovery
1975-76	1,075	2.28	31.91	28.73	27.97	53%
1980-81	3,160	8.74	75.14	16.58	79.74	52%
1985-86	4,292	14.68	134.64	35.00	137.96	38.42%
1986-87	4,368	15.99	153.12	21.27	155.91	35.8%
1987-88	4,521	17.37	174.03	29.66	167.53	42%
1988-89	4,644	18.56	191.22	15.69	185.68	19%
1989-90	4,750	25.65	217.21	33.64	210.27	48%
1990-91	4,822	28.49	210.99	31.82	223.59	66%
1991-92	5,100	32.39	264.01	63.64	286.12	51%

Source : District Cooperative Land Development Bank, Shahdol

Table No. 41

Cooperative Marketing Societies

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)						
Year	Number	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Purchases	Sales
1975-76	8	1,087	7.50	16.50	10.70	9.50
1980-81	8	1,152	7.85	17.06	11.75	9.95
1985-86	8	1,183	9.50	19.27	13.80	12.70
1986-87	8	1,183	10.70	20.85	19.00	17.50
1987-88	8	1,183	13.50	21.80	25.00	23.80
1988-89	8	1,183	14.23	22.37	31.00	32.00
1989-90	8	1,100	14.00	45.27	25.00	23.20
1990-91	8	914	13.97	45.20	11.83	10.18
1991-92	8	914	13.97	47.50	13.85	12.85

Source : Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

Table No. 42

Primary Consumers Cooperative Stores

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)					
Year	Number	Share Capital	Working Capital	Purchases	Sales
1975-76	12	1.03	5.25	7.40	7.66
1980-81	11	1.04	5.54	6.98	7.88
1985-86	15	1.04	5.75	1.01	1.28
1986-87	15	1.29	6.18	0.72	0.95
1987-88	16	1.29	6.20	1.28	1.62
1988-89	18	1.29	6.16	2.04	1.42
1989-90	18	1.29	6.19	0.87	1.14
1990-91	16	1.29	6.22	0.89	1.24
1991-92	16	1.29	6.20	0.86	1.25

Source : Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

Table No. 43

District Wholesale Consumers Cooperative Store, Shahdol

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)

Year	Membership	Share Capital	Working Capital	Purchases	Sales
1975-76	1,537	0.44	2.77	10.67	11.02
1980-81	1,537	0.44	2.77	12.65	12.00
1985-86	1,532	0.44	15.87	64.35	67.32
1986-87	1,592	0.44	16.64	25.93	25.54
1987-88	1,592	0.44	13.22	24.57	24.73
1988-89	1,592	0.44	13.45	12.68	13.51
1989-90	1,619	0.44	14.21	12.68	13.22
1990-91	1,619	0.45	13.97	4.47	5.25
1991-92	1,619	0.45	13.94	6.63	6.78

Source: Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol

Table No. 44

Deposits In Small Saving Schemes

(Amount In Lakh Rs.)

Year	Gross Deposits	Net Deposits	Target
1975-76	70	13	35
1980-81	201	83	50
1985-86	520	370	370
1986-87	738	401	460
1987-88	891	404	580
1988-89	1,026	512	637
1989-90	1,257	670	745
1990-91	1,521	832	800
1991-92	1,623	720	900

Source :- District Small Saving Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 45

Principal Arrivals In Shahdol Mandi

(In Qntls.)

Commodity	1975-76	1980-81	1985-86	1990-91	1991-92
Wheat	12,437	46,631	6,351	3,456	10,633
Rice	10,125	48,376	14,169	361	6,624
Paddy	3,758	4,620	8,170	2,711	3,233
Tuar	398	385	1,662	7,050	3,101
Gram	964	146	365	481	468
Sarson	1,217	--	--	715	1,509
Mahua	--	1,328	27,588	92,807	53,103

Source: Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, Shahdol

Table No. 46

Number Of Commercial Bank Offices

Year	Urban	Rural	Total
1985-86	66	30	96
1986-87	66	30	96
1987-88	16	79	95
1988-89	27	100	127

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, Shahdol

Table No. 47

Principal Arrivals In Beohari Mandi

(In M. Tonnes)

Commodity	1975-76	1980-81	1985-86	1990-91	1991-92
Wheat	2,733	5,886	4,410	473	723
Rice	1,003	2,709	3,582	1,249	363
Juar/Maize	286	2,513	785	48	42
Sarson	600	362	661	43	24
Tilli	406	600	339	53	4
Moong/Urad	249	375	381	124	50

Source:- Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, Beohari

Table No. 48
Length Of Road In The District

(In Km.)			
Year	Metalled	Unmetalled	Total
1980-81	1,359.7	689.9	2,049.6
1985-86	1,908.50	728.9	2,637.10
1986-87	1,957.70	729.10	2,686.80
1987-88	2,011.10	693.10	2,704.20
1988-89	2,055.50	723.10	2,778.60
1989-90	2,074.30	719.90	2,794.20
1990-91	2,086.85	722.55	2,808.40
1991-92	2,086.85	721.55	2,808.40

Source:- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D.(B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 49
Surfacewise Road - Length

(In Km.)				
Year	Bituminous	Water Bound Macadam	Natural Soil Fair Weather Road (Motorable)	Natural Soil (Unmotorable)
1980-81	529.0	827.2	260.50	405.0
1985-86	707.30	1,239.00	285.70	440.90
1986-87	665.50	1,292.20	276.30	452.80
1987-88	682.70	1,329.40	255.90	437.20
1988-89	694.30	1,361.20	299.80	423.30
1989-90	714.30	1,360.00	84.70	298.40
1990-91	734.50	1,352.35	450.00	434.00
1991-92	744.80	1,342.05	559.00	162.55

Source :- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 50
Road Classification

(In Km.)

Year	State Highways	Major District Roads	Village/Other Roads
1980-81	578.2	280.50	1,285.00
1985-86	584.10	239.10	1,813.90
1986-87	584.10	267.90	1,835.00
1987-88	564.30	267.70	1,872.20
1988-89	564.30	267.70	1,946.60
1989-90	564.30	267.70	1,962.20
1990-91	564.30	265.70	1,976.40
1991-92	546.10	267.70	1,976.50

Source:- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 51
State Highways (As On 31.3.1992)

S.No.	Name Of The Road	Length (Km.)
1.	Rewa - Shahdol - Amarkantak Road S.H. No. 9	110.20
2.	Shahdol - Singhpur Tula Road S.H. No. 9	54.70
3.	Burhar-Girwa Road S.H. No. 14	20.40
4.	Anuppur-Kotma Road S.H.No. 14	31.40
5.	Kotma-Manendragarh Road S.H.No. 14	18.40
6.	Anuppur-Jaitpur Road S.H.No. 14	9.80
7.	Panpatha-Amarpur Barhi Road S.H.No. 10	23.00
8.	Panpatha-Manpur Via Tala Road S.H.No.10	26.20
9.	Manpur-Mashisagath Road S.H.No. 10	9.20
10.	Jaisinghnagar-Mashiragath Road S.H.No. 10	18.80
11.	Jaisinghnagar-Janakpur Road S.H.No. 10	32.00
12.	Satna-Amarpatan-Panpatha Road, S.H.No. 11	26.20
13.	Tala-Umaria Shahpura Road S.H.No. 11	64.80
14.	Shahdol-Umaria Katni Road S.H.No. 14	94.40
15.	Shahdol-Burhar Road S.H.No. 14	2.40
16.	Rewa-Shahdol-Amarkantak Road Km. 165/2 to 184/2	19.40

Source :- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 52
Major District Roads (As On 31.3.1992)

(In km.)

S.No.	Name Of The Road	Length
1.	Pali-Dindori Road	22.00
2.	Beohari-Manpur Road	42.60
3.	Parasi-Khitauli Road	7.20
4.	Beohari-Sidhi Road	16.80
5.	R.S.A. Road Km. 184/6, 266	82.60
6.	Anuppur Dhankherwas Road	10.20
7.	Rajendragram Ghoghari Road	51.50
8.	Anuppur Jaitpur Road	34.80

Source:- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 53
Routes Operated By M.P.S.R.T.C.

Year	Route Distance (In Km.)	Number Of Passengers	Annual Income (Rs.)
1987-88	12,70,021	5,64,910	50,11,540
1988-89	14,97,547	6,84,579	58,54,363
1989-90	18,57,771	8,43,037	76,80,959
1990-91	19,65,592	10,33,441	95,96,490
1991-92	19,66,965	9,43,693	1,07,34,291

Source:- Depot Manager, M.P.S.R.T.C., Shahdol

Table No. 54
Bridges And Culverts

Year	Highways				Others Roads			
	Large Bridges	Small Bridges	Culverts	Total	Large Bridges	Small Bridges	Culverts	Total
1981	11	65	492	568	5	27	460	492
1985	11	66	498	575	5	30	478	513
1986	11	66	499	576	5	31	562	598
1987	11	66	500	577	5	35	683	723
1988	11	66	500	577	5	37	854	896

(Contd.)

1989	11	66	509	586	14	46	968	1,028
1990	11	66	515	592	16	48	1,116	1,180
1991	11	66	515	592	16	56	1,177	1,249

Source :- Sadak Sankhyiki, 1989, 1991

Table No. 55
Situation Of Rest Houses And Circuit Houses(As On 31.3.1992)

S.No.	Name Of Place	Name Of Roads & Km.
CIRCUIT HOUSE		
1.	Gohagpur	R.S.A.Road Shahdol. 160/6
2.	Pushparajgarh	R.S.A.Road Amarkantak - 265/10
REST HOUSES		
1.	Sohagpur	R.S.A.Road, Shahdol- 162/6
2.	Beohari	R.S.A.Road Beohari - 75/4
3.	Jaisinghnagar	R.S.A.Road Jaisinghnagar - 116/6.
4.	Bandhavagarh	Shahdol-Katni Road Pali-37/4
5.	Umaria	Umaria Town- 37/4
6.	Umaria	A.T.S.Road Tala (National Park) 117/10
7.	Anuppur	Anuppur Town- 56
8.	Budhar	R.S.A.Road Budhar 182/8
9.	Kotma	Kotma Town- 1/50
10.	Pushparajgarh	R.S.A.Road, Amarkantak - 265/10
11.	Pushparajgarh	R.S.A.Road Rajendragram 225/10

Source :- Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Shahdol

Table No. 56
Number Of Automobiles

Year	Motorcycles	Buses	Trucks	Cars/Jeeps	Taxis	Others	Total
1980-81	688	15	759	25	25	265	1,777
1985-86	3,104	49	885	375	55	565	5,033
1986-87	3,346	52	896	176/203	32	608	5,313
1987-88	4,468	59	910	199/220	39	766	6,636
1988-89	5,717	65	926	217/255	42	852	8,075
1989-90	7,363	70	940	248/311	43	946	9,920
1990-91	9,606	72	1,002	284/376	43	1,120	12,503
1991-92	11,414	73	1,020	319/424	43	1,300	14,583

Source :- A.R.T.O. , Shahdol

Table No. 57
Number Of Accidents And Casualties

Year	Bus			Trucks			Car/Taxis			Scooter/Motorcycles			Others		
	A		C	A		C	A		C	A		C	A		C
	B	B		B	B		B	B		B	B		B	B	
1980	10	5	25	371	23	210	2	--	--	10	--	--	12	--	--
1985	18	8	28	305	45	233	13	--	9	5	2	5	11	--	2
1986	25	9	30	240	48	200	11	--	7	35	--	5	64	--	3
1987	43	8	19	146	32	152	46	5	35	75	4	68	97	22	86
1988	43	7	18	156	32	116	54	5	36	102	3	99	109	25	58
1989	56	12	44	250	35	215	59	14	45	108	7	101	94	26	68

Source:- Zila Sankhyiki Sarganth, Shahdol, 1990

A : Number, B : Death, C : Wounded

Table No. 58
Post And Telegraph Offices And Telephones

Year	Name Of Head Offices	No. Of Sub-permanent Post Offices	Experimental		Combined Post And Telegraph Offices	Telephones	
			Branch Offices				
			Sub-Offices	Branch Offices			
1980-81	Shahdol	16	92	17	149	10	--
1985-86	--do--	23	91	6	151	18	905
1986-87	--do--	23	91	8	159	18	1,044
1987-88	--do--	23	95	8	157	18	1,209
1988-89	--do--	23	95	8	157	18	1,428
1989-90	--do--	23	96	9	160	16	1,715
1990-91	--do--	23	96	10	168	16	2,156

Source:- 1. Supdt. of Post Offices Shahdol Div. Shahdol

2. S.D.O. Telephone, Shahdol

Table No. 59
Classification Of Workers, 1981

S.No.	Category	Number Of Workers	Percentage To Total Workers
1.	Cultivators	2,59,186	49.38
2.	Agricultural Labourers	1,46,379	27.89
3.	Household Industry Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs	12,984	2.47
4.	Other Workers	1,06,354	20.26
District Total		5,24,903	100%

Source :- Census of India, 1981

Table No. 60
Classification Of Workers, 1991

S.No.	Category	Number Of Workers	Percentage To Total Workers
1.	Cultivators	3,47,986	53.06
2.	Agricultural Labourers	1,66,367	25.37
3.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantation, Orchards and Allied Activities	5,430	0.83
4.	Mining and Quarrying	37,622	5.74
5.	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs in Household Industry	11,925	1.82
6.	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs in Other than Household Industry	13,269	2.02
7.	Construction	7,250	1.11
8.	Trade and Commerce	20,041	3.06
9.	Transport, Storage and Communications	6,400	0.98
10.	Other Services	39,517	6.03
District Total		6,55,807	100%

Source:- District Primary Census Abstract, 1991 (Provisional)

Table No. 61
Farm Harvest Prices

Year	Rice	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum	(Rs. Per Quintal)
						Linseed
1975	147.92	N.S.	122.25	N.S.	260.68	152.05
1980	200.00	N.S.	170.00	250.00	460.00	450.00
1985	N.S.	152.50	199.00	387.00	549.00	460.00
1986	314.09	175.00	224.00	392.00	471.66	400.00
1987	N.A.	171.70	213.33	325.33	664.42	645.00
1988	N.A.	165.00	238.00	395.85	735.00	725.00
1989	N.A.	250.00	334.50	550.00	590.00	687.50
1990	417.88	190.00	302.60	652.00	766.70	765.00
1991	456.96	200.00	365.00	650.00	1,130.00	1,037.50

Note :- N.S. = Not Selected For Price Reporting

N.A. = Not Available

Source :- 1. Superintendent, Land Records, Shahdol
2. Basic Agricultural Statistics, M.P.
3. Season and Crop Report, 1980-81

Table No. 62
Daily Wage Rates Of Agricultural Workers

Year	Carpenter	Black Smith	Cobbler	Plough Man	Sower and Transplanter	Harvester
1975	7.02	6.29	5.63	3.25	3.00	3.21
1980	10.00	9.50	6.50	4.50	4.50	-
1986	30.75	22.58	21.75	9.40	9.00	9.67
1989	34.00	34.58	27.50	12.87	12.25	13.30
1990	47.37	42.95	36.00	15.91	15.91	13.60

Source :- 1. Basic Agricultural Statistics of Madhya Pradesh
2. Season and Crop Report, 1980-81

Table No. 63
Working Of Employment Exchange

Year	Registration		Vacancies	
	Total Live Registrations	New	Notified	Placing
1980	25,077	45,124	1,375	1,430
1985	71,817	10,298	1,261	908
1986	1,48,720	8,220	1,295	995
1987	66,527	8,134	1,062	924
1988	63,759	11,197	2,126	1,303
1989	68,138	14,368	2,275	2,254

Source :- Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, 1990, District Shahdol

Table No. 64
List Of Government Offices (1993)

A. CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

1. General Manager, Coal Mines, Sohagpur Area, Shahdol
2. Assistant C.B.I. Officer, C.B.I., Shahdol
3. Station Director, All India Radio, Shahdol
4. Regional Information Officer, Directorate of Regional Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India, Shahdol
5. Superintendent, Head Post Office, Shahdol
6. Superintendent, South-East Railway Station, Shahdol
7. Sub-Divisional Officer, Telegraph, Shahdol
8. Commandant, N.C.C. Office, Shahdol
9. Assistant Labour Commissioner, Labour, Shahdol
10. Assistant Engineer, Television Relay Centre, Shahdol

STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICES

1. Collector, Shahdol
2. District and Session Judge, Shahdol
3. Superintendent Of Police, Shahdol
4. Assistant Director, Horticulture, Shahdol
5. Deputy Director, Agriculture, Shahdol
6. Assistant Soil Conservation Officer, Umariya, Pushparajgarh
7. Sub-Divisional Officer, Agriculture, Umariya, Sohagpur

8. Deputy Director, Veterinary, Shahdol
9. Manager, Poultry-Farm, Shahdol
10. Conservator of Forest, Shahdol
11. Divisional Forest Officer, South Division Shahdol, North Division Shahdol, Umariya Division, Shahdol.
12. Director, National Park, Bandhavgarh-Umariya
13. Divisional Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Forest Division, Shahdol
14. Divisional Forest Officer, Social Forestry, Shahdol
15. Assistant Director, Fisheries, Shahdol
16. Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Shahdol
17. Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Shahdol
18. Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B&R) N.1, N.2, Shahdol
19. Superintending Engineer, Upper Son, Water Resources Centre, Shahdol
20. Executive Engineer, Water Resources N.1, N.2, N.3, Shahdol
21. Executive Engineer, Pakka Bandh, Devalod
22. Executive Engineer, Work-Shop and Store Division, Van-Saga, Shahdol
23. Deputy Commissioner, Govt. Milk Scheme, Shahdol
24. Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Shahdol
25. District Commandant, Home Guard, Shahdol
26. District Election Officer, Shahdol
27. District Excise Officer, Shahdol
28. General Manager, District Industry Centre, Shahdol
29. District Food Officer, Shahdol
30. Assistant Director, Public Relation, Shahdol
31. Assistant Commissioner, Scheduled Caste, Shahdol
32. District Statistical Officer, Shahdol
33. Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol
34. Sales Tax Officer, Shahdol
35. District Treasury Officer, Shahdol
36. Superintendent, Land Acquisition, Shahdol
37. Superintendent, Land Record, Shahdol
38. Labour Officer, Shahdol
39. District Planning Officer, District Planning Scheme, Shahdol
40. Director, Forest School, Amarkantak
41. C.M.O. and Health Officer, Shahdol
42. Malaria Officer, Shahdol

43. Insurance Medical Officer, Amlai
44. District Ayurved Officer, Shahdol
45. Block Development Officer, Anuppur, Beohari, Birsinghpur Pali, Budhar, Jaithari, Jaisinghnagar, Karkeli, Kotma, Manpur, Gohparu, Pushparaigarh, Sohagpur
46. District Employment Officer, Coal Mines, Budhar
47. District Employment Officer, Shahdol
48. Deputy Director, Panchayat and Social Welfare, Shahdol
49. Project Administrator, Integrated, Scheduled Caste, Shahdol, Pushparaigarh, Umariya
50. Project Officer, Integrated Children Development Project, Pushparaigarh, Jaisinghnagar
51. District Women Development Officer, Shahdol
52. Presiding Officer, Labour Court, Shahdol
53. Major, N.C.C., Shahdol
54. Deputy Director, Education, Shahdol

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT (QUASI)

1. Manager, Under Ground Quarry, Chachai, Shahdol
2. Manager Coal Mines, Bhadra, Shahdol, Amlai, Bijuri, Birsinghpur Pali, Jamuna, Jhimar Post Ram Nagar, Budhar No.1, No.3, New Raj Nagar, Naurojabad, Ram Nagar, Rungta, Umariya, Raj Nagar, Kotma
3. Manager, Pali Project, Birsinghpur Pali
4. Manager, O.C.M. RajNagar, Dhanpuri
5. General Manager, Sohagpur area, Dhanpuri, Jamuna Kotma area, Shahdol, Johila area Naurojabad
6. Branch Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Shahdol, Kotma
7. Regional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Shahdol

STATE GOVERNMENT (QUASI)

1. Divisional Manager, M.P. Development Corporation, Umariya
2. Divisional Manager, D.P.A.P. Project, Umariya
3. Chief Executive Officer, Fish Farmer's Development Agency, Shahdol
4. Divisional Engineer, M.P.E.B. O&M, Shahdol
5. Divisional Engineer, Electrical and Irrigation Division, Chachai, Shahdol
6. Divisional Engineer, Electric and Machinery Division, Chachai
7. Executive Engineer, (Store Division) M.P.E.B., Chachai
8. Executive Engineer, (R/M) Electric and Machinery Division, Chachai

9. Executive Engineer, Workshop Division, Chachai
10. Chief Engineer, Amarkantak Thermal Power Station, M.P.E.B., Chachai
11. Divisional Engineer, M.P.E.B. Division, Umariya
12. Divisional Engineer, SI/RE Construction Division, Shahdol
13. Divisional Engineer, M.P.E.B. (C), Birsinghpur Pali
14. Divisional Engineer, M.P.E.B., N.4, Birsinghpur Pali
15. Regional Accounts Officer, M.P.E.B., Birsinghpur Pali
16. Executive Engineer, (E.M.O.) PH II, Chachai ATPS, M.P.E.B., Chachai
17. Chief Engineer, (C) Maint., Chachai
18. Executive Engineer, PH II, Chachai
19. Executive Officer, District Urban Development Agency, Shahdol
20. Chief Executive Officer, Rural Development Agency, Shahdol
21. District Marketing Officer, Shahdol
22. District Manager, M.P. State Civil Supply Corporation, Shahdol
23. Depot Manager, M.P.S.R.T.C., Shahdol

LOCAL BODIES

1. Chief Municipal Officer, Beohari, Budhar, Chandia, Dhanpuri, Jalthari, Kotma, Naurojabad, Umariya, Birsinghpur Pali, Anuppur, Shahdol
2. Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Shahdol
3. Superintendent, Medical Christians Hospital, Shahdol

Source : District Employment Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 65
Income From Different Sources Of Revenue

(In '000 Rs.)

Source Of Income	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Sales Tax	64,528	65,325	1,00,829	1,11,365	1,49,951
Excise Duty	16,464	17,372	20,073	28,827	27,099
Entertainment Tax	1,540	1,697	1,743	1,393	1,285
Land Revenue	578	573	708	525	618
Registration	360	288	394	454	563
Stamps	2,490	1,731	2,515	3,039	4,630

Source : District Statistical Hand Book, Shahdol, 1989, 1990

Table No. 66
Incidence Of Crimes

Year	Murder	Robbery	Sex -Crimes	Burglary	Theft	Riot	Other Crimes
1980	34	44	17	796	32	102	1,991
1985	43	23	17	478	533	110	2,943
1986	67	28	27	556	399	146	2,200
1987	65	29	22	610	459	140	2,302
1988	57	29	35	587	551	111	2,173
1989	44	19	33	687	585	119	2,540

Source :- Superintendent Of Police, Shahdol

Table No. 67
Property Stolen

Year	Number Of Cases In Which Property		Total Value Of Property (In Rs.)	
	Stolen	Recovered	Stolen	Recovered
1980	N.A.	N.A.	20,36,055	7,96,270
1985	1,094	307	17,24,506	6,72,090
1986	1,045	274	15,01,518	6,12,164
1987	1,138	275	24,72,527	7,34,683
1988	1,345	345	23,25,181	13,93,630

Source :- Superintendent Of Police, Shahdol

Table No. 68
Strength Of Police Force

Year	Superin- tendents/ Dy. Superin- tendents	Inspec- tors/ Sub- Inspec- tors	Assistant Sub- Inspec- tors	Head Cons- tables	Cons- tables	Number Of Circles	Number Of Police Stations	Number Of Chowkies
1980	3	30	25	72	-	8	16	8
1985	5	54	29	163	609	7	19	8
1986	7	53	30	171	450	7	19	10
1987	8	55	51	180	661	7	19	10
1988	7	50	49	153	390	7	19	10
1989	12	52	52	159	659	7	19	10

Source :- Superintendent Of Police, Shahdol

Table No. 69
Criminal Cases Under

Year	I.P.C.	Cr. P.C.	Special And Local Laws
1980	2,270	580	3,229
1985	2,421	573	4,148
1986	2,468	683	5,489
1987	3,312	841	6,353
1988	3,490	789	6,965
1989	3,315	1,061	6,194
1990	3,757	2,158	7,514
1991	3,776	1,402	4,401

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 70
Disposal Of Cases

Year	No. Of Cases		No. Of Persons	
	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending
1980	4,370	8,139	7,933	13,624
1985	5,376	13,805	9,444	21,715
1986	6,261	15,501	10,562	23,512
1987	7,907	17,459	13,940	27,432
1988	8,140	19,774	17,493	37,731
1989	7,031	22,252	12,073	43,082
1990	8,514	25,009	15,048	46,723
1991	5,352	27,834	10,231	50,768

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 71
Number Of Persons Convicted

Year	Affecting Human Body	Affecting Public Health	Against Property	Relating To Religion
1	2	3	4	5
1980	357	79	233	-
1985	447	194	304	3
1986	381	117	283	-
1987	941	205	471	-

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
1988	1,559	261	570	-
1989	643	175	270	4
1990	330	96	264	-
1991	887	37	1,858	9

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 72
Number Of Persons Punished

Year	Imprisonment	Fines Imposed	Security Taken	Dealt With Under Borstal Act
1980	602	2,881	83	-
1985	512	5,103	12	-
1986	545	6,169	-	-
1987	683	6,237	-	-
1988	907	10,186	10	-
1989	913	6,511	-	-
1990	796	7,836	-	-
1991	602	6,544	-	-

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 73
Witnesses Examined

Year	No. Of Witnesses Discharged On The			
	First day Of Trial	Second Day Of Trial	Third Day Of Trial	Fourth Day Of Trial
1975	-	-	-	-
1980	5,779	209	22	-
1985	4,742	218	22	-
1986	4,207	121	-	-
1987	2,212	18	-	-
1988	3,240	21	-	-
1989	3,165	239	6	-
1990	2,691	191	4	-
1991	2,637	334	25	-

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 74
Amount Of Fines (In Rs.)

Year	Imposed	Realised	Written Off
1975	-	-	-
1980	1,57,363.90	1,57,094.80	-
1985	4,07,436.00	3,93,746.00	45.40
1986	6,45,172.40	5,72,447.90	8,225.00
1987	6,35,032.50	6,15,787.50	5,000.00
1988	9,05,987.00	8,98,957.00	2,650.00
1989	10,12,398.00	10,02,728.00	8,800.00
1990	18,57,924.00	16,83,492.00	8,740.00
1991	13,04,569.00	13,24,504.00	13,100.00

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 75
Number Of Civil Suits

Year	Suits For Money And Movable Property	Title And Other Suits
1980	151	247
1985	87	288
1986	373	263
1987	263	317
1988	288	502
1989	166	457
1990	177	437
1991	118	418

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 76
Disposal Of Suits

Year	Suits Disposed Off By		
	District Courts	Subordinate Civil Courts	Courts Of Small Causes
1980	24	379	19
1985	55	288	89
1986	57	326	48
1987	74	555	29
1988	49	580	24
1989	131	465	23
1990	117	796	27
1991	80	689	04

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 77
Duration Of Cases

Year	Without Trial	Exparte	Admission	Compromised	After Full Trial	Referred To Arbitration
1980	36	183	-	105	197	-
1985	76	116	12	41	93	2
1986	89	127	71	67	137	-
1987	58	145	06	44	101	-
1988	196	131	19	45	105	5
1989	144	145	11	40	134	-
1990	65	251	21	33	205	-
1991	69	140	11	52	133	-

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

Table No. 78
Pending Suits And Their Disposal

Year	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
1. Pending at the Beginning	-	1,032	1,411	1,627	1,766	1,922	1,940	2,138	2,085
2. Instituted	-	521	510	636	580	679	623	614	536
3. Revived	-	01	-	342	-	186	44	45	50
4. Otherwise Received	-	10	04	-	248	12	127	201	246
5. Total	-	1,564	1,925	2,605	2,594	2,799	2,734	2,998	2,917
6. Disposed by Transfer	-	11	03	377	278	124	104	307	357
7. Otherwise Disposed	-	522	340	431	351	509	492	606	412
8. Pending at the End	-	1,031	1,582	1,797	1,965	2,170	2,138	2,085	2,148

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

SHAHDOL

Table No. 79
Appellate Cases

Year	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Regular Appeals									
1. Pending at the Beginning	-	63	208	197	199	218	191	166	194
2. Instituted and Reinstited	-	88	60	100	71	33	47	101	78
3. Otherwise Received	-	35	18	-	48	-	47	-	-
Miscellaneous Appeals									
1. Pending at the Beginning	-	25	113	98	98	143	127	131	117
2. Instituted and Reinstited	-	41	45	81	173	52	64	67	23
3. Otherwise Received	-	17	10	-	25	-	08	02	-

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Shahdol

APPENDIX-C

Table No. 80
Prison Population

Year	Prisoners At The Beginning Of The Year		Received During The Year		Total		Prisoners Discharge		Remaining At The End Of The Year	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
	39	19	156	197	21	Nil	Nil	3	9	Nil
	203	212	1,555	1,670	144	1	4	56	51	6
	242	231	1,711	1,867	165	1	4	59	60	6
	229	128	1,554	1,626	147	1	4	50	48	6
	13	33	197	241	18	1	4	50	48	6
	Nil	Nil	Nil	9	12	1	4	50	48	6

Source :- Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol

Table No. 81
Prisoners Population According to Length of Sentence

Length Of Sentence	Sex	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1. Below One Month	Male	51	36	19	25	19
	Female	1	1	1	2	-
2. One to Six Months	Male	30	47	63	15	59
	Female	Nil	Nil	3	1	2
3. Six Months to One Year	Male	26	24	19	19	15
	Female	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4. One to Five Years	Male	21	41	33	33	16
	Female	Nil	2	--	2	2
5. Five to Ten Years	Male	16	22	15	5	1
	Female	1	--	--	--	--
6. Above Ten Years	Male	5	Nil	--	5	--
	Female	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7. Transportation for Life	Male	49	Nil	27	25	34
	Female	Nil	Nil	2	--	2
8. Death Sentence	Male	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
	Female	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Source :- Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol

Table No. 82
Prison Population According To Age And Education

Age	Sex	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Below 22 years	Male	23	30	86	32	19
	Female	1	Nil	1	1	Nil
23 Years to 40 years	Male	142	170	155	45	105
	Female	Nil	4	4	3	5
41 years to 60 years	Male	32	12	30	44	20
	Female	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	1
Above 60 years	Male	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil
	Female	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Education						
Literate	Male	117	67	64	33	67
	Female	--	--	--	--	--
Illiterate	Male	86	145	147	90	77
	Female	Nil	4	5	6	6

Source :- Superintendent, District Jail, Shahdol

Table No. 83
Home Guards Trained

Year	Number Of Home Guards Trained	Number Of Camps
1970	47	3
1980	26	2
1985	11	1
1986	51	3
1987	11	1
1888	19	1
1989	128	6
1990	26	1
1991	43	2

Source : District Commandant, Home Guards, Shahdol.

Table No. 84
Population Of Municipalities

S.No.	Municipalities	1981	1991
1.	Shahdol	44,342	55,500
2.	Khand	-	8,225
3.	Jaisinghnagar	-	6,825
4.	Umaria	15,667	20,269
5.	Nourozabad	10,706 *	18,004
6.	Chandla	9,140 *	11,987
7.	Burhar	12,401 *	16,515
8.	Dhanpuri	29,851 *	39,895
9.	Pali	14,335 *	17,563
10.	Kotma	10,949 *	21,169
11.	Bijuri	9,880	17,009
12.	Anuppur	9,728 *	12,474
13.	Pasan	15,787 *	26,060
14.	Jaithari	13,115	15,432
15.	Beohari	10,883 *	15,245

Note : * Notified Area Committee

Source : 1. Census of India 1981

2. State/District Primary Census Abstract, 1991

Table No. 85
Income And Expenditure Of Shahdol Municipality

Year	Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Total	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Roads
1980-81	71,81,024	16,93,827	7,02,448	1,38,966	1,08,740	1,38,965
1985-86	28,40,841	27,45,517	11,73,013	11,73,013	1,31,475	1,11,301
1986-87	53,01,572	24,49,867	4,95,275	87,018	40,109	31,000
1987-88	31,24,884	39,85,365	4,85,271	3,799	2,36,087	40,083
1988-89	36,19,116	44,69,339	9,33,182	38,583	2,20,078	74,693
1989-90	60,72,381	56,12,234	2,73,110	2,08,181	2,57,358	1,49,081
1990-91	52,35,229	54,74,683	11,87,493	2,65,354	3,86,082	2,45,856
1991-92	1,08,53,205	1,10,21,789	11,20,301	19,178	7,23,748	9,31,600

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 86
Income And Expenditure Of Khad Municipality

Year	Expenditure Under Different Heads				(In Rs.)
	Total	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Roads
1	2	3	4	5	6
1985-86	48,320	20,768	1,530		

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
1986-87	86,807	1,08,548	3,841	32,906	-
1987-88	79,501	78,399	6,383	14,588	-
1988-89	1,27,270	1,36,773	66,172	-	-
1989-90	2,75,782	1,94,115	23,833	-	35,826
1990-91	3,36,476	2,21,943	26,973	-	9,414
1991-92	2,07,742	2,47,194	12,490	-	57,791

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Khand

Table No. 87
Income And Expenditure Of Jaisinghnagar Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure under Difference Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Works	Street Lighting	Education	Water Supply	Road	
1985-86	59,136	51,761	928	5,056				
1986-87	2,70,237	1,84,969	7,960	42,168	418	12,753		
1987-88	4,75,282	4,10,000	60,611	52,813	-	39,048		
1988-89	2,85,438	2,34,741	870	31,944	497	30,702		
1989-90	5,68,179	4,07,316	46,877	41,057	813	-	1,72,632	
1990-91	5,14,949	4,46,299	50,064	67,639	3,214	-	89,960	
1991-92	7,33,267	6,49,905	1,11,446	1,08,591	4,435	-	1,31,543	

Source : Chief Municipal Officer, Jaisinghnagar

Source : Chief Municipal Officer, Jaisinghnagar

Table No. 88
Income And Expenditure Of Umaria Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure under Difference Heads						(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Expenditure under Difference Heads						
			Public Health	Public Works	Veterinary	Street Lighting	Education	Water Supply	
1980-81	6,63,442	6,71,839	2,05,993	56,343	360	47,245	3,481	1,46,228	
1985-86	10,88,383	10,82,026	2,63,242	21,852	360	1,66,278	7,507	1,41,657	
1987-88	14,11,092	12,40,042	2,58,651	1,17,096	360	1,53,095	16,612	1,60,918	
1988-89	17,31,672	15,25,036	3,75,183	68,830	360	2,59,437	17,774	1,21,888	
1989-90	19,84,552	17,67,457	5,83,565	2,08,842	360	7,18,776	28,722	1,64,248	
1990-91	17,67,165	20,07,833	6,41,599	82,427	-	1,45,424	74,490	2,69,377	
1991-92	35,37,321	28,15,241	7,46,886	2,40,188	-	2,40,517	31,850	4,64,661	

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Umaria

Table No. 89
Income And Expenditure Of Chandla Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads							(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Expenditure Under Different Heads							
			Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Education	Water Supply	Road		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
1980-81	2,10,151	2,26,981	4,934	21,375	22,234	538	-	-		
1985-86	3,23,303	3,30,786	9,995	5,541	30,298	325	-	-	(Contd.)	

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	8	8	9
1986-87	4,19,242	3,68,450	9,229	1,143	1,617	27,444	-	-
1987-88	5,89,028	4,47,285	16,194	29,836	1,632	25,885	-	-
1988-89	6,05,152	7,84,736	2,46,573	11,481	1,554	58,713	11,608	1,35,689
1989-90	8,00,706	8,06,926	1,98,718	97,306	1,688	62,653	65,201	5,944
1990-91	7,14,693	6,77,643	2,10,544	2,593	2,322	51,466	26,574	5,773
1991-92	11,92,375	11,76,186	2,19,779	1,28,078	3,145	75,967	45,485	54,470

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Chandia

Table No. 90
Income And Expenditure Of Burhar Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Water Supply	Road	
1980-81	7,77,241	8,62,386	1,62,524	1,71,793	22,068		78,073	
1985-86	8,48,235	8,43,032	1,89,768	39,696	84,102	70,833	24,422	
1986-87	9,67,921	9,50,899	1,62,693	2,09,163	59,176	63,161	84,647	
1987-88	11,82,506	13,28,240	1,73,316	4,12,162	1,16,549	1,67,626	60,728	
1988-89	11,19,625	11,41,297	1,79,344	39,383	1,20,638	2,22,729	40,018	
1989-90	16,07,257	14,26,674	3,78,527	56,415	1,20,607	93,009	1,27,502	
1990-91	14,27,270	16,54,454	5,53,041	6,81,565	1,80,401	1,18,470	14,769	
1991-92	17,35,003	16,47,263	4,04,636	96,459	2,39,005	2,07,749	13,295	

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Burhar

Table No. 91
Income And Expenditure Of Dhanpuri Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Water Supply	Road	
1980-81	3,14,130	3,09,112	15,090	18,000	90,000	4,000	50,000	
1985-86	1,37,269	13,54,920	2,17,499	2,53,790	3,15,415	2,48,316	29,842	
1986-87	18,46,333	17,87,322	2,46,413	3,14,120	4,15,119	2,50,115	3,15,000	
1987-88	24,97,479	25,91,362	3,48,616	6,17,119	3,20,000	3,14,000	3,00,000	
1988-89	28,69,942	26,13,966	2,98,000	5,72,000	3,54,600	6,12,000	2,98,000	
1989-90	29,88,473	32,46,158	3,14,212	7,13,000	5,76,000	3,07,000	1,87,000	
1990-91	60,55,959	39,71,354	3,25,212	8,54,000	3,22,500	3,12,600	1,09,710	
1991-92	54,03,930	64,47,776	3,70,813	4,13,900	3,42,700	9,14,615	17,64,000	

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Dhanpuri

Table No. 92
Income And Expenditure Of Pali Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads				(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1980-81	1,25,947	82,913	20,388		13,202		

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
1985-86	7,75,826	6,66,148	81,700	-	35,388
1986-87	10,84,924	9,94,878	61,220	2,21,636	36,428
1987-88	9,09,924	8,80,955	3,88,584	-	42,195
1988-89	10,18,176	8,75,751	1,52,985	6,138	39,494
1989-90	15,55,212	12,27,925	4,08,963	-	1,08,761
1990-91	16,15,081	14,38,196	2,02,197	1,83,466	1,44,682

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Pali

Table No. 93
Income And Expenditure Of Kotma Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Education	Water Supply	
1980-81	5,04,267	4,72,486	10,275	9,948	25,582	-	44,684	-
1985-86	10,48,445	10,24,933	1,152	56,936	58,738	3,267	1,60,935	2,11,361
1986-87	7,94,367	6,97,118	24,950	46,218	74,191	1,821	81,363	-
1987-88	13,02,081	10,29,746	49,676	1,18,269	61,299	1,644	1,48,771	48,420
1988-89	14,76,245	14,07,597	2,51,625	34,440	25,772	2,994	1,02,326	17,153
1989-90	13,66,785	11,72,546	10,686	1,23,840	41,885	3,799	71,286	12,000
1990-91	14,37,650	13,19,995	-	50,572	76,241	7,447	1,82,813	-
1991-92	27,03,565	23,91,051	7,286	23,500	1,18,632	9,516	2,60,134	86,201

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Kotma

Table No. 94
Income And Expenditure Of Bijuri Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Expenditure Under Different Heads					
			Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Roads		
1980-81	80,990	48,736	7,328	36,765	2,094	-	-	
1985-86	4,18,356	4,09,522	74,877	3,21,149	13,496	-	-	
1986-87	4,59,526	4,05,374	55,396	2,60,509	19,534	69,936		
1987-88	7,00,180	6,55,264	88,548	5,16,791	29,191	20,734		
1988-89	7,29,075	3,47,702	-	2,28,169	19,533	1,00,000		
1989-90	9,88,556	5,42,000	22,000	2,30,000	30,000	2,25,000		
1990-91	9,79,103	8,61,682	20,000	5,61,087	78,296	84,057		

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Bijuri

Table No. 95
Income And Expenditure Of Anuppur Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Education	Road	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1980-81	1,66,477	1,74,151	2,552	750	11,523	684	40,382	(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1985-86	8,09,815	6,24,150	10,681	11,089	29,895	1,900	90,449
1986-87	8,43,285	8,79,208	2,67,274	2,557	40,878	11,000	2,80,892
1987-88	15,39,442	14,12,177	3,43,174	2,715	47,170	13,874	5,69,886
1988-89	14,65,317	14,15,317	55,298	3,000	50,416	4,000	3,54,316
1989-90	11,98,168	10,45,889	1,08,749	4,367	60,152	5,411	4,54,677
1990-91	13,51,278	10,45,889	1,25,823	2,438	48,210	7,419	76,689
1991-92	27,24,585	2,026	2,23,837	10,02,633	84,454	11,700	6,09,216

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Anuppur

Table No. 96
Income And Expenditure Of Pasan Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure Under Different Heads					(In Rs.)
	Income	Expenditure	Public		Street		Education	
			Health	Works	Lighting			
1980-81	3,78,131	2,29,441	3,471	-	95	10,048		
1985-86	7,67,262	10,53,613	1,68,634	67,772	9,460	325		
1986-87	11,54,110	10,36,784	1,97,123	4,60,443	38,511	12,286		
1987-88	7,81,332	8,78,748	2,45,475	3,52,362	23,051	2,379		
1988-89	10,58,513	10,16,332	3,53,564	1,98,762	1,29,684	-		
1989-90	11,86,774	8,98,047	3,56,439	4,24,251	1,04,649	-		
1990-91	12,65,111	9,61,113	1,69,584	1,56,630	1,44,340	-		

Source : Chief Municipal Officer, Patan

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Pasan

Table No. 97
Income And Expenditure Of Jekthari Municipality

Year	Total		Expenditure under Different Heads					(In Rs.)	
	Income	Expenditure	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Education	Water Supply		Roads
1980-81	3,90,847	3,78,432	20,715	80,348	32,352	2,815	65,171	30,748	
1985-86	4,41,931	4,12,315	22,710	97,545	44,840	3,931	80,721	1,70,780	
1986-87	8,28,310	7,28,873	28,370	64,007	53,768	3,880	47,989	1,23,589	
1987-88	9,40,398	9,25,172	21,635	1,31,036	1,38,807	4,116	23,634	1,38,693	
1988-89	1,00,881	8,75,519	24,142	44,008	93,159	2,387	98,472	77,583	
1989-90	13,49,934	11,06,370	30,365	1,13,761	70,177	1,453	57,888	1,60,827	
1990-91	15,58,861	13,74,900	30,463	2,16,641	65,178	3,752	62,042	1,80,000	
1991-92	19,15,776	17,39,530	40,730	1,25,733	1,13,834	6,455	2,60,619	2,06,848	

Source: Chief Municipal Officer, Jekthari

Table No. 98

Income Of Nowrozabad And Beohari Municipalities

(In '000 Rs.)

Year	Nowrozabad	Beohari
1985-86	446	261
1986-87	581	804
1987-88	932	811
1988-89	945	852
1989-90	1,253	1,905

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Pustika, Shahdol, 1990

Table No. 99

Gram Panchayats And Janapada Panchayats

Year	Number Of Villages	Gram Panchayats		Janapada Panchayats	
		Number Of Panchayats	Income (In Rs.)	Number Of Janapada Panchayats	Income (In Rs.)
1980-81	2,143	461	-	12	-
1985-86	2,098	553	27,65,000	12	94,50,000
1986-87	2,098	553	-	12	-
1987-88	2,098	553	80,61,000	12	4,96,000
1988-89	2,098	632	70,92,000	12	12,90,000
1989-90	2,098	632	78,15,000	12	13,82,000

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, Shahdol, 1990

Table No. 100

Growth Of Literacy Percentage

Year	Persons			Males			Females		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1981	19.49	14.52	42.42	29.64	24.10	54.21	8.75	4.71	28.67
1991	27.86	21.70	50.84	38.90	32.61	61.27	16.13	10.37	38.84

Source : Census Report 1981 and 1991

Table No. 101

Growth Of Girls Education

Year	Primary		Middle Schools		Higher Secondary Schools	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1980-81	97	13,626	31	10,328	7	7,085
1985-86	107	37,240	30	16,893	11	7,559
1986-87	110	40,875	31	16,847	12	7,051
1987-88	112	45,195	32	21,782	12	9,283
1988-89	112	41,775	34	24,556	12	9,048
1989-90	113	50,282	36	23,483	12	11,378

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, 1990, Shahdol

Table No. 102

Progress Of Primary Schools

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female
1980-81	1,424	97	54,534	19,626	2,407	323
1985-86	1,588	107	73,369	37,240	3,164	342
1986-87	1,648	110	76,473	40,875	3,108	412
1987-88	1,779	112	74,986	45,195	3,424	466
1988-89	1,784	112	69,950	41,775	3,573	475
1989-90	1,810	113	81,559	50,282	3,838	479

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, 1990, Shahdol

Table No. 103

Progress Of Middle Schools

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female
1980-81	253	31	31,335	10,328	1,713	227
1985-86	280	30	50,303	16,893	1,938	245
1986-87	291	31	47,671	16,847	2,001	239
1987-88	312	32	55,179	21,782	2,348	246
1988-89	309	34	60,880	24,556	2,318	251
1989-90	312	36	52,940	23,483	2,342	284

Source : Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, Shahdol

Table No. 104

Progress Of Higher Secondary Schools

Year	No. Of Schools		No. Of Students		No. Of Teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Male	Female
1980-81	52	8	18,741	7,085	748	119
1985-86	63	11	25,077	7,559	906	178
1986-87	65	11	24,841	7,051	1,128	173
1987-88	85	12	32,104	9,283	1,384	184
1989-90	95	13	36,448	11,378	1,705	179

Source :- Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, Shahdol, 1990

Table No. 105

Progress Of Adult Education Centres

Year	No. Of Centres Or Classes Working		Adults Enrolled		Adults Made Literate	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
1980-81	100	100	5,013	375	4,494	268
1985-86	390	666	11,700	9,990	9,797	6,527
1986-87	326	333	9,780	8,650	7,413	6,127
1987-88	326	226	9,981	8,650	7,413	6,127
1988-89	329	253	9,929	2,793	7,193	5,146
1989-90	366	228	11,022	6,798	9,421	6,065
1990-91	380	1,220	11,400	5,590	3,756	2,556
1991-92	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Source :- Deputy Director, Panchayat and Social Welfare, Shahdol

Table No. 106

Progress Of Social Education Activities

Year	No. Of Cinema Shows Organised	No. Of Kalapathak Programmes	No. Of Persons Benefitted	No. Of Library Centres
1980-81	171	--	--	18
1985-86	179	129	60	17
1986-87	179	139	54	11
1987-88	177	137	49	--
1988-89	102	139	61	--
1989-90	142	90	45	--
1990-91	122	105	42	--
1991-92	132	101	51	05

Source :- Deputy Director, Panchayat and Social Welfare, Shahdol

Table No. 107

Scheduled Caste And Scheduled Tribe Students

Year	Primary		Middle		Higher Secondary		Colleges	
	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.
1980-81	1,351	38,745	2,131	8,267	1,022	2,906	74	214
1985-86	9,051	50,558	4,409	14,798	1,557	4,347	N.A.	N.A.
1986-87	9,526	49,083	4,289	14,023	1,692	4,397	--	--
1987-88	11,482	58,290	5,707	20,949	1,998	4,816	--	--
1988-89	11,038	49,648	4,743	17,562	2,172	6,227	--	--
1989-90	11,696	48,293	4,675	18,229	2,812	6,029	--	--

Source :- Zila Sankhyiki Sargranth, 1990, Shahdol

Table No. 108

Progress Of Maharaja Martand Degree College, Kotma (Shahdol)

Year	No. Of Students	No. Of Teachers	Grant-in- aid From State Govt. (In Rs.)	Grant-in- aid From U.G.C. (In Rs.)	Total Income (In Rs.)	Expenditure (In Rs.)
1987-88	265	09	--	--	13,840	35,000
1988-89	234	09	--	--	14,910	4,00,000
1989-90	297	09	--	--	16,380	5,17,000
1990-91	349	09	--	--	15,948	6,34,000
1991-92	229	09	--	--	15,304	6,29,000

Source :- Principal, Govt. M.M. College, Kotma, District Shahdol

Table No. 109

Progress Of Government Post Graduate College, Shahdol

Year	No. Of Students				No. Of Teachers	Income (In Rs.)	Expenditure (In Rs.)
	Arts	Commerce	Science	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1980-81	304	212	568	1,584	59	--	--
1985-86	911	324	613	1,848	59	1,24,669	24,94,005
1986-87	1,051	415	753	2,216	58	1,33,024	27,73,864
1987-88	756	327	449	1,532	59	1,08,708	33,83,737

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1988-89	490	245	653	1,386	51	1,17,625	33,99,234
1989-90	625	277	760	1,662	58	1,37,655	47,55,741
1990-91	504	185	482	1,171	54	93,446	48,66,537
1991-92	485	162	682	1,329	53	1,61,774	52,07,644
1992-93	932	212	670	1,614	50	85,148	38,81,741

Source :- Principal, Government College, Shahdol

Table No. 110

List Of Government Colleges, Shahdol

(As On 1-7-1992)

S.N.	Name	Faculties
1.	Government Post- Graduate Boys College, Shahdol	Arts, Commerce, Science.
2.	Government Girls' College, Shahdol	Arts, Commerce, Science, Home Sc.
3.	Government College, Buddhar	Arts, Commerce, Science, Law
4.	Government College, Umaria	Arts, Commerce
5.	Government College Kalyanpur	Sanskrit
6.	Government College, Pushparajghar	Arts, Commerce
7.	Government College, Beohari	Arts, Commerce, Science
8.	Government College, Jaisinghnagar	Arts, Commerce, Science
9.	Government College, Anuppur	Arts, Science
10.	Government College, Kotma	Arts, Commerce .
11.	Government College, Birsinghpur Pali	Arts
12.	Government College, Jaitpur	Arts.

Table No. 111

Progress Of Medical And Public Health Activities

Description	Years	
	As On 31.3.1991	As on 31.3.1992
1	2	3
1. Primary Health Centres		
Number	27	27
No. of Beds	36	36
2. Hospitals including Nursing Homes		
Number	15	15 (Private & Govt)
No. of Beds	428	428
3. M.C.W. Centres		
Number	4	4
No. of Beds	Nil	Nil
4. Special Medical Institutions		
Leprosy Homes	Nil	Nil
V.D. Clinics	1	1
T.B. Clinics	1	1
Ayurvedic Clinics	42	42
5. No. of Registered Nurses	43	50
6. No. of Registered Vaccinators	42	39
7. No. of Registered Midwives	231	254
8. List of Family Planning Clinics		
Govt.	12 Rural 2 Urban	12 Rural 2 Urban
Non Govt.	10	10

Source :- Chief Medical and Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 112

Births, Deaths And Their Rates

Year	Total No. Of Births	Total No. Of Deaths	Birth Rate Per Thousand	Death Rate Per Thousand
1	2	3	4	5
1975	6,272	3,541	5.61	3.17
1980	5,366	3,946	4.40	3.24
1985	5,691	3,387	3.85	2.29
1986	8,002	5,266	5.28	3.48
1987	9,323	5,658	6.01	3.65

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
1988	10,007	5,581	6.30	3.51
1989	10,305	6,128	6.33	3.77
1990	10,096	5,684	6.06	3.44
1991	10,875	7,764	6.37	4.55

Source :- District Statistical Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 113
Infant And Maternal Mortality Rates

Year	Infant Mortality per 1000 Live Births	Maternal Mortality per 1000 Total Births
1975	41.61	N.A.
1980	28.70	2.05
1985	31.10	1.93
1986	29.74	3.12
1987	31.86	4.18
1988	26.08	3.90
1989	27.85	6.40
1990	21.89	6.34
1991	26.67	7.08

Source :- District Statistical Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 114
Deaths And Their Causes

Year	Cholera	Fever	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Respiratory Causes (T.B.)	Injuries and Accidents	All Others
1975	-	1,421	132	381	-	1,607
1980	-	855	151	92	-	2,848
1985	-	603	75	56	162	2,491
1986	-	606	376	189	261	3,834
1987	4	960	438	148	446	3,662
1988	119	941	328	157	378	3,658
1989	44	1,038	185	78	499	4,284
1990	19	934	199	217	650	3,665
1991	189	1,241	876	161	763	4,534

Source :- District Statistical Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 115
Vaccination

Year	Primary Vaccination					Revaccination			
	T.T.	DPT	Polio	BCG	Measles	DPT	Polio	BCG	Measles
	II t.b.	3rd	3rd	Under Year	Under Year	B	B		
1988	20,299	32,626	28,536	31,558	22,351	1,974	1,434	13,278	3,108
1989	39,136	53,082	49,547	32,447	46,432	10,964	10,725	6,948	4,357
1990	59,700	43,487	44,470	55,202	35,231	10,034	10,192	8,146	3,823
1991	47,291	48,277	50,425	41,495	40,357	11,620	11,227	3,958	2,420
1992	20,060	23,550	22,324	28,547	23,413	3,518	3,559	4,183	2,382

Source :- Chief Medical and Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 116
B.C.G. Campaign

Year	Total Registered	Total Vaccinated
1975	67,750	28,024
1980	55,825	13,373
1985	9,571	9,571
1986	13,503	13,503
1987	33,520	33,520
1988	38,810	38,810
1989	57,365	57,365
1990	55,381	55,381
1991	57,887	57,887
1992	19,226	19,226

Source :- Chief Medical and Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 117

Work Done Under The Family Welfare Programme

Year	No. Of F.P. Centres & Sub-Centres	Population Served By Each Centre	Vasectomy Done	Tubectomy Done	IUCD(Loop Insertion)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1975-76	-	-	1,640	759	748
1980-81	40	28.74	870	651	206
1985-86	48	28.00	1,278	5,687	2,420
1986-87	56	27.70	2,251	8,676	3,357
1987-88	137	11.59	749	6,320	3,748
1988-89	137	11.87	840	8,197	6,053
1989-90	137	11.87	398	6,671	7,348
1990-91	-	-	404	7,400	7,628
1991-92	-	-	655	11,046	8,785

Source :- Chief Medical and Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 118

Number Of Patients Treated In The District

Year	Outdoor	Indoor
1985	13,905	7,28,828
1986	17,700	7,61,914
1987	18,305	8,27,859
1988	19,595	8,52,125
1989	19,343	7,32,463
1990	22,469	8,65,018
1991	26,729	8,05,484
1992	19,723	5,93,667
(in complete)		

Source :- Chief Medical and Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 119

Number Of Patients Treated At Jaitpur, Umaria, Amarpur & Dhanpuri

Year	Civil Hospital, Jaitpur		Umaria		Amarpur	Regional Hospital, Dhanpuri	
	Indoor	Outdoor	Indoor	Outdoor	Outdoor	Indoor	Outdoor
1975	Nil	Nil	6,553	43,964	6,048	N.A.	N.A.
1980	Nil	Nil	6,759	46,832	7,065	N.A.	N.A.
1985	21	19,535	8,020	51,102	8,001	1062	16,161
1986	Nil	18,246	7,113	52,977	8,409	851	17,904
1987	47	19,422	10,697	60,412	8,011	855	31,831
1988	97	23,094	17,404	55,910	8,478	751	37,134
1989	133	21,827	17,464	46,395	7,006	627	37,641
1990	93	18,193	14,628	50,096	6,293	701	37,320
1991	149	13,421	17,473	43,628	4,694	847	41,754
1992	5	2,244	3,980	15,469	1,358	739	42,982
(Up to 31.3.92)							

Source :- Medical Officers of Respective Centres As Above

Table No. 120
Family Welfare Centres (Rural/Urban) In The District
(As On 31.3.92)]

S.No.	Name Of Family Planning Centre	Exact Location	Date Of Opening	Doctors		Nurses		Other Staff	
				Male	Female	Male	Female		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
URBAN									
1.	Postmartum Centre, Shahdol	Distt. Hospital Shahdol	1977-78	0	1	5	5	5	
2.	Postmartum Centre, Umaria	Civil Hospital Umaria	1987	0	1	3	4		
RURAL									
3.	P.H.C. Beohari	Beohari	1958-59	1	1	3	4		
4.	P.H.C. Manpur	Manpur	1962-63	1	-	2	4		
5.	P.H.C. Karkeli	Karkeli	1960-61	1	-	2	4		
6.	P.H.C. Burhar	Burhar	1961-62	1	1	3	4		
7.	P.H.C. Singhpur	Singhpur	1969-70	1	-	3	4		
8.	P.H.C. Jaithari	Jaithari	1960-61	1	-	2	4		
9.	P.H.C. Anuppur	Anuppur	1963-64	1	-	3	4		
10.	P.H.C. Kotma	Kotma	1958-59	1	-	4	5		
11.	P.H.C. Pushprajgarh	Pushprajgarh	1960-61	1	-	4	5		
12.	P.H.C. Pali	Pali	1970-71	1	-	3	4		

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(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13.	P.H.C. Gohparu	Gohparu	1975-76	1	-	3	3	
14.	P.H.C. Jaisinghnagar	Jaisinghnagar	1960-61	1	1	4	5	
15.	Adl. F.W. Centre Burhar	Burhar	1983-84	-	-	2	-	

Note :- Facility of T.T., L.T.T. & M.P.T. and Treatment is available at all the above Centres

Source :- Chief Medical & Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 121

Primary Health Centres Of The District (As In 1992)

S.No.	Name & Location Of PHC	Year Of Opening	Number Of Sub-Centres	Staff	Total Beds			
				ANO	Health	Midwife	Dai	
				(ANM)				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Sinhpur	1969-70	33	-	7	-	26	6
2.	Budhar	1961-62	39	2	-	26	-	6
3.	Anuppur	1963-64	27	2	-	16	-	30
4.	Kotma	1958-59	35	1	-	23	-	30
5.	Jaithari	1960-61	19	3	-	10	-	30
6.	Pali	1970-71	14	2	-	13	-	6
7.	Pushprajgarh	1960-61	39	2	-	20	-	30
8.	Karkeli	1960-61	38	-	-	29	-	6

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9.	Manpur	1962-63	36	5	.	22	.	6
10.	Beohari	1958-59	32	3	.	23	.	30
11.	Jaisinghnagar	1960-61	33	3	.	23	.	30
12.	Gohparu	1975-76	26	3	.	22	.	6

Source :- Chief Medical & Health Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 122

List Of Govt. Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic Dispensaries In Shahdol District
(As on 31.3.1992)

S.No.	Name & Place	Tahsil	Class A, B, or C
1	2	3	4
1.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Kalyanpur	Sohagpur	A
2.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Badhwabda	Sohagpur	A
3.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Maika	Sohagpur	A
4.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Khairaha	Sohagpur	A
5.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Jhiriya	Sohagpur	A
6.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Jhikwijuri	Sohagpur	A
7.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Keshwahi	Sohagpur	A
8.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Balwahara	Sohagpur	A
9.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Gohparu	Sohagpur	A
10.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Khannandhi	Sohagpur	A
11.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Palsanjh	Sohagpur	A
12.	Govt. District Hospital, Shahdol	Sohagpur	A
13.	Govt. Homoeo Dispensary, Dhanpuri	Sohagpur	A
14.	Govt. Homoeo Dispensary, Budhar	Sohagpur	
15.	Govt. Homoeo Dispensary, Shahdol	Sohagpur	
16.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Vansukli	Jaisingh Nagar	A
17.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Karki	Jaisingh Nagar	A
18.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Podi	Jaisingh Nagar	A
19.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ukri	Jaisingh Nagar	A
20.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Barach	Jaisingh Nagar	A
21.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Beohari	Beohari	A
22.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Sarsi	Beohari	A
23.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Marai	Beohari	A
24.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Chouri	Beohari	A
25.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Akhetpur	Beohari	A
26.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Khanda	Beohari	A
27.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Papandh	Beohari	A
28.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Khaira	Beohari	A
29.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Chilhari	Bandhaogarh	A
30.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Raipur	Bandhaogarh	A

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
31.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Rohaniyan	Bandhaogarh	A
32.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Balhaua	Bandhaogarh	A
33.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Chacharia	Bandhaogarh	A
34.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Bilaspur	Bandhaogarh	A
35.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Akhadar	Bandhaogarh	A
36.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Rahathan	Bandhaogarh	A
37.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Pushprajgarh	Pushprajgarh	A
38.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Benibari	Pushprajgarh	A
39.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Pushprajgarh	Pushprajgarh	A
40.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Anuppur	Anuppur	A
41.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Dhurwasin	Anuppur	A
42.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ghiraul	Anuppur	A
43.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Bamhani	Anuppur	A
44.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Byankatnagar	Anuppur	A
45.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Midingrash	Anuppur	A
46.	Govt. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Wijuri	Kotma	A
47.	Govt. Homoeo Dispensary, Kotma	Kotma	A

Source: Superintendent-cum-District Ayurvedic Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 123
Anti Malaria Work Done By NMEP Unit Shahdol

S.No.	Particulars	Year										
		1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	Up to September
1.	Number Of Fever Cases Detected	1,05,866	1,23,070	1,02,478	1,04,182	1,05,685	1,30,638	1,40,827	1,43,587	1,40,298	90,364	
2.	No. Of Cases in which Blood Smears Collected	99,750	1,23,070	96,199	1,04,182	1,05,685	1,30,638	1,40,827	1,43,587	1,40,298	86,328	
3.	Result (Cases found Positive)	8,064	2,907	611	1,831	1,226	1,265	1,400	1,258	2,014	1,825	
4.	Numbers of Villages in which DDT Spraying was done	353	1,983	1,875	770	1,455	1,010	202	91	111	98	

Source:- Malaria Officer, I/C NMEP Unit, Shahdol

Table No. 124
Offences Registered Under Excise Act
 (1980 to 1990)

S.No.	Offences	Total Number Of Offences
1.	Illicit Distillation of Liquor	6,395
	Other	748
2.	Illicit Cultivation of <i>Ganja</i>	91
	Other	1,208
3.	Smuggling of Opium	2
	Other	5
4.	<i>Madak</i>	2
5.	<i>Mahua</i> Act	1,305
6.	<i>Posta</i> Act	37

Source: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 125
Number Of Liquor Shops In Shahdol District

Year	Number of Shops	
	Country Liquor	Foregin Liquor
1980	48	5
1985	20	10
1986	25	10
1987	25	10
1988	27	12
1989	29	13
1990	29	13
1991	35	15
1992	39	16

Source: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 126
Reduction In The Strength Of Country Liquor In Shahdol District

Year	Strength Unit	
	Masala	Plain
1980	25 Under Proof	45 Up + 60 Up
1985	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1986	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1987	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1988	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1989	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1990	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1991	25 Under Proof	50 Up
1992	25 Under Proof	50 Up

Source: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 127
Number Of Classified Offences Of Liquor In Shahdol District

Year	Smuggling of Liquor	Illicit Distillation of Liquor	Other Offences
1980	-	716	124
1985	-	321	52
1986	-	685	71
1987	-	983	72
1988	-	838	80
1989	-	607	10
1990	-	682	144
1991	-	723	238
1992	-	715	142

Sources: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 128

Number Of Hemp Drug And Opium Offences In Shahdol District

Year	Hemp Drug			Opium		Offences relating to Madak and Sline	Total Offences
	Illicit Cultivation Ganja & Sline	Other Offences	Total	Smuggling Of Opium	Other Offences		
1980	4	123	127	2	4	2	262
1985	14	23	37	-	-	-	37
1986	7	19	26	-	1	-	27
1987	2	63	65	1	-	-	66
1988	4	33	37	-	1	-	38
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	7	7	-	-	-	7
1991	1	6	7	-	3	-	10
1992	-	4	4	-	4	-	8

Source: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 129

Position Of Prosecution For
Excise Offences In Shahdol District

Year	No. Of Persons	Fines Imposad (In Rs.)	Rewards Paid Informations Capters etc.
1980	724	8,300	-
1985	383	11,175	-
1986	741	11,920	-
1987	1,089	19,775	-
1988	956	22,030	-
1989	662	23,268	-
1990	737	62,015	-
1991	801	42,475	-
1992	726	30,550	-

Source: District Excise Officer, Shahdol

Table No. 130

Lok Sabha Elections In Shahdol Constituency (S.T.)
1977-1989

Year of Election	Total Number of	
	Voters	Valid Votes Polled
1977	5,80,106	2,32,745
1980	6,36,794	2,56,891
1984	7,16,012	3,15,148
1989	9,44,232	Election Postponed

Source:- Lok Sabha Election Report of the respective years

Table No. 131
Vidhan Sabha Election in Shahdol District 1977-1990

Year of Election	Total Number of (a) Voters (b) Valid Votes Polled	Name and Class of Constituency							
		Bechari	Umaria	Norozabad (S.T.)	Jaisingh nagar (S.T.)	Kotma (S.T.)	Anuppur (S.T.)	Sohagpur Pushprajgarh (S.T.)	
1977	(a)	70,767	72,358	64,507	75,957	78,293	76,244	78,542	65,587
	(b)	33,136	30,394	24,257	23,729	19,289	29,092	42,093	18,834
1980	(a)	78,936	77,715	72,062	80,733	88,025	83,375	86,415	71,374
	(b)	30,866	30,866	24,577	24,906	23,643	26,953	41,640	20,825
1985	(a)	96,239	91,369	80,035	89,198	1,02,960	96,128	1,04,809	79,893
	(b)	47,493	37,946	29,364	28,250	27,636	28,713	57,704	22,269
1990	(a)	1,17,912	1,16,196	1,06,819	1,13,491	1,31,325	1,20,408	1,36,367	1,04,225
	(b)	63,129	49,970	43,657	40,826	49,026	51,946	70,641	37,064

Source:- Vidhan Sabha Election Reports of the respective year

Table No. 132
Votes Polled by Political Parties in Shahdol Lok Sabha
Constituency (S.T.)

Year of Election	Total Number of Valid Votes Polled by				
	Congress(I)	B.L.D.	Janta	Janta(S.)	B.J.P.
1977	68,093	1,64,658	—	—	—
1980	1,26,011	—	69,527	48,858	—
1984	1,93,579	—	37,093	—	53,322
1989	Election	Postponed			

Source:- Lok Sabha Election Reports of the respective year.

Note:- B.L.D. :- Bhartiya Lok Dal

B.J.P. :- Bhartiya Janta Party

Table No. 133
Votes Polled By Political Parties in Vidhan Sabha Election, 1977

S. No.	Name and Class of Constituency	Total Number of Valid Votes Polled By		
		Congress (I)	Janta Party	C.P.I.
1.	Beohari	9,196	14,953	2,328
2.	Umaria	7,682	17,153	--
3.	Norozabad (S.T.)	5,009	14,350	--
4.	Jaisinghnagar (S.T.)	4,139	16,116	2,901
5.	Kotma (S.T.)	2,946	10,236	--
6.	Anuppur (S.T.)	8,790	10,065	854
7.	Sohagpur	20,518	16,766	2,782
8.	Pushprajgarh (S.T.)	3,851	12,282	--

Source:- Vidhan Sabha Election Report, 1977

Note:- C.P.I. :- Communist Party of India

Table No. 134
Votes Polled By Political Parties in Vidhan Sabha Election, 1980

S. No.	Name and Class of Constituency	Total Number of Valid Votes Polled By			
		Congress (I)	B.J.P.	J (S.C.)	J (J.P.) C.P.I.
1.	Beohari	19,322	5,999	9,912	—
2.	Umaria	9,658	1,345	7,766	1,347 876
3.	Norozabad (S.T.)	8,812	10,105	1,406	1,196 —
4.	Jaisinghnagar (S.T.)	8,271	4,472	1,427	6,197 —
5.	Kotma (S.T.)	11,053	4,083	3,953	3,515 —
6.	Anuppur (S.T.)	17,350	3,991	3,799	— 1,154
7.	Sohagpur	23,168	6,125	2,205	— 4,451
8.	Pushprajgarh (S.T.)	9,785	2,712	637	5,211 —

Source - Vidhan Sabha Election Report, 1980

Table No. 135
Votes Polled By Political Parties in Vidhan Sabha Election, 1985

S. No.	Name and Class of Constituency	Total Number of Valid Votes Polled By			
		Congress (I)	B.J.P.	Janta Party	Lokdal Com. C.P.M.
1.	Beohari	17,954	8,819	15,490	1,365 —
2.	Umaria	24,894	4,636	4,217	1,853 1,557 —
3.	Norozabad (S.T.)	13,052	12,757	1,370	— — —
4.	Jaisinghnagar (S.T.)	11,509	3,755	7,883	— — 1,511
5.	Kotma (S.T.)	13,978	3,623	5,181	— — 2,285
6.	Anuppur (S.T.)	17,642	4,157	1,758	758 2,897 —
7.	Sohagpur	31,493	1,956	12,490	— 9,907 —
8.	Pushprajgarh (S.T.)	9,432	1,270	5,782	1,663 — 1,034

Source:- Vidhan Sabha Election Report, 1985

Note:- C.P.M. - Communist Party (Marxist)

Table No. 136
Votes Polled By Political Parties in Vidhan Sabha Election, 1980

S. No.	Name and Class of Constituency	Total Number of Valid Votes Polled By									
		Cong.(I)	B.J.P.	I.N.C.(S)	B.S.P.	D.D.	Lokdal	J.D.	R.S.P.	F.B.	C.P.I.
1.	Beohari	15,419	30,066	1,417	5,196	687	--	--	--	--	--
2.	Umaria	11,287	--	--	534	481	804	19,201	906	--	--
3.	Norozabad(S.T.)	11,343	25,041	--	535	--	775	--	239	892	--
4.	Jaisinghnagar (S.T.)	8,980	--	--	1,087	379	681	18,786	--	431	--
5.	Kotma (S.T.)	11,148	15,552	--	4,006	460	--	--	229	--	2,270
6.	Anuppur (S.T.)	16,868	21,515	--	2,837	--	--	--	575	--	5,698
7.	Sohagpur	18,332	13,945	--	5,235	498	151	--	489	--	10,306
8.	Pushprajgarh (S.T.)	10,010	--	--	1,397	441	--	19,123	517	--	--

Source:- Vidhan Sabha Election Report, 1980

Note:- I.N.C.(S.) = Indian National Congress(S)

B.S.P. = Bahujan Samaj Party

D.D. = Doordashi

R.S.P. = Revolutionary Socialist Party

J.D. = Jantel Dal

F.B. = Forward Block

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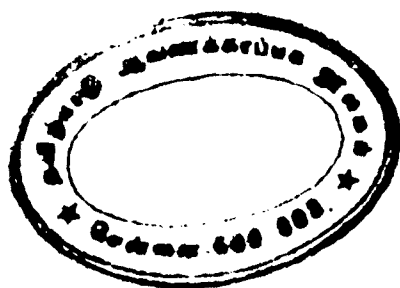
Page	Para	Line	For	Read
2	5	4	the the	The
3	2	12	tashsil	tahsil
3	foot note	7	Vol XXI	Vol. XXII
7	foot note	4	Magasthenes	Megasthene's
15	3	4	leva	lava
17	5	3	Tapti	Tapti-Zone
21	3	2	monopolises	monopolisers
25	1	3	dropping	dropping
35	2	14	Prash-thasri	Prash-thasriya
35	foot note	4	See the Age of Imperial Unity P.176	This corresponds to A.D.129. See The Age of Imperial Unity p.176
38	3	2	Vardhamanka	Vardhamanaka
43	1	12	fle	filed
44	1	2	strenous	strenuous
44	Heading	-	Bir Singha Deva	Bir Singh Deva
45	4	1	invited wrath	invited the wrath
50	Foot note 6	9	it appears	It appears
54	4	6	reballion	rebellion
54	Foot note 6	-	lihasa	Itihas
62	Foot note	-	Cenus	Census
69	Heading	-	diaplaced	displaced
72	Table	-	Populaton	Population
73	2	5	withour	without
85	5	2	fold	folk
87	1	2	benn	been
87	1	7	amosgst	amongst
88	3	3	distincion	distinction
94	1 (After Table	1	The tahsil...	"The tahsil...
98	7	2	The Contour	The area contour
102	4	7	bunded	bunded
103	5	3	on	of
106	2	10	Schiefly	Chiefly
112	2	5	tabulate	tabulated
113	4	6	dispesaries	dispensaries
115	2	2	Vague	Vogue
			Cultivations	Cultivators

Page	Para	Line	For	Read
120	5	10	tributory	tributary
121	3	3	may seen	may be seen
122	1	5	propsed	proposed
122	2	8	40 villages	of 40 villages
125	Table No. V.3		Tonne	Tonnes
126	1	1	fo	of
126	1	2	Majghawan	Majhgawan
126	3	4	machinary	machinery
126	3	7	ageints	agents
127	1	6	years	year
127	2	5	showin	showing
127	3	3	of	-
127	3	8	pland	planned
127	4	2	propsed	proposed
129	Table No. 5 heading	5		V-5
129	Table No. V-6 heading		of	on
130	2	5	pettern	pattern
130	2	8	employment	employments
131	1	1	stone lim	stone lime
132	5	5	at basic	and basic
134	1	6	Leather	Later
136	3	3	form	from
137	2	3&4	259.3 Tonnes	259.3 Thousand tonnes
139	3	2	back, appears	back, it appears
141	2	3	theirs	their
142	3	4	Products cinema	products; cinema
146	2	5	out-standing	outstanding
147	2	9	amalgated	amalgamated
152	5	Heading	Currncy	currency
153	2	1	Rewa	Rewah
153	3	Heading	Old Time Trade	Old Time Trade
153	Footnote	1	Commerce	
153	Footnote	1	Rewa	Rewah
164	1	8	give	given
164	Last	1	Where in	and
164	Last	Last	These roads	The roads are
			became	jeepable
				and become

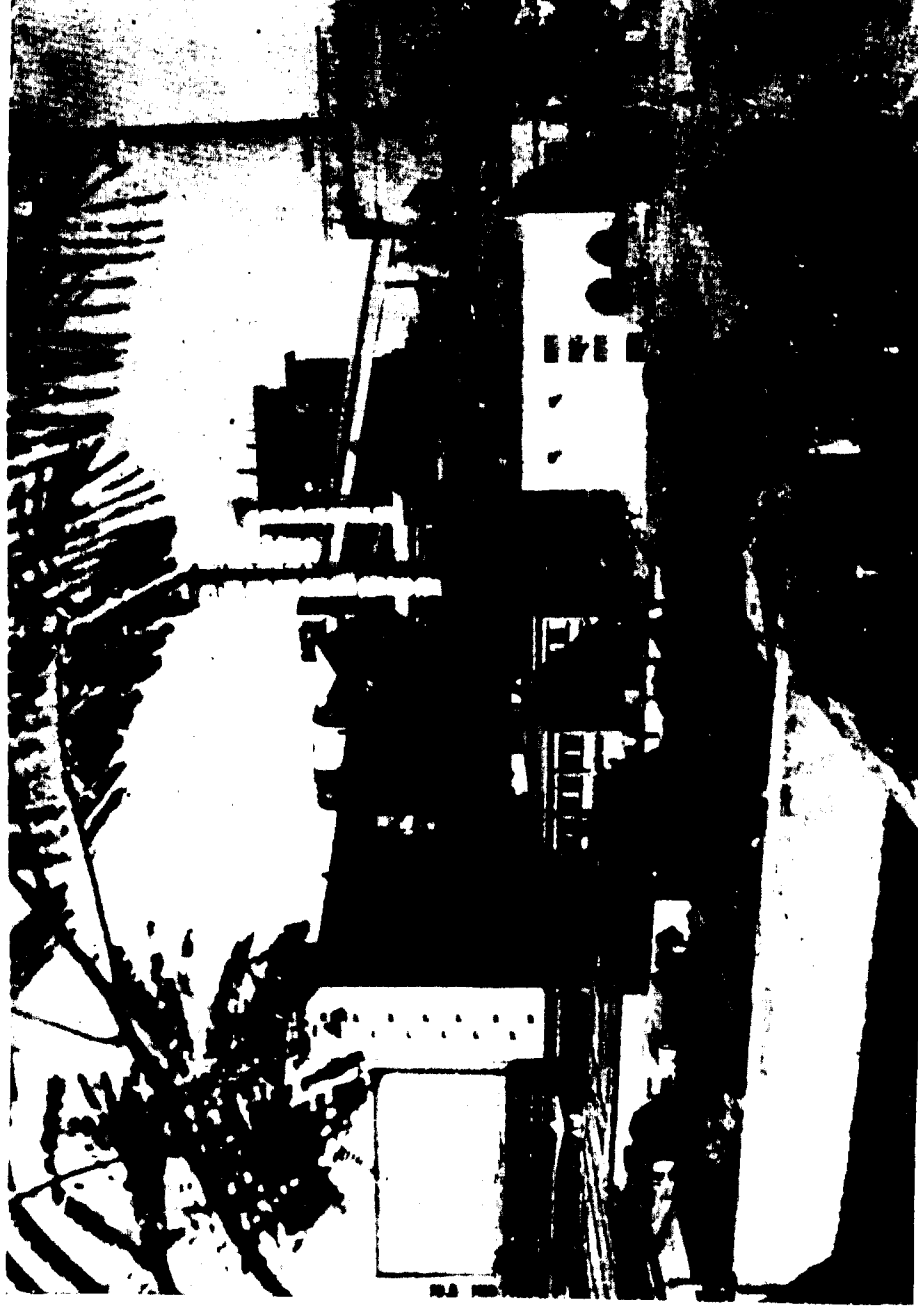
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165	First	3	Kilometre	Kilometres
165	First	3	North Forest	north forest
			Divsion	division
166	First	1	Passenger	Passengers
166	First	2	Farther	further
166	Last	1	form	from
166	Last	3	Turcks	Trucks
166	Last	4	Proporation	Proportion
166	Last	4	whereas	where as
166	Last	Last	able	also
167	First	1	were the only	were the main
			means	means
167	2	1	ecpecially	especially
167	2	11	with in the	with in the
			towns especially	towns.
			In narrow lanes.	
168	2	Last	better perfor-	better performance
			mance and	of services
			services	
168	3	13	Barha	Baraha
168	4	4	drivers	driver
168	1	2	weathes	weather
169	1	3	Pradedesh	Pradesh
			Shahdol-	Shahdol-Katni
			Katrirouts.	
169	1	7	Kilometre	Kilometres
169	2	4	Railway company	Railway
177	3	2	Services	Services
178	Table		Jaisingnagar	Jaisinghnagar
177	4	9	Sectors	Sector
180	2	2	servents	servants
180	5	1	partiular	particular
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182	1	1	proverty	poverty
182	1	5	continuous	continues
182	2	3	date	data
182	2	5	degress	degree
184	6	3	Pushparaigah	Pushparaigarh
187	1	2	are	area
187	4	1	suficient	sufficient

1	2	3	4	5
197	2	2	Beohri	Beohari
224	3	2	one at	one each at
228	3	2	1970 to 1074	1970 to 1914
228	3	6	Greatest	Greater
230	3	2	permissable	permissible
230	5	2	1955 to 1873	1955 to 1973
232	3	4	Co-operative Societies	Co-operative Societies
239	4	5	the state	the State
275	6	6	to the	to all the
280	Table XVI-4		Injuries Accidents	Injuries and Accidents
284	1	2	bubonia	bubonic
292	3	1	received attention	received more attention
310	3	1	election	reelection
331	3	6	markets meet	market meets

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- * Other Departments
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- * Education and Culture
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- * Other Social Services
- * Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations
- * Places of Interest
- Appendices
- Illustrations
- Maps

**தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பக நுதலகம்,
எழும்பு, சென்னை-600 008.**

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