

## CHAPTER XVIII

# PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

### REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

Six Lok Sabha and seven Vidhan Sabha elections were held in the district between 1952 and 1977. A brief description of these elections is given below :

#### Lok Sabha

During the last six general elections, the Hisar district formed part of different Lok Sabha constituencies and as such the results of these elections do not reflect the position of the district in its entirety. During the First General Elections, 1952, the present Hisar district formed part of Rohtak and Hisar Lok Sabha Constituencies. There were 4 contestants in Rohtak Constituency and 8 contestants in Hisar Constituency. From both the constituencies, Congress candidates were elected. During Second General Elections, 1957, the present Hisar district formed part of Hisar and Mahendragarh Lok Sabha Constituencies. There were 5 contestants in Hisar and 4 in Mahendragarh and both these constituencies returned Congress candidates. During the Third General Elections, 1962, there was no change in the limits of the constituencies. In Hisar, there were 6 candidates and a Socialist candidate was returned and in Mahendragarh, there were 9 candidates and a Jana Sangh candidate was returned.

After the formation of Haryana as a separate state in 1966, the present Hisar district formed the part of Sirsa (S.C.) and Hisar Lok Sabha Constituencies during 1967 and 1971 elections. There were 12 contestants in 1967 and 5 in 1971 in Sirsa (S.C.) Constituency and 7 contestants in 1967 and 8 in 1971 in Hisar Constituency and Congress candidates were returned both times from these constituencies.

During the Sixth General Elections, 1977, the district formed part of Sirsa, Bhiwani and Hisar Constituencies and there were 4, 3 and 2 contestants respectively. The Janata candidates captured all the three seats.

#### Vidhan Sabha

During the First General Elections, 1952, the present district constituted five Vidhan Sabha constituencies of Fatehabad (double

member), Hisar City, Hisar Sadar, Hansi and Narnaund. Two bye-elections were held in 1953 and 1956 from Fatehabad (double member) constituency.

The district went to polls in the Second General Elections in 1957. There was delimitation of certain constituencies. Narnaund constituency was added to Hansi which was made a double member constituency and Fatehabad double member constituency was split up into Tohana and Fatehabad constituencies. In the General Elections of 1962, Hansi (double member) constituency was divided again into single member constituencies of Hansi and Narnaund (S.C.) and thus there were six constituencies of Hisar City, Hisar Sadar, Hansi, Narnaund, Tohana and Fatehabad.

With the formation of Haryana in 1966, the Fourth General Elections were held in 1967 to Haryana Vidhan Sabha instead of Punjab Vidhan Sabha. Besides, mid-term elections were held in 1968 and 1972. The number of constituencies was raised from six to eight i.e. Narnaund, Hansi, Hisar, Tohana, Fatehabad, Barwala, Adampur and Badopal. The last Vidhan Sabha elections were held in June, 1977 when there were ten constituencies in the district.

The following details show the trend of elections held from time to time :—

**First General Elections, 1952.**—During the First General Elections, an independent and a Congress candidate were declared elected from Fatehabad (double member) constituency, and the remaining four constituencies of Hisar City, Hisar Sadar, Hansi and Narnaund returned congress candidates. The party-wise performance is given below :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- tage of the Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress	5	5	78,101	37.02
2. Bhartiya Jana Sangh	2	—	13,443	6.37
3. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	6	—	30,359	14.39
4. Zamindara Party	4	—	45,109	21.38
5. Independents	14	1	43,954	20.84
	31	6	2,10,966	100.00

The elections of Fatehabad double member constituency were declared void by the Election Tribunal and a bye-election was held in 1953. A Praja Socialist Party candidate and an independent candidate were elected from the general and reserve seats respectively. The election of the general seat was declared void by the Election Tribunal and a bye-election was held in 1956 and a congress candidate was declared elected.

**Second General Elections, 1957.**—During the Second General Elections, all the six seats were bagged by the Congress candidates. The performance of each party is given below :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- ntage of Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress	6	6	1,18,037	41.32
2. Bhartiya Jana Sangh	3	—	21,788	7.63
3. Communist Party of India	2	—	24,259	8.49
4. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	5	—	31,379	10.98
5. Independents	17	—	90,219	31.58
<b>Total :</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2,85,682</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Third General Elections, 1962.**—During the elections, out of six seats, two went to independents and the remaining four were won by Socialists. The party-wise performance is given below :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- ntage of the Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress	6	—	1,17,656	36.23
2. Swatantra Party	1	—	394	0.12
3. Bhartiya Jana Sangh	2	—	9,584	2.95
4. Praja Socialist Party	1	—	1,687	0.51
5. Communist Party of India	2	—	6,140	1.89
6. Republican Party of India	3	—	7,113	2.19
7. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	4	4	87,618	26.98
8. Independents	13	2	94,592	29.13
<b>Total :</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3,24,784</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Fourth General Elections, 1967.**—During the Fourth General Elections, 1967, all the eight seats were captured by Congress. The performance of each party has been shown below :—

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- tage of the Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress	8	8	1,47,088	47.44
2. Bhartiya Jana Sangh	4	—	17,127	5.52
3. Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1	—	746	0.24
4. Communist Party of India	1	—	1,069	0.34
5. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	7	—	45,189	14.98
6. Republican Party of India	2	—	3,708	1.20
7. Swatantra Party	1	—	2,040	0.66
8. Independents	27	—	93,071	30.02
<b>Total :</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3,10,038</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Mid-Term Elections, 1968.**—Haryana Vidhan Sabha was dissolved on November 21, 1967 and the Mid-Term Elections were held in May 1968. Out of the 8 seats, the Congress captured 4 seats, the Bhartiya Karanti Dal 1 seat, Swatantra 1 seat and the newly formed Vishal Haryana Party 2 seats. The party-wise position was as under :—

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- tage of the Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress	8	4	1,20,356	45.30
2. Bhartiya Jana Sangh	2	—	3,869	1.46
3. Bhartiya Karanti Dal	2	1	27,202	10.24
4. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	2	—	2,937	1.10
5. Republican Party	2	—	1,747	0.66
6. Swatantra Party	3	1	22,246	8.37
7. Vishal Haryana Party	3	2	42,775	16.09
8. Independents	13	—	45,570	16.78
<b>Total :</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2,65,702</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Mid-Term Elections, 1972.**—Haryana Vidhan Sabha was again dissolved and Mid-Term Elections were held in March 1972. Out of 8 seats, 6 were won by the Congress (Ruling), 1 by the Congress (organisation) and 1 by an independent. The party-wise position is given below:

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- ntage of the Valid Votes
1. Indian National Congress (Ruling)	8	6	1,84,629	50.28
2. Indian National Congress (organisation)	2	1	41,528	11.43
3. Samyukta Socialist Party of India	4	—	3,509	0.97
4. Communist Party of India	1	—	9,756	2.69
5. Arya Sabha	1	—	17,543	4.83
6. Hindu Maha Sabha	1	—	400	0.11
7. Vishal Haryana Party	1	—	8,069	2.22
8. Republican Party	3	—	6,864	1.89
9. Independents	19	19	90,981	25.04
<b>Total :</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3,63,279</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**General Elections, 1977.**—The last General Elections were held in June, 1977 and the district was divided into 10 assembly constituencies of Barwala, Narnaund, Hansi, Bhattu Kalan, Hisar, Girahe, Tohana, Ratia (S.C.), Fatehabad and Adampur. All the ten seats were won by the Janata party. The performance of each party is given below :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats Won	Valid Votes Polled	Perce- ntage of the Valid Votes
1. Janata Party	10	10	2,16,911	50.3
2. Indian National Congress (Indira)	5	—	39,595	8.8
3. Communist Party of India	3	—	16,394	3.9
4. Vishal Haryana Party	3	—	6,225	1.5
5. Independents	58	—	1,53,934	35.5
<b>Total :</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4,30,988</b>	<b>100.0</b>

There were 6,59,906 (3,56,124 males and 3,03,782 females) voters in the district in 1977, which were 11.1 per cent of the total voters of the state and 4,30,988 persons exercised their right of franchise. The voting percentage in the district was 65.01 as against 64.46 in the state.

### Political Parties and Organisation

There is no recognised local political party in the district. The result of various elections indicate that only regional and national parties have mass following. The Indian National Congress has remained dominant on the political arena of the district, till 1972. However, the Janata Party appeared in a dominating role in the last General Elections of 1977.

The independents having no political entity whatsoever do contest elections and get a sizeable popular votes. They do not contest elections with any programme and most of them are non-serious right from the beginning. Such candidates generally withdraw their candidatures before the polling or forfeit their securities. Their existence and success reflect two features. Some defect from their previous political parties on account of personal differences or differences relating to their political field, who after their success either continue to remain as independents, or extend their support to some political party.

### VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

There are several social service organisations which are functioning in the district. Many of these get state assistance. They undertake public welfare activities and their involvement in the service of humanity is commendable. The most important of them have been described below :

**Zila Sainik Board, Hisar.**—The board was constituted in 1930. The main aim of the board is to look after the interests and welfare of the soldiers, ex-servicemen and their families. Assistance is provided for resettlement of ex-servicemen under various schemes of self-employment. In 1977-78, the board spent about Rs. 2.08 lakh on various welfare activities.

**The Red Cross Society, Hisar .**—The District Red Cross Society at Hisar was established in 1948. It is affiliated to the state branch of the Indian Red Cross Society. Three affiliated sister societies i.e. St. John Ambulance Association, District Council for Child Welfare and Hospital Welfare Section were formed at Hisar simultaneously. The Red Cross responds to suffering and calamities like flood, fire and epidemics. With the time, the activities of the society have increased. The

expenditure of the society was Rs. 5.56 lakh in 1977 as against Rs. 1.24 lakh in 1966.

In 1978, the society was running two maternity and child welfare centres, one each at Hisar and Uklana Mandi, two family welfare planning clinics one each at Tohana and Fatehabad, five trained *dai* centres one each at Nangthala, Umra, Petwar, Satrod and Dabra, five welfare extension projects (4 rural and one urban) one each at Alipur, Talwandi Rukka, Bhagana, Mangali and Hisar and a Blind Relief school at Hisar.

The St. John Ambulance has provided ambulance service at Hisar, Hansi and Fatehabad. The association arranges training in first-aid and home nursing. It has provided four ambulance cars, one at each of the Civil Hospitals, Hisar, Hansi, Fatehabad and Tohana.

The Hospital Welfare Section undertakes free supply of medicines, ambulance service, food, clothes, magazines, books etc. to the needy patients in hospitals, health centres and T.B. clinics. The fruits and sweets are distributed on some occasions to the indoor patients.

The District Council for Child Welfare was running 11 *balwadis* in the district to provide recreational, educational, health and nutrition services to the children. These services are provided to the children of the age group 3 to 6 at Nehla, Agroha, Hisar, Satrod Khurd, Ladwa, Thurana, Umra and Bas. The council runs nine creches at different places in the district for the children of working and ailing mothers having monthly income of less than Rs. 300 per month. The council also provides supervised home work classes for pre-school education at seven different places in the district.

Besides, it runs two library-cum-play centres at Hisar.

**The District Relief Fund Committee.**—The committee was constituted in 1954 and is engaged in raising donations and provides grants to the institutions engaged in service of the humanity.

#### NEWS PAPERS AND PERIODICALS

There was no newspaper/periodical published from the Hisar district during pre-Independence days. First Hindi weekly published in 1948 from Hisar, was 'Gyanodaya' mainly dealing with news and current affairs. In 1950, another Hindi weekly 'Hariyana Sandesh' was started from Hisar. Two other such weeklies viz. 'Waqt-ki-Awaz' and 'Yuwak Wani' also appeared from Hisar in 1953 and 1960 respectively.

Two monthly publications, a Hindi magazine 'Amar Jyoti' and

'Adarsh Balpatrika' in English and Hindi appeared from Hisar in 1950 and 1955 respectively. In 1952, a quarterly magazine 'Morning Star' in Hindi, English, Punjabi and Urdu was also started from Hisar.

Different weeklies and monthlies were published from Hisar at different times. During 1978, the publications in the district were 22. Out of them 'Hariyana Sandesh' 'Gyanodaya' and 'Amar Jyoti' are worth-mentioning. All these publications have limited circulations and the newspapers from Delhi, Chandigarh and Jalandhar carry large circulation in the district.