

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Before the advent of the British, there were indigenous schools which provided elementary education. There were Mussalman *maktabs* presided over by the village mosque attendant (Maulvi). He taught the village boys passages out of the Koran by rote, as part of his customary duties. There were Nagri schools also where rural Pandit (Brahman) taught the boys to write in *mahajani* character.¹ The education in these schools was either gratuitous or the remuneration was provided by the scholar. These Maulvis or Brahman did not get anything like training for teaching and they normally knew as much as they taught in their schools. They were very much respected in the society.

The courses in these schools were very elementary in type and extended up to four years or so. The curriculum comprised 3 R's, the admission age was not fixed and the pupil could join school at any time of the year. There were no academic session and everything was flexible and depended entirely on the teacher who changed the session or promoted the pupil to next higher class according to capabilities or abilities of the individual student. As soon as the pupil mastered the elements of reading and writing, that finished his education. Sometimes, the teacher would move from village to village staying about 3 to 4 months at each place and taught the elements of reading, writing and arithmetic. In return, he got a small fee in cash or grain from the parents of the pupils.

The methods in these indigenous schools were crude and pupils were subjected to monotonous repetitive oral drill and loud recitation for hours.²

No serious efforts were made by the British for quite sometime and it was only in 1843 when James Thomson (1843-53) was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces that he directed all his subordinates to encourage people to receive education in indigenous schools scattered over the country. In 1856, a *tahsildari* school was opened at Hisar and a town school at Hansi. The course of instruction in these schools were reading, writing, grammar, composition, arithmetic, mensuration, algebra upto quadratics, the first four books of Euclid, the history and geography

1. *Hissar District Gazetteer*, 1892, pp. 112-113.
2. *Haryana Research Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 3, pp. 21-22.

of India, general geography, ancient history, the elements of political economy and planetable surveying. The medium of instruction was either Hindi or Urdu and in many instances both the vernaculars.¹ Besides, village schools to meet the needs of the peasantry were opened in a circle comprising ten to twenty villages. After the merger of the district in Punjab in 1858, the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab took charge of the educational establishments. However, due to administrative difficulties, the vernacular schools were entrusted to the Deputy Commissioner, a Deputy Inspector of Schools assisted the Deputy Commissioner for professional supervision. A scheme was launched to improve the existing indigenous schools and opening new schools at the centre of six villages. The progress in the district, however, was very slow and it remained most backward district in the Punjab. In 1892, the district had 1 Anglo-vernacular middle school at Hisar, 2 Vernacular middle schools, one each at Hansi and Barwala and 15 Vernacular primary schools including *zamindari* schools.² The Hissar school was maintained by municipal fund supplemented by district fund, whereas Fatehabad and Hansi schools were maintained entirely from municipal funds. The other primary schools including Vernacular middle school, Barwala were maintained by the District Board. The *zamindari* schools were opened at Mangali (Hisar tahsil), Kharbala (Hansi tahsil) and Ratia and Kirmara (Fatehabad tahsil) to supply rudimentary education like simple reading, counting and accounts. These schools were closed during harvest time. There was only one missionary girls school at Hisar.³

The progress of education was very slow and in 1904, there was an Anglo-vernacular high school at Hisar, 3 vernacular middle schools, one each at Hansi, Barwala and Tohana and 25 Vernacular primary schools. There was a Vernacular primary school for girls at Hansi. Besides, there were a few indigenous schools.

The schools were under the charge of the Deputy Commissioner. The Inspector of Schools, Delhi advised the Deputy Commissioner professionally.

1. *Report on the State of Education in the NWP, 1859-60*, p. 36.
2. The vernacular primary schools and *zamindari* schools were located as follows:—

Tahsil	Villages	Tahsil	Villages	Tahsil	Villages
Hisar	1. Nangthala 2. Kirori 3. Kurri 4. Landhari 5. Mangali (<i>zamindari</i> school)	Hansi	1. Narnaund 2. Sisai 3. Kharbala (<i>zamindari</i> school)	Fatehabad	1. Fatehabad 2. Chuli 3. Mohammadpur 4. Tohana 5. Ahrwan 6. Ratia 7. Kirmara (last two <i>zamindari</i> schools)

3. *Hissar District Gazetteer, 1892*, pp. 223-224.

The Inspector of Schools was assisted by a District Inspector and an Assistant District Inspector of Schools.

No tentative progress seems to have been made during the following years. The position in 1915 remained more or less the same except upgradation of a few primary schools and opening of a few new primary schools. Female education showed some signs of progress as girls schools were opened at Hansi and few other places but it still was very backward. It is interesting to note that a Zaildar of Khanda Kheri (Hansi tahsil) opened girls school in his village and this school received grant-in-aid from the District Board. The percentage of literates to total population of the then district of Hisar remained static for quite sometime and increased slightly from 2.7 in 1901 (also 2.7 in 1921) to 3.3 in 1931.¹ There is no record available which could show any efforts made by the voluntary organisations except that a Jat High school was opened at Hisar in 1928. The district had been in the grip of severe scarcity and famines year after year and no worthwhile attention could be paid to the education.

Things changed materially after Independence and the education spread at a rapid pace. The prejudices against western education disappeared and the state Government and voluntary organisations took keen interest in the spread of education. As a result, a number of new schools and colleges were opened after Independence. The Punjab College of Veterinary Sciences was opened at Hisar in February, 1948. A Government College and a Dayanand College opened at Hisar in 1950. Another college, Fateh Chand College for women opened at Hisar in 1954. The College of Agriculture and College of Basic Sciences and Humanities were established at Hisar in 1962 and 1964 respectively. The pace accelerated after 1966. The College of Animal Sciences opened at Hisar in 1966. The Chhaju Ram Memorial Jat College, Hisar was established in 1967 and Nehru Memorial College, Hisar and Chhaju Ram College of Education, Hissar were established in 1968. In 1970, three more colleges namely Sanatan Dharam Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Hansi; Indira Gandhi College, Tohana; and Manohar Memorial College, Fatehabad were established. The Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar came into existence in 1970 as a result of bifurcation of the composite Punjab Agricultural University. A College of Sports and a College of Home Science were established in 1972 and 1973 as the constituent colleges of the Haryana Agricultural University. In 1977-78, the district had 8 degree colleges, one teachers training college, an Agricultural University constituting two colleges of veterinary sciences, one college of sports, one

1. The literacy data for the present Hisar district is not available. Anyhow, the data for the then Hisar district which included the present Sirsa district and a few villages of the present Bhiwani district is available. The trend of the then Hisar district can be taken to represent the position in the present Hisar district.

college of agriculture, one college of Home Science and one college of basic science and humanities, 102 high, higher secondary schools, 108 middle schools, 380 primary schools including pre-primary schools, 3 government industrial schools for girls, 1 industrial training institute, 1 rural artisan training centre and 3 recognised private industrial institutes.

EDUCATIONAL SET-UP

The District Education Officer is responsible for the administration and control of all primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools in the district. He is directly under the administrative control of the Director of Public Instruction, Haryana, Chandigarh. The district education officer is assisted by one Deputy Education Officer and three Sub-Divisional Education Officers, (one each at Hisar, Hansi and Fatehabad) and 10 block education officers. The area of operation of block education officer is normally coterminous with the development block. An Assistant Education Officer looks after the promotion of physical education in the schools in the district.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Pre-primary Education

Pre-primary education, which caters to the need of children in the age group 3—6 years, has not yet developed and is not well organised. Although there is only one government pre-primary school in the district, yet a few voluntary organisations run nursery schools, mostly located at Hisar, Hansi, Tohana and Fatehabad. The Haryana Child Welfare Council and Central Social Welfare Board have opened 11 *balwadis* (nursery schools) in various parts of the district. Besides an *anganwadi*, a child integrated service project was working at Hisar. It aims at total development of children by providing integrated nutrition, immunisation, health and education services to pre-school children.

Primary and Middle Education

The course of primary education covers children of age-group 6—11 and consists of five classes from I to class V. Primary education has been made compulsory since April, 1961. The education at this stage is free and all primary schools are mixed. Teachers are provided at the pupil teacher ratio of 40 : 1. In 1978, there were 379 primary schools and these were almost evenly distributed all over the district.

The middle schools consist of class VI to VIII. The pupil teacher ratio of 30:1 has been adopted for this stage and the education is free in all government schools. In 1978, there were 108 middle schools in the Hisar district.

The medium of instruction in the schools is Hindi. The teaching of Hindi as a medium of instruction and first language starts from class-I. English is taught from class VI as a second language. Sanskrit, Urdu, Telgu or Punjabi is taught as a third language in classes VII and VIII. To provide safeguards to the linguistic minorities, provisions have also been made for the teaching of Urdu/Panjabi as an additional subject from class I provided 10 pupils in a class or 40 in whole of a primary school or a primary section of a middle, high or higher secondary school are desirous to study this language. But the medium of the instruction and the first language even for such schools remains Hindi.

Secondary Education

As only a limited number of students can pursue higher education, the secondary stage is of terminal character for most of the students. Thus, the secondary education has been made broadbased, so as to prepare some of the students for higher studies and teach most of them to earn their livelihood. Accordingly, a few high schools were converted to higher secondary schools. In 1978, the district had 95 high schools and 7 higher secondary schools. At secondary stage, the education is free for students, whose family income is less than Rs. Rs. 1,000 per annum in the case of boys and less than Rs. 3,000 per annum in the case of girls. Reduced fees is charged from boys whose family income is between Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 and girls whose family income exceeds Rs. 3,000.

The students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes are given stipend at the rate of Rs. 8 per month provided the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 1,800 per annum. They are also allowed refund of examination fee. The students belonging to Scheduled Castes are exempted from payment of tuition fee. The students of Other Backward Classes are allowed this concession only if the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 1800 per annum.

Scheduled Caste students are also given stipend under the Government of India post-matric scholarship scheme. The rate of stipend varies from Rs. 27 to Rs. 75 according to income slabs of their parents. They are also allowed refund of examination fee, tuition fee and other compulsory non-refundable charges.

No tuition fee is charged from the children of serving defence personnel or deceased/disabled defence personnel.

All the government schools are equipped with a book bank, from which text-books are made available to the students belonging to

Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and other economically weaker sections.

The following table gives the position of school education in 1977-78 at a glance :—

Schools	No. of Schools				No. of Scholars	
	Private	Govt.	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Primary(including pre-primary)	3	377	371	9	32,123	15,805
Middle	3	105	95	13	25,007	8,290
High	16	79	81	14	49,469	16,380
Higher Secondary	—	7	5	2	3,329	2,190
Colleges						

The post-matric classes in the district were started only in 1950, when Government College, Hisar and Dayanand College, Hisar were established. Fateh Chand College for Women first established at Lahore in 1935 was rehabilitated at Hisar in 1954. Subsequently, Chhaju Ram Memorial Jat College was established at Hisar in 1967 and the Nehru Memorial College at Hansi in 1968. In 1970, the Sanatan Dharam Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Hansi, the Indira Gandhi College, Tohana and the Manohar Memorial College, Fatehabad were set up. In 1978, the district had nine colleges, seven colleges were under private managements, one government college and another constituent college of Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar.

Government College, Hisar.—The college was established in 1950 in a building on the railway road. The building was shared by the Punjab Veterinary College which was shifted to the Cattle Farm in 1961. The college shifted to its new campus located on the Rajgarh road in 1976. The new campus was spread over an area of 49 acres and was laid out near the Haryana Agricultural University at a cost of Rs. 50 lakh. Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, the college offers courses in science, humanities and commerce up to degree level and post-graduate course in political science and economics.¹

In 1977-78, the college had 1,624 students (1,404 boys 220 girls)

1. Post-graduation in English was started in 1980.

on its roll, of which 129 belonged to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. The college had 67 members on its teaching staff. The college has N.C.C. Infantry and Air-wing units. It has a well-equipped library with 30,921 books. The book bank loans text book to the needy students. It has a botanical garden and a life science museum. The college brings out annually a magazine named 'Morning Star'.

Dayanand College, Hisar.—The college was established in 1950 in a 22 acre campus located near old grain market. It was founded by local Arya Samaj but was taken over by the D.A.V. College Managing Committee, Delhi in 1960. The college has commodious teaching blocks, hostel and extensive play-grounds. Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra the college provides degree courses in science, humanities and commerce. Evening classes for degree course in humanities were started in 1965.

In 1977-78, the college had 1,381 students (1,274 boys and 107 girls) on its roll, of which 119 belonged to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 63 members on its teaching staff. It had two NCC companies and one NSS (National Service Scheme) unit. The college library has 18,241 books, while newspapers and magazines are subscribed for the reading room. A book bank provides books to the brilliant and needy students. The college brings out its annual journal 'Avedan'.

Fateh Chand College for Women, Hisar.—The college was established in 1935 at Lahore (Pakistan) and was rehabilitated in 1954 at Hisar. It is spread over an area of 7 acres and has a commodious building, three-storeyed hostel and extensive play grounds. Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra it provides degree courses in humanities and science. It has one NCC platoon and one NSS (National Service Scheme) unit. The college has a well-stocked library containing 13,112 books and subscribes to 46 newspapers, periodicals and magazines for the reading room. A book bank loans books to brilliant and needy students.

In 1977-78, the college had 712 girl students on its roll which included 4 students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 21 full time and 1 part time members on its teaching staff. The college publishes its annual journal named 'Ansul'.

Chhaju Ram Memorial Jat College, Hisar.—The Jat High School, Hisar established in 1928 was raised to the level of a degree college in 1967. It is managed by Chhaju Ram Memorial Jat College Managing Committee, Hisar. The college is located in a spacious building

having extensive play-grounds and a hostel with modern amenities. The college is affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and provides courses in humanities, science and commerce up to degree level.

The college library is housed in a spacious building and is well-stocked having more than 15,000 books. It also contributes to 86 newspapers, periodicals and journals for its reading room. A book bank established in 1971, loans books to the needy deserving students. In 1977-78, the college had, 1,389 students (1,343 boys and 46 girls) including 73 belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 37 members on its teaching staff. It had one unit of NCC and one unit of NSS (National Service Scheme). The college brings out its annual journal named 'Chandralekha'.

Nehru Memorial College, Hansi¹.—The college was established in 1968 and shifted to its present building located 4 kilometres east of Hansi on Hansi-Rohtak road in 1969. Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, the college provides courses in humanities and commerce up to degree level. It has a small library located in the college hall and it subscribes to 14 newspapers, magazines and periodicals for its reading room. A small book bank loans books to the needy and poor students.

In 1977-78, there were 223 boys on its roll including 30 belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 14 members on its teaching staff. It had one NCC company and one NSS unit. The college brings out its annual journal named 'Ashi'.

Sanatan Dharam Mahila Mahavidyalya, Hansi.—The college was established in 1970 and is located in a portion of the building of the Sanatan Dharam Girls High School. It is affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and provides course in humanities up to degree level.

It has a small library having 3,763 books and subscribes to 23 newspapers, magazines and periodicals for its reading room. A book bank meets the text books requirements of needy and poor students.

In 1977-78, it had 277 girls on its roll including 5 belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 10 members on its teaching staff. The college had one unit of NSS.

Manohar Memorial College, Fatehabad.—The college was started in 1970 and is located in a 20 acre campus on Ratia road. The college

1. The college was taken over by the Government in 1980 and is now named as Government College, Hansi.

offers instructions in humanities and commerce up to degree level and is affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

In 1977-78, the college had 801 students (634 boys and 167 girls) including 82 belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes on its roll. The teaching staff consisted of 20 members. The college has a small library with 8,040 books. There is a book bank for loaning text books to needy students. It had one NSS unit. The college brings out its annual house journal 'M.M. College Magazine'.

Indira Gandhi College, Tohana¹.—The college was started in 1970. It shifted to its own building located on Tohana-Bhuna road. The college campus spreads over an area of 5 acres. It is affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and provides course in humanities up to degree level. It has one unit each of NCC and NSS.

In 1977-78, the college had 471 students (331 boys and 140 girls) including 41 belonging to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. It had 15 members on its teaching staff. The college brings out annually a magazine named 'The Priya Darshini'.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Hisar district assumed an important place in the map of agricultural research, training and development with the setting up of Haryana Agricultural University in 1970.

Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar.—The University came into existence on February, 1970 as a result of the bifurcation of the composite Punjab Agricultural University. It was established with the object of imparting education in agriculture, veterinary and animal sciences, agricultural engineering, home science and other allied sciences, advancement of learning and prosecution of agricultural research and dissemination of results of researches to the farmers.

The university campus is spread over an area of 3,445 acres and is located on Rajgarh road between Government College and mini secretariat. It has separate buildings for its constituent colleges, the Giri Centre of students welfare and activities, Nehru library, administrative building, Gandhi Bhavan having a chain of museums, printing press, hospital, school, club, community centre, rest house, faculty houses and hostels.

The university imparts instructions leading to bachelor degree in agriculture (B.Sc. Hons. Agri.); home science(B.Sc. Home Science);

1. The college was taken over by the government in 1980 and is now named as Government College, Tohana.

veterinary and animal sciences (B.V. Sc. & A.H.); and sports and humanities (B.S.H.). The post-graduate and doctorate degree programmes are offered in different disciplines of agriculture, veterinary and animal sciences, basic sciences and humanities. Besides, different departments of the university provide short term and certificate courses in various disciplines. Each department is the functioning unit in the university and 3 functions of teaching, research and extension education are integrated in each department.

College of Agriculture.—The college was started as an under-graduate institution in July, 1962 and was initially affiliated to the Panjab University, Chandigarh. It was transferred to the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in December, 1962. It became a constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University in 1970. The college offers B.Sc. Hons. course in agriculture for students after pre-university or higher secondary and after matriculation or higher secondary (part-I). The course extends to 5 years for students who join the college after matric. The college provides facilities for M.Sc. and doctorate degrees in agronomy, entomology, extension education, horticulture, plant breeding, plant pathology, soils and vegetable crops.

College of Veterinary Sciences.—This college was established after the Partition in February, 1948 to help students migrated from the Punjab Veterinary College, Lahore; to continue their studies. It was taken over by the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in December, 1962 and became a constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University in February, 1970. The college offers an under-graduate course in veterinary and animal sciences. The college also runs one year certificate courses for veterinary compounders and stock-assistants. The college brings out a bi-annual professional journal 'The Haryana Veterinarian'.

College of Animal Sciences.—The college of animal sciences, the only one of its kind in the country, was established in 1966. It became the constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University in 1970. The college provides under-graduate courses in different disciplines of animal science to the students of the college of veterinary sciences, college of agriculture and college of home science. It provides facilities for post-graduate training leading to M.Sc. and doctorate degrees in animal breeding, animal nutrition, animal production physiology and livestock production and management. A number of short term courses in artificial insemination and physio-pathology of reproduction and courses on milk products are also conducted. The college caters to the needs of entire campus community including students, for

milk. The college publishes an annual magazine named 'Haryana Pashu Vigyan'.

Indira Chakravarty College of Home Science.—The college was started in 1973 as a constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University. The college offers courses for B.Sc. Home Science, M.Sc. in food and nutrition and home science extension education and one year certificate courses in home economics. It also conducts short term courses in bakery, food preservation, interior decoration, etc.

The College of Basic Sciences and Humanities.—The college was established in 1964 under the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. It became the constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University in 1970. The college provides under-graduate courses in basic sciences and humanities to students of other constituent colleges. It has facilities of M.Sc. and doctorate courses in agricultural economics, bio-chemistry, botany and plant physiology, genetics, microbiology, sociology, zoology and statistics.

The College of Sports.—The college was established as the constituent college of the Haryana Agricultural University in 1973. The college is located in the Giri Centre of students welfare and activities. The college provides facilities in different games and is responsible for sports activities of students of all constituent colleges of the university. It provides academic training coupled with scientific coaching in sports with a view to produce sportsmen.

The post-graduate programme in different disciplines of constituent colleges of the university are coordinated by the Dean post-graduate studies. The total number of students on roll in different departments of the university in 1977-78 were 615.

The university has been conducting problem-oriented researches and disseminating their results through its extension set-up for the benefit of farming community. The university has its main research station at Hisar and two multi-disciplinary regional stations at Bawal (Mahendragarh district) and Karnal. Two crop research stations one for cotton at Sirsa and the other for rice at Kaul (Kurukshetra district) have also been established. Another research unit at Yamunanagar (Ambala district) tackles problems of sugar-cane pest control.

The university has a Directorate of Extension Education which is located in Gandhi Bhavan. The Bhavan houses the museum of evolution of agriculture and progress of Haryana and vanishing rural antiques. The Directorate transmits the research findings to the farmers through

a net-work of Krishi Gyan Kendras established at each district headquarters of the state. The university helps the growth of rural economy through release of improved varieties of crops, development of high yielding crossbred cows, propagation of high yielding breeds of poultry, recommendations regarding amelioration of soils, standardisation of production technology and cheap and effective methods of pest control.

Technical Education and Industrial Training

There is no school or college of technical education. However, there is one industrial training institute at Hisar, 3 Government industrial schools for girls, one each at Hisar, Hansi and Tohana and a rural artisan training centre at Hansi. These institutions ensure a steady flow of skilled workers in different engineering and non-engineering trades. Besides, Chhaju Ram College of Education, Hisar; Nehru Memorial College, Hansi; and National High School, Tohana offer training in art and craft. The period of training ranges from one year to two years for different trades.

The successful trainees are awarded the National Trade Certificate of All India Council of Vocational Training, New Delhi. Incentives are provided by way of award of stipend of Rs. 25 per month per student on poverty-cum-merit basis to one-third of the students on roll in each institution. The quantum of stipend is raised to Rs. 45 per mensem in the case of students belonging to Scheduled Castes. The ex-servicemen and their dependents are also awarded stipend for training. The medical aid, workshop clothes, and hostel accommodation is provided free of cost to all trainees.

Teachers Training

The district has only one college of education at Hisar.

The Chhaju Ram College of Education, Hisar.—It was established in 1968. The college campus is spread over an area of 5 acres and has extensive playing fields and separate hostels for boys and girls. The college is managed by the Chhaju Ram Memorial Jat College Managing Committee, Hisar.

Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, the college offers the degree course in pedagogy to 250 students every year. In 1977-78, the college had 250 students (120 boys 130 girls) including 16 belonging to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes.

Besides, the college offers courses in nursery teachers training, art and crafts teachers training, J.B.T.(Home Craft) and food preservation. The nursery teachers training course is conducted by the

Education Department, while the other courses are conducted by the Industrial Training Department.

There were 18 members on its teaching staff. The college brings out its college magazine named 'Satluj'¹.

Adult Education

To spread literacy among villagers and acquaint them with new scientific developments and methods for increasing agricultural production, the Farmers Functional Literacy Programme jointly sponsored by the state and central government was started in the district. In 1977-78, there were 60 centres and 1,690 persons attended these centres during the year.

The programme was expanded in 1978 when National Adult Education Programme was launched.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

National Service Scheme(N.S.S.) was introduced in the educational programme of the country in 1969. The scheme was adopted in the colleges of Haryana in 1970-71. It aims at educating the students through community service. It enriches the students personality and deepen their understanding of the social environment in which they live. It helps the students to develop an awareness and knowledge of the social reality and to have a concern for the well being of the community.

Under the scheme, the students undertake activities designed to tackle social problems and promote social welfare. Its activities are multifarious and include adult education, tree plantations, family and child care, rural cleanliness, blood donation, etc. N.S.S. volunteers also render valuable help at the time of natural calamities like floods and famines.

N.S.S. training is imparted regularly during the academic sessions and through out-door camps. The programme under the scheme are project oriented as per guidelines provided by the central government from time to time. The theme for the special camping programme from 1976-77 has been 'Youth for Rural Reconstruction'.

The scheme is functioning almost in all the colleges of the district. In 1977-78, 1,147 students(808 boys 339 girls) in various colleges of the district had opted for the scheme.

1. The magazine is now named as 'Shaikshiki.'

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

The National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.) was introduced as part of educational programme in 1948, to develop the qualities of leadership, unity and discipline. Later in July 1963, after the Chinese aggression, it was made compulsory for all able bodied under-graduate boy students at college level. In 1969, two other programmes namely the N.S.S. (National Service Scheme) and sports, were introduced as an alternative to N.C.C., which is no longer compulsory. The N.C.C. training is imparted regularly during academic sessions and through outdoor camps.

In 1977-78, 1,292 cadets (1,046 boys and 246 girls) in senior division and 1,392 cadets (1,292 boys and 100 girls) in junior division had taken up N.C.C. in different institutions of the district.

SPORTS

Sports activities in the district include school tournaments, panchayat tournaments and open tournaments. The promotion of sports and organisation of these tournaments are looked after by the District Sports Officer, Hisar who is assisted by two coaches.

Coaching Centres.—There are 4 coaching centres established in the district for promotion of sports. These centres provide facilities of spacious play-ground where school and college students and departmental/club players regularly attend coaching classes for specialised training in sports. Coaching camps to prepare players for different competition are held from time to time. Selected talented young players are sent to centralised state level coaching camps for advanced training. The list of coaching centres is given below :—

Nehru Stadium, Hisar (Basketball)

Nehru Stadium, Hisar (Atheletics)

Jat College, Hisar (Football)

Nehru Stadium, Hisar (Football)

Besides, there are two rural coaching centres in each of the 10 development blocks of the district.

The district has a stadium named Nehru Stadium at Hisar and this stadium is the nucleus of district sports activities. To encourage young players, the state government awards sport scholarships at the rate of Rs. 30 per player. The District Olympic Association under

the presidentship of the Deputy Commissioner and other associations of different games help promote sports activities. These associations organise open tournaments and arrange exhibition matches of outside teams with local teams.

Libraries and Museums

The important libraries in the district are :

District Library, Hisar; Gandhi Adhyan Kendra, Hisar; Chatterjee Memorial Library, Hisar; Sushila Bhawan Trust Library, Hisar; Sanatan Dharam Library, Hisar; Lala Lajpat Rai Municipal Library, Hisar; Singh Sabha Library, Hisar; Vivekanand Library, Hisar; Bar Library, Hisar; Municipal Library, Hansi; Baba Banda Bahadur Library, Hansi; Jain Library, Hansi; Municipal Library, Tohana; Municipal Library, Fatehabad; Notified Area Committee Library, Jakhal; Notified Area Committee Library, Uklana Mandi and the Public Relation Information Centre, Mini-Secretariat, Hisar. Besides, different schools, colleges and Haryana Agricultural University are also maintaining their libraries.

There is no museum in the district except that maintained by the Haryana Agricultural University in its Gandhi Bhavan. The museum exhibits the evolution of agriculture, progress of Haryana and vanishing rural antiques.

CULTURE

The discovery of sculptural pieces, architectural remains, paintings and carvings on ancient pottery suggest a significant contribution of the district to the growth of culture. An important discovery of terracotta tablet containing seven *svaras* in the 9th century characters, from Agroha, reveals the interest of the people in learning fine arts.

The literary traditions of the district can be traced back to the beginning of the 13th century when Sheikh Farid, a Sufi saint remained at Hansi and preached Sufism. The writings of Sheikh Jamal-ud-din Hansvi, Khalifa Qutb-ud-din Munavar Hansvi, Gulha Mira and Ismail Shah of Hisar are in Sufi traditions. Sant Nischal Dass born in 1760 in Hisar was greatly influenced in his writings by Kabir. He composed three volumes namely, *Vichar Sagar*, *Mukti Parkash* and *Vritti Prabhakar*. His *Vichar Sagar* was acclaimed as one of the greatest contributions of his times by Swami Vivekanand. Ram Dass, the author of *Sudama Chritra*, *Ashcharya Adbhut Granth*, *Ramayana*, *Kartika Trang*, *Ganga Vyahlo* and *Tirath Mahatam*; Jagat Dutt Mishr Gaur of *Dharam Pariksha*; Murli Dass of *Guru Mahima*, *Usha Chritra*, *Sukhdev Lila* and *Baramashi*; Nand and Mukand and Hasno were poets

and writers of Hisar who flourished in 18th and 19th centuries. The modern noted Hindi poets and writers who led their literary pursuits at Hisar are Uday Bhanu Hans and Vishnu Prabhakar. *Sant Sipahi*, *Desan Mein Des Haryana* and *Sankh aur Shehnai* are noted books of Uday Bhanu Hans.

There is no academy or institution for the promotion of fine arts, drama, dance or music in the district. However, a few amateur cultural, dramatic and musical societies or privately run music schools organise cultural functions in the district. Some of these also provide private coachings in these arts.

Colleges and other educational and technical institutions lay a great emphasis on the promotion of cultural pursuits. Some colleges have introduced music and dance as the regular discipline in the course of studies while others have cultural societies for the promotion of fine arts, music, dance, drama, etc. The societies organise cultural functions and partake in various cultural competitions and youth festivals organised at regional and university levels.