

Chapter IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

The livelihood pursuits of the people of any region, the nature and variety of occupations followed, as also the economic development of the area are closely related to the stages of economic development and the extent to which available resources are exploited for the industrial and agronomic advancement of that region. This district, lying in the shadow of Delhi, has witnessed devastating upheavals of foreign invasions and internecine warfare. It also suffered from the insecurity of harvests. In no part of the then Punjab had droughts and scarcity been so prevalent and overwhelming as in this district and recurring famines and scarcity have left their indelible mark on the life of the people. Struck by the miserable condition of the people, the primitiveness of their farming and the squalor of their houses, F.L.Brayne, the then Deputy Commissioner, introduced in 1920 a scheme of reconstruction, popularly known as "the Gurgaon Scheme", to bring about all round improvement. This was the British Government's project plan to meet Mahatma Gandhi's challenge of establishing mass contacts with the people. The scheme yielded some favourable results but the famine of 1928 and the general depression of the thirties thwarted these efforts. The position improved a little during World War II as a rise in agricultural prices and income from their sons serving in the army brought more money to the farmers for a time. Basic backwardness and low standard of living, however, continued to be the main characteristics of the Gurgaon district before the Independence. The Partition provided a new facet to this poverty-stricken district. The displaced persons who came to the district had among them individuals who had initiative and experience to start a new life through the process of economic development. With the introduction of schemes for economic growth as a result of planning, the district, therefore, started making headway in various fields of economic development. Under the community development programme, facilities for education, medical aid, improved agricultural practices, loans and grants were provided in the rural sector. All possible efforts were made in the urban areas to develop trade and industry. As a result of these measures, the average income of the people began to show an upward trend.

The all-round development in different fields of the district economy has been discussed in the relevant Chapters. Here it is necessary to review the state of agriculture and industries in the district for these two fields play a major role in shaping its economy. To take agriculture first, according to the 1971 Census, it was the primary occupation of nearly 57.7 per cent (2,10,124 cultivators and 47,395 agricultural labourers) of the total of 4,45,948 working population in the district.¹ The contribution of the district in the production of barley in the State in 1970-71 was the largest (59.68 per cent) while in respect of *bajra* it ranked second (17.68 per cent) after Hisar (41.16 per cent) in the State². The total value of agricultural produce marketed through regulated markets, was estimated to be Rs 23 crore.

For various reasons which include a larger area brought under cultivation of food crops, increased irrigation facilities, use of fertilizers and high yielding varieties of seeds and improved agricultural implements, the yield from the land has increased appreciably to the advantage of the grower also. This position is reflected in the following table relating to the yield rates of different crops during 1960-61, 1965-66 and 1969-70 :—

Crop	(kilograms per hectare)		
	1960-61	1965-66	1969-70
<i>Bajra</i>	223	289	557
Wheat	1,139	1,297	2,054
Barley	669	1,610	1,408
Gram	669	489	990
Jowar	127	184	213
Sugarcane	3,226	2,700	3,926
(in terms of <i>gur</i>)			

The increase in yield rate was more in the case of *bajra*, where it has increased nearly 150 per cent during the above period. The increase in wheat and *jowar* was 80 per cent and 68 per cent respectively. The yield rate of barley increased from 669 kilograms in 1960-61 to 1,610 kilograms in 1965-66, but there was a decline during 1965-66 to 1969-70. In the case of gram and sugarcane, yield rates declined during 1960-61 to 1965-66 but increased between 1965-66 to 1969-70.

1. *Census of India, 1971, Series 6—Haryana, Part II-A, General Population Tables, p.88.*

2. The district was again on the top in 1971-72 in the production of barley (50.99 per cent) but in respect of *bajra*, it was relegated to the third position (14.10 per cent) with Hisar occupying the first position (37.82 per cent) followed by Mahendragarh (19.71 per cent).

However, the per hectare yield of important crops in the re-organised district during 1974-75 to 1976-77 was as shown below :

Crop	(kilograms per hectare)		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
<i>Bajra</i>	386	450	401
Wheat	1,889	1,723	1,851
Barley	1,164	1,371	1,239
Gram	546	815	912
<i>Jowar</i>	348	239	233
Sugarcane (in terms of <i>gur</i>)	2,997	3,226	3,357

The net area sown per cultivator in 1970-71 was 1.80 hectares in the then Gurgaon district, which was somewhat low when compared to 1.90 hectares in the State but it was more than 1.34 hectares for the country as a whole. The changes in area under important crops in the district can be seen from the following table :—

Crops	(hectares)		
	1960-61	1965-66	1970-71
<i>Bajra</i>	1,46,099	1,31,044	1,46,135
Wheat	71,118	87,543	1,55,475
Barley	44,699	55,884	52,272
Gram	1,61,970	94,585	1,15,295
<i>Jowar</i>	59,124	47,122	37,443
Sugarcane	13,942	20,266	15,117

It is clear from the above table that the area under wheat steadily increased from 71,118 hectares in 1960-61 to 87,543 hectares in 1965-66 and further to 1,55,475 hectares in 1970-71. There was a corresponding increase of 17 per cent in the area under barley during 1960-61 to 1970-71. The area under

bajra declined from 1,46,099 hectares in 1960-61 to 1,31,044 hectares in 1965-66. During 1965-66 to 1970-71 there was a marginal increase in the area under *bajra*. The area under gram varied widely from 1,61,970 hectares in 1960-61 to 94,585 hectares in 1965-66 and then increased to 1,15,295 hectares during 1970-71. The area under *jowar* decreased gradually. Another important crop was sugarcane under which the area increased during 1960-61 to 1965-66 but decreased during 1965-66 to 1970-71.

The area under these crops, in the re-organised district, during 1974-75 to 1976-77 was :

Crops	(hectares)		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
<i>Bajra</i>	93,300	1,01,400	96,000
Wheat	1,38,100	1,58,200	1,82,800
Barley	64,500	54,200	37,400
Gram	42,200	62,400	57,800
<i>Jowar</i>	35,600	35,000	52,300
Sugarcane	13,700	11,300	11,600

In the past, there were only a few industries in the district, i.e. utensil-making, slate manufacturing, salt manufacturing, *moorah*-making, *mehndi* grinding, glue-making, manufacturing of saltpetre, glass, bangles and small-width *pagrees* (turbans). These insignificant industries provided employment to a small number of persons only. After Independence, the district started making rapid progress in the field of industry. It now has the unique distinction of having one of the biggest industrial complex located at Faridabad. Numerous industrial products are manufactured here. In 1970-71, there were 760 small-scale industries in the then district. This number included 193 small-scale units with a capital investment of Rs. 1 lakh or more. Besides, there were 80 registered large and medium-scale units, 40 ancillary units and 6,630 cottage industries. All these industries provided employment to about one lakh workers. The estimated total capital investment made in all these industries was about Rs. 200 crore and their annual production in 1970-71 was Rs. 142.09 crore. This excluded 567 small-scale industrial units with investment of less than Rs. one lakh each.¹

1. For details, see Chapter on 'Industries'.

However, in 1976-77, in the re-organised district there were 125 large and medium-scale industrial units, 2,586 small-scale industrial units 92 ancillary units and 6630 cottage industries. Of the 2586 small-scale industrial units, 379 had an investment of more than Rs. one lakh. All these industries provided employment to about 1.50 lakh workers.

MANPOWER DISTRIBUTION

The general population on the basis of work has been divided into two broad categories, viz. Workers and Non-Workers. Out of the total population of 12,40,706 persons in the then district according to the 1961 Census, the number of persons engaged in some kind of economic activity or gainful work was 4,87,658, while the number of Non-Workers was 7,53,048. Their rural and urban split was as shown below:

	Total		Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Workers	3,39,027	1,48,631	2,86,589	1,43,423	52,438	5,208
Non-workers	3,20,405	4,32,643	2,62,920	3,42,173	57,485	90,470
Total :	6,59,432	5,81,274	5,49,509	4,85,596	1,09,923	95,678

The ratio of Workers to Non-Workers in the district was 39.30 to 60.70, the corresponding ratio for the then Punjab State being 34.97 to 65.03. These figures indicate that the population of economically inactive population in the district was lower than that in the State as a whole.

In the re-organised district of Gurgaon, the number of persons engaged in some kind of economic activity, on the basis of 1971 Census was 3,71,615, while the number of Non-Workers was 10,00,582. Their male and female distribution was as under¹ :

	Males	Females	Total
Workers	3,55,827	15,788	3,71,615
Non-workers	3,87,527	6,13,055	10,00,582
Total :	7,43,354	6,28,843	13,72,197

1. Source : *Statistical Abstract of Haryana, 1976-77*, p.14.

The ratio of Workers to Non-Workers in the district was 27.08 to 72.92, the corresponding ratio for the U. P. vana State being 26.44 to 73.56. The ratio of Workers to Non-Workers was much less in 1971 when compared to the ratio based upon 1961 Census. The major reason for this variation was the change in the definition of workers, especially of female workers.

Workers.—Agriculture has been for long the mainstay of livelihood of the majority of the people in the district. Almost throughout the first half of the present century the economy of the then district was centred upon the rural areas and it revolved round the agriculturist. Even according to 1961 Census, 70.31 per cent of the total working population derived its sustenance from agriculture. The fact is borne out by the following table giving break-up of working population by industrial category according to 1961 Census¹ :

Category of Workers	Number of workers			Percentage to total working force
	Males	Females	Total	
1. As cultivators	2,01,678	1,18,523	3,20,201	65.66
2. As agricultural labourers	15,534	7,129	22,663	4.65
3. In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	2,078	545	2,623	0.53
4. In household industry	24,132	9,016	33,148	6.80
5. In manufacturing other than household industry	18,722	1,129	19,851	4.07
6. In construction	6,673	354	7,027	1.44
7. In trade and commerce	18,495	510	19,005	3.90
8. In transport, storage and communications	9,189	41	9,230	1.90
9. In other services	42,526	11,384	53,910	11.05
Total working force :	3,39,027	1,48,631	4,87,658	100.00

1. *Census of India, 1961, Gurgaon District Census Handbook, 1965, pp. 170-71.*

These figures reveal that in 1961, about 70.31 per cent of the working population (against 68.5 per cent in 1951) was engaged in agricultural pursuits in the district as against 63.94 per cent in the State as a whole.¹ Mining, quarrying, livestock, etc., accounted for only 0.53 per cent which was the lowest category. Non-agricultural pursuits including mining, etc., accounted for 29.69 per cent of the workers among whom 'Other services' was the most important category which accounted for 11.05 per cent, followed by 'Household industry' (6.80 per cent) and 'Manufacturing other than household industry' (4.07 per cent). The categories of 'Trade and commerce', 'Transport, storage and communications' and 'Construction' accounted for 3.90, 1.90 and 1.44 per cent of the workers respectively.

Due to re-organisation of the district in December 1972, the position of workers changed to some extent. On the basis of 1971 Census, this re-organised district possessed 46.27 per cent cultivators and 10.56 per cent agricultural labourers out of the total workers. The percentage of workers in manufacturing was 13.00. Category-wise break-up on the basis of 1971 Census is given below :

Category of workers	Number of workers			Percentage to total working force
	Males	Females	Total	
1	2	3	4	5
1. As cultivators	1,67,733	4,216	1,71,949	46.27
2. As agricultural labourers	35,225	4,004	39,229	10.56
3. In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	6,926	445	7,371	1.98
4. In household industry	11,662	421	12,083	3.25
5. In manufacturing other than household industry	46,536	1,792	48,328	13.00
6. In construction	7,418	435	7,853	2.11

1. These figures should not be taken to imply necessarily that there is a greater dependence on agriculture now than a decade ago, since there is a higher percentage of workers among the agricultural classes. Whereas the figures for 1951 relate to the whole population, the figures for 1961 take into account only the workers. These, however, indicate the extent to which the district population depends on agriculture as a means of its livelihood.

1	2	3	4	5
7. In trade and commerce	22,441	244	22,685	6.10
8. In transport, storage and communications	8,182	84	8,266	2.22
9. In other services	49,704	4,147	53,851	14.49
Total working force :	3,55,827	15,788	3,71,615	100.00

The category-wise rural and urban break-up of the total working force in the district is given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix. Naturally, agricultural pursuits preponderate in the rural areas. But in the urban areas 'Other services' preponderate followed, in order, by 'Manufacturing other than household industry', 'Trade and commerce', 'Household industry,' and 'Transport, storage and communications'.

Non-workers.—The number of non-workers, i.e. those not engaged in any economic activity, was 7,53,048 (3,20,405 males and 4,32,643 females, in 1961. A study of the relevant details given in Table XXXIX of Appendix, shows that the distribution pattern of non-workers according to the type of activity among males and females was very dissimilar. The largest number of non-workers fell in the category of 'Dependents, infants and disabled' which was 4,34,780 (57.74 per cent) of the non-workers. It included 2,22,857 females. In the second category fell 'Household duties' whose number was 1,84,012 (24.43 per cent). Out of it, the number of females was 1,83,698. These two categories jointly accounted for 82.17 per cent. In the 'Household duties', the percentage of males was 0.04 (313) whereas the percentage of females was 42.46 (1,83,698). The females engaged in household duties were proportionately higher in urban areas than in villages where women-folk in addition to their attending to household chores also participated in agriculture and household industry.

The number of 'Full time students' (1,25,286) formed 16.64 per cent of the non-working population. Out of it, the male percentage was 13.36 and the female percentage was 3.28. The higher number of 'Full time students' (86,646) in rural areas indicates extension of educational facilities for young people in rural areas or belonging to rural areas although male students still outnumber females. while men have to work for a living, women are consigned to household duties.

The number of persons in the district seeking work was 0.31 per cent

(2,381) of the total non-working population. The number of males was much higher than that of females (2,356 males and 25 females).

Principal and secondary works.—There are some persons in the working population, who are engaged in more than one productive activity. The principal activity required more time and brought them a major portion of their income than the secondary activity. The following details about the persons doing secondary work in the pre-organised district have been taken from the Census of 1961¹ :

1. Persons working principally as cultivators and doing secondary work

(a) at household industry	15,528	(11,332 Males) (4,196 Females)
(b) as agricultural industry labourers	2,418	(1,835 Males) (583 Females)
Total :	<u>17,946</u>	

2. Persons working principally as agricultural labourers and doing secondary work

(a) at household industry	127	(104 Males) (23 Females)
(b) as cultivators	131	(110 Males) (21 Females)
Total :	<u>258</u>	

3. Persons working principally at household industry and doing secondary work

(a) as cultivators	1,098	(781 Males) (317 Females)
(b) as agricultural labourers	748	(487 Males) (261 Females)
Total :	<u>1,846</u>	

Out of total of 3,20,201 persons engaged principally in cultivation, 17,946 or 5.60 per cent did some secondary work; out of a total of 22,663 persons

1. *Census of India, 1961, Gurgaon District Census Handbook, 1965, p. 214.*

engaged principally as agricultural labourers, 258 or 1.14 per cent did some secondary work; and out of a total of 33,148 persons principally engaged in household industry 1,846 or 5.57 per cent did some secondary work. Agricultural labourers as well as those engaged in household industry preferred to take up cultivation to supplement their earnings.

Occupational distribution.—Table XL of Appendix gives occupational classification by sex of persons at work other than cultivation on the basis of the 1961 Census.¹ It shows that the most important category of occupations besides agriculture was 'Craftsmen, Production Process Workers and Labourers' not elsewhere classified (48.18 per cent), followed, in order, by Service, Sport and Recreation Workers (15.27 per cent); Sales Workers (12.12 per cent); Farmer, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and Related Workers (5.82 per cent); Professional, Technical and Related Workers (4.95 per cent); Administrative, Executive and Managerial Workers (4.75 per cent) and Clerical and Related Workers (4.20 per cent). The rest of the categories, which are relatively insignificant, accounted for less than 4 per cent each.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

The economy of Haryana is dominated by agriculture with 82.85 per cent of the population (according to the 1961 Census) living in rural areas. Full employment can become possible only after a considerable period of development in the conventional sector, i.e. agriculture, together with a well defined policy of diversion of surplus man-power from agriculture to industry. Out of a total population of 12,40,706 only 4,87,658 formed the work force (39.30 per cent), of which 3,42,864 (27.63 per cent) were engaged in the conventional sector and the remaining 1,44,794 (11.67 per cent) were engaged in other pursuits, i.e. mining and quarrying, household, industry, manufacturing, construction, trade and commerce, transport, storage and in other un-identified services.² However, in the re-organised district, on the basis of 1971 Census, out of a total population of 13,72,197, only 3,71,615 formed the work force (27.08 per cent), of which 2,11,178 (15.31 per cent) were engaged in the conventional sector and the remaining 1,60,437 (11.77 per cent) were engaged in other pursuits, i.e. mining and quarrying, household industry, manufacturing, construction, trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication and in other un-identified services.

Employment status.—For a proper assessment of the employment status of workers it will be convenient to study them under the categories of those

1. *Census of India, 1961, Gurgaon District Census Handbook, 1965*, pp. 191—207.

2. *Ibid*, pp. 170, 191.

engaged in agricultural and those engaged in non-agricultural pursuits. Among those engaged in agriculture, the most important status is that of self-employed persons who work with the help of family labour. Those engaged in non-agricultural pursuits have been categorised as persons at work (i) in household industry and (ii) in non-household industry, trade, business, profession or service. Out of a total of 1,44,794 persons engaged in non-agricultural pursuits, 33,148 are covered in category (i) and are classified into employees and others, while the remaining 1,11,646 in category (ii) are classified into employer, employee, single worker and family worker. Of the persons at work in category (ii), 2,972 (2.66 per cent) persons were returned as employers, 43,918 (39.34 per cent) persons as employees, 56,789 (50.86 per cent) persons as single workers and 7,968 (7.14 per cent) persons as family workers. Further details of this classification by sex and urban/rural workers are given in Tables XXXVIII to XLI of Appendix.

Employment exchanges.—The Employment Exchange, Gurgaon, was established in October 1947. The activities of this exchange were further expanded by opening its sub-offices at Palwal in 1950, Rewari in 1951 and Faridabad in 1959. These offices were raised to the status of Town Employment Exchange, District Employment Exchange and Divisional Employment Exchange from July 4, 1974; May 13, 1971 and December 19, 1967 respectively. To cover the rural areas, two Rural Manpower Units were opened at Nuh and Firozpur Jhirka in 1971 and 1973 respectively.

The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, came into force on June 1, 1960. It makes a statutory obligation on the part of all establishments in public as well as private sector to notify all vacancies to the employment exchange. In private sector, provisions of the Act apply only to those establishments which employ 25 or more persons. The working of employment exchanges in the Gurgaon district during 1952 to 1977 is given in Table XLII of Appendix.

The State Directorate of Employment, Haryana, runs employment exchanges in the district. These register the names and qualifications of those people who being unemployed; seek employment. These exchanges also supplied information about the vacancies which under the law must be reported to them. The employment exchanges are in a position to determine the kinds of employment in which (1) the vacancies are fewer than the number of applicants and (2) the vacancies are apt to remain unfilled for lack of suitably qualified personnel.

1. In the Mahendragarh district since December 22, 1972.

We can form a general idea of unemployment from the Census figures of 1961 which give details of unemployed persons aged 15 and above by sex and educational level, both in urban and rural areas as shown in Table XLIII of Appendix.

The problem of the unemployed in the district is varied and complex. Certain trades lack suitable personnel while others have surplus man-power. A surplus category included ex-trainees of different trades, fresh graduates and people with lower qualifications. The problem of unemployment can be tackled with the right sort of occupational information and guidance and provision of sufficient training facilities, in the occupations in which vacancies exist. To perform this function, the vocational guidance programme was shifted to the Employment Exchange, Gurgaon, in February 1962 from Rohtak. Talks are delivered in schools and colleges and at employment exchanges where employed counselling is also done. A career information room has been established. The programmes of occupational research and analysis as also the publication of career books and pamphlets are being attended to by the State Headquarters of the National Employment Service, Haryana, Chandigarh, and the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Government of India, New Delhi.

PRICES AND WAGES

Prices, price movements and wages together form the pivot on which the entire economic activity revolves. The prices of commodities and the wages for services rendered are an expression in monetary form of their individual and relative values.

World War I led to an increase both in prices and wages. An idea of this increase may be formed from the table below showing prices and wages of labour during the periods that preceded and followed World War I :

Year	Retail Prices (per rupee) ¹					
	Wheat		Barley		Gram	
	Seers	Chhataks	Seers	Chhataks	Seers	Chhataks
1901 to 1905	14	2	23	0	18	15
1906 to 1910	9	14	15	0	12	14
1911 to 1915	10	15	15	6	15	14
1916 to 1920	7	6	10	5	9	13
1921	6	8	9	0	7	8
1922	4	0	6	4	5	4

1. Gurgaon District Gazetteer, Statistical Tables, 1935, pp. cxii-cxiii.

Wages of Labour (per day)¹

Year	Skilled						Unskilled					
	Highest			Lowest			Highest			Lowest		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1912	0	12	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	2	0
1917	0	14	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	2	0
1922	1	4	0	0	8	0	0	5	6	0	3	6

The general depression of the late twenties / early thirties and the World War II were other factors that greatly affected the economy of the district. A comparison of prices and wages in the table below illustrates how prices and wages were affected during these periods :

Year	Retail Prices (per rupee)					
	Wheat		Barley		Gram	
	Seers 2	Chhataks 3	Seers 4	Chhataks 5	Seers 6	Chhataks 7
1929	6	13	8	6	6	12
1930	8	7	11	0	7	4
1931	12	14	20	0	10	8
1932 ^a	12	6	24	8	15	0
1933	10	13	18	0	16	8
1934	14	8	24	0	17	12
1935	13	8	24	0	22	0
1936	13	0	22	0	20	0
1937	8	12	16	0	16	0
1938	11	8	17	8	15	8
1939	12	0	16	0	10	4
1940	9	8	12	8	10	0

1. Ibid, p. ex.

2. Ibid, pp. cxii-cxiii.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1941	10	6	18	0	11	4
1942	8	12	12	4	8	8
1943	6	8	5	0	4	4
1944 ¹	3	12	6	4	4	10
1945	3	8	6	0	4	0
1946	3	10	5	10	4	13
1947	3	10	5	10	4	13
1948	1	7	1	6	2	8
1949	2	7	2	15	2	14
1950	2	7	2	14	2	8

Wages of Labour (per day)

Year	Skilled						Unskilled					
	Highest			Lowest			Highest			Lowest		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1927	1	4	0	0	8	0	0	5	6	0	3	6
1932 ²	0	12	0	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	2	0
1935	0	11	0	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	2	0
1937	0	10	0	0	7	0	0	3	0	0	2	0
1942 ³	0	12	0	0	8	0	0	5	0	0	3	0
1947	4	0	0	2	8	0	1	8	0	1	0	0
1952	5	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	1	8	0

The Economic and Statistical Organisation, Haryana, collects the data on wholesale prices for a large number of agricultural commodities from all the market committees of the Gurgaon district. The data are published in the 'Monthly Wholesale Price Bulletin of Haryana'. The following table shows the average annual wholesale prices of various agricultural commodities in the district during the sixties and early seventies. These are the averages of 52 weeks of the year and for all the market committees of the district :—

1. The data for the years 1933—44 have been taken from the entries recorded in the copy of the Gazetteer *ibid* kept in the office of the Commissioner, Ambala Division. The data for the subsequent years have been obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon.

2. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer, Statistical Tables, 1935, p. cx.*

3. The data for the years 1935—42 have been taken from the entries recorded in the copy of the Gazetteer *ibid*, kept in the office of the Commissioner, Ambala Division. The data for the subsequent years have been obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon.

Commodity	(Rs. per quintal)												
	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Wheat	41.50	46.30	59.75	62.84	62.78	97.70	98.75	98.83	97.25	100.00	101.80	85.95	90.35
Jowar	22.85	24.80	30.35	43.50	62.50	72.15	75.84	73.90	78.00	80.25	81.00	84.63	84.79
Bajra	26.74	28.67	35.15	62.75	61.63	66.00	96.00	73.00	65.35	68.72	80.00	90.00	97.34
Barley	32.60	29.90	31.75	57.50	54.35	65.70	107.85	61.80	78.90	82.00	85.00	85.74	103.00
Maize	27.19	30.00	34.50	62.78	55.25	59.00	96.45	82.30	65.83	58.00	61.50	78.00	82.85
Gram	34.45	39.15	44.37	65.30	58.60	73.50	109.85	77.90	82.50	95.00	100.00	110.00	120.66
Groundnut	66.00	66.98	67.90	75.53	88.25	90.00	135.00	117.80	129.85	150.50	162.25	163.00	165.00
Gur	42.55	58.60	74.84	80.00	68.75	82.50	154.00	114.00	98.50	150.00	175.00	176.00	178.00
Potato	36.00	37.75	37.50	46.59	46.70	45.75	38.65	35.75	42.80	40.15	40.00	67.00	70.00
Cotton (Desi)	—	—	45.61	49.57	55.00	63.83	65.00	67.70	85.00	90.00	105.00	115.85	120.00

The prices of agricultural commodities continuously rose from 1960-61 and reached the maximum level in 1966-67. Thereafter the prices decreased in 1967-68 except in the case of cotton (*desi*) and a nominal increase of 8 paise per quintal in wheat. During 1968-69, the prices declined in respect of wheat, *bajra*, maize and *gur*, while those of *jowar*, barley, gram, groundnut, potatoes and cotton (*desi*) increased. The years 1969-70 and 1970-71 again registered an upward trend in prices.

As regards individual commodities, the price of wheat rose from Rs. 41.50 per quintal in 1960-61 to Rs. 98.83 in 1967-68. It decreased a little in the subsequent year but again registered an increase in 1969-70 and 1970-71. Almost similar trends were observed in other commodities except *gur* and potatoes. It is interesting that there was no significant rise in the price of potatoes sold at Rs. 40 per quintal in 1970-71 as against Rs. 36 in 1960-61. The price of *gur*, however, had gone up by more than four times in 1970-71 (175 per quintal) as compared to Rs. 42.55 per quintal in 1960-61.

The following table shows the harvest prices¹ which prevailed in the district from 1960-61 to 1971-72 (in the old district) and 1972-73 to 1976-77 (in the re-organised district) :—

1. The harvest prices are the average wholesale prices at which the commodities are sold by the producers in the villages during the harvesting period.

Commodity	(Rs. per quintal)								
	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
Wheat	39.00	40.30	46.30	50.00	59.00	70.00	112.00	70.00	85.00
Jowar	20.80	17.30	26.73	65.00	60.00	68.00	110.00	72.00	70.00
Bajra	21.80	23.10	30.09	65.00	50.00	55.00	100.00	70.00	72.00
Barley	27.56	27.52	30.10	54.00	50.00	59.00	104.00	55.00	65.00
Gram	30.16	34.06	40.10	55.00	49.00	65.00	105.00	68.00	115.00
Maize	22.75	23.80	32.17	60.00	55.00	56.00	100.00	85.00	66.55
Sugar (Raw)	36.40	41.60	72.66	100.00	55.00	40.00	160.00	210.00	85.00
Sesamum (Til)	71.50	72.80	100.64	110.00	105.00	112.00	150.00	110.00	140.00
Groundnut	—	—	61.19	70.00	80.00	85.00	150.00	112.00	117.22
Rape	71.50	78.00	79.69	91.00	90.00	120.00	150.00	102.00	110.00
Mustard	62.40	72.80	65.06	102.00	110.00	145.00	175.00	125.00	125.00
Linseed	—	—	75.36	81.00	90.00	92.00	140.00	112.00	145.00
Toria	—	—	65.00	105.00	105.00	135.00	150.00	112.00	120.00
Tobacco	105.04	105.04	171.48	200.00	200.00	180.00	267.00	250.00	150.00
Cotton Desi (Unginned)	72.80	70.00	81.47	110.00	114.00	119.00	150.00	140.00	125.00
Cotton American (Unginned)	80.60	77.40	85.13	125.00	130.00	141.00	165.00	160.00	135.55

Commodity	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Wheat	80.00	80.00	85.00	80.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	110.00
Jowar	60.00	60.00	65.00	112.00	150.00	160.00	160.00	150.00
Bajra	65.00	50.00	57.00	96.00	100.00	120.00	75.00	80.00
Barley	52.00	52.00	55.00	98.00	110.00	100.00	50.00	75.00
Gram	90.00	85.00	90.00	117.00	200.00	195.00	100.00	125.00
Maize	65.45	50.00	60.00	66.00	80.00	75.00	65.00	65.00
Sugar (Raw)	57.20	75.00	155.00	150.00	160.00	175.00	150.00	150.00
Sesamum (Til)	155.00	150.00	155.00	176.00	300.00	250.00	200.00	250.00
Groundnut	137.60	135.00	155.00	172.00	200.00	190.00	150.00	175.00
Rape	112.00	112.00	130.00	144.00	250.00	200.00	175.00	200.00
Mustard	150.00	163.00	170.00	180.00	250.00	200.00	200.00	225.00
Linseed	150.00	155.00	160.00	171.00	160.00	190.00	175.00	200.00
Toria	126.00	130.00	135.00	161.00	200.00	180.00	150.00	175.00
Tobacco	150.00	160.00	175.00	187.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	250.00
Cotton <i>Desi</i> (Unginned)	140.00	140.00	150.00	162.00	175.00	175.00	175.00	200.00
Cotton American (Unginned)	152.84	165.00	175.00	183.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	250.00

The above table shows that harvest prices like the wholesale prices, also followed a similar trend. The prices kept on increasing and reached the highest level during 1966-67 and thereafter stabilised to some extent except in the case of linseed and cotton American (unginned).

There is a time lag between the movement of wholesale and retail prices. Therefore, the market information regarding the movement of prices flows down to the retailer comparatively at a slow pace. The following table shows the average annual retail prices¹ of important commodities from 1966 to 1976 which prevailed at the district headquarters town of Gurgaon :—

1. The annual retail prices are the average of weekly prices during the year.

Commodity	(Rs. per kilogram)										
	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Wheat	0.76	1.11	1.10	1.00	0.86	0.77	0.87	0.98	1.63	1.62	1.19
Wheat <i>Atta</i>	0.88	1.21	1.20	1.22	1.02	0.99	1.10	1.17	1.69	1.72	1.35
Rice-Coarse	0.71	0.81	0.90	0.93	0.86	1.17	1.28	1.73	2.57	2.37	1.94
Maize <i>Atta</i>	0.98	1.05	1.10	1.05	0.90	0.90	1.06	1.14	1.55	1.71	1.30
<i>Moong</i> Whole	1.33	1.72	1.90	1.95	1.60	1.82	2.53	3.05	2.90	2.57	2.30
<i>Mash</i> Whole	1.32	1.99	2.00	2.05	1.54	2.06	2.72	2.84	2.68	2.80	2.79
Gram Whole	0.77	1.12	1.10	1.00	0.99	0.92	1.18	1.60	2.36	2.18	1.41
<i>Massar</i> Dal	1.21	1.64	1.70	1.65	1.47	1.62	2.16	2.13	—	—	2.33
<i>Desi</i> Ghi	10.37	11.74	12.70	13.00	13.15	13.18	13.69	18.61	22.25	22.64	22.63
Vanaspati Ghi (2 Kilograms)	11.82	11.93	12.54	12.43	13.30	12.92	12.54	16.99	—	—	19.42
Tea Lipton (500 grams)	6.67	6.36	7.85	8.10	8.16	8.48	8.74	8.61	9.63	11.64	12.39
Milk per litre	0.89	1.03	1.10	1.20	1.09	1.13	1.17	1.44	2.15	2.27	2.00
Potato	0.68	0.84	0.75	0.80	0.75	0.72	0.69	0.83	1.05	0.76	1.00
Onion	0.42	0.44	0.45	0.60	0.71	0.56	0.82	0.72	0.77	1.07	0.70
<i>Gur</i>	1.65	1.89	1.75	1.60	0.89	1.25	1.82	1.84	2.03	2.16	2.15
Soft Coke (40 Kilograms)	4.08	4.30	8.50	8.50	6.00	8.71	11.44	11.44	18.32	15.03	11.77

The above table reveals that average retail prices like wholesale prices also rose considerably. Wheat prices increased from 76 paise per kilogram in 1966 to Rs. 1.11 in 1967, after which a downward trend started which continued up to 1971 (77 paise per kilogram). From 1972 onward, the wheat price again registered an upward trend and in 1975 it was Rs. 1.62 per kilogram, i.e. more than double the 1971 price. However, in 1976 it declined to Rs. 1.19 per kilogram. The prices of other commodities also moved in a similar way with slight variations from year to year. But the increase in the price of gram, milk, *gur* and kerosene oil registered almost 100 per cent increase over 1971, prices thus badly hitting the consumers of lower income brackets.

The Economic and Statistical Organisation started compiling monthly cost of living index numbers for working classes from 1956-57, in respect of important industrial towns in the State. Rewari, then a town in the Gurgaon district, was one of them. This series was discontinued after 1966 and in the new series Faridabad replaced Rewari. 1966 based series of Faridabad was discontinued and replaced by a new series (base July 1972 to June 1973) from July 1975. The relevant year-wise data regarding cost of living index numbers from 1956-57 to 1966-67 in respect of Rewari and from 1967 to 1976 in respect of Faridabad are given below. These index numbers are based on the weekly retail prices that prevailed in these towns in respect of more than 100 commodities/services which were mostly consumed by the working classes :

Town 1	Year 2	Food 3	General 4
		(Base 1950-51 : 100)	
Rewari	1956-57	104	104
	1957-58	107	107
	1958-59	120	119
	1959-60	124	123
	1960-61	126	125
	1961-62	129	130
	1962-63	127	132
	1963-64	134	138
	1964-65	160	155
	1965-66	167	165
	1966-67	214	199

1	2	3	4
		(Base 1966 : 100)	
Faridabad	1967 ¹	128	120
	1968	129	121
	1969	128	122
	1970	132	128
	1971	131	134
	1972	144	145
	1973	166	164
	1974	212	206
	1975 ²	222	217
		(Base 1972-73 : 100)	
	1975 ³	143	138
	1976	136	135
	1977	149	146

The above table indicates that the general price level rose continuously till 1966-67. In 1958-59, the rise was 19 per cent of the base year but it was not so sharp in 1959-60 to 1963-64. Again in 1964-65, it rose by 12 per cent over the previous year and by 6 per cent in 1965-66 over 1964-65. The price rise was, however, tremendous in 1966-67 when in a single year it rose by 20 per cent beating all the previous ten-year record. During the period of sixteen years from 1950-51 to 1966-67, the price level had increased by 99 per cent in Rewari. This state of affairs was not, however, peculiar to Rewari alone. During the same period, in other parts of the State, the prices had risen by 99 per cent in Bhiwani (in the then Hisar district), 81 per cent in Panipat (Karnal district) and 94 per cent in Ambala Cantt. (Ambala district). The position in the country as a whole was almost similar. The all-India working class cost of living index number was 191 in 1966-67 with 1949

1. Average from June to December 1967.
2. Average from January to June 1975.
3. Average from July to December 1975.

The price level at Faridabad remained normal during the years 1967 to 1969. However, in 1970, an increase of about 5 per cent occurred in the price level. The rise was about 4 per cent during 1971, 8.2 per cent in 1972, 13.1 per cent in 1973 and 25.6 per cent in 1974. The price level further galloped by 5.3 per cent during the first half of 1975. The prices thus more than doubled during first half of 1975 as compared with the base year 1966.

The Economic and Statistical Organisation started new series of cost of living index numbers in 1975, assuming the base year 1972-73 : 100. Under this series, prices rose by 46 per cent during 1977, over the base year, i.e. 1972-73.

The economy of the Gurgaon district or any other part of the State is not a closed one. The price movement and price policy in the country have, therefore, affected the price level in the district. The following are some important reasons which have led to an increase in the prices in the country :—

- (i) Expansion in the money supply from Rs. 2,868.81 crore in 1960-61 to Rs. 4,529.39 crore in 1965-66 and further to Rs. 6,353.65 crore in 1969-70.
- (ii) Heavy investment on projects with long gestation period.
- (iii) Great increase in population and consequent greater demand for consumer goods than their supply.
- (iv) Chinese aggression in 1962-63 followed by Indo-Pak conflicts in 1965 and 1971 and the prevalence of drought conditions and industrial recession.
- (v) Devaluation of Indian currency.
- (vi) Artificial scarcity created by hoarders.
- (vii) Existence of black money.

The maximum rates of pay/wages for the persons employed in the district during the year 1976-77 are as follows¹ :

Particulars of labour 1	Wages per mensem		Daily wages 4
	Whole time 2	Part time 3	
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Chowkidar	200	90	7
Jamadar	200	90	7

1, Deputy Commission, Gurgaon.

1	2	3	4
Sweeper	200	90	7
Water Carrier, <i>Bisti, Mashk</i>	200	90	7
<i>Kahar, Khalasi, Mali</i>	200	90	7
Peon	200	90	7
<i>Dak</i> Runner	200	90	7
<i>Dhobi</i> (Washerman)	200	95	7
Special Cook	295	—	12
Cook (<i>Langri</i>)	210	95	9
Warden Coolie	180	80	7
<i>Aya</i>	180	80	7
<i>Palledar Mazdoor</i>	200	90	7
<i>Beldar</i>	200	90	7
Experienced mason	225	90	13
Experienced carpenter	250	90	13
Raw mason and Carpenter (II Grade)	200	90	10
Trained Painter	220	100	10
Raw Painter	160	60	8
Jeep Driver	210	90	8
Motor/Truck Driver	210	90	10
Bus Driver	220	—	10
Cleaner	160	—	6
Cobbler (Shoe-maker)	200	90	7
Tailor Master	200	90	7
Fisherman	160	60	6
Blacksmith (I Grade)	200	—	8

1	2	3	4
Blacksmith (II Grade)	160	—	6
Chainman	160	—	6
Dusting Coolie	160	—	6
Flagman	180	—	6
Mate	190	—	7
Barber (<i>Nai</i>)	180	80	7
Electrician (Auto-Electrician)	210	—	10
Cycle <i>Dak</i> Runner	200	—	7
Mechanic and <i>Mistri</i>	210	—	10
Glass Cutter	160	—	6
Bullock-cart with two bullocks and a Driver	350	—	15
Bullock-cart with one bullock and a Driver	300	—	12
Boatman	225	—	12
Weighman	160	—	6
Ticket Verifier	230	—	8
Store Boy	140	—	5
Tent-pitcher	140	—	5
Bearer/Waiter	140	—	5
Driver for heavy earth clearing duty	—	—	10
Cleaner for above	—	—	5
Dispenser	200	—	17
Tractor Cleaner	160	—	6
Tractor Driver	220	85	10
Telephone Peon	200	—	7
Book Binder	180	80	7

1	2	3	4
Care taker for air conditioner in Rest House (Literate)	—	—	7
Cattle Catcher	—	—	5
Camel-man with one camel	280	—	10
Camel-man with two camels	360	—	13
Telephone Attendant	200	—	7
PWD <i>Khalasi</i>	—	—	6
Turner	—	—	9
Welder	—	—	9
Printing Press Compositor	—	—	9
Machineman	—	—	11
Supervisor (Insemination)	—	—	7
Milk Collector	—	—	7
Labour for supplying water and dusting l offices for one hour	—	20	—
Footwear Worker	170	—	7
Tanner	160	—	6
Server	160	60	6
Pipe-Fitter	160	60	6
Hammer-man	160	60	6
Semi-skilled Worker (Trade Certificate)	200	—	8
Skilled Supervisor (Diploma in Trade of 5-year experience)	250	—	9
Bicycle Mechanic	200	—	8
<i>Halwai</i>	210	80	12
Head coolie	Maximum per day	—	8
	Minimum per day	—	6
Counter salesman or office clerk	210	—	—
Boy or <i>Masalchi</i> or Counter Boy	160	—	—

In normal conditions wages for farm labourers are mostly determined by factors like customary practice as modified by the law of supply and demand. During the busy season, labour being more in demand, the wages are high while during the slack season, labour can be hired at lower wages. The wages for various occupations in rural as well as urban areas are paid either in cash, kind or both. For example, a casual labourer in urban areas is paid only in cash whereas a barber or tailor or washerman in rural areas is paid in cash and kind. A domestic servant in urban areas receives wages partly in cash and partly in kind. A domestic servant gets meals and clothing in addition to his pay, while an agricultural labourer gets meals or a share of the produce in addition to his wages in cash. The agricultural labourer wages per day in the Gurgaon district during 1960-61 to 1976-77 were as follows :—

Year	Ploughing	Sowing	Weeding	Harvesting	(Per day for men only)			
					Picking of cotton	Other agricultural operations	Blacksmith	Carpenter
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1960-61	2.32	2.44	2.17	2.50	—	2.00	4.36	4.95
1961-62	2.50	2.00	2.25	2.48	—	2.00	5.00	5.00
1962-63	2.46	2.00	2.25	2.31	2.17	2.00	5.00	5.00
1963-64	2.50	2.50	2.17	2.21	—	2.25	5.00	5.25
1964-65	2.85	2.83	2.28	2.20	—	2.17	6.00	6.00
1965-66	3.08	3.14	3.00	3.00	—	2.96	6.17	6.17
1966-67	4.67	3.50	3.67	3.75	4.00	4.19	7.00	7.00
1967-68	5.00	4.00	—	4.00	4.00	4.42	9.00	9.00
1969-70	6.91	5.00	4.00	5.33	—	5.00	10.00	10.00
1970-71	7.00	5.00	4.29	5.00	—	5.00	10.33	10.33
1971-72	7.00	5.17	4.91	5.00	—	5.00	12.00	12.00
1972-73	6.67	5.00	4.53	4.33	4.00	4.58	11.27	11.50
1973-74	5.50	5.25	4.40	4.25	—	4.55	9.50	10.83
1974-75	6.25	6.29	5.20	5.14	8.00	5.70	13.25	12.75
1975-76	9.11	8.89	6.37	6.25	6.00	6.91	13.58	13.17
1976-77	10.47	9.83	7.00	7.00	7.50	6.89	15.00	15.00

The above figures show that with minor deviation the wages kept on increasing from 1960-61 onwards in respect of all agricultural operations and also for skilled workers like blacksmith and carpenter. The wages were more than treble in 1970-71 and a little less in 1974-75 as compared to 1960-61 for ploughing while these almost doubled for sowing, weeding and harvesting. The daily wages in respect of other agricultural operations increased from Rs. 2 in 1960-61 to Rs. 5 in 1970-71 and Rs. 6.89 in 1976-77. In the case of blacksmiths, the wages increased from Rs. 4.36 in 1960-61 to Rs. 10.33 in 1970-71 and to Rs. 15.00 in 1976-77, while the increase in respect of carpenters had been from Rs. 4.95 to Rs. 10.33 up to 1970-71 and Rs. 15.00 in 1976-77.

Both prices and wages on the whole have been rising during the recent years. As usual, the rate at which prices have gone up has outrun the rate at which wages have increased. In other words, the relative position of prices and wages has not remained constant and there has been a greater rise in prices than in wages. The effect of these fluctuations is obvious. The value of money has been constantly on the decline, adversely affecting the cost of living of the people and in turn their standard of living.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The idea of Community Development was first thought out and tried in the Gurgaon district by F.L. Brayne, I.C.S., about 50 years ago. He took over as Deputy Commissioner in 1920 and was so struck by the miserable conditions in the district, its poverty and lack of health, in sanitation and uncleanness, primitive farming and wasteful customs, etc., that he decided that something must be done on a large scale to improve these conditions. He organised a campaign known as 'The Gurgaon Experiment' covering the whole district and its seven lakh inhabitants.

The objects of the experiment, to quote Brayne, were "to jerk the villager out of his old groove, convince him that improvement is possible, and kill his fatalism by demonstrating that both climate, disease and pest can be successfully fought", "to laugh him out of his uneconomic and unhealthy customs", and "to teach him better ways of living and farming". The objects of the experiment were : firstly, to increase the produce from the soil; secondly, to stop waste; thirdly, to secure good health; and finally, to raise the standard of living.

As regards the measures, to quote Brayne again, "Agriculture was

easy; better seed, better implements and more manure". All these things were already worked out and ready to hand. These only required bringing home to people on a large scale. "The reduction of waste was equally simple; better finance, that is to say cooperative credit, arbitration in preference to litigation, limitation of expenditure on social ceremonies, discarding and reduction in the number of ornaments worn by women. The health of the village fortunately combines easily with better farming. What now poisons the village will, if conserved for use in the fields, give bigger crops. Every farmer must have a six-foot deep pit in which to collect everything that will help his crops. And to raise his standard of living since the key to this is the condition of woman, in as much as she brings up the children and runs the home, "the little girl must be sent to school, at first with her brother and as she gets better to a separate school, and she must be taught everything which a village housewife should know to enable her to keep her family healthy, happy and comfortable and to regain the position and respect which her ignorance has partially forfeited." For this purpose, a school was established in Gurgaon to train village women so that they might return to teach the little girls at school and the grown-ups in their houses. In this sphere of work, Mrs. Brayne was the moving spirit.

Thus it will be seen that both objects and measures were so designed as to cover the whole field of rural reconstruction. But how was effect to be given to this plan over an area of the size of a district and amongst a population that was almost entirely illiterate? How, too, was this to be done in the short span of a Deputy Commissioner's tenure of office? Here again, to quote Brayne, the method was 'to take the whole district as the field of operation and to deluge the area with every form of propaganda and publicity that we could devise or adopt or afford'. The great ally was the magic lantern and after that parties of strolling minstrels and glee songsters 'roped in and bribed to sing our dope'. They cost very little and hundreds of villagers were still enthralled for hours while they told them in song how to wash the baby or what sort of wheat to sow. Finally, "we plaster the walls with cartoons and posters, distribute leaflets, handbills and poems, organise shows, demonstrations and competitions.....and prizes are even given for poems and essays". Briefly stated, the method was propaganda, more propaganda and still more propaganda.

Brayne was of the opinion that propaganda would move mountains, yet he did not trust to it alone, and joined with it, to the full, the use of his Deputy Commissioner's authority. "I always worked hand in glove with the

rural leaders", he explains, "but once I had them with me in any new departure, I did not hesitate to use the whole of my official influence to obtain acceptance for its and to get it carried out in the villages"..... "We forced the pace deliberately"..... "We were told inside and outside the District that the squalor of the village was incurable and even if there were a remedy its application was impossible"..... "In the short time at our disposal, we had to disprove both statements and establish a *fait accompli* to the satisfaction both of the district and of the world at large."

'The Gurgaon Experiment' no doubt produced some good results but it did not last. The transfer of Brayne to another district, the famine of 1928 and the general depression of the thirties were the main factors which thwarted these efforts.

After the attainment of Independence in 1947, the central purpose behind all the efforts the nation has been making, as manifested in the Five-Year Plans, is to raise the standard of living and ensure better conditions of living for all sections of society. The directive principles embodied in the Constitution are sought to be implemented through the integrated development programmes included in the Five-Year Plans. All India level, State level and district level plans are formulated with their specific targets and methods of achievement. These are implemented through the district administrative machinery which has been re-organised and strengthened after Independence to meet the challenge of all types of strains in the developmental growth. Thus the district administrative machinery is assigned a pivotal role in executing developmental and the welfare schemes. It is with this end in view that the Community Development Programme was initiated. It is altogether a unique and scientific endeavour for an integrated approach to the problems of rural development based on public participation and working through representative institutions of the people. This programme was first inaugurated in the district on October 2, 1952, by starting Community Development Projects at Ballabgarh and Faridabad. At first three types of development blocks known as National Extension Service (N.E.S.), Community Development (C.D.) and Post Intensive Blocks were conceived. These marked three different phases of development in rural areas. The N.E.S. was a preparatory period when the area was prepared for receiving a heavy dose of development during the next stage of Community Development. The assumption was that thereafter it would be sufficiently developed and the people educated and conscious enough to keep up by themselves the tempo of progress already achieved. The programme since then has undergone various organisational

changes as a result of the recommendations of the Balwant Ray Mehta Committee appointed by the Planning Commission during 1956-57 to examine the working of the Community Development Programme and related matters and to recommend measures for improving its quality and content. In pursuance of the recommendations of this committee, the existing distinction between the N.E.S. stage, Intensive Development stage, and Post-Intensive stage was abolished from April 1, 1958, and all the blocks under the All India Programme except blocks in the community development stage which had then not completed 3 years, were classified into Stage I and Stage II blocks, with revised financial patterns and periods of operation. Preceding Stage I, every block which has been recognised as a unit of planning and development, undergoes a pre-extension phase of one year during which work is confined to preliminary surveys, planning and agricultural development. The community development blocks on completing Stage I period would enter Stage II. A Stage I block has a five-year period of operation with a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 12 lakh for this period. It is the intensive development phase in which the peoples' participation is to be promoted as the means of community development by closer association of gram panchayats with the formulation of plans for their respective areas. The degree of success attained during the first stage will be the evidence of the growth and functioning of self-reliant rural communities which is the basic objective of the programme. After completing Stage I, the blocks enter Stage II of the programme with a total provision of Rs. 5 lakh for 5 years during which period the process of community development is intensified. After the two stages of 5 years each, the block enters the Post Stage II where the expenditure is the entire responsibility of the State Government. On march 31, 1971, of the 14 community development blocks in the district, only one, viz. Punahana, was a Stage II block while the remaining 13 were Post Stage II Blocks. The tahsil-wise location of these as obtaining in 1971, is given below :

Tahsil 1	Block 2
Gurgaon	Gurgaon
Ballabgarh	Sohna
Firozpur Jhirka	Ballabgarh
	Faridabad
	Firozpur Jhirka
	Punahana
Nuh	Nuh
	Hathin

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Palwal	Palwal
	Hodal
Rewari	Rewari
	Bawal
	Pataudi
	Khol

After the re-organisation of the districts in December 1972, Rewari, Bawal and Khol blocks of the Rewari tahsil were transferred to the Mahendragarh district, while the fourth, viz. Pataudi block became a part of the Gurgaon tahsil. Thus there are 11 blocks in the district and all are in Post Stage II.