

The college is being run by the Hindu Educational and Charitable Society, Sonipat. It has a well-stocked library with 66,283 books (54,190 library books and 12,093 bank books). It also subscribes to many journals and newspapers. There is a big science laboratory with modern equipments. Besides N.C.C, the National Social Scheme has been adopted by the college.

The distinctions secured by the students in the University examinations during 1972 to 1979 are given below :

Year	Class	Position on merit list
I	II	III
1972	Pre-University	3rd, 5th and 6th
	Pre-Engineering	6th
1973	Pre-Medical	3rd
	B.A./B.Sc. II	2nd
	B.A./B.Sc. III	7th
1974	Pre-University	5th, 10th, 11th and 12th
	B.A./B.Sc. III	1st
1975	Pre-University	1st, 5th and 11th
	Pre-University (Commerce)	7th and 14th
	Pre-Medical	7th and 13th
	Pre-Engineering	2nd and 5th
	B. Commerce III	8th, 23rd and 29th
	B.A./B.Sc. II	1st, 5th and 16th
	B.A./B.Sc. III	3rd, 5th, 15th, 16th, 24th, 27th and 30th
1976	Pre-University (Commerce)	9th
	Pre-Medical	2nd, 10th, 11th and 17th
	Pre-Engineering	5th, 19th and 20th
	B.A./B.Sc. I	3rd, 7th, 9th, 11th, 12th and 19th
	B.A./B.Sc. III	2nd and 19th

I	II	III
1977	.. Pre-University	3rd, 4th and 9th
	Pre-University (Zoology)	1st
	Prep-Commerce	5th, 7th and 8th
	Pre-Medical	1st, 2nd, 5th and 9th
	Pre-Engineering	9th, 11th and 12th
	B. Commerce	6th
1978	.. Pre-University	1st, 2nd, 12th, 14th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 24th and 25th.
	Pre-University (Commerce)	5th
	Pre-University (Arts)	4th, 5th, 6th, 9th, 18th, 19th 22nd, 24th and 25th
	B.Sc.	2nd, 14th and 19th
	Pre-Medical	4th, 6th and 11th
	B.A. II	4th, 7th and 8th
	B.A. III	1st and 3rd
1979	.. Pre-University	5th, 7th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th.
	Pre-University (Commerce)	4th, 5th and 10th
	B.Sc. I	2nd and 7th
	Pre-Engineering	1st, 3rd, 4th and 10th
	Pre-Medical	3rd, 5th, 6th and 8th
	B.Sc. II	2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 11th and 13th
	B. Commerce III	2nd and 3rd
	B.Sc. III	10th
	B.A. I	1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th
	B.A. III	3rd, 4th, 7th and 11th

1. Position on merit list from 1980 to 1989 may be seen in the Tabel of XIX of Appendix.

Hindu College of Education, Sonipat.—The college was started by Hindu Education and Charitable Society in 1968 to meet the great demand of the area. It began with one hundred students and it acquired full-fledged status with four units of 200 students of B.Ed. in 1970. It had O.T. classes also from 1968 to 1975. During 1981 to 1983, it was again given the responsibility of running condensed course for J.B.T. (Home Science) to make them qualified to work as regular teachers. Thus, the institution trained 4,000 teachers by 1983. It aims at the development of character and inculcation of right attitude. The number of students in the 'Teachers' Training Courses¹ was 200 during the academic year, 1988-89. There is separate arrangement for boys and girls in the college.

The college is affiliated to M.D. University, Rohtak. It has been showing excellent results from the very beginning. Each year a good number of positions of merit are won in the university examinations. In 1988-89 the institute bagged 17 positions (1st divisions).

There is a well equipped library with 13,110 books on different categories—Education, Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, School Organization, History, general, etc. The library provides excellent opportunities, both to the teachers and students, to enrich their knowledge by getting the latest information from various books, magazines, journals, periodicals and dailies. It is a matter of credit that the college authorities provide the students with a complete set of required text books from the college book-bank which is expanding every year.

The sources of income are : grants-in-aid and fees. The co-curricular activities are organized to enable the students to come with their best performance in various items. To get the good intellectual food from all possible sources, the college invites the greatly reputed educationists from time to time.

To create in the young minds a sense of responsibility towards the community, N.S.S. programmes are organized in the villages. The students not only work for improving the village surroundings but also do from door to door teaching the people about the principles of happy and healthy life.

Tika Ram College of Education, Sonipat.—To remove the educational backwardness, the college was founded in July, 1975 through the efforts and munificence of Tika Ram Education Society, Sonipat. This is a privately-managed institution. It is ideally situated at the south end of Tika Ram Road in an atmosphere free from turmoil of busy town.

J.B.T.¹ Classes were organised for two sessions only.

The college imparts instruction in B.Ed. courses and is affiliated to the M.D. University, Rohtak. There were 206 students (121 in boys-section and 85 in girls-section) during 1988-89. There were 17 staff members (teaching staff-7 and ministerial staff-10).

A number of cultural functions are organized to inculcate the spirit of leadership and to encourage healthy pursuits amongst the students.

The college has a good library with the total number of 5,000 books. It also subscribes to 20 journals, magazines and newspapers. It has vast play-grounds, spacious lawns and well equipped laboratories. N.S.S. programmes are also followed.

The college magazine "Haryana Sumer" is published once a year. Grants-in-aid and fees are the main sources of income.

Hindu Girls College, Sonipat.—Hindu Girls College, Sonipat was founded as a section of Hindu College in a separate building through the efforts and munificence of the Hindu Educational and Charitable Society in 1958. The society made a liberal donation for the construction of the college. It is a privately-managed institution. It was separately affiliated to M.D. University, Rohtak in July, 1982.

The number of students on roll during 1988-89 was 1,950. The number of lecturers and members of non-teaching staff was 62 and 60 respectively. The college imparts instruction upto degree level in the faculties of humanities, Science and Commerce. Training in N.C.C. and N.S.S. is also imparted to the students.

It has vast play-grounds, verdurous spacious lawns, well-equipped laboratories, botanical and zoological museums and a rich library with a stock of 18,000 books. A number of literary and cultural functions are arranged to inculcate the spirit of public speaking and to encourage the healthy pursuits among the students. The college magazine "Pankaj" is also published once a year.

There is a girls hostel with an accommodation for 400 students. One lady Medical Officer, one Pharmacist and one Nurse have been appointed for hostel and college students.

B.P.S.M. Girls College, Khanpur Kalan.—The College was established at Khanpur Kalan in 1967. The courses of arts faculty (B.A. and B.Sc.) are imparted here. There is an arrangement for science groups (Medical and non-medical), 10+1 and 10+2.

The coaching of sports is given to girls regularly. The girl-players took part in the competition for basket-ball at Pant Nagar. Two girl-players were

selected to take part in Indian Volley-ball team at the time of 33rd Senior National Volley-ball championship.

Cultural programmes are also held in the college.

The number of students on roll during 1988-89 was 750. There were 27 members on the teaching staff. It has a very good library. In 1988-89 session, 12 students of 10+2 class secured merit-scholarship in the university examination. One girl student of this college got 1st position in the B.Sc. II year of Dayanand University, Rohtak during the academic session of 1988-89.

Government College, Gohana.—The college, formerly known as Haryana War Heroes Memorial College, was founded in July, 1966. Previously it was a privately-managed institution which was taken over by the Government on 12th February, 1981. It is housed in two storeyed building consisting of three blocks.

The college imparts education upto degree level in the faculties of Humanities and Commerce and is affiliated to Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak. The total number of students in the college was 1,109 during 1988-89 (976 boys and 133 girls). It had 131 students (127 boys and 4 girls) belonging to Scheduled Castes and 62 (57 boys and 5 girls) to other Backward Classes.

The staff members (subject-wise) are as follows :—

Subject	Number of lecturers
English	8
Hindi	7
Sanskrit	4
History	2
Economics	2
Political Science	3
Mathematics	3
Geography	4
Commerce	4
Public Administration	1
Total :	38

The number of non-teaching staff was 27.

Free books are supplied to the students from the book bank of the college on return basis at the end of the session. The total number of books as on 31st March, 1989 in the library was 17,621. The subject-wise details of books are as follows :-

Subject	No. of books
English	2,360
Hindi	3,354
History	1,281
Political Science	1,490
Geography	1,344
Commerce	1,748
Sanskrit	918
Mathematics	1,273
Economics	1,637
Public Administration	826
General	574
Reference books	448
Religious Books	368
Total :	17,621

The college had one N.C.C. company and one N.S.S. unit. A magazine, *Bhairvi*, is brought out annually. A number of literary and cultural functions are arranged to inculcate the spirit of public speaking and also imbibe the spirit of national integration.

It has only one play-ground where the games of Volley-ball, Basketball, Badminton and Kho-Kho are generally held.

The academic distinctions/merits secured by the college in different university examinations are given below :—

Year.	Class	Position
1978-79	.. Pre-Commerce	5th
1981-82	.. B.A. I	1st (Awarded gold medal) and 5th
	Prep-Commerce	4th
	B. Commerce II	3rd
1982-83	.. B.A. II	2nd
1987-88	.. B.A. I	5th
1988-89	.. B.A. II	2nd

C. R. Engineering College, Murthal.— Chettu Ram State College of Engineering at Murthal started functioning from the academic year 1987-88 with admissions in two disciplines, Electronics Engineering and Mechanical Engineering with an intake of 30 students in each discipline. From the session of 1989-90, two new branches i.e. Computer Science Engineering and Electronics Engineering were introduced with an intake of 30 which has now been increased to 45. The College is affiliated to the M.D. University, Rohtak. It is located on the national highway (No. 1) at a distance of about 50 k.ms. from Delhi. The campus of the college is being developed on a piece of land measuring 272 acres, donated by the Gram Panchayat, Murthal.

The college is governed by the Board of Governors and is headed by a Director-Principal.

The college has been approved by All India Council for Technical Education to offer under-graduate courses of study in six disciplines of Engineering with an intake of 270.

The details of the courses and number of students as on March 31, 1989 are given below :—

Sr. No.	Name of the Class	Name of the Branch	Year of admission	Students admitted	Male	Female	S.C.
1.	B.E.I-Year	Electronics Engg.	1988	30	27	3	6
2.	B.E.I-Year	Mechanical Engg.	1988	31	30	1	6
3.	B.E.II-Year	Electronics Engg.	1987	30	24	6	4
4.	B.E.II-Year	Mechanical Engg.	1987	30	30	..	1

The strength of the staff as on March 31, 1989 was 66 (teaching 16 and non-teaching 50).

There is a provision of a hospital for boys with cubicles. The hostel for girls is under construction and temporary arrangements for their stay have been made in faculty residences.

Satya Nand Sanskrit Mahavidyalya, Gohana.—The Mahavidyalya was set-up at Gohana on May 1, 1957. The courses imparted here are: *Pragya, Vishard, Shastri, Rattan* and *Prabhakar*. During 1988-89, there were 110 students, 25 boys and 85 girls. There were Five members on the teaching staff. It is affiliated to Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, for the above courses.

There are 1,500 books in the college library. Two newspapers and one journal in Hindi are provided in the library.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

With the rapid strides in the field of Science and technology, it is but natural that education should become more and more science based. The economic developments have also had their impact on the educational requirements in this direction. A number of technical and professional institutes were started in the district in response to these requirements.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Janta College of Pharmacy.—The College was set-up at Butana in 1977. After a period of 2 years a diploma in pharmacy is awarded to the successful students.

There were 124 trainees (1st year-59 students and 2nd year-65 students) during the academic session of 1988-89.

Hindu College of Pharmacy, Sonipat.—The pharmacy College was established in May, 1978 at Sonipat. It imparts pharmacy education up to diploma level. It is being run by the Hindu Educational and Charitable Society, Sonipat.

The course is affiliated to the Board of Technical Education, Haryana, Chandigarh. The college is also recognised by Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, with an intake of 120 students.

It is well-equipped with ten laboratories and highly qualified staff. The number of students during 1988-89 was 259. There is a well-furnished library with a provision of book bank. Hostel facilities are also provided to the students. The students secure 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th positions every year in the Board Examination.

Technical Education

The Government Institute of Surgical Instruments and Technology at Sonipat imparts training in two specialised disciplines of Mechanical Engineering, viz. (i) Surgical Instruments and Technology and (ii) Machine Tools and Die Sinking Technology of 3 years' duration with an intake of 30 students each. Originally the administrative control of this institute was with Industrial Training Department but it was transferred to the Technical Education Department in 1978.

Industrial Training.—Industrial training is imparted to boys and girls in the Industrial Training Institutes with a view to ensuring a steady flow of skilled workers in different trades. The aim is to raise quality and quantity of industrial production by systematic training of workers and to reduce unemployment amongst educated youths by equipping them for suitable industrial employment. Training is provided in engineering and non-engineering trades.

The details of the technical Institutes as on March 31, 1989 are given below:—

Name of the Institute	Trades
1. Sonipat	Draughtsman, Mechanical, Fitter, Electrician, Grinder, Turner, Machinist, Wireman, Tool and Die Maker, Motor vehicle, Mech. Radio and TV, Ref. & Air Conditioning Carpenter, Diesel Mechanic, Moulder, Welder, Wireless Operator, Steno (Hindi), Steno (English), Blacksmith, Painter, Mech. Tractor, Sheet Metal Worker, Millwright Mechanic, Electronics Mech.

I.T.I., Ganaur

Fitter, Sheet Metal

I.T.I., Gohana

.. Draftsman (Civil). Fitter, Turner, Wireman, Steno
Hindi, Handweaving Dari & Niwar, Mech. tractor,
Electronics Mechanic.

Incentives are provided by way of scholarships of Rs. 45 per mensem per student on poverty-cum-merit basis to one-third of the students on roll in each institution. Trainees belonging to Scheduled Castes are given a scholarship of Rs. 75 per mensem. Ex-servicemen and their dependents are also awarded scholarships for such training at Rs. 100 and Rs. 40 respectively. Besides, technical training, medical aid, workshop clothes and hostel accommodation are provided free of cost to all trainees.

Vocational Education

During 1988-89, there were vocational Institutes at Sonipat, Kathiara Purkhas, Mundlana, Rohtak, and Gohana.

EDUCATION OF THE HANDICAPPED

Training Centre for blind adults, Sonipat.—Realising the educational-cum-vocational needs of the blind adults, the State Government set-up a training centre for men between the age of 18 and 40 at Panipat in July, 1962. It was shifted to Sonipat in 1964. The object of this centre is to impart education and training to the blind in order to make them economically productive members of society and to enable them to lead a normal life.

The blind are imparted education in the centre through the orthodox methods. No tuition fee is charged from such students. The duration of the course is 3 years. All the expenditure is met by the Social Welfare Department.

During 1988-89, there were six teachers. The year-wise number of students during 1973-74 to 1988-89 is as follows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total inmates</u>
1973-74	41
1974-75	43
1975-76	32
1976-77	31
1977-78	32
1978-79	31
1979-80	29

1980-81	29
1981-82	25
1982-83	29
1983-84	26
1984-85	31
1985-86	33
1986-87	27
1987-88	26
1988-89	19

GURUKUL TYPE OF EDUCATION

There are 3 *gurukuls* in the district; 2 for boys (at Arshrafpur Matindu and Bhainswal Kalan) and one for girls (at Khanpur Kalan). The main purpose of these institutions founded on the pattern of education in ancient India, is to teach Sanskrit and Hindi. Their aim is to teach the Vedas and other Śruti lore. These provide physical education according to ancient ideas. But, as elsewhere in the country, there is a tendency to convert these *gurukuls* into the modern type of institutions. The *gurukul* at Bhainswal Kalan, which functions as a branch of Gurukul Kangri (Hardwar), was founded, by Bhgat Phool Singh, a disciple of Swami Brahma Nand. He also established a *gurukul* at Khanpur Kalan for girls, which now functions as an important rural institution. One wing of the *gurukul* (Higher Secondary School) was upgraded as Bhagat Phool Singh Memorial College.

SOCIAL EDUCATION

An essential requirement of adult suffrage is the eradication of illiteracy from the country. Due to financial limitations it has not been possible to cope with this stupendous programme in a big way. However, efforts are being made to co-ordinate the programmes of voluntary organizations with the efforts at the government level. There are many organizations which run social education centres in the district for men and women; the Social Education Workers supervise these centres. The main centres in the district were :—

(i) Social Education Centre for Men, Sonipat

(ii) Social Education Centre for Women, Gohana

(iii) Social and Adult Education Centre for Women, Samaj Kalyan Sabha, Gohana

(iv) Social Education Centre for Men, Organo Chemical Industries, Sonipat

The Samaj Kalyan Sabha, Gohana, holds literary classes and women are given elementary education to eradicate illiteracy from the society. More than one thousand women attend regular lectures on different social subjects in weekly Saturday classes (*Satsang*) and they are given training for social and religious work. For the benefit of women, a training club with cultural programmes has also been established. It stages dramas, holds debates and declamation contests. Thus the trainees are given opportunity to develop a sense of fine arts. The art of music, dancing and public speaking is also taught to them.

These centres in addition to imparting elementary knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, maintain libraries, arrange lectures on cleanliness, sanitation and personal hygiene and provide other recreational and cultural activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

National Fitness Corps.—In order to develop character and discipline and to make the children physically fit, the late General J.K. Bhonsle started the National Discipline Scheme. This scheme created a new awakening in the field of physical education culminating in the formulation of the National Fitness Corps Programme containing a wide scope of physical education. Good points of all schemes relating to physical education were incorporated in the scheme for National Fitness Corps and an integrated syllabus was evolved.

The programme includes exercise tables, drill and marching, lezium, gymnastics and folk dances, major and minor games and relays, track and field events, tests and hiking, combatives and national ideals and good citizenship, practical projects and community singing of the National Anthem and patriotic songs.

The scheme is implemented in the district under the general supervision of District Education Officer who is assisted by an Assistant Education Officer. The physical training has been re-oriented towards a new programme. One Instructor has been provided in all the high and higher secondary schools whereas in middle and primary schools, teachers have been made incharge of the programme.

National Cadets Corps.—National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.) was introduced in the educational programme in 1948 to develop the qualities of leadership, unity and discipline. It was made compulsory after the Chinese Aggression for all the able-bodied under-graduate male students at collage 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 to both boys and girls during the academic sessions and through outdoor camps.

During 1988-89, there were two divisions; Senior Division and Junior Division (the Senior Division with 800 cadets in the colleges while the Junior Division with 1,000 cadets in the schools). All the cadets in the district are covered by the 12 Haryana battalion N.C.C., Sonipat which is under the control of Group Headquarters of Ambala Cantt.

National Service Scheme.—This scheme was introduced in the educational programme of the country in 1969. It was adopted in the colleges of Haryana in 1970-71. The scheme aims at educating the students through community service. 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. training is imparted regularly during the academic sessions and through outdoor camps. The scheme is functioning in almost all the colleges of the district.

The N. S. S. has been functioning in the Chhotu Ram Arya College, Sonipat since 1971. The service was done during the following events by the youth of the college:

- (i) Youth camp was organized during drought at village Juan in 1973.
- (ii) Youth camps were organized against dirt and disease at village Kakroi in 1974 and 1975; and
- (iii) Youth camps were organized against rural reconstruction at village Jagdishpur in 1976 and 1977.

Besides, other activities taken by the students of the same college were: adult education, environmental sanitation, earth-work at village Jagdishpur, tree plantation, coaching of weak school boys, popularisation of *gotar* gas plants and formation of youth clubs in villages.

Bharat Scouts and Guides.—The Haryana State Bharat Scouts and Guides Association came into being as a separate entity in April, 1970. Previously it was a Joint Organisation of both Punjab and Haryana. Its State Headquarters is situated opposite Law Department in Punjab University Campus, Sector-14,

Chandigarh. The affiliation of the State Association rests with its National Headquarters at 16 Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi. Its Scouts/Guides training centres are at Taradevi (Shimla Hills), Ambala Cantt., and Hissar.

Aims and Objects.—The association aims at inculcating and promoting reverence to God and Selfless service to the mother-land and humanity. There is a association in every district. The District Education Officer functions as District Scout Commissioner.

Functions.—The association organises training camps for adult leaders and Special Proficiency Badges Training Camps for Scouts and Guides at Taradevi and in the district. The association is engaged in character building activities of the youth by undertaking various programmes as indicated below:—

- (i) Organising training camps for adult leaders and for scouts and guides;
- (ii) Holding of Cub/Bulbul Utsav and rallies;
- (iii) Holding of seminars on adult education, population education and community development, etc;
- (iv) Participation in Prime Minister's shield competition;
- (v) Participation in social service camps, such as Solar Eclipse fair, Kapal Mochan, Phalgu and Kumbh fair;
- (vi) Participation in the President's scout/guide rally;
- (vii) Observance of Railway Service Day;
- (viii) Participation in National and International event; and
- (ix) Special Projects are taken up on the guide lines given by the National Headquarters such as;—
 - (a) Community singing courses
 - (b) National Integration camps
 - (c) Health and sanitation
 - (d) Cleanliness drive
 - (e) Creation of hobby centres
 - (f) Preservation of greenaries
 - (g) Free eye operation camps

Thus the organisation trains the boys and girls in the principles and practice of the scout movement. The activities of this movement include training camps, refresher courses; sight-seeing, etc. The association teaches its trainees, belief in God, discipline, co-operation, self-help and self-confidence, thereby promoting their physical, mental, moral and spiritual development.

This scheme is prevalent in every school in the district. Number of registered scouts and guides in the district as on 31st March, 1989 was 18,205, as detailed below :-

1. Cub/Scouts/Scouters	12,215
2. Bulbuls/Guides/Guiders	5,990
Total :	<u>18,205</u>

SPORTS

Physical education is a part of human life as well as of education. It helps in building a sound mind in a sound body.

In schools these activities are controlled by the Physical Training Instructor who takes further guidance from the coaches concerned. In primary and middle schools, some interested teachers handle the sports activities. The sports activities at college level are controlled by D.P.Es. They organise college level and university level tournaments in the district.

Sports activities in the district include school tournaments, panchayat tournaments and open tournaments. All such activities in the district are organized by the District Sports Officer, Sonapat.

The school tournaments are generally conducted under the guidance and control of the District Education Officer who heads the District School Tournaments Committee as its *ex-officio* chairman.

The panchayat tournaments at the block and district level are organized under the control of Block Development and Panchayat Officer and A.G.A. Various panchayats take part in block tournaments and block teams compete in the district panchayat tournaments. The teams from the district are sent to compete for the panchayat tournaments held at the State level. The colleges in the district participate in tournaments organised by the University. Various associations also organise open tournaments for different games.

The Sports Department gives financial assistance to various associations and institutions for promotion of sports. Young and talented players are encouraged and coaching is imparted to them. Coaching centres have been established separately for men and women for training in various games.

To promote sports in the rural areas, the State Government has opened Rural Sports Centres at various places in the district.

Moti Lal Nehru School of Sports, Rai.—The Motilal Nehru School of Sports is an upcoming and prestigious institution which was started by the Government in 1973. It is located in the vicinity of the village Rai, on the National Highway No. I, Sher Shah Suri Marg. The beautiful surroundings and spacious lush green lawns create an ideal atmosphere for a boarding school. The school campus comprises about 300 acres. Across the road, the school has a farm land measuring 64 acres.

The main aim of starting the school is to attract the children when they are young and to develop their multifacet personality in an atmosphere of ordered freedom. Quality education is being imparted on most modern lines and the activities of the students are being so channelised as to enable them to acquire a sense of responsibility and self-discipline.

The school is a co-educational institute which is being run on the public school lines. The medium of instruction is English. The school is affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi, under the 10+2 scheme of education. The total strength of the school during 1988-89, i.e. (March 31, 1989) was 776. There were 16 students belonging to Scheduled Castes. Children are initially admitted to class IV and they normally leave the school after passing the class XII. Being the biggest institute of this kind in the State, it is designed to impart quality education on modern lines and aims at blending the public school character with our cultural heritage. Not only does it have a streamlined system of academics but it also has a scientifically planned programme of physical education to ensure balanced development of personality and provides opportunities to children to excel both in games and sports and in studies. A special emphasis on sports is an outstanding feature of the institute. The school is unique in the sense that special emphasis is given to aptitude in games and sports at the time of admission and it admits children solely on the basis of merit.

The State Government heavily subsidises the education and even a man of ordinary means can realise the dream of sending his son or daughter to such an institute. Though the school is meant for the residents of Haryana, 20 per cent of the seats are reserved for the children from other states. The majority of students admitted here come from the middle and lower middle classes.

The school plan has features which would be the envy of any good institute in the country. It has a number of excellent playgrounds. It has a stadium with a velodrome and an 8-lane 400 metres cirder track. There are four cemented badminton courts, three cemented Basket ball courts, four Volley-ball courts, three cemented and three turf cricket pitches, three foot-ball and three

hockey grounds. There are five lawn tennis courts; two concrete tennis courts and one squash court. There is an Olympic size swimming pool with eight lanes. The indoor gymnasium is very well-equipped. It is provided with rubber-jumping pits. There is provision for Badminton, Volley-ball, and tennis courts inside the gymnasium. Horse-riding was introduced in 1986. This was adopted by the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi for promotion of sports in the country with effect from the Session 1985-86 under the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme of Government of India.

The school has been a venue for the XXII National School Games in swimming and football. The seventh Indo-USSR women's Hockey test was played in 1980. In order to make full use of the unique coaching facilities available here, talented boys and girls with special aptitude for games are invited from all over Haryana for summer and winter coaching camps. These camps help a great deal in scouting out existing talent.

A careful watch is kept on the performance of the school students in the sports. Initially for a few years, the students are expected to play all the games.

Besides the outdoor activities, considerable emphasis is also laid on a number of co-curricular activities which develop the creative talent of the students. Some of the activities in which the students regularly participate are hiking, dramatics, debates, art and painting, elocution, music, dancing, band, extempore speech making, etc. Opportunities are also offered to develop interest in varied and useful hobbies like stamp collecting, photography, electronics, industrial chemistry, wood work, metal work, needle work, knitting, food preservation, adventure club, social service, etc.

In the sphere of cultural activities, the school does not lag behind. All the students (girls and boys) come forward to exhibit their talents at various shows held in the school at regular intervals. There is an auditorium with 500 seats, equipped with proper stage lights and 35 MM projector. The school has well stocked library, well-equipped science laboratories and crafts workshop. There is 25-bed hospital headed by a resident Medical Officer.

LIBRARIES AND MUSEUM

Libraries.—The institution of library was introduced in the district in the third decade of the 20th century when a few libraries were opened in the villages. These libraries were meant for literate villagers who for one reason or another could not continue their further studies. The books catering to the needs of persons in different vocations and professions were taken to a central place in a village and distributed from there. These libraries could not be developed for lack of funds. After attainment of Independence, the Government began to

encourage the opening of such libraries. Social Education Centres were provided with latest books. A District Library Committee with the Deputy Commissioner as Chairman was constituted in January, 1980 to promote the library movement by the Education Department.

The brief details of the important libraries are given below :

District Library, Sonipat.—The library was set up in January, 1980. It contains about 6,000 books valuing approximately Rs. one lakh. It is open to general public and about 300 persons visit daily. As many as 6 newspapers and 20 periodicals are made available to the readers.

Shahstri Public Library, Sonipat.—The library was established in January, 1966 by the Youngmen Association, Jamalpura, Shahstri Marg, Sonipat. It contains 900 books valuing Rs. 4,000. It is open to general public and about 225 persons visit daily. It subscribes to a large number of newspapers and periodicals for public reading.

Municipal Library, Sonipat.—It was established by the Municipal Committee in 1952 and is located in the hall of the Committee near railway station. Its functioning is looked after by the municipality. It has 5,500 books of all kinds valuing approximately Rs. 35,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for general reading. There are 300 persons who visit the library daily.

Municipality Library, Gohana.—The library was set-up in 1955. It contains 2,500 books on various subjects valuing Rs. 30,000. It is open to general public and about 300 persons visit it daily. Newspapers and periodicals are also provided to the readers. The President of the municipality looks after its functioning.

Municipal Library, Ganaur.—It was started in 1979 in the municipal building. There are 1,250 books in the library. The approximate value of the books is Rs. 15,000. The control of the library is vested with the administrator of the municipality. It subscribes to a large number of newspapers/periodicals for the general readers. About 150 persons visit it daily.

Museum.—There is no museum in the district.

CULTURE

Haryana *Swang* follows the old tradition, being the most popular variety of performance based on the 'open stage' technique. It is an all male troupe. The female roles are played by males, due to strict social custom.

Playing/staging *swang*, two prominent sangis, i.e. Dip Chand Bahman and Pt. Lakshmi Chand contributed immensely to the cultural aspects in the

district. They imbibed many qualities such as patriotism, truth, sacrifice., etc. in the minds of the people not only of the area but also throughout the Haryana State.

In Haryana the most celebrated name is that of Dip Chand Bahman of village Sheri Khanda in Sonipat district. He is still in public memory and is popularly styled as the 'Shakespeare' or 'Kalidas' of Haryana. Semi-literate, he had a spark, a touch of genius. He polished the style of Ali Bux and gave a new colour to this folk art. The *swang* of that time had two categories ; (i) Kirtan style and (ii) Nautanki style. Dip Chand's style of performance incorporated elements from music dance, pantomime, versification and ballad recitation.

During the First World War, when Dip Chand's capacity for improvisation and adaptation was at its peak, the British Government made him a 'Rai Sahib' and granted him favour. His catchy songs with martial tunes attracted large recruits to the army.

Among Dip Chand's many contributions to the folk music of *swang*, the outstanding one is that he opened the eyes of contemporary singers and music lovers to the prime importance of voice culture and voice modulation and the supreme value of emotion in music. He was truly the King of emotions. It was his genius that chiselled off the harsh crudities and angularities of the old style of the stage and lent it a polish and glow. Among his talented disciples may be mentioned Hardeva Swami, Bhartu Brahman, Butabi Doom and Khema.

Pt. Lakshmi Chand of Janti Kalan (Sonipat) is the next most celebrated name in Haryana after Dip Chand. He improved the *ragini* style of singing. He possessed a very rich, melodious voice and was also a successful composer. The important *swang* staged by him include *Nal Damyanti*, *Meera Bai*, *Satyavan Savitri*, *Seth Tara Chand*, *Puran Bhagat*, and *Sahi Lakarhara*.

Baje Bhagat who gave a new life to *sang* poetry, was born in Sisana village of Sonipat district. Right from early childhood, he took active interest in village theatre and music. As he grew up, he joined the *sang* group of Guru Hardeva and travelled a lot to learn all about the profession of his choice.

With his emergence on the scene of *sang* theatre, a new kind of poetry came up. Baje Bhagat soon came to be known for verse that did not forsake good language to gain public attention. He contributed a lot to *sang* poetry and like other poets of his times, used images that describe his age. He was killed by an enemy at the age of 35. Some of his popular works include "*Raja Amb*, *Padmvat*, *Jamal*, *Chandra Kiran*, *Raja Harish Chanra*, *Roop Basant* and *Puran Mal*."

The large number of disciples he left behind included Pt. Mange Ram, Mai Chand, Sultan, Chadan and Rati Ram.

The other aspects of the culture in the district have been detailed in the Chapter-III (People). Besides, there is a composite culture in the district. There are many shrines in the district in which Muslim *pirs* are worshipped by the Hindus and Muslims, alike. The earthen lamps are lighted and offerings are made on Thursday on such memorials even by the Hindus. This is one of the many instances of co-existence of culture and traditions. Hundreds of people irrespective of their religion can be seen paying obeisance at different religious places in response to the urges of the composite culture.

The colleges and other educational institutions lay great emphasis on the promotion of cultural pursuits. Some colleges have introduced music and dance as the regular discipline in the course of their studies while others have cultural societies/associations for the promotion of fine arts, music, dance, drama, etc. These societies organize cultural functions.

The people of this district are greatly influenced by Hindu classic literature and outlook on life. There are *Shivalas* (Shiv-temples) almost in every village. Shiv-worship is widely prevalent in the area. The people are generally God-fearing. Bahalgarh village of this district has been a very important seat of vedic literature. A Sanskrit High School was set up here.