

CHAPTER V.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

SECTION A.—GENERAL.

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A.—General.
Executive and
Judicial.

The Hissar District is under the control of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division. The Head-quarters staff of the district consists of a Deputy Commissioner and four Extra Assistant Commissioners. One of the latter is invested with the powers of a Subordinate Judge for the purpose of Civil business, and another is entirely employed on Revenue work. The Deputy Commissioner is also District Judge. There is also a Munsif at the Sadr. The Sirsa Sub-Division, consisting of the Sirsa Tahsil, is in charge of an Assistant Commissioner who is stationed at Sirsa.

There are five tahsils, each of which is in charge of a Tahsil-dar assisted by a Naib, except in Tahsils Fatehabad and Sirsa where there are two Naib-Tahsil-dars, each of whom is in charge of a Sub-Tahsil under the general charge of the Tahsil-dar. The Head-quarters of the Fatehabad Sub-Tahsil are at Tohana and of the Sirsa Sub-Tahsil at Dabwali.

The statistics of Civil and Revenue litigation are given in Table XXXIX, but owing to the separation which has been effected between Civil and Revenue Courts the figures are not of much value.

Tahsil and Sadr Office.	Kangres and Naib.	Tahsils and Assistants.
Sadr Office	5	77
Hisar	3	45
Fateh	4	61
Hissar	3	49
Fatehabad	3	26
Sirsa	5	79
	23	311

Criminal, Police and Gaols.

Class of Police.	DETAILINGS.		
	Total strength.	Stationary constables.	Patrolmen and Reception.
District	559	74	441
Municipal	149	...	149
Total	708	74	621

The village Revenue staff is shown in the margin.

Bhai Anokh Singh, Jágirdar of Budhláda, is the only Honorary Magistrate in the District. He is invested with 2nd Class powers as a Magistrate and as a Munsif. They are exercised within the limits of his jagir.

The Police Force is controlled by a District Superintendent. The strength of the Force as given in Table I of the Police Report for 1890-91 is as shown in the margin.

In addition to this Force 1,465 Chaudhars or village watchmen are entertained and paid by the village headmen from the chaudi-dara or village house-tax.

There are also 28 *chaukidárs* as follows directly under the control of the District Superintendent of Police.

The *thánas* or principal police jurisdictions and the *chaukis* or police outposts are distributed as follows:—

Tahsil Hissár—Thánas—Hissár, Siwáni, Balsamand, Barwála; Out-posts, nil; Road-posts, nil.

Tahsil Hānsi—Thánas—Hānsi, Narnand, Barwála; Out-posts nil; Road-posts, Madanheri.

Tahsil Bhiwāni—Thánas—Bhiwāni Municipal and Bhiwāni District, Tosham, Kairu, Bahal, Siwāni; Out-posts nil; Road-posts, Dnod, Bamlo, Rodha, Sangarpur, Bajjua.

Tahsil Fatehábád—Thánas—Fatehábád, Rattia, Tohána, Budhláda, Hissár and Barwála; Outposts—Agroha; Road-posts, nil.

Tahsil Sirsa—Thánas—Sirsa, Rānis, Rori, Dabwáli; Outposts, Jamál, Chautála, Ellenábád; Road-posts, Odhan.

A new *thána* has been sanctioned at Baháns in the Fatehábád Tahsil but has not as yet been erected. When complete the villages in the Fatehábád Tahsil which are within the Barwála *thána* limits will be transferred to the Baháns *thána* together with some of the villages now in the Tohána *thána* and there will be changes in some other *thána* iláqas.

There is one punitive police post at Lohári Bagho in Tahsil Hānsi which was instituted for one year from June 1st, 1891, in consequence of the notoriously criminal propensities of its inhabitants.

There are cattle-pounds in charge of the police at each *thána* and also at Agroha, Jamál, Chautála and Ellenábád.

The district is within the Lahore Police Circle and under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Lahore. The District Goal at Hissár contains accommodation for 251 prisoners.

Table XV gives statistics of criminal trials and Table XVI of Police enquiries for the five years ending with 1890. Table XVII gives statistics of the convicts in goal for six years ending with 1890-91. Only prisoners with terms not exceeding three years are kept in the goal, others are drafted elsewhere.

There are no criminal tribes in the district who have been proclaimed under the Act. Cattle theft is the principal crime of the district and is practised mostly by the Mussalmán Ráj-púts (Ranghars) and the Pachhládás.

Surrounded as the district is by Native States its position offers peculiar facilities for the successful perpetration of this form of crime. Several villages are notorious as centres of the

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Rānis	...	8
Ellenábád	...	8
Fatehábád		10

Crime. ✓

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Crime.

trade in stolen cattle between Patiala on the east and Bikaner on the west, and cattle stolen in the district are commonly conveyed to villages in one or other of these States.

The prevalence of the crime is a relic of the old days in which organized forays by bands of armed men (*kotak* or *dhar*) were an every day occurrence, and it is no doubt a result of this that the crime is regarded as a venial offence by many of the agricultural tribes.

Tracking was much practised in former days but it is now to some extent falling out of disuse.

A large number of the bad characters of the district have lately been placed on security, and this together with severe punishment on conviction will no doubt soon cause a perceptible diminution in the crime.

Revenue, Taxation
and Registration.

The gross revenue collections of the district for the last fifteen years so far as they are made by the Financial Commissioners are shown in Table XXVIII, while Tables XXIX, XXXV, XXXIV, XXXIV A and XXXII give further details of land revenue, excise, license tax, income tax and stamps respectively. Table XXXIII A shows the number and situation of Registration Offices. The land revenue of the district is separately noticed below.

There is now only one central distillery for the manufacture of native liquor and it is situated at the Sadr. The cultivation of opium is prohibited in the district, and only Government excise opium from Ghazipur is allowed to be sold by the licensed dealers.

Considerable quantities of illicit Malwa opium from Rajpūtāna are smuggled and consumed in the district as it is cheaper and preferred by opium eaters.

Salt.

There are no salt refineries in the district.

District Funds
and Committees.

Table XXXVI gives the income and expenditure of District Funds, which are controlled by the District Board consisting of 50 members of whom four, viz., the Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner in charge of Sirsa, the District Inspector of Schools and the Civil Surgeon are *ex-officio* members, 31 are elected by the Local Boards from among their own members and 15 are nominated by the Local Government. The Deputy Commissioner is *ex-officio* President of the Board.

Tahsil.	Elected.	Nominated.	<i>Ex-officio</i> .
Hissar ...	10	8	1
Muzaf ...	17	8	1
Shivali ...	10	4	1
Fatehshah ...	14	7	1
Sirsa ...	21	16	2

There is a Local Board in each Tahsil constituted as shown in the margin.

The Tahsildar is an *ex-officio* member in each Tahsil and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Sirsa, also in the case of the Sirsa Tahsil.

The following statement shows the sums expended by the District Board in

each year since 1886-87 on schools, dispensaries, roads, bridges and arboriculture.

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District Funds and Committees

Year.	SCHOOLS.		DISPENSARIES.		ROADS.		Bridges.	Arboriculture.
	Establishment.	Buildings and repairs.	Establishment.	Buildings and repairs.	Establishment.	Repairs.		
1886-87	12,388	—	7,337	—	—	—	—	2,478
1887-88	9,320	833	6,268	453	1,548	9,943	331	2,721
1888-89	9,538	1,325	8,014	100	1,528	23,054	513	2,009
1889-90	9,778	2,247	7,764	684	2,064	15,128	603	2,504
1890-91	9,712	539	8,534	1,198	2,064	39,633	1,543	2,437

Source of Income.	1889-91.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91
Stamping bangaloree	340	551	270	336	373
Encamping grounds	170	250	240	373	304
Cattle-pens	3,108	4,305	2,366	5,032	2,469
Nazal properties	233	169	113	113	149
Ferries without boat-bridges	136	27	34	513	811

Table XX gives statistics of municipal income, while the Municipalities themselves are noticed in Chapter VI. The income from Provincial pro-

erties for the last five years is shown in the margin.

Table XVII gives statistics of Government estates. They consist of the Hissar Government Cattle Farm already described, the Hāsi Bir, and two pieces of waste land at Sirsa.

Government Estates.

The Hāsi Bir is under the direct management and control of the Deputy Commissioner. The object aimed at is to develop it into a fuel and fodder reserve. Out of a total area of 2,001 acres 568 are under cultivation irrigated from the canal, a considerable area has been planted with trees, while a large area is still waste. It will be brought under cultivation gradually and then planted with trees. It should in time become a most valuable property and the income will probably increase.

Hāsi Bir.

The Sirsa Bir are managed by the Municipal Committee, Sirsa, and the income realized is credited to it.

The only salt income is that derived from fees for licenses to work crude saltpetre in the villages.

Customs (salt).

Table XXXVII gives figures for the Government Middle and Primary schools in the district. There are no Aided schools, with the exception of a girls' school in Hissar and another in Bhiwāni which are conducted by lady Missionaries.

Education.

There are three Anglo-Vernacular Middle schools in the district, at Hissar, Bhiwāni and Sirsa, and two Vernacular Middle schools at Hāsi and Barwāla. The schools at Bhiwāni,

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Education.

Sirsa and Hānsi are maintained entirely from Municipal Funds while the school at Hissār is maintained by Municipal Funds supplemented by a contribution from the District Fund. The Barwāla school is maintained entirely by the District Board.

The number of Vernacular Primary schools in the strict sense of the term is 31 distributed by Tahsils as follows:—

Hissār.	Hānsi.	Bhiwāni.	Patchābād.	Sirsa.
Narothala, Kūnri, Kūnri, Laudhri.	Narvaund, Sisal, Bawāli khara, Jamūlpar, Batera.	Chang, Figrān, Yocham, Lohani, Deorāla, Babal, Barkā, 3 Branch schools at Bhiwāni.	Patchābād, Badhāda, Chuli, Mūhammadpur, Tahān, Jamūlpar, Ahrwan.	Jodhka, Khowell, Narvang, Mūhri, Math, Chasāhā, Jagmāra, Bānā, Mangach, Bari, Abulshahr.

All these Primary schools except the one at Patchābād and the three branch schools at Bhiwāni, which are supported solely from Municipal Funds are District Board schools and the cost of their maintenance is borne wholly by the District Fund. In addition to the above there are seven zamindāri schools opened recently under new Regulations and situated as below:—

Hissār Tahsil	...	...	Mangali.
Bhiwāni do.	...	...	{ Kaira.
Hānsi do.	...	...	{ Barwāla.
Patchābād do.	...	...	{ Rattia.
Sirsa do.	...	...	{ Kirāra.
			Junal.

They have been included in Table XXXVII among Primary schools. They are intended to supply sons of zamindārs and sons of kāmīns with really needful rudimentary education, such as simple reading and counting and Banyas' accounts by native methods. They are closed during harvest time. The cost of maintenance of these schools is defrayed wholly from District Funds.

There are no girls' schools in this district under the direct control of the District Board or Municipal Committees. But a girls' school at Hissār under the auspices of the S. P. G. Mission and a Baptist Mission girls' school at Bhiwāni receive grants-in-aid from the Municipal Committees of these places respectively.

Physical instruction has received some attention. The Middle schools are provided with a gymnastic instructor each, with an itinerant superintendent to supervise their work, and there is an itinerant gymnastic teacher for the District Board Primary schools.

The Anglo-Vernacular Middle School at Hissár was instituted in 1862. It contains a Middle as well as a Primary department. The staff of the Middle department consists of the Head Master, a secondmaster, a Mathematical teacher, a Sanskrit teacher and a Persian teacher. The Primary department has a Head Master and four Persian teachers. A boarding-house is attached to the school.

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Hissár School.

The Bhiwáni Anglo-Vernacular Middle School was established in 1884. It comprises a Middle as well as a Primary department. The staff of the Middle department consists of a Head Master and four other teachers as in the case of the Hissár School. In the Primary department there are a Head Master and five Persian teachers. The school is provided with a boarding-house.

Bhiwáni School.

The Sirsa school was established in 1863. The staff of the Middle department consists of a Head Master and two other teachers and that of the Primary department of a Head Master and four teachers. This school also has a boarding-house attached to it.

Sirsa School.

The Vernacular Middle School at Hánsi was instituted in 1863. The staff consists of a Head Master and four teachers. There is no Primary department; a boarding-house is attached.

The Vernacular School at Barwála was established in 1886 as a Primary school. It has been raised to the grade of a Middle school from January 1892, and now contains both a Middle and a Primary department. The staff consists of a Head Master and three teachers.

The following table shows the results of the School examinations held during the last five years :—

Year.	Number of pupils.	MIDDLE EXAMINATION.		UPPER PRIMARY EXAMINATION.		LOWER PRIMARY EXAMINATION.	
		Number of candidates.	Number passed.	Number of candidates.	Number passed.	Number of candidates.	Number passed.
1890-91	1,082	26	19	55	43	199	98
1891-92	1,011	33	17	72	57	189	79
1892-93	981	29	13	72	43	181	71
1893-94	972	43	20	76	53	177	87
1894-95	935	54	18	68	71	180	81

Note.—The annual cost of maintaining all the schools in the district is Rs. 24,449, out of which Rs. 10,698 is given from the District Funds and Rs. 13,751 from the Municipal Funds.

Table XXXVIII gives separate figures for the last five years for each of the dispensaries of the district, which are under the control of the Civil Surgeon at Hissár, and in the immediate charge of Assistant Surgeons at Hissár, Bhiwáni and Sirsa and Hospital Assistants at the other dispensaries. Medical Dispensaries.

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Medical Dispensaries.

The dispensary at Hissár is situated on the south side of the town and contains accommodation for 20 male and 8 female in-door patients. There are four wards. The staff consists of an Assistant Surgeon, a compounder, a dresser and menials. It is attended annually by some 12,000 patients, of whom over 300 are in-door patients. The dispensary is supported partly by the District Board and partly by the Municipal Committee of Hissár.

The dispensary at Bhiwáni was instituted in 1865. It is situated just inside the Dinand Gate. It contains accommodation for 21 male and 10 female in-door patients and has four wards. The staff consists of an Assistant Surgeon, a compounder, a dresser, an apprentice and menials. It is attended annually by some 12,000 patients, of whom some 300 are in-door patients. The dispensary is supported entirely by the Municipal Committee.

The Sirsa dispensary contains accommodation for 32 male and 8 female in-door patients and has four wards. The staff consists of an Assistant Surgeon, compounder, dresser and menials. It is supported partly by the District Board and partly by the Municipal Committee.

Of the other dispensaries of the district two, viz., those at Húsi and Fatehabád are supported partly by the District Board and partly by Municipal Committees and three, those at Tohána, Budhláda and Elnabád are supported wholly from the District Funds.

Ecclesiastical.

There is a small Church, Saint 'Thomas', at Hissár, capable of holding 60 persons, and another, St. John's in the Wilderness at Sirsa.

A Chaplain from Lahore visits each station periodically.

Head-quarters of other Departments.

The portion of the Rewári-Ferozepore Railway which runs through the district is in charge of the District Traffic Superintendent at Sirsa under the control of the Traffic Manager at Ajmir; at which place also are the Head-quarters of the Chief Engineer, while there is an Executive Engineer at Sirsa.

The portion of the Western Jumna Canal within this district and as far down as Bahádra in Bikaner is in the 4th Sub-Division of the Karnál Division and is in charge of an Assistant Engineer under the control of the Executive Engineer who is stationed at Dádapur and is in charge of the Division. The Head-quarters of the Superintending Engineer are at Ambála.

The telegraph lines and offices in the district are controlled by the Telegraph Superintendent at Delhi and the Post Offices by the Superintendent of Post Offices, Hissár Division.

The Government Cattle Farm is under the Military Department and is in charge of a Superintendent under the control of the Commissary-General, Ráwalpindi.

SECTION B.—LAND AND LAND REVENUE.

Table XXIX gives figures for the principal items and totals of land revenue collections from 1868-69 to 1890-91. It must be borne in mind that the Sirsa Tahsil was added to the district in 1884.

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Revenue.Statistics of land
revenue.

Table XXXI gives details of balances, remissions and agricultural advances for the last 15 years; Table XXX shows the amount of assigned land revenue, while Table XIV gives the areas upon which the present land revenue of the district is assessed. In discussing the revenue history of the district, it will be necessary to deal separately with the four southern tahsils of the district recently settled, with the Budhlāda ilāqa and with the Sirsa Tahsil.

Four southern Tahsils.

The attempt which has been already made to sketch the history of the tract now included within the Hissar District prior to the establishment of British rule will probably have made it clear that there was no room for any definite land revenue system under native rule. It may be taken as a leading principle that the larger part of the land revenue which reached the former Native rulers of the tract was in the form of the proceeds of forays by bands of armed men.

Native land revenue system.

So far as there was any system the demand was assessed in kind at a very variable proportion of the gross produce of the land. The State did not, of course, concern itself with the distribution of its demand inside the village community, all it looked to was the realization of that demand from the community as a whole.

For many years prior to the British annexation the tract included within the district had been practically a deserted waste, and there were neither cultivators to pay revenue, nor crops wherewith to pay it, nor any ruling power to collect it.

When first the attention of the British Government was seriously turned to Hariāna, in 1810, the country, with the exception of the sub-division (*pargana*) of Hānsi and a few of the larger villages in other parts of the district, was either lying waste, or if occupied was held on a precarious tenure by recent settlers, unattached by ties of association to the soil and ready to fly, at a moment's notice, beyond the border. In Hānsi even, where the effects of the *chūlha* famine had been less severely felt, the inhabitants were mostly found crowded together in masses in the larger villages, where they had betaken themselves for the sake of mutual security. The smaller villages were completely deserted. The change of rule, however, attracted large numbers of immigrants, principally from Rājpiṭṭāna, and the population rapidly increased while in Hānsi the people began to leave the large villages and spread themselves once more over the face of the country re-occupying their old homes.

Summary Settlements.

It was not however till 1815 that any attempt was made to bring the district under a land revenue settlement. In that year

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a settlement for ten years was effected by Mr. W. Fraser. This was followed a by five years' settlement made by Mr. Graham in 1835. The latter corresponded with the general settlement of 1832 in the provinces to the east of the Jumna. In 1880-31 a third settlement for ten years was effected. No information is forthcoming as to the basis of these settlements. The assessments can have been but little more than guesses as there can have been few, if any, collections made under Native Rulers to supply any standard.

The area dealt with in these settlements corresponded more or less closely with the area now included in the four southern tahsils of the present district with the exception of the Nāli circles of the Fatehābād Tahsil and the Badhāda ikāga.

The following table gives statistics of the demands of the first three settlements:—

	Rs.
Highest Jama of the first 10 years' settlement ...	4,25,182
Do. do. 2nd 5 do. do. ...	4,75,421
Do. do. 3rd 10 do. do. ...	4,98,697
Average do. last 5 years of 3rd settlement	4,88,609

The demand of the first settlement from 1815-1825 was so high that it exceeded by almost 20 per cent. the revenue which has in 1890 been fixed for the same villages; but high though it was and though the actual collections seem to have decreased the demand was increased in the second and third settlements to such an extent that the assessment fixed for the same tract in 1890 is 32 per cent. less than the average demand for the last five years of the third settlement, viz., Rs. 4,88,609.

In 1840 the previous assessments of the district were revised at the First Regular Settlement effected by Mr. Brown. In that year he assessed the tract at Rs. 4,47,315, a reduction of Rs. 41,292 below the average demand of the previous five years or 8.4 per cent. This assessment was not maintained for reasons which may best be given in Mr. Brown's own words. In reporting on the settlement effected, he wrote as follows:

Years.	Jama.		Remarks.
	Rs.	Rs.	
1835 ...	4,31,020	—	} The balance partly owing to a bad season and partial failure. A total failure and famine. A bad season and partial failure. A short total failure. A partial failure throughout the district.
1834 ...	4,60,390	19,347	
1836 ...	4,59,828	4,009	
1838 ...	4,67,313	25,212	
1837 ...	5,75,624	95,708	
1836 ...	5,17,424	2,79,983	
1839 ...	5,00,259	5,387	
1840 ...	4,08,394	5,23,679	
1841 ...	4,77,498	4,36,996	
1843 ...	4,77,127	6,137	
1843 ...	4,08,070	2,50,217	
1844 ...	4,91,337	12,308	
1842 ...	4,89,377	8,89,145	
1845 ...	4,86,758	1,02,205	
1847 ...	5,06,614	94,979	

Note.—To the above 15 years may be added the year 1834 P. E., when the failure was also so total that not a fraction of revenue was collected, the whole having been remitted, and the last year 1846 P. E., when a balance equal to that of 1847 P. E., accrued from a bad season and partial failure.

On reference to the record of past years, the balances of the district for the last 15 years which had been either remitted, or proposed for remission on account of bad seasons or had accrued from other causes appeared as per margin.

From this return it appears that out of the 15 years seven were years of total or partial failures attended each year by heavy balances amounting to annas 8 pies $3\frac{1}{2}$ on the Jama of the whole seven or if the antecedent and succeeding years of 1232 and 1248 F.S. be added, that nine years out of the 17 were marked by the same recurrence of casualties of seasons. A portion of the balances of 1236 and 1237 F. S. will also be found to be ascribed to the same cause, and probably justly, but there was no general failure in these years. The return if exhibited for the same period in the form inserted in the pargana remarks will stand as follows :—

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Average Jama of 15 years from 1228 to 1248 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of 15 years.	Average Jama of ten years from 1236 to 1245 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of ten years.	Average Jama of five years from 1242 to 1247 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of five years.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4,47,315	2,50,632	4,30,033	2,06,725	4,55,669	3,30,610

If therefore the results of the last five, ten or fifteen years were to be assumed as the probable or possible outturn of the ensuing corresponding periods, and as the district will always be exposed to these casualties more or less, there is no reason why they should not be, it will be obvious that the lately revised demand of Rs. 4,47,315 would have been either above or below the mark, above the means of realizations in an indifferent season, and below what has been realized up to a late period with a trifling balance in a good one. The remission would have probably continued at the same rate and scale as before, and if remissions were allowed in some years, the State would fairly be entitled to a higher scale of revenue in others, than that assessed. But apart from these considerations, arguments can scarcely be needed to prove that a system of revenue which makes a balance on account of casualties the rule, and a steady enforcement and collection of the demand almost the exception, must be grossly unsuited to the condition and circumstances of the part of the country in which it is maintained. Without entering into details it may be sufficient for me to state from my own experience as well as from the past fiscal history of the district, that these repeated remissions have had mischievous effects on industry and improvement, and that when the method in which they were unavoidably estimated and carried into effect in each year comes to be examined in detail, it will be found to have been a mere juggle between the Tahsil Officers and the people. It is not to be inferred from this, that the several remissions were uncalled for or unnecessary. The people would not pay their full revenue at its former standard in a deficient season. No means have hitherto presented themselves in that part of the country for compelling them to do so or for preventing the general or partial abandonment of the district, and their elopement into the Foreign States on the frontier, which a strict

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enforcement of the demand on such an occasion would have assuredly given rise to, and the several local Revenue authorities throughout this period have accordingly found themselves under the necessity of giving in, in succession, to a system which no one of them could possibly have approved of. The only remedy which presented itself for this state of things for the future period seemed to be a free and full descent in the scale of revenue demand on the part of the Government to a standard sufficiently light to cover these casualties of season as far as they can be provided for by ordinary calculation and the substitution of an average of profit and loss for the state as well as for the people in the place of nominal demand and irregular remissions. The average collection of the last ten years from 1238 to 1247 F. S. appeared a fair basis to proceed upon in forming this estimate. In the ordinary run of chances, the advantage in it lay altogether on the side of the people, as the period in question comprises two disastrous years of almost total failure, five years of general failures, varying in their extent and magnitude, and only three in which the full revenue was realized with comparatively trifling balances, a succession of casualties which are scarcely likely to be crowded into any similar succeeding period. It may also be borne in mind that the total revenue demand for the district during this period as a whole was far from being high or exorbitant although in its parts it stood greatly in need of equalization.

"In the preceding paragraph the averages for the whole district are given. As the canal villages were necessarily excluded as a class from the calculations preliminary to the second revision of settlement, a similar return of averages for the *bairani* portion of the district alone is subjoined.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Average Jama of 15 years from 1228 to 1247 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of 15 years.	Average Jama of 100 years from 1228 to 1247 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of ten years.	Average Jama of five years from 1248 to 1252 F. S., inclusive.	Average collection for the same period of five years.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4,11,820	2,91,955	4,35,561	2,67,970	4,11,947	2,58,255

First revised Jama exclusive of the canal villages Rs. 2,40,416.

"In the course of the distribution of the sum in the 4th column on each pargana a surplus of Rs. 10,276 or 4 per cent. over and above the sum total of ten years average collections remained in the sum total of the pargana Jamas, and as the furthest necessary limit of liberal reduction had been reached in the latter, the demand was ultimately and finally fixed at Rs. 2,58,255 being at a reduction of 37½ per cent. below the average standard of the last five years.

"The principles followed in the parganawár and mauzáwár distribution of this demand are noted in the pargana remarks severally. The result of the 2nd revision for the *biráni* portion of each pargana is subjoined.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pargana.	Average Jains of last five years.	First revised Jains.	Second revised Jains.	Average collections of last ten years.	Process payments above collections in the second revised Jains.	Decrease of percentage below column 4 in the second revised Jains.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. s.	Rs. s.
Hánsi... ..	1,24,023	87,245	68,654	77,568	—	7 34
Tosháki... ..	98,105	65,671	52,285	45,345	—	5 54
Sewáni... ..	81,329	54,325	39,384	50,428	—	5 54
Bahál... ..	8,635	5,575	5,000	5,060	—	2 0
Barwála... ..	31,180	24,820	23,650	18,371	25 51	—
Hissár... ..	98,534	70,576	54,700	65,465	—	1 34
Agroha... ..	15,866	17,450	20,175	16,328	93 8	—
Fatehabád... ..	15,544	19,130	16,945	9,742	68 14	—
Total... ..	4,11,617	3,40,454	2,48,255	3,47,076	4 0	—

Former five years' average demand for the district.	First revised demand for the district.	Second revised demand for the district.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4,98,000	4,17,515	3,30,390

Being a reduction of Rs. 1,68,590 or 23 per cent. below the five years' average Jains.

within the previous settlements. From this were excluded the whole of the present *Nálí* circles of Tahsil Fatehabád formerly in Tahsils Fatehabád and Barwála, the *Badhléda ilaga* and certain villages in Tahsils Bhiwáni and Hánsi which will be dealt with below:—

"The assessment of the canal villages having at the same time undergone alteration, the demand for the whole district stands as per margin."

Mr. Brown's settlement dealt with practically the same area as had been dealt

SERRANIES.	Detailed Total.		Hind Total.				Hind Total.				Serrania.	Detailed Total.		Total (1880-81)	Total (1880-81)	Total (1880-81)
	Bagar.	Western Hariana.	Eastern Hariana.	Western Hariana.	Canal.	Bagar.	Western Hariana.	Eastern Hariana.	Canal.	Hariana.		Bagar.	Hariana.			
First, 1815-24	90,149	18,735	77,006	59,397	47,671	51,000	7,305	19,125	14,604	20,700	6,000	1,205	98,006	106,508	41,115	
Second, 1825-29	85,265	19,037	77,764	59,629	35,090	70,400	14,525	28,055	21,027	25,543	1,540	1,350	104,822	180,404	84,207	
Third, 1830-39	60,797	22,071	74,435	48,090	40,308	71,400	16,560	32,328	24,979	32,703	19,104	6,550	102,100	168,910	74,869	
Average 5 years, 1815-39	79,416	22,071	77,340	48,817	48,701	78,335	16,475	29,790	24,827	32,703	18,338	8,000	104,488	180,708	78,460	
First revised demand, 1840	57,160	18,000	41,431	31,774	18,970	58,400	12,500	31,300	22,750	30,100	23,040	2,200	73,990	111,175	86,515	
Second ditto	48,135	18,000	41,230	23,331	10,000	44,645	10,331	21,100	20,000	...	...	...	60,000	101,000	48,400
Settlement of 1860-61	40,340	11,500	41,280	20,900	70,628	40,433	10,308	21,118	14,131	59,675	22,300	7,700	64,640	141,770	40,400	

In the appended Table the highest demands of the first three settlements and the demand of the Settlement of 1840 are collated and the demand fixed in the Settlement of 1860 is added for comparison. The Table is drawn up by assessment circles as now constituted and not by the old parganas. The remarks made by Mr. Brown already quoted and the Table now given will show how excessive, judged by the standard of subsequent assessments, the three early assessments of the district were.

Their working was, as would be expected, most unsatisfactory. The demand was so exorbitantly high that balances were the rule and full collections the exception, and the frequent remissions demoralized both the officials and the people. There had been a rush of immigrants when a settled Government was first established in the tract under our rule and the district was for a long time a place of refuge when disturbances took place in the neighbouring States. Cultivators had increased rapidly, especially in the Bher or Bagar tracts. The demand was fixed with but little consideration of the casualties of the season so common in this district, and when in bad years the cultivators were pressed for revenue they moved off into the Native States from which they had originally come.

Taking an average over 15 years from 1825 to 1839, figures given in the extract quoted above from Mr. Brown's report show that collections fell short of the assessment by 28 per cent.

The following statement gives details of the working of the second and third settlements in various tracts. The statement is drawn up by old parganas and not by the present assessment circles which have been used in the Table given on the last page.

Taluk.	Pargana.	Average demand for 15 years before 1840.	Average collections for ditto.	Average demand for 15 years before 1840.	Average collections for ditto.	Average demand for 5 years before 1840.	Average collections for ditto.
Bilwari	Bahal	6,078	6,072	1,414	5,000	6,005	4,365
	Verham	88,480	57,098	36,481	55,345	88,138	61,070
	Total	94,558	63,170	37,895	60,345	94,143	65,435
Hansi		1,20,000	60,211	1,27,721	72,048	1,25,523	60,363
Hissar	Bilwari	30,105	35,204	55,031	24,801	35,238	20,421
	Hissar	66,038	53,378	60,708	53,415	60,530	54,725
	Total	96,143	88,582	1,15,739	78,216	95,768	75,146
Barwala	Barwala	27,700	20,710	30,250	18,071	20,180	14,900
Pachhri	Pachhri	—	—	11,384	7,701	15,045	11,830
	Agroha	17,800	11,854	18,010	10,420	18,805	11,770
	Total	—	—	29,394	18,121	33,850	23,600

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Land and Land Revenue.

Summary Settlements.

Working of Summary Settlements.

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mary Settlements.

The assessment was in fact a farce. No means of enforcing payment from the then shifting population ever ready to fly beyond the border existed if in any season they found the British money rates press more heavily than the collections in kind made by the neighbouring Native States. The collection of the revenue, in fact was, as the Settlement Officer of 1840 expresses it, "a mere yearly juggle between the Tahsil Officers and the people." In the sandy tracts to the west, another cause tended to cause fluctuations of revenue. The soil, though productive in good years, and especially after having been fallow for several years, is very easily exhausted. The settlers from Bikāner would at first plough up every acre, leaving not a corner of their allotment uncultivated. This would continue for a few years, until the land was exhausted, and then the Bāgrīs would leave their villages and seek a new settlement elsewhere, sure of finding waste land on every side only waiting to be brought under cultivation. On this subject Mr. Brown wrote in 1840 thus:—"The usual fate of the Bhur tracts throughout Upper India is observable in this (Toshām) and the three other older established parganas of this class in this district (Siwāni, Bahāl, Hissār). The emigrants finding a soil which had lain fallow for very many years previously, and being encouraged by a succession of favorable seasons ploughed up every available bigah. The soil being easily exhaustible, began then to fail them, and the inhabitants to desert under the increasing pressure of the revenue demand, which desertion has rapidly increased, since new tracts of fresh land were thrown open to them by the gradual occupation of Agroha and Fatehābād."

First Regular
Settlement.

Upon the state of things the First Regular Settlement of the land revenue was commenced in 1839-1840 by Mr. Brown. As has been already stated he first fixed a demand of Rs. 4,47,315 based on the average demands of previous years. But as shown in the extract from Mr. Brown's report already quoted, in the course of his investigations he became convinced of the impossibility of assessing the country so highly and that owing to the nature of the soil and climate, and the character of the people, heavy balances were inevitable except under circumstances which experience had shown to be most exceptional. In fact Mr. Brown's first assessment was followed at once by a partial failure of crops and the new demand fell into balance immediately to the extent of some 14 per cent. He accordingly again revised his assessments with a view to reducing them in *bāgrī* villages basing his calculations this time not on previous average demands but on previous average collection. At the same time the assessments of the canal villages were raised, the previous ones having been made as if no canal irrigation existed.

The following table shows the general result of Mr. Brown's assessments as announced:—

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Settlement.

	Average demand of 10 years 1888-99.	Average collections of 1890-99.	Average demand of 5 years 1888-92.	Average collections of 5 years 1893-97.	1st revised demand 1898.	2nd revised demand 1900.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ricci villages ...	4,16,381	2,47,379	4,11,947	2,57,040	2,46,414	2,58,255
Canal villages ...	78,072	67,793	79,002	64,002	67,100	1,31,911
Total ...	4,94,453	3,15,172	4,90,949	3,21,042	3,13,514	3,90,166

The estimate for the *bérāni* villages was Rs. 2,47,979, but in distributing the demand the total assessment for those villages came out at Rs. 2,58,255 being 4 per cent. over the actual average collections of the previous 10 years and less than one per cent. over those of the previous five. The new demand was 37 per cent. under the old demand.

In the villages irrigated from the Western Jumna Canal Mr. Brown raised the demand for above the previous average collections and even 50 per cent. over the previous demand. As noted above those villages had been previously assessed as if no canal existed, and it was only at this settlement that a share of the large profits made on the irrigated lands was claimed for Government. Care was taken to base the demand on the area actually irrigated from year to year, but the revenue rate was fixed with regard to the revenue paid in the Rohtak District upon sugarcane and other rich crops. The demand was in all probability far in excess of what the villages should have been assessed at.

Canal villages.

In the table given on page 238 Mr. Brown's final assessments for the various part of the district have been given in detail.

The following table shows the rates of incidence per acre of these assessments on the areas cultivated at that time and on the *mālguzāri* areas:—

TAKHL.	Old pargana.	Modern assess-ment circle.	Incidence per acre.	Incidence per acre mālguzāri.
			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.
Bilwāri ...	Bilāli ... Touān ...	Bilāli Bāgar ...	0 4 8	...
		Amrāth ...	0 0 4	...
		Bāgar Western Hārāthā ...	0 0 2	...
Hānāl ...	Hānāl ...	Hārāthā ...	0 9 4	...
		Canal ...	2 10 7	...
Hissār ...	Socāli ... Bissār ...	S. Bāgar ...	0 5 0	0 3 1
		N. Bāgar and Hārāthā Canal ...	0 5 2	0 3 0
Barrāthā ...	Barrāthā ...	Barrāthā ...	0 9 2	0 2 10
Fatehābād ...	Bāgar Agrāthā ...	Fāgar ...	0 3 4	0 2 1
		Bāgar and Har- āthā	0 3 1

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The parganahwár
assessment in
1840.

The table given in the extract quoted from Mr. Brown's Settlement Report on page 237 shows the assessments made by him for each of the parganas then in existence. The table on page 238 exhibits the same assessments arranged by the modern assessment circles. It will be well to make a few remarks regarding Mr. Brown's parganahwár assessments.

In pargana Toshám, which corresponded with the present Western Hariána and part of the Amrain Bágár circles of Tahsil Bhiwáni, Mr. Brown fixed his assessment at 14 per cent. below the average collections of the last 5 years, and in pargana Bahál corresponding with the present Bahál Bágár and part of the Amrain Bágár circles of Bhiwáni, at 7 per cent. below the same average.

In regard to pargana Hánsi Mr. Brown wrote that scarcely a third of the tract was cultivated, that population had decreased by emigration, and that, after allowing for inferiority of soil and produce, the tract was not in a prosperous state. This he ascribed mainly to the unsettled nature of the people, who on the occurrence of bad seasons, or on pressure brought for the payment of the revenue, moved off with all that belonged to them into the neighbouring Native States; also to the excessive demand of the first settlement which caused a high demand in all succeeding settlements, and to the vicious revenue system which prevailed. Mr. Brown reduced the demand by 47 per cent. and fixed it at 8 per cent. below the average collections of the previous 10 years and $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below the average collections of the previous five.

The Siwáni pargana corresponding to the modern Southern Bágár circle of Hissár was for the most part a tract of light sandy "bhár." Mr. Brown's remarks on this kind of soil have been already quoted, and in this pargana Mr. Brown assessed at 45 per cent. below the previous demand and less than 1 per cent. under the average collections of the previous 10 years and 5 years.

In pargana Hissár, which corresponded to the modern Northern Bágár and Hariána circles of Hissár inclusive of the canal tract, Mr. Brown found that the population was composed principally of Bágri settlers and other foreign immigrants who occupied its waste lands on the resumption of the country by the British Government. It was the pargana last abandoned after the famous *chális* famine and the first re-occupied, and it contains more traces of its original inhabitants of the Jat and Ranghar caste than the other parganas except Hánsi, the inhabitants of which as a body maintained their footing throughout. In 1843 the cultivation was half the total area; the first demands had been comparatively light as compared with Hánsi, and the tract had advanced in prosperity more steadily. The collections had been made with little difficulty and for those times the balances which amounted to about 37 per cent. of the demand were considered trifling. The new revenue

was therefore based on the collections without any further deduction such as was given in other places.

In pargana Barwála corresponding to the Hariána circle of the late Barwála Tahsil, about one-third of the area was cultivated in 1840 and the population was very sparse as there were few foreign settlers. The revenue demand of former settlements had been very moderate, and in striking contrast to the Hási Tahsil; and the balances amounted only to one-third of the demand.

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The parganahwár assessment in 1840.

Average demand for 15 years prior to 1840.	Average collections for this period.	Average demand for 10 years prior to 1840.	Average collections for this period.	Average demand for 5 years prior to 1840.	Average collections for this period.
Rs. 27,700	Rs. 21,310	Rs. 20,242	Rs. 18,973	Rs. 20,129	Rs. 13,000

Having regard to the progressive nature of the tract, Mr. Brown assessed the revenue at 22 per cent. below the average demand of the past 5 years, but 25 per cent. over the collections of the past 10 years.

Of the Fatehabád pargana, corresponding to the present Bágár circle of Fatehabád, Mr. Brown wrote that it consisted of the lightest quality of bhár or loose sand; but the revenue demand of former settlements had fallen far short of the rapid increase in population and in cultivation and was felt as a very moderate demand. Mr. Brown, while taking into consideration the probable deterioration of soil in a bhár or Bágár tract, raised the new demand to 4 per cent. over the demand of the previous 5 years and to 65 per cent. over the collections of the previous 10 years; and he considered that this demand still left the tract under assessed with reference to its capabilities, and the certainty of their being speedily taken advantage of.

The Agroha pargana included the present Hariána circle of Fatehabád and also some villages in Tahsil Hissár. Settlers had resorted to the tract in any numbers only within the 15 years before 1840; and there had been a rapid improvement, so that the revenue demand was greatly below the scale of assessment of similar parts of the district. The tract lay between the older settled parganas to the east and the extensive waste tracts in the Bhatti territory to the west; and Mr. Brown fixed the new demand as a medium between the higher assessment of the former and the very low terms which must necessarily prevail in the latter. He did not base his demand on the collections, as remissions had been given without consideration of the moderation of the demand. He fixed it at 94 per cent. over the 10 years average collections and 7 per cent. over the average demand of the previous 5 years.

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Land and Land
Revenue.
Orders on the First
Regular Settlement.

The sanction of Government to Mr. Brown's settlement was given in 1845 by an order from which the following is an extract: "The very large reductions made in this district were most wise and successful. It was vain to expect in such a country and such an arid climate that a high rate of assessment, which was paid for a few years when the surrounding country was in a distracted state and the pargana for the time a place of refuge for the neighbourhood and when the soil was fresh and peculiarly productive, should be maintained when the introduction of order and settled rule in the vicinity withdrew a part of the population and when the soil had become exhausted. There is every reason to believe that the lightness of the present assessment will tend to fix the population, giving them habits of industry and application, and will confer on landed property a value that has long been unknown. The principles on which Mr. Brown fixed his assessment appear so fair and liberal that his *jamas* should not be reduced except on proof of some permanent error or miscalculation."

Such was the first settlement worthy of the name which Hariána received at the hands of the British Government. The expectations entertained about it were fully realized. At the time the people considered it fair and moderate and the memory of "Brun Sahib" is yet invoked by the zamindár who wishes to impress on one the impossibility of any enhancement. He is looked back to with great respect as the first who conferred a definite title to land and confirmed it by a fair assessment of revenue.

Transferred vil-
lages.

Out of 664 villages at that time in the four southern tahsils of the district as now constituted Mr. Brown settled 442. The parts not settled by him were as follows:—

- (i) Twenty-four villages added to the district from Rohtak in 1861.
- (ii) The Náli circle of the old Barwála Tahsíl.
- (iii) The Náli circle of the old Fatehábád Tahsíl. These two circles now form the Tobana Náli and Rattia Náli circles of the new Fatehábád Tahsíl.
- (iv) 12 villages received from Jhind in 1861.

Of the first group 18 villages (now 22 estates) are in the Bhiwáni Tahsíl and form the Eastern Harriána circle of that tahsíl, and 6 villages are in Hánsi. Thirteen (now 14) of the Bhiwáni villages and the 6 Hánsi villages, in all 19 (now 20 estates) were settled by Mr. Mills in the settlement of the Rohtak District in 1840 for a period of 30 years up to 1870.

In the Rohtak villages there had been four settlements prior to that in 1840. The highest demands for the 13 Bhiwáni villages had been as follows:—

			Rs.
First Settlement	...	1815-24	22,447
2nd do	...	1825-29	16,311
3rd do	...	1830-34	16,349
4th do	...	1835-39	17,465

Mr. Mills' first assessment for these villages was Rs. 15,075, but this he subsequently reduced to Rs. 9,991. The six villages which subsequently went to Tahsil Hansi were assessed at the same time at Rs. 3,714 making a total of Rs. 13,705 for the 19 Rohtak villages (now 20 estates) settled by Mr. Mills. The other five Bhiwani villages (now 8 estates) transferred in 1861 from Rohtak had been confiscated from the Nawáb of Jhajjar in 1857 and had been summarily settled for a period to expire in 1870 with the settlement of the adjoining villages effected by Mr. Mills.

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Transferred villages.

The Nálí circles of the Barwála and Fatehábad Tahsils (now the single Fatehábad Tahsil) could not be settled in 1840 by Mr. Brown together with the rest of the district because of the uncertainty of the boundary line between the Hariána tract and the Patála State, and also because Government wished to have the Ghaggar villages under observation for some years prior to granting them a settlement for a long period. The history of the boundary dispute which was not finally settled until 1856 has been given in a previous chapter of this work. Up to 1850 the revenues of the Rohi or hóvini villages was collected on short summary settlements made by Mr. Brown, Mr. Mackenzie, and Mr. Dumargue; and the Sotar villages which were subject to the Ghaggar floods were under *khám* management, though their revenue was shown in the rent roll at a fixed sum which was never fully collected.

The Nálí circles.

The rates used from year to year in assessing the *khám* demand varied from Rs. 1-9-6 to Rs. 2-6-6 per acre, the latter being considered the customary or normal rate. The demand so assessed was excessive; even now in Tahsil Sirsa with a large area of rice land, the collections under a system of fluctuating assessment gives only an average incidence of Rs. 1-2-10 per acre. It was during this time of exorbitant demands that many of the Nálí villages passed from the hands of the Páshádás into the hands of the Skinners and the Kánúnges of Hansi. In 1850 Mr. Thomason, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, visited Hissar and ordered a regular settlement of the Rohi villages for a period corresponding with that of the rest of the district, that is up to 1860. He maintained the existing arrangements for the Sotar villages; but on his second visit to the Bhatti territory, when he recorded the "Memorandum regarding the Bhatti territory" referred to in para. 43 of Mr. Wilson's Sirsa Settlement Report, the orders passed for the Sotar lands of Sirsa (*vide* para. 18 of the Memo.) were made applicable to the Hariána tract, on the ground that it was impolitic to retain on the books the old excessive demand, and annually to write off the difference between it and the *khám* collections. Experience had by this time shown that the rates demanded for the Sotar lands were excessive; and a fair revenue was now to be fixed with some reference to the average collections of past years.

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Revenue.
The Nāli Circles.

Under these orders the Nāli circles of Barwāla and Fatehābād were settled for the unexpired portion of Mr. Brown's settlement. This settlement was made (with the exception of five villages) by Mr. Dumergue in 1852. No report of this settlement is extant but the following table shows the assessments made, and those of the subsequent settlement of 1860-63 are added for the sake of comparison:—

	1852.	1860-63.
	Rs.	Rs.
Fatehābād, Nāli Bārāni ...	6,814	6,163
" " Sotar ...	40,919	30,125
Barwāla " Bārāni ...	29,638	13,751
" " Sotar ...			9,855

The 12 villages received from Jhind in 1861 were summarily settled till 1863.

Working of settle-
ments of 1840 and
1852.

There is not much information as to how the above settlements worked. Between 1840 and 1863 the date of the First Revised Settlement, 68 villages changed hands in Tahsils Hissār, Hānsi, Fatehābād and Barwāla; but of these 47 villages in the Nāli tract, 25 Sotar and 22 Bārāni were sold between 1840 and 1860, either voluntarily or on decrees of court, or for balances of land revenue. These sales were however mostly the result of the famine of 1850-51 and cannot be ascribed to the settlement of 1852.

No villages were sold in Tahsils Hānsi and Hissār for balance and only 12 villages changed hands in these tahsils. In Barwāla and Fatehābād nine villages were sold for balance or other causes.

The only remissions granted during the currency of Mr. Brown's settlement amounted to Rs. 9,926 in 25 villages, mostly in the Hariāna tract.

Summary Settle-
ment 1860-63.

The period of the settlements effected by Messrs. Brown and Dumergue expired in 1860. Before that date various kinds of adversities appear to have befallen the district. And after the mutiny the impression appears to have been that the demand should be reduced. Before 1860 an enquiry was made into the circumstances of villages, the revenue of which appeared to call for immediate reduction. The enquiry was conducted by General Van Courtlandt, the Collector.

The result was that the assessment was increased by Rs. 2,926 in 17 villages and decreased by Rs. 10,003 in 12 villages. And the Summary Settlement thus effected remained in force till 1863, thus filling the interval between the expiration of the First Regular Settlement and the completion of the First Revised Settlement.

The following table gives some details of the alterations made in the Summary Settlement:—

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Revenue
Summary Settlement,
1860-68.

Tahsil.	Circle.	Summary Settlement, 1860-68.		Revenue before settlement of 1860.
		Increase.	Decrease.	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bhiwani	Bagar ... ..	...	60	45,000
	Western Hariāna ... ..	...	...	13,000
Total ... ..	.....	...	60	58,000
Hānsi	Hariāna	1,025	8,262	1,80,369
Hissar	Bagar ... ..	...	1,075	44,045
	Hariāna	720	750	26,259
Total ... ..	.....	725	1,825	1,01,304
Barwāla	Hariāna ... ..	...	...	14,145
	Nālī ... ..	...	...	20,639
Total ... ..	.....	...	...	34,784
Fatehābād	Bagar	105	...	24,795
	Hariāna ... ..	...	...	7,475
	Nālī	473	1,736	46,895
Total ... ..	.....	578	1,736	79,165

The increase taken in the Summary Settlement was confined to the *divāni* villages, the decrease in Hānsi was given only in canal villages which certainly needed it, and in Fatehābād only in Nālī villages. The object in view was merely the relief of villages over-assessed, and this explains why in the Barwāla Tahsil and in the Fatehābād, Bagar and Hariāna where cultivation had largely increased and the capabilities of the tract had improved there was no enhancement of revenue.

With the exception of 24 villages, now 23 estates, transferred from the Rohtak District in 1861 already referred to above, of which 22 from the present Eastern Hariāna circle of the Bhiwani Tahsil and 6 are in the Eastern Hariāna circle of the Hānsi Tahsil, and of the Budhlāda *ilāqā* transferred to this district from Karnāl in 1889, the whole of the tract included in the four southern tahsils of the district was settled by Munshi Anir Chand in 1862-63. A variety of causes most prominent, among which was the destruction of records in the minting, tended to complicate the settlement proceedings, but the whole was completed and reported in 1864 when sanction was solicited for the assessment made for a period of 30 years from Kharif 1863.

First Revised
Settlement.

After further correspondence final orders were issued in 1873, sanctioning the assessments for a period of 20 years only from Kharif 1863.

The following extract from Mr. Anderson's final report of the recent settlement of the four southern tahsils of the district clearly explains the basis and detailed results of Anir Chand's settlement. "Be (the Settlement Officer) divided the district

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into three circles, Hariána, Bagar and Nâli, and these large divisions and names have been retained in the present assessment, though it has been found convenient to subdivide them and treat the subdivision as circles. His revenue rates were based on the rent rates prevailing in the *râmidâri* villages of the Skinner family for land sown, from which he deducted one-fourth for ceases and bad seasons, and half of the balance was the revenue rate. He did not fix rates for different soils, though a record was made of soils, but he subdivided his circles into classes and fixed rates for each class. He made the same deduction for the uncertainty in the supply of canal water and in the inundations on the Ghaggar; and a deduction of one-half the rent in the villages on the Joiya, where though the soil was better the inundation was even more uncertain than on the Ghaggar. He did not assess by a special rate, the well-irrigated land except in the Nâli, and his rate there was one *ropce* an acre. In order to provide pasturage for the plough cattle, he deducted and left unassessed one-fourth of the entire area of each village; the deduction was made from waste as far as possible, and any deficiency was made up from the cultivated area. After making this deduction he assessed on the excess waste one *anna* per acre, except in the Nâli tract, where in consequence of the large profits made by *Pachhâdâs* he put on $1\frac{1}{2}$ *annas*. The rates fixed for the various circles are given in the following table:—

Circles.			Revenue rates.						
Circle.	Class.	Area included in the circle.	Canal land irrigated by flow.	Canal land irrigated by lift.	Well land.	Waste sown (sown on land on Ghaggar).	Residual of land on Joiya.	Harabi.	Waste.
			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.
Eastern Do.	1st	Hâni Talâli ..	1 4 0	1 0 0	...	...	...	0 6 0	0 1 0
	2nd	All the rest of the Hariâna circle.	0 15 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	0 3 0	0 1 0
Bagar ..	1st	All the Bagar circle except Sâhai and Siwâni ..	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 0	0 1 0
Do.	2nd	Sivâni tract ..	...	...	...	...	...	0 3 0	0 1 0
Do.	3rd	Hâni tract ..	...	...	...	...	...	0 3 0	0 1 0
Nâli ..	—	The whole Nâli circle. ...	...	...	1 0 0	0 20 0	0 8 0	0 4 0	0 1 4

“Munshi Amin Chand not only found that he could not raise the revenue, but that a reduction was absolutely necessary. The principal ground was that the standard of the Government demand had, since the settlement of 1840, been reduced from two-thirds to one-half of the net assets. But besides that reason the district had suffered misfortunes in the mutiny and had been impoverished by the famine of 1860-61, and mortality among men from cholera and among cattle from want of fodder. He was of opinion that as good seasons were the exception and not the rule, and as the district was isolated and markets difficult to reach, it was overassessed, especially in the canal and solar tracts, and he noted especially the gradual, but constant

deterioration in the soil of the Bagar circle. The rates gave a demand for the district of Rs. 4,15,489, but the revenue fixed was Rs. 4,10,226. The following statement gives the revenue of each circle just before and after the settlement of 1868; it includes revenue-free grants and also the villages not under settlement, so it does not agree with the statement at page 29 of Amin Chaud's Report:—

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Land and Land Revenue.

First Revised Settlement.

TAHSIL.	Circle.	Revenue before settlement of 1868.	Revenue after settlement of 1868.
		Rs.	Rs.
Bhiwani	Bagar	40,000	40,240
	Hariāna... ..	11,053	11,800*
		51,108	52,040*
	Total Tahsil	65,000	62,000
Hānsi	Hariāna	1,56,401	1,38,051
		3,710	3,710
Hissār	Bagar	1,40,000	1,41,700
	Hariāna	44,000	40,400
		48,200	40,400
	Total Tahsil	1,61,200	90,600
Barwāla	Hariāna	24,100	25,475
	Nālī	20,000	25,000
		44,100	50,475
	Total Tahsil	44,100	50,475
Fatehābād	Bagar	24,700	25,300
	Hariāna	7,450	7,700
	Nālī	46,000	30,500
	Total Tahsil	78,150	63,500
TOTAL OF DISTRICT		4,15,489	4,10,226

"The reductions in the Bagar of Bhiwāni were certainly called for in spite of a large increase in cultivation. Even now in 1890 the demand for the Bagar circle in this tahsil is less than what was fixed in 1840. I doubt if any reduction was necessary in the Western Hariāna. The Eastern Hariāna was not under settlement.

"In no part of the Hānsi Tahsil was there an increase. Even in Eastern Hariāna, the richest part of the district where cultivation had doubled, a slight decrease was allowed. Some decrease in the canal villages both of Hānsi and of Hissār was necessary; but the reductions given in the Summary Settlement had been largely in such villages. In every part of Hissār a reduction was made. There had not been so much increase in cultivation as in Hānsi, the tahsil was partly Bagar, and the decrease of 10 per cent. was justifiable. There was in my opinion no necessity for the reduction in the Barwāla Hariāna, where cultivation had largely increased. The reductions on the Nālī circles both of Fatehābād and Barwāla were required, but these circles had been already partly relieved by the Summary Settlement. In the Bagar and Hariāna of Fatehābād there was an

* Not under settlement.

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increase, but it arose from resurreptions of revenue-free grants and not from enhanced assessments.

"In the whole tract under settlement there had been an increase of over 33 per cent. in cultivation, but one-fifth of this increase, or about 6 per cent. of the whole cultivation remained unassessed to supply the deficiency in waste required for pasturage. After taking the increase in cultivation into consideration Amin Chand still reduced the demand by 12½ per cent.

"I doubt whether this reduction was necessary, and think that the existing demand might have been maintained and relief given in the Bagar, Canal and Nāli tracts by an increased assessment in the Hariāna tract."

Working of the
settlement.

The assessment being light worked very well. The following table gives details of the suspension and remissions granted during the currency of the settlement:—

Year of initiation.	TRACT.	Amount suspended.	Number of villages affected.	Amount collected.	Up to what date collected.	Amount remitted.	Date of remission.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Kharif 1864	Berwāla ...	550	3	...	...	550	January 1866.
	Fatehabād ...	2,014	3	...	...	2,014	Do.
	Bhūsiāl ...	5,679	42	5,180	In 1866	7,698	Do.
Do. 1865	Hāsi ...	24,280	67	24,131	December 1869	5,255	January 1870.
	Chāsi ...	1,870	6	1,820	January 1870	350	Do.
	Berwāla ...	5,047	7	2,947	May 1870	...	...
Rabi 1869	Bhūsiāl ...	4,513	13	3,900	To end of 1878	513	...
	Hāsi ...	335	6	255	December 1869	...	...
	Berwāla ...	1,524	7	1,234	January 1870	...	...
Kharif 1870	Fatehabād ...	780	3	115	December 1869	675	January 1870.
	Bhūsiāl ...	1,717	22	7,354	To end of 1870	261	...
Rabi 1870	Do. ...	785	4	690	Do.	175	...
	Do. ...	3,425	13	2,625	To end of 1871	...	...
Kharif 1871	Do. ...	5,685	18	3,980	To end of 1872	...	...
	Hāsi ...	7,464	18	7,464	December 1872	...	...
	Do. 1871	6,317	25	6,717	Do.	...	...
Rabi 1881	Berwāla ...	4,283	15	4,283	Do.	...	...
	Fatehabād ...	3,197	11	3,197	Do.	...	...
	Bhūsiāl ...	6,825	19	6,825	To end of 1874	...	...
Rabi 1881	Hāsi ...	1,323	6	1,323	November 1881	...	...
	Berwāla ...	4,779	23	4,779	Do.	...	...

In 1871 the Deputy Commissioner had asked for the suspension of a large sum, but in reducing it to Rs. 24,986 (as above) the Commissioner pointed that while the rainfall of the past four years had been scanty, and the scarcity in 1868-69 approximated to a famine, still the crops of 1871 had generally been up to a fair average, that village assets had increased and that the settlement was made purposely light in view of these repeated droughts. The demand then suspended was collected in the next kharif.

Rabtsk villages.

The 24 villages (now 28 estates) which had been transferred from Rabtsk and had not been settled by Amin Chand remain to be dealt with. As already stated 19 of these villages

now forming 20 estates had been settled by Mr. Mills in 1840 for a period of 30 years. The demand for the 19 villages had once been as high as Rs. 26,556. Mr. Mills reduced the demand to Rs. 18,707.

The revision of the settlement was made in 1870 for the remaining period of Amin Chand's settlement in the rest of the district.

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Rohtak villages.

	Area of cultivation.	Revenue Rsal.	Increase of revenue on cultivation.
1840 ...	21,286	18,707	No. s. p.
1870 ...	44,029	17,013	0 10 3
			0 4 11

The statement in the margin compares the state of cultivation as the two periods. Though cultivation had more than doubled all over and in some cases had increased almost four-

fold, the revenue was not raised, and in one village where cultivation had doubled it was reduced. The resources had increased, but the object of the revision was apparently the reduction of the revenue where necessary and not its enhancement where possible. A comparison was made not with the circumstances of 1840 when the settlement was made but with those of 1863; and the revenue rate used as a standard was that of the Western Hariāna of Bhiwāni which is a semi-Bagar tract. The revenue assessed in these 19 villages has thus been unchanged for 50 years, and in 1890 it was found impossible to raise it to the degree justified by the existing state of the villages, especially as the tract belongs to the Rājputa.

The remaining five villages, now eight estates, had been confiscated from the Nawāb of Jhajjar in 1857, and the summary settlement effected at that time was extended to 1870. The revenue previous to 1870 was Rs. 11,175 and it was then reduced by 14 per cent. to Rs. 9,637.

The effect of the settlement of 1870 of the 24 (now 28) Rohtak villages was a reduction of assessment from Rs. 24,882 to Rs. 23,249 where an increase was undoubtedly possible.

The period of Amin Chand's settlement expired in 1883, but the assessments were allowed to run on till the new assessment which was in contemplation could be effected. The Second Revised Settlement of the present four southern tahsil of the district was commenced in April 1887 and it embraced the whole area of these tahsils with the exception of the Badhlāda ilāqa. The basis and results of the new assessment have been fully described in the Settlement Report, and nothing more than a summary of the main points either can or will be attempted here.

Second Revised
Settlement.

The theoretical standard of assessment which has been adopted is that the half net assets of land, in other words half the share of the gross produce ordinarily receivable by the landlord whether in money or kind, represent the State share of the produce, but in practice it has been found impossible to work up to this standard.

Standard of assess-
ment.

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The two main facts upon which the assessment has been based are an increase in the area cultivated and a rise in the cash rents paid by tenants-at-will.

Standard of assess-
ment.

The increase in cultivation can be gathered from the following figures:—

Talukâ.	Cultivation.	
	1863.	1890.
Bhiwâni	100	103
Hânsi	100	128
Hissâr	100	137
Fatehâbâd	100	174
Total	100	134

Rents.

Of the total cultivated area of the tract under settlement 39 per cent. is in the hands of tenants-at-will paying rent. For no less than 85 per cent. of the area rents are paid in cash and for only 4 per cent. by *batâi* or division of produce.

Provided that it could be shown that these cash rents or any particular class of them were or approached competition rents, and were in fact paid regularly and did not merely exist on paper, an instrument was provided ready to hand for estimating the most important, and in many cases practically the only item in the half net assets of land realized by a non-cultivating owner. Of the total cultivated area of the tract under settlement 20 per cent. is in *samîndâri* villages and 17 per cent. in *pattidâri* villages.

Rents are ordinarily paid at a rate per *bigah* on the whole area in the tenant's possession whether cultivated or not. Such rents are known as *khari pari* and are, as will be shown, collected with wonderful regularity whether the season be good or bad. But the following extract from the Settlement Report will elucidate the differences between rents in *samîndâri* and *pattidâri* villages and those in *dhayâchâra* villages: "In the latter only spare land which the owners cannot themselves cultivate and which will generally be of inferior quality is given to tenants, and as a rule only from year to year, and just at the commencement of the rains. If the rains are good, the whole cultivated area will be sown and the landlords will get their full rent, but in bad years there may be no demand for the spare land. The tenants-at-will in *dhayâchâra* villages are village servants or *mâlîkân kabza* or occupancy tenants, and they will not rent land until they are certain of being able to sow it. In *samîndâri* and most *pattidâri* villages the case is different. The tenants hold nominally from year to year, but they do not mean to give up the land, nor the landlords to eject them at the end of the year. The tenants have broken up the land or have paid *wazarâna* on entry; they have built houses and settled in the village with no intention of leaving

it and in the hope that they will not be ejected. The landlords would hand over to others any land for which rent was not paid, and so the tenants pay year after year for the whole area in their possession, whether cultivated or fallow. It is only in the zamindari and to a less degree in the pattidari villages that the rents can be regarded as true rents."

About the standard of true cash rent rates there could on the figures be no question looking to the area paying such rents and the proportion of that area situated in zamindari and pattidari villages. The rent rates so obtained were applied to the cultivated area, and the results obtained agreed so closely with the rent realizations shown in the accounts which were produced by many large landlords that no room for doubt was left that such rent rates were paid regularly year by year without regard to the nature of the season, that they therefore accurately represented the true net assets of land in the district and could thus be used as the basis of revenue rates which should conform to the standard of assessment laid down.

The area paying rent by a share of produce was so small that produce estimates framed in the usual way would have been of little independent value. Such however were prepared after framing estimates of yield and prices of agricultural produce and were used to check the revenue rates based on cash rents; beyond this they were of little or no use. As a rule they gave rates in excess of those based on cash rents.

The revenue rates so obtained when applied to the cultivated area brought out an assessment which together with a small assessment on waste in the case of villages whose waste area exceeded one-fourth of their cultivated area brought out a preliminary estimated assessment of 77 per cent. in excess of the previous dry assessment of the tract, i.e., the total assessment after deduction of an estimated assessment on account of water-advantage on the Western Jumna Canal. The real problem of the settlement was to determine how much of this large increase could be taken with due regard to the interests of the people.

The tract under settlement was divided for assessment purposes into three main circles, Nālī, Hariāna and Bagar, as had been done in the settlement of 1863; but these again were further subdivided and these are in all now 19 recognized assessment circles. Their peculiarities need not be dwelt on here as they will be noticed in connection with the detailed assessment by circles.

The assessment of waste area should be noticed here. In the settlement of 1863 a fourth of the total area of each village was exempted from assessment, to provide pasturage for cattle required for agricultural purposes, and if there was not sufficient waste, the deficiency was made up from cultivation. But in the present settlement only so much of the waste was unassessed as was equal in area to a fourth of the cultivation, and where the waste was less than this area, the

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Half net assets
estimated.

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Waste area.

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Waste area.

difference was not made up from cultivation. The rates on excess waste in 1868 were an anna in the Bagar and Hariāna circles and an anna and a half in the Nālī. In the Barwāla and Fatehābād tahsils, where the waste was extensive, the assessment on it amounted to one-seventh of the whole. In the present settlement in each village an area of waste equal to one-fourth of the cultivated area has been exempted from assessment and the revenue rates used for the assessment of the balance have been 6 pies per acre in Bagar circles, 1 anna per acre in those of Hariāna and 2 annas in the Nālī. These rates are all-round rates, and it was laid down that they should be applied in villages only where the cultivation had been extended and the proprietors depended mainly on it, but that where the whole or a large portion of the village area had been devoted to pasture the assessment on waste should approach half assets.

The following figures show the total assessment on waste at the sanctioned rates by tahsils :—

	Rs.
Bhīwāni	877
Hānsī	669
Hissār	1,081
Fatehābād	7,423
Total	10,050

The incidence of this on the whole waste area is 5 pies per acre.

Well-irrigation.

The following extract from the Settlement Report shows how the question of well-irrigation was dealt within the recent Settlement.

Treatment of well-irrigated land.

"The total area of well-irrigated land is only 1,982 acres in the whole tract. The following table gives details in regard to it :—

Tahsil.	Tract.	Area in 1873	Area in 1887	Average of last 5 years.	Area by assessments.
Bhīwāni	Eastern Hariāna	140	41	42	40
	Western "	207	45	205	123
	Bagar	651	294	610	621
	Total Tahsil	1,008	380	857	1,002
Hānsī	"	70	24	35	15
Hissār	"	11	4	7	11
Fatehābād	Bagar	—	1	1	1
	Hariāna	—	—	—	—
	Nāli Sotar	1,051	215	598	747
	" Bārdāi	233	45	169	154
Total Tahsil	1,284	260	766	912	
Total		2,292	647	1,627	1,982

"From this it is seen that there is practically no irrigation from wells in the large Hariána tract where water is 100 feet or more from the surface. Practically the whole *chāhī* area lies in the Bhiwāni Bagar including the Bagar villages of Western Hariána and in the Nāli circles. In the former tract water is only about 65 feet from the surface, and wells are common, because the soil is too porous to retain water in natural tanks, and wells must be made and used for drinking purposes. Many of them become brackish if constantly worked, and even when a small quantity of barley has been sown it is almost as dependent on the winter rains as if there had been no well. In fairly good years only a few wells are worked for irrigation, but in bad years most of the wells are in operation for a time either for drinking or for irrigation purposes. In the Bhiwāni tahsil, the area irrigated in 1887, the kharif of which year was good, was only 390 against 1,033 acres now shown as *chāhī*. In ordinary years it scarcely pays to use the wells for irrigation. On the Nāli also, it is only in bad years that the lazy Pachhédās think of using the wells, though they have water at only 30 or 40 feet from the surface. Only 259 acres were irrigated in 1887 against 1,475 acres in 1889-90 when the kharif was bad on the Barwāla Nāli."

"At the settlement of 1863 a rupee an acre was imposed on well irrigation in the Nāli circle only, and this gave an assessment of Rs. 590 for the whole district. In this settlement as the area is small being a third less than in 1863, and as the wells are used only in the worst season and the return to labour is small, no special rate on well-irrigated land was proposed, and this was accepted by the Financial Commissioner. *Chāhī* land has therefore been assessed as *berāni*."

In the Bhiwāni tahsil there are four assessment circles: Eastern and Western Hariána and the Amrān and Bahal Bagar.

Of the Eastern Hariána 78 per cent. is cultivated. The soil is generally a good loam suitable to the production of both summer and winter crops; about two-thirds of the cultivated area is cropped in the kharif and one-third in the rabi. The value of land as measured by the standard of rents is high, due in a large measure to the proximity of the town of Bhiwāni. Forty-six per cent. of the whole cultivation pays rent, and as a not inconsiderable area is in the hands of mortgagees, many of these rents are fairly true. The circle is unfortunate in its proprietary

	On <i>chāhī</i>	On <i>wāhī</i>	Total.	Increase, percent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demanded by half <i>mas</i> rates	38,500	23	38,523	71
" sanctioned rates	0.0.5	0.1.0	20,000	52
" unassessed	0.3.6	0.1.4	29,225	50
" of 1889-90	...	...	19,407	...

body, the majority of whom are improvident Rājputs sunk in debt. In fact 30 per cent. of the cultivated area is mortgaged. The statement in the margin shows the preliminary and final

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Treatment of well-irrigated land.

Assessment by tahsils and circles, Bhiwāni Tahsil.

Eastern Hariána.

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Western Hariāna.

revenue rates and the resulting assessments and that announced. The nature of the circle as described above made it impossible to take the full half assets rate.

The soil of this circle is lighter and more sandy than that of Eastern Hariāna and therefore inferior and the percentage of area cultivated in the rabi is less. The proprietary body is

	On cultivation.		On waste.	Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.			
Demand by half asset rates	15,977	173	16,150	37	
" sanctioned rates	15,497	173	15,670	37	
" announced	...	...	16,625	41	
" of 1883-85	...	...	17,798	...	

inferior as Jats only hold 3 per cent. and Rājputā, Hindu and Mussalmān, 54 per cent. 18.6 per cent. of the area is sold and mortgaged; but only 7.8 per cent. to money-lenders. Land is of less value and the rent rate lower than in Eastern

Hariāna. The table in the margin gives details of assessment with rates.

Amrāin Bagar.

This circle includes almost half the tahsil. Seventy-four per cent. of the area is cultivated. The soil is light in the extreme and undergoing deterioration and the whole tract is a sea of shifting sandhills interspersed in the eastern part with firmer valleys between. The area of cultivation decreased during the currency of the expired settlement and population also fell off between 1863 and 1881, but has slightly recovered during the last decade. *Jawār* is sown on 1 per cent. of the area and rabi crops occupy only 2 per cent. The tract is, however, more fortunate in its proprietors, 42 per cent. of the area being held by Jats though mostly Bagris. Rājputā hold 34 per cent. Land is of course of far less value than in the other circles. Rents have not risen since 1863 and average only 7 annas 10 pies in *zamindāri* and 7 annas in *bhayāchāra* villages. Only 3

	On cultivation.		On waste.	Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.			
Demand at half asset rates	36,000	568	36,568	4	
" sanctioned rates	35,300	568	35,868	4	
" announced	...	...	37,500	4	
" of 1883-85	...	...	36,225	...	

per cent. of the area has been mortgaged to money-lenders. The half assets rate on cultivation was 3 annas 9 pies per acre, which gave an increase of only 3 per cent. The details of the assessment are as per margin.

Bahal-Siwāni
Bagar.

The Bahal Bagar of Bhiwāni and the Siwāni Bagar of Hissār have since the assessment been clubbed into one circle and included in Tahsil Bhiwāni. The soil of the Bahal Bagar is even more sandy than that of Amrāin with fewer loamy patches. Cultivation has been stationary since 1863. Bagri

Jats hold 75 per cent. of the area; and alienations are very light. Rents have not risen since 1863 and the average

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Bahal-Siwān Bagar.

	On cultivation.		On waste.	Total.	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	As.			
Demand at half asset rates	4,679	0	0	4,679	17
" sanctioned rates	0-3-0	0-0-0	0	4,688	17
" announced	4,679	0	0	4,700	17
" of 1880-81	5-3-0	0-0-0	0	4,915	...

rate is 6 annas 2 pies per acre. The half asset rate fixed was 3 annas, and 2 annas 10 pies was proposed as a revenue rate, but the former rate was fixed by the Financial Commissioner. The assessment is as per margin.

The southern part of the Siwān Bagar is much like the Bahal Bagar, but the northern part is better. During the period of settlement cultivation has increased 15 per cent. Jats and Rājputs each own 33 per cent. of the circle, but the latter have sold or mortgaged 16 per cent. There has been a

Siwān Bagar.

	On cultivation.		On waste.	Total.	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	As.			
Demand by half asset rates	21,546	115	0	21,661	33
" sanctioned rates	0-1-0	0-0-0	0	20,000	33
" announced	20,000	115	0	20,115	33
" of 1880-81	0-2-0	0-0-0	0	20,980	33
" of 1880-81	...	...	...	18,733	...

rise in rents since settlement. The average rent rate in 1886 for the whole circle was 7 annas 9 pies and for the *saxindāri* villages 10 annas 4 pies. The half assets rate was fixed at 4 annas, and 3 annas 6 pies was after hesitation accepted as a revenue rate.

For the purposes of assessment the Hānsi tahsil was divided into three circles: the Eastern, the Western and the Canal Hariāna. On the abolition of the Barwāla tahsil after the reassessment, thirteen villages from that tahsil were incorporated in the Western Hariāna of Hānsi.

Tahsil Hānsi.

This circle comprises two-thirds of the tahsil. Towards the south the soil is a good loam, but in the north it is light and has been longer under cultivation. Population has increased by 12 per cent. in the last decade and during the currency of the expired settlement cultivation has increased 35 per cent., and 80 per cent. of the total area is cultivated. The area of *jawār* is fairly large and 20 per cent. of cultivation is cropped in the rabi. Jats hold over 50 per cent. and Rājputs 20 per cent. Forty-two out of 55 villages are *dhayāchāra* and 68 per cent. of the cultivation is in the hands of proprietors. Only 3 per cent. of the area has been alienated to money-lenders. The materials for estimating a true rent rate are scanty. The half assets rate was fixed at 7 annas 6 pies, and 6 annas 6 pies was proposed as a revenue rate, but this was raised to 7 annas

Eastern Hariāna.

account of revenue due to canal irrigation. The result is as follows :—

	Rs.
Tahsil Hānsi	44,133
.. Hissār	5,008
Total	49,144

Chapter V. B.

Land and Land Revenue.

Canal Hariāna.

Canal assessment.

In the recent settlement in accordance with the general principles of assessment now in force, canal-irrigated land was assessed in its unirrigated aspect, i. e., at rates used in assessing unirrigated land of similar quality and advantages and the increase of revenue due to canal irrigation has been left to be realized by owner's rates which will be noticed below. In accordance with this principle the preliminary half asset rates for canal-irrigated land in their dry aspect were taken as the same as those for unirrigated land in the neighbouring *bāráni* villages. In the Canal Hariāna, nearly the whole of which is situated within the Eastern Hariāna, this rate was 7 annas 6 pies, and it was supported by the accounts of landlord's collections. Rent statistics were not of much use. The actual canal-irrigated land paid *batōi* rent, while the land which paid cash rent was mostly *bāráni* land in canal villages, and these rents were lower than those in adjacent purely *bāráni* villages. In fact the rise in the bed of the canal has increased the area of irrigation, and cash rents paid with regard to the old lump fixed assessment have not as yet adjusted themselves. The final revenue rate proposed for all cultivated land, whether irrigated or not, in canal villages, was 7 annas per acre. But on the ground that cultivation was secure and fodder safe, that in year of scarcity there is a great demand for land in canal

villages, the Financial Commissioner raised the rate for canal-irrigated land in canal villages to 8 annas per acre, while the *bāráni* rate was kept at 7 annas. The assessment details are as per margin.

	On <i>bāráni</i> cultivation.		On waste.	Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.			
Demand by half asset rates	21,233	27,305	167	48,705	97
.. proposed rates	29,246	35,485	167	64,900	54
.. sanctioned rates	25,241	31,137	167	56,545	46
.. announced	...	...	...	56,619	47
.. of 1889-90	...	...	...	35,171	...

This statement shows the demand for 1889-90 after deductions of the fixed assessment on account of water-advantages as calculated above. The circle is a good one. Cultivation (including fallow) increased by 23 per cent. during the last settlement, and the irrigated area by 10 per cent. Flow has been largely substituted for lift irrigation. Within the last decade population has increased by some 25 per cent. Rājputa hold only 1 per cent. of the area, while Jats hold 52 per cent.

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Land and Land
Revenue.

Hissar Tahsil.

Bagar circle.

The tahsil has been divided for assessment purposes into four circles: (1) Bagar, (2) Western Hariána, (3) Eastern Hariána, and (4) the Canal Hariána. The second and third are each divided by the canal circle into two portions. Since the assessment the Barwála Hariána circle, consisting of 24 villages, has been added to the tahsil.

This circle is intermediate between the pure Bagar and the Hariána. Sandy ridges are common, but between them are good valleys of loam which are benefited by the drainage from the sandhills. There is a fair area under rabi crops for a Bagar circle. Jats hold 50 per cent. and Rájpúts 10 per cent., and the Skinner family and Mahájans 5 per cent. Population has been stationary for the last 35 years, but cattle have increased largely.

	On cultivations.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	36,666 0-6-0	300 0-0-0	36,966	58
“ sanctioned rates	33,232 0-2-0	300 0-0-0	33,532	42
“ announced	—	—	33,232	41
“ of 1880-80	—	—	31,571	—

Forty-two per cent. of the area is held by tenants-at-will. The average rent rate in 1886 was 10 annas 4 pies and in *samindári* villages above 11 annas per acre. The table in the margin shows the assessment.

Western Hariána.

In this circle cultivation has increased by 21 per cent. since 1863 and now 81 per cent. of the whole area is cultivated. The soil is better than in the Bagar, but some of it is showing signs of exhaustion. Population has not increased since 1863. Jats hold 35 per cent., Rájpúts 10 per cent., and the Skinner family and Mahájans 28 per cent. of the whole area. Rents have risen since 1863 by 50 per cent. in *bhayáchára* villages. The average

	On cultivations.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	17,203 0-6-0	164 0-1-0	18,040	77
“ sanctioned rates	15,154 0-5-6	164 0-1-0	15,318	50
“ announced	—	—	15,050	46
“ of 1880-80	—	—	12,187	—

rent rate is 12 annas and that in *samindári* villages 13 annas 7 pies. The half assets rate of 6 annas 6 pies gave an impracticable increase of 77 per cent. The final assessment is as per margin.

Eastern Hariána.

The soil of this circle is a good loam, and it is situated in proximity to the markets of Hissar and Hansi. Cultivation, including fallow, has increased 35 per cent., and there is still 16 per cent. waste. Jats hold only 31 and Rájpúts as much as 20 per cent. The Skinners and Mahájans own 36 per cent. The Mussalmán Rájpúts are alienating their land quickly. There was a large decrease in population between 1868 and

1881, but it has now more than recovered itself. Cattle have doubled and rents have risen. The average rent in *samindári* villages in 1886 was 14 annas 10 pies per acre on one-fifth of the cultivated area of the circle. The half assets rate was 7 annas and the revenue rate proposed 6 annas; but the latter was

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Eastern Hariána.

	On cultivation,	On waste,	Total,	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rate	35,812 0-7-0	154 0-1-0	35,966	80
" proposed rates ...	34,125 0-5-0	154 0-1-0	34,279	63
" sanctioned rate	30,000 0-4-0	154 0-1-0	30,154	70
" announced	...	...	35,878	70
" of 1880-80 ...	...	...	31,007	...

raised to 6 annas 6 pies per acre. But it was found impossible to assess fully up to this latter rate except in *samindári* villages where it was exceeded. The assessment was as per margin.

The Hariána tract of the old Barwála tahsil was divided into two circles, the Eastern and the Western. The soil of both is a good loam merging some-times into sandy soil in the Western, and occasionally into stiff clay (*dáker*) in the Eastern circle.

Hariána tract of old Barwála Tahsil.

In the Western circle cultivation including fallow has increased by 82 per cent. since 1863, and population by 29 per cent. since 1868. Jats own 50 per cent. of the area. There is only one *samindári* village so that the average rent rate of the circle is

	On cultivation,	On waste,	Total,	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	34,430 0-7-0	141 0-1-0	34,571	127
" proposed	30,817 0-6-0	141 0-1-0	30,958	94
" sanctioned	...	...	29,300	92
" of 1880-80 ...	...	...	15,223	...

not a true one. The circle is on the whole most prosperous, and was assessed as per margin, it being found impossible to take the very large increase of 127 per cent. given by the half asset rates.

In the Eastern Hariána 25 per cent. of the area is in *samindári* villages so that a true rent rate can be deduced. Jats hold 55 per cent. and Rájputs 11 per cent. of the area. The tract is almost as good as the Hási Hariána. Population and cattle

	On cultivation,	On waste,	Total,	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	34,125 4-7-3	202 0-1-0	34,327	60
" proposed	28,320 0-6-0	202 0-1-0	28,522	63
" sanctioned	...	...	26,550	61
" of 1880-80 ...	...	...	17,426	...

have increased, and alienations are insignificant. The average true rent rate is 14 annas 6 pies. The assessment was as per margin, the announced demand being considerably below that given by half asset rates.

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old Barwāla Tahsil.

The 45 villages in these two circles have been distributed between Tahsils Hānsi, Hissār, and Fatehābād. Thirteen are now in Hānsi as already noticed, 24 form the Barwāla Hariāna of Hissār and the rest are in Fatehābād.

	On culti- vations.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	—	—	34,325	123
Canal Hariāna. " proposed	29,375 0-0-0	117 0-1-0	29,540	85
" sanctioned				
" announced	—	—	28,970	85
" of 1889-90	—	—	18,635	—

The separate figures for the Barwāla Hariāna villages are as per margin.

The canal circle, as in Tahsil Hānsi, divides the Eastern and Western Hariāna circles into two parts.

The half assets rate fixed for *bārāni* land in the canal circle of Hissār, and for canal-irrigated land in its dry aspect, was 7 annas per acre for villages to the east and 6 annas 6 pies for villages to the west of Hissār. The revenue rate actually proposed was 6 annas 6 pies per acre. This was accepted, but it was indicated that irrigated

	On culti- vations.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	21,657 0-5-0	377 0-1-0	22,296	71
" proposed	21,645 0-6-0	377 0-1-0	21,422	64
" sanctioned				
" announced	—	—	21,890	68
" of 1889-90	—	—	13,020	—

land might be assessed at a somewhat higher rate than this. Canal land near Hissār was assessed much above the sanctioned rates, as it fetches high rent as market gardens. The assessment was as per margin.

This statement shows the demand for 1889-90 after deduction of the fixed assessment on account of water-advantage as calculated above.

Tahsil Fatehābād.

The Fatehābād tahsil as now constituted is divided into seven assessment circles as follows: the Eastern and Western Bāgar, the Hariāna, the Rattia Nāli Barāni and the Rattia Sotar Nāli (corresponding to the Nāli Barāni and Nāli Sotar circle of the old Fatehābād tahsil) the Tohāna Nāli Barāni and the Tohāna Nāli Sotar (corresponding to the Nāli Barāni and Nāli Sotar circles of the old Barwāla tahsil).

Western Bāgar.

The soil of the circle is better than that of the western part of the Bhiwāni tahsil, it contains more loam and sand hills are less common. Cultivation has increased by 24 per cent. since 1863. *Bāya* and *moth* are the only crops, and the soil cannot stand constant cropping. The proprietors are mostly Bagri Jats, and all the villages but one are held on the *dhayākhāra* tenure. On

3 per cent. of the area has been alienated to money-lenders. The average rent rate in *bhayāchāra* villages was 8 annas. The half

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Revenue.
Western Bagar.

	On cultivable land.		Total.	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	Pies.		
Demand by half asset rates	14,124	138	14,262	43
proposed revenue rates.	12,241	129	12,370	34
sanctioned rates.	14,124	138	14,262	43
announced	—	—	14,000	41
of 1880-81	—	—	9,644	—

asset rate was taken at 4 annas, and the revenue rate proposed was 3 annas 9 pies, partly in order to allow for probable future deterioration of soil. The Financial Commissioner, however, raised the rate to 4 annas, the half assets rate.

The Eastern Bagar of Fatehābād is a margin land between the poor Bagar and the good Hariāna, and it possesses in some degree the good qualities of both. It has an area of 128,001 acres, of which 20,634 acres or 16 per cent. is cultivable waste. Of its 32 villages, only 13 are *bhayāchāra* and 40 per cent. of the whole cultivated area lies in the twelve *zamin-dāri* villages. More than half of the cultivation is in the hands of tenants-at-will paying cash rents and most of these cash rents are fairly true. The circle, therefore, affords very trustworthy evidence of the value of land and of what the revenue rate should be. The average half rent in 1886 in *zamin-dāri* villages was 6½ annas in *patidāri* 6½ annas, in

Eastern Bagar
circle.

	On cultivable land.		Total.	Increase per cent.
	Rs.	Pies.		
Demand by half asset rates	47,000	394	47,394	107
sanctioned	27,700	386	28,086	85
announced	—	—	28,400	87
of 1886-87	—	—	11,320	—

bhayāchāra 5½ annas and in the whole circle 6½ annas. Upon these averages a half assets rate of 6½ annas was fixed, but the revenue rate actually recommended and sanctioned was only 4½ annas. Jats hold 20 per cent. and the Skinner family 25

per cent. of the circle; the rest belongs to Pachhādās who are poor cultivators. The latter were assessed below and the *zamin-dāri* villages above the sanctioned rates.

Of the area of this circle 78 per cent. is cultivated, the soil is light in parts, but suitable to the rainfall. It is mostly held by good cultivators and tenants-at-will cultivate 40 per cent. The *zamin-dāri* villages include 20 per cent. of the circle, and the average rent rate in these villages in 1886 was 13 annas 3 pies and in the *bhayāchāra* villages 12 annas per acre. It was impossible to take the great increase of 135 per cent. given by the half assets rate of 6 annas 6 pies per acre, and a revenue rate of 5 annas was proposed and sanctioned. The

Hariāna circle.

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Hariána circle.

	On cultivable land.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	18,187	70	18,257	136
.. sanctioned ..	13,990	78	14,068	81
.. announced ..	—	—	14,000	80
.. of 1889-90 ..	—	—	7,765	—

assessment was as per margin. Since the assessment, eight villages from the Western Hariána circle of the old Barwála tahsil have been added to the circle. In these the demand of 1889-90 was Rs. 8,000; by revenue rates the

demand would be Rs. 17,091, while Rs. 16,765 was the demand announced.

Fatehábád Nálí
Bárául.

This circle consists of 25 villages lying between the Ghaggar and Joiya streams and out of the reach of floods. It is thus situated in the centre of the Ruttia (Fatehábád) Nálí Sotar circle (see below).

The villages are in all respects similar to Hariána villages. Cultivation has increased 202 per cent. since settlement and 25 per cent. of the whole area is still waste. Population increased by 27 per cent. between 1868 and 1881, but Pachhádás hold 41 per cent. and Jats only 7 per cent. of the area. The Skinner family holds over 83 per cent. Tenants-at-will paying cash rent rates in *saminádári* villages cultivate 75 per cent. of the whole area. The average of such rents is 13 annas 9 pies and of all rents 13 annas 5 pies. The half assets rate for cultivated land was fixed at 5 annas 9 pies and the rate on excess waste at 1 anna 6 pies per acre. It was impossible to take the increase of 213 per cent.

	On culti- vated.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half asset rates	15,550	49	15,599	213
.. proposed revenue rates.	15,394	518	15,912	150
.. sanctioned rates	15,394	156	15,550	150
.. announced ..	—	—	15,420	150
.. of 1889-90 ..	—	—	8,148	—

brought out by these rates. The revenue rate was 5 annas 6 pies and the rate on excess waste was raised to 2 annas per acre. The assessment was as per margin. It is somewhat under revenue rates all round, but the increase in *saminádári* villages is 171

per cent. and in *shayókhára* villages 81 per cent.

Tohána (Barwála)
Nálí Bárául.

The soil of the circle is very similar to that of the circle last described, but it is situated to the south of the Ghaggar and Joiya streams, and not between them. Cultivation has more than doubled, and over 25 per cent. of the area is still waste. Pachhádás hold 7 per cent., Jats 30 per cent., and Rájpúts 15 per

	On colli- vations.		Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		
Demand by half assets rates	30,908	1,577	32,485	130
" proposed revenue rates	25,118	1,577	26,737	94
" sanctioned rates	25,189	2,100	27,289	99
" announced	...	...	27,092	100
" of 1890-00	...	...	13,751	...

cent. The average rent rate is 13 annas 9 pies for the whole circle and in zamindari villages 14 annas 1 pie. The half assets rate adopted was 6 annas 9 pies, but the revenue rate used was 5 annas 6 pies.

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Tahsil (Barwala) Nāli Bāriat.

This circle consists of the villages of the old Fatehābād tahsil whose lands are either wholly or partially flooded by the Ghaggar or Joiya streams, and which are thus characterized by the presence of an iron clay soil (*sotar*) on which no cultivation can be carried on unless it is flooded. Many of the villages on the fringe of the flooded area contain *bārāni* soil which is generally a good loam similar to that in Hariāna tracts. There is also a certain amount of well irrigation, but no extra assessment has been made on this account.

Battia (Fateh-
ābād) Nāli Sotar.

The following table gives statistics of area:—

	CULTIVATION.				CULTIVABLE.		
	Barial.	Sotar.	Chāhl.	Total.	Jadid.	Kadim.	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1890	42,803	18,196	658	58,417	5,545	97,001	102,546
1899	35,314	30,136	517	1,21,967	677	50,914	36,691

The assessment of the purely *bārāni* soil in this circle presented no special difficulty as tenants-at-will commonly pay cash rents for such land which are due and are paid, as in other circles, in good as well as in bad years, and on the whole area held whether sown or not. The average rent rate on such land in the zamindari villages of the circle was in 1886 13 annas 9 pies and for the whole area held by tenants-at-will 18 annas 4 pies per acre. The half assets rate was taken at 6 annas 9 pies per acre, the produce estimate rate being 7 annas 10 pies. It was very different in the case of the *sotar* land the assessment of which was the most difficult part of the settlement. When such land is not cultivated by the proprietors, the rent is almost invariably taken in kind, cash rents for *sotar* land are so rarely taken that they give no safe basis for a revenue rate. The area inundated varies enormously, e. g., the proprietor of a small village got one year nothing and in the next Rs. 3,000, or thirty times his old revenue. One way out of the difficulty would have been to give the *sotar* lands a fluctuating assessment as was done in a similar case in the Sirsa tahsil, but the people, remembering probably the old days of the *khām* collections, were unanimously against

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Revenue.Ratta (Fateh-
sd) Nāli Kotar.

this. The manner in which the problem was solved may best be given in Mr. Anderson's own words:—

"I have been guided very much by what was done in the Sirsa Nāli by Mr. Wilson. His estimates of yield, which have always been considered very moderate, were accepted by me, and the prices used in valuing the produce were somewhat lower than were applied in the parts of the district with larger markets and better communications."

"Of the 25,089 acres subject to produce rents 11,783 acres paid one-third, and 12,919 one-fourth of the grain. It is not common to take a share of the straw with the larger share of the grain, but in most cases an extra is taken, known as *serins*, and it is generally 4 *sérs* a maund more on the landlord's share. The Government share of the whole produce was fixed as equivalent to one-sixth of the grain, and this was considered moderate. The result was a rate of one rupee per acre. In the settlement of 1863, Munshi Amfn Chaud fixed for *sotar* land on the Ghaggar 10 annas and on the Joiya 8 annas, but he assessed more nearly at 12½ annas, and treated each village on its own merits with but little regard to his rates. In the preliminary report an all-round rate on *sotar* of 12 annas was suggested, but it was recommended that in detailed assessment differential soil rates should be used, the soils being classified according to the crops usually grown upon them. This was what was done in Sirsa, and the rates sanctioned for that tahsil were—

					Rs.	a.	p.
Rice	land	...	...	...	2	0	0
Wheat	"	...	...	...	1	0	0
Other	"	...	...	...	0	8	0

"The rates actually used were only Rs. 1-12-0, 0-12-0 and 0-6-0. The rates used in the fluctuating assessment of the Nāli villages in Sirsa for the cropped areas are—

					Rs.	a.	p.
Rice	...	...	...	...	2	8	0
Jowār	...	...	...	...	0	12	0
Other kharif crops	...	...	...	...	0	8	0
Wheat and mixtures of wheat	...	...	...	...	1	8	0
Other rabi crops	...	...	...	...	0	12	0

"The first set of rates applied to the average areas of the last four years gave a rate of 12 annas, the second of 10 annas, and the third 14 annas. Had the years for which the records were prepared been average years, in regard to the area inundated and the area cropped, the rates proposed might with safety be applied to the whole recorded *sotar* area. As a fact they were far better than ordinary years. The floods were high and seasonable. For Sirsa a continued even flow on the Ghaggar is

sufficient; but for Barwála and Fatchábád, where the river is more confined within its banks, a high flood is necessary to top the banks and inundate the lands beyond, and when there is a high flood the area inundated is very large. The fluctuations in the flooded area in Fatchábád and Barwála must therefore be great, and greater than they are in Sirsa. The area of *sotar* in 1863 was only 15,196 acres; and now it is recorded as 36,136 acres. The average for the ten years before 1887 was only 18,000 acres. In para. 35 of the Assessment Report reasons are given in detail for the conclusion that we could not safely regard the *sotar* area as more than 18,000 acres or just half the recorded area: and that it was only to this area that we could apply our rates, whether all-round rates or crop rates.

"The rate of one rupee worked out from produce estimates gave a demand of Rs. 18,000. In order to apply the Sirsa rates for fluctuating assessment, the 18,000 acres were divided among crops according to the areas of the last four years, which made up a total of 36,136 acres—rice being, however, retained at its full figure and not halved as it is grown on land which is almost always flooded. The details are given in para. 61 of the Assessment Report. The result was an estimate of Rs. 18,267, as the revenue of 36,136 acres, or practically 8 annas an acre. In Hissár as in Sirsa the hard clay *sotar* soil will grow nothing unless flooded. In villages which for years have not been reached by the floods the people are beginning to work up this hard soil, but such villages have been treated as *bárdni* and not *sotar* villages. The Financial Commissioner accepted the total assessment of Rs. 18,267 on the understanding that the detailed assessment should be done on the crop rates used in the fluctuating assessments in Sirsa, applied to such areas as the special circumstances of each village justified. This was done in all villages where rice was grown to any extent and the result was a demand which could as a rule be taken. But in other villages, the crop rates could not be applied so successfully, as it is not the soil but the time that the land becomes fit for the plough that determines whether gram or wheat will be sown. If the floods are early and the land is sufficiently dry in September gram is then sown, whereas if the floods are late and the ground not ready for ploughing until October or November wheat will be put down on the same soil. This explains why in 1885-86 four-fifths of the area cropped grew gram, and in 1887-88 less than a fourth grew gram and almost three-fourths wheat. It was unsafe therefore to accept the crop areas as in all cases a safe basis. All facts connected with the inundation of each village were fully considered and discussed with the people, and the revenue announced was received by the people, with the single exception of the proprietor of a *zamindári* village."

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Rattia (Fatchábád) Nál Kotar.

"The result of the half asset rates for *sotar*, *bárdni* and waste on the areas of 1886 was a demand of Rs. 52,544 against an existing demand of Rs. 30,110, and on the areas of 1890 a

Assessment of the circle.

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Assessment of the
circle.

new demand of Rs. 63,312. Population had increased between 1868 and 1881 by 26 per cent.: cultivation of *bārāni* land had quite doubled and about this there was no doubt, and as for the *sotar* an area equal to a third of the cultivation was still waste. The cattle had increased 50 per cent. up to 1885 and in 1890 the cattle numbered 62,379 as against 41,134 in 1863, and this circle is the richest in cattle of the whole district; on the other hand, as a set-off against this great increase in prosperity is the fact that Pachhādās and Ranghars own 33 and Jats only 20, of the land: and it was impossible to raise the demand on such cultivators by 110 per cent. The alienations in this circle amount to 16 per cent. of the total cultivation, but they have been made mostly by absentee proprietors in favour of residents, and this is entirely a gain. The rate for the *bārāni* area was reduced to 5½ annas which was also the rate in the villages of the tract which have no flooded area. The *bārāni* rate was sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner, but he raised here as in other subdivisions of the Nāli, the rate on waste from 1⅙ to 2 annas."

The following table gives the result of the total assessment:—

	On sotar.	On barāni.	On waste.	Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Demand by half asset rates ...	27,150	36,216	1,950	65,316	115
proposed revenue rates	5-15-0	0-6-8	0-1-4		
"	18,287	29,302	1,950	49,539	94
sanctioned rates ...	9-5-0	0-1-4	0-1-4		
"	16,567	29,302	2,212	48,081	88
announced	0-5-0	0-4-6	0-5-0		
of 1880-89	...	...	...	50,110	86
	...	...	...	90,110	...

Tohāna (Barwāla)
Nāli Sotar.

This tract in its general features resembles the circle last dealt with and the same difficulties in assessment had to be faced. The assessment was based on the same principles and the rates worked out as in the other Sotar circle as shown in the following quotation from the Settlement Report.

Rates for flooded
land.

"In the Nāli of Barwāla the same process was carried out in regard to the *sotar* lands as in the Fatehābād Nāli. The prices and estimates of yield were the same. Of the 12,789 acres paying produce rents, 7,273 paid a third and 5,458 a fourth. It was therefore safe to fix the Government share of the whole produce at one-sixth of the grain. Applied to corrected areas (those in the Preliminary Report were wrong), the produce estimate came out practically at the same as for Fatehābād, the larger area under wheat counterbalancing the decrease in rice. The total area of recorded *sotar* was 17,617 acres as against 8,287 acres in 1863. The average of the ten years before 1887 was 9,349 acres, and for reasons similar to those given in the case of Fatehābād the area of *sotar* to be used as the basis of a fixed assessment was taken at 9,500 acres. The rates used in the fluctuating assessment of the Sirza Nāli were applied to this area, and the estimate derived

was Rs. 8,978. As the unflooded *sotar* grows no crop, this was regarded as the demand on 17,617 acres, and here as in Fatehabád the result is an all-round rate of 8 annas. The same proposals were made in both circles and they were accepted."

The half assets rate for the *bárání* land in this circle was fixed at 6 annas 9 pies per acre and the revenue rate adopted was 6 annas as against 5 annas 6 pies in the other *sotar* circle. Pachhádás and Raughars hold 25 instead of 53 per cent. of the total area as in the Rattia Náli. Large proprietors hold 33 per cent. and 50 per cent. of the cultivation is in the hands of tenants-at-will.

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Rates for flooded land.
Assessment of the circle.

	On <i>sotar</i> .	On <i>bárání</i> .	On waste.	Total.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Demand by half assets rates.	15,111	5,342	1,299	21,752	100
" proposed revenue rates.	0-11-0	5-4-5	0-1-0	16,321	61
" sanctioned rates.	3,978	5,500	1,200	10,678	49
" unannounced of 1889-90	0-5-0	0-6-0	0-1-0	1,200	5
" unannounced of 1889-90	0-5-0	0-6-0	0-5-0	1,650	7
" unannounced of 1889-90	...	...	...	8,823	...

The average rent rate in all villages in 1886 was 13 annas 9 pies and in *zamindari* villages 14 annas 4 pies. The table in the margin shows the details of the assessment in this circle.

The following statement gives the complete assessment of the land revenue (exclusive of owner's rate) of the four southern tahsils as now constituted (exclusive of Budhláda) and compares it with the former demand, exclusive of water-advantage, i. e., the portion of the former fixed revenue due to canal irrigation and with the demand by half net asset rates and also with that by the sanctioned revenue rates:—

Total result.

Tahsil.	Former dry revenue, 1889-90.	Demand by half net assets.	Increase, per cent.	By revenue rates.	Increase, per cent.	Revenue assessed.	Increase, per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Burwani	25,268	1,11,991	29	1,00,000	21	1,07,250	21
Hárat	1,00,061	1,61,620	70	1,74,018	64	1,72,620	63
Hissar	63,312	1,51,040	82	1,36,719	64	1,35,300	63
Fatehabád	1,00,473	2,32,328	198	1,55,015	62	1,60,500	62
Total	2,70,094	4,74,007	79	4,01,684	60	3,99,100	59

The new assessment was introduced with effect from Kharif 1890, so that at the present time (March 1892) it is difficult to say much as to its working. The kharif of 1890 was a failure, and that of 1889 had also been very inferior, so that some villages were in difficulties. The new assessments were, however promptly paid up in all but three cases, where, for special reasons, suspensions were granted, which were subsequently remitted. The rabi instalment is comparatively small,

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and confined to the flooded and canal tracts. It was also paid with punctuality in 1891. The kharif of 1891 was much better than the previous one, and no difficulty was felt in paying the demand. Experience, so far as it has gone, would seem to show that the new revenue demand can be paid with ease, certainly in good seasons, as is also clear from the rates and statistics given above and also without much difficulty in seasons of ordinary and temporary scarcity. In a succession of bad years, however, the inferior class of cultivators in the *bhayichara* and in some *pattidari* villages will be in difficulties, especially if there is scarcity of fodder or mortality among cattle. The revenue demand is so far below half net assets that no difficulty should be felt in paying the revenue in an occasional bad season, but unfortunately Hissar is liable to successions of such.

Period of settle-
ment.

The assessments were announced provisionally for a period of twenty years from Kharif 1890. But it was at the same time made clear that the period was subject to the final orders of Government.

Budhlada ilaka.

The small Budhlada tract, with an area of 54 square miles and consisting of 15 villages, was transferred from the Kaithal tahsil of the Karnal district to the Fatehabad tahsil of the Hissar district in 1889. As its revenue history forms a part of that of the former tract, it has to be considered separately. British supremacy was extended over Kaithal and other Cis-Satlaj Sikh States by the treaty of Lahore in 1809. Its effect was to establish the protectorate of the British Government as suzerains over the States. The powers of the Chiefs were gradually curtailed, and they were reduced more or less to the position of *jagirdars*. In 1843 the Kaithal chieftainship and *jagir* with the Budhlada tract lapsed to the British Government by the death, without issue, of Bhai Ude Singh, Chief of Kaithal, and British rule was established, but a *jagir* of 14 out of the 15 Budhlada villages was continued to the Bhaïs of Arnauli, a collateral branch of the family.

Native revenue
system.

The following extract from Mr. Donie's Settlement Report of Umballa-Karnal describes the native revenue system in Kaithal:—

"The revenue system of the Sikh chiefs consisted in squeezing the weak and getting as much as they could out of the strong. They took a share of the total produce one-fourth, two-thirds, one-third, two-fifths, and even half by appraisement of some crops; for others, such as poppies, tobacco, cotton, cane and chari cash rents were charged. In Kaithal, in the parts where the rabi crop is unknown, and indeed in others where it promised unfavourably, an arbitrary assessment was fixed, which in addition to numerous cesses, was paid by the zamindars, by a *bach* on cattle, polls, hearths, and ploughs (*khawacha*)."

Summary settle-
ment.

The first summary settlement of the Kaithal tahsil including Budhlada was made by Major (afterwards Sir H.) Lawrence, soon after 1843 for a period of three years. The assessment appears to have been a heavy one.

In 1847 the first Regular Settlement of the Kaithal tract was made by Captain Abbott, but he only assessed a few villages in the Budhlāda ilāka. The demand then fixed was collected for a few years without the accrual of very heavy balances. But his record and assessment were considered so bad that the settlement was not reported to Government for sanction, though it was allowed to run for six years.

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First Regular Settlement.

A second Regular Settlement of Kaithal, in which the Budhlāda tract also was included, was made by Captain Larkins from 1853 to 1856.

First Revised Settlement.

The villages in the Budhlāda ilāka, now known as the Jangal circle, were leniently treated the whole tract being assessed at Rs. 8,021. The revenue rate employed was 6 annas 6 pies per acre. The soil loan of the tract was apparently under-valued, and its productiveness in seasons of short rainfall was not sufficiently taken into account.

The Budhlāda tract with the rest of the Kaithal tahsil of Karnāl and parts of the Umballa district came under settlement again in 1882. The operations were conducted by Mr. Donie as Settlement Officer of Karnāl-Umballa.

Second Revised Settlement.

The standard of assessment was the same as that subsequently laid down for the other portions of the four southern tahsils of the Hissar district, viz., that the half net produce of an estate, or in other words half the share of the produce ordinarily recoverable by a landlord in money or kind should represent the limit of the Government land revenue demand. The Budhlāda ilāka was constituted a separate assessment circle and called the Jangal circle. The materials for a half net assets estimate were not very ample. Only 19 per cent. of the cultivated area was held by tenants, and of this 11 per cent. only by tenants-at-will.

Standard of assessment.

Of the total area not more than 4 per cent. was held by tenants-at-will paying cash competition rents, and these averaged 6 annas 5 pies per acre. Of the total cultivated area 5·3 per cent. only pay in kind. The usual rate of *batāi* is one-third but one-fourth is not uncommon. The half assets share of Government was calculated at 14 per cent. of the gross produce. *Zabti* rents are unknown.

Wheat	...	...	27
Barley	...	...	29
Green	...	...	26
Gobhi	...	...	39
(Green and barley)			
Garson	...	...	31
Jawār	...	...	34
Rajra	...	...	31

The prices assumed for arriving at the cash value of the Government half assets share were as in the margin in *sérs* per rupee.

The value of the half assets share of Government for the whole Jangal circle as worked out by applying the assumed averages of yield and price and *batāi* rates to average areas cropped stood at Rs. 16,143, an increase of 101 per cent. on the former revenue of Rs. 8,021.

Half net assets

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The assessment.

The following were the points for consideration in determining how much of the enhancement indicated by the half net assets estimate could be taken. Cultivation and fallow had increased by 36 per cent. since the previous settlement, and no room was left for expansion, and the grazing area was small. Population increased by 41 per cent. between 1855 and 1868, and by 79 per cent. between 1855 and 1881. The proprietors are mostly Jat Sikhs, but there is an admixture of Rājputa and Dogars. The Jats are a fine race and generally very thriving. The soil is for the most part an easily worked level loam with a large admixture of sand (*nūsin*). There is a good deal of unwee and very sandy land called *tūbi* which is distinctly inferior to *nūsin*, except in a year of very scanty rainfall.

The water-level is 75 feet below the surface; the water-bearing stratum contains a good deal of salt and well irrigation is practically non-existent, but some distributaries from the Joiya Branch of the Sirhind Canal have been brought into the tract. Somewhat under half the cultivated area is cropped in the kharif, the principal staples being *javār* and *bajra*, mostly the former. A little over half is cropped in the rabi, the principal staples of which is gram alone or mixed with barley and *seroon*. The demand of Rs. 8,021 in force previous to settlement fell at a rate of 4 annas 4 pies on the area then cultivated, and the former assessment was light as noted above. The Settlement Officers recommended a revenue rate of 6 annas 6 pies per acre for the whole circle which would give a demand of Rs. 11,972 as compared with a half net assets estimate of Rs. 16,142, the increase on the former revenue being 49 per cent. There were practically no grazing lands in the tract, and no assessment on waste was proposed. The Commissioner and Financial Commissioner supported the proposed rate on cultivation on the understanding that the assessment should run for ten years. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, however, considered that the rate was too light and should be raised to 7 annas per acre, at the same time indicating that the term of settlement should be 18 years. The revenue demand by the sanctioned rate was Rs. 12,893, giving an increase of 60 per cent. The following Statement gives details of the assessment.

Former revenue with incidence on cultivation.	Half assets estimate.	Increase per cent.	Revenue at sanctioned rate.	Increase per cent.	Revenue announced with incidence on cultivation.	Increase per cent.
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
8,021	16,142	101	12,893	60	12,700	58
Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	
0 4 4			0 7 0		0 6 11	

Out of the total new assessment Rs. 11,750 is assigned and Rs. 950 only *khála*.

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Term of Settlement.

The new assessment took effect from Kharif 1838, and in accordance with the Settlement Officer's original proposal a period of 18 years has been provisionally sanctioned by the Local Government, so as to make the period end concurrently with the assessment of Pargana Indri, which was sanctioned for 20 years from Kharif 1836.

In the final Settlement Report of the Karnál-Umballa tract it has been proposed to fix the term of the Budhláda assessments, so that they shall expire at the same time as the new assessments of the four southern tahsils of the Hissár district. No orders have as yet (March 1892) been received on this proposal.

Tahsil Sirsa.

The remarks which have been made in regard to the native land revenue system apply almost equally well to Sirsa. But shortly before the advent of British power a large amount of immigration into the northern dry tract went on under the direct encouragement and patronage of the Patialá and Bikánir Rulers. They seem to have realised their dues from the colonists by a share of the gross produce varying from $\frac{1}{5}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$, the lower rate being taken from newly settled villages, and the latter from those which had been settled longer. The Rája of Bikánir appears to have sometimes levied his dues in cash at a rate per plough, and not in kind. In some cases the share seems to have been over $\frac{1}{4}$ th or $\frac{1}{3}$ th, and the share paid by the headmen was generally less than that paid by the ordinary cultivator. The division appears to have been effected in the case of the Patialá colonists, sometimes by appraisement, and sometimes by actual division of grain.

Native land revenue system.

The first portions of the present Sirsa district which appear to have been settled by a British Officer were the old parganá of Sirsa and Rania. These were the first to come under our direct rule in A. D. 1818. A Summary Settlement of these two parganas was effected by Mr. J. P. Gubbins in A. D. 1829. The Darba pargana, which now lies in the sandy Bagar tract to the south of the Ghaggar was recovered from Bikánir in 1826, and was not transferred to the Sirsa or Bhatiná district till 1838. The assessment made in the Summary Settlement was fixed in cash in place of the former payments in kind, which had been in force under Native Rulers. The assessments were founded on some sort of estimate of the value of the previous grain collections of the Native Rulers, but they were generally so high that they could not be paid in good years, and income from land fluctuated greatly. That the Summary Settlements of Parganá Rania and Sirsa were severe is shown by the fact, that many villages which were unable to pay had to be resettled and that in 1836 Rs. 83,343 of accumulated balances had to be remitted, while Rs. 11,263 was remitted from the demand of that year on account of short rainfall, and failure of

Summary Settlement, Parganá Rania and Sirsa.

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Revenue.
Pargana Guda.

Ghaggar floods. The utmost severity in collection, such as the attachment of standing crops, was unable to prevent such results.

In 1837 Parganás Guda and Malant were recovered from the Patiala Sikhs. In that year they paid Rs. 6,413 as a rabi instalment collected in kind. In 1837, Captain Thoresly, Superintendent of Bhatiana, effected a Summary Settlement of these two parganás for a term of three years. The greater part of the old Guda pargana is now included in the northern half of the present Sirsa tahsil. As in the settlements of Parganás Rania and Sirsa, the assessments were fixed in cash. The Board of Revenue in its instructions for assessment had directed officers to so pitch their assessments as to leave 20 per cent. of the net profit to the proprietors; but it was impossible to tell who were proprietors or what were the net profits; the actual kind collections of the previous Native Rulers were practically the only guide. In assessing the land, Major Thoresly made an estimate of the average gross produce which he valued at the current selling price, and he fixed his cash assessment at a share of this valuation proportionate to the share of the gross produce previously taken by Native Rulers. Such a standard of assessment had but little connection with net profits, and was intended to be simply a cash approximation to the previous average kind realizations of the State. The demand assessed was seldom if ever realized. It was a maximum realizable only in good years, and the actual collections were made from year to year on a rough estimate framed by native officials as to the extent and outturn of the crops.

In 1841-43 the demand of four parganás now included in the Sirsa tahsil was as follows:—

	Villages.	Demand. Rs.
Darha	43	12,508
Sirsa	42	22,049
Rania	89	62,305
Guda	137	24,801
Total	311	1,21,463

Pargana Rori.

In 1847, the Rori pargana, now in the north-east of the Sirsa tahsil, was confiscated from Nábha and was summarily settled in 1848.

Working of Summary Settlement.

No complete revision of the Summary Settlements of the above parganás was made up to 1852, but as in pargana Guda, in the Rohi or dry tract they were generally allowed to run on. Many villages were held under *káim* management, i.e. with a fluctuating assessment.

The following statement shows the demand for 1852-53, the last year before the commencement of the First Regular Settlement of Bhattiána:—

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Working of Summary Settlements.

No.	Name of Pargana.	Fixed assessment.		Floating assessment.		Total demand.	
		Number of villages.	Demand.	Number of villages.	Demand.	Number of villages.	Demand.
1	Darba	44	Rs. 13,164	—	—	44	Rs. 13,164
2	Sirsa	51	37,732	5	730	56	38,462
3	Kania	105	42,360	11	1,270	116	43,630
4	Beri	—	—	15	4,675	15	4,675
5	Godā	160	26,710	3	133	163	26,843

The marginal statement will give some idea of the extent to which collections fell short of demands in the entire Bhattiána district. In short during the years from 1837 to 1852-53 on an average one quarter of the demand of the district was remitted annually, and in some years more than one-half. Thus the demand of the

Summary Settlements instead of being a fixed average one realizable every year was a maximum one realizable only in good years.

In the cold weather of 1851-52 Mr. Thomason, the Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. P., made a tour through the Bhatti territory from Fázilka to Sirsa, and his attention was prominently called to the economical and fiscal position of the tract and especially to the precarious nature of the harvest on the flooded land. "He accepted the conclusion that in a country so situated little revenue could be expected and large balances must constantly arise, but pointed out that much might be done by good management to humanize the people and to train them to habits of order and industry. He declared the urgent necessity of defining more clearly than had yet been done, even in settled villages, the rights of the different occupants of the soil, and considered this of much greater importance than the revenue to be realized which must necessarily be very light. The great object being the moral improvement of the people, the first step must be to assure every man of his right. He noted that in assessing the *sotar* lands on the Ghaggar some villages had been nominally assessed at the maximum which could be realized in a good year,

First Regular
Settlement.

Year.	Demand for whole district.	Collections.	Percentage.
1845-46	Rs. 1,35,761	Rs. 41,564	30
1849-50	1,35,031	64,315	47
1850-51	1,42,430	85,994	60

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heavy balances being remitted in successive years, while others had been altogether excluded from assessment and held *khām*, and ordered that these irregularities should cease, and that here as elsewhere a fair average jama should be fixed, the balances of bad years being recovered in good years, and where there was no balance the produce of good years being left to the people without stint. He directed a 20 years' settlement to be made on these principles, and called on the district authorities to set about the work earnestly, systematically and regularly." In compliance with these instructions the Regular Settlement was commenced in 1852 under Captain Robertson, who then succeeded Captain Robinson as Superintendent and held charge of the district and of the Settlement with intervals until the Mutiny. The operations were conducted in accordance with the provisions of Regulation IX of 1833, the rule of assessment being that the Government demand should be about half the net assets. (In the earlier summary assessments about 1837, the rule had been to take five-sixth of the net assets). The work of settlement was completed and sanctioned pargana by pargana. The settlement of Parganās Darba, Sirsa and Rori was made and reported by Captain Robertson, Superintendent of Bhatiana, and sanctioned by the North-West Provinces Government before the Mutiny. Captain Robertson had also settled Pargana Ranis, but it was not reported on until after the Mutiny and after the transfer of the district to the Punjab. The settlement of that pargana was then reported by Mr. Oliver and sanctioned by the Punjab Government. Mr. Oliver then settled and reported on the remaining four parganās forming the west end of the district, and the Punjab Government gave formal sanction to the settlement in 1864, or 12 years after the commencement of settlement operations.

Principles of the
Regular Settlement.

The demand of the State from each township instead of being a nominal maximum demand realized full only in exceptionally good years, was fixed at a fair average assessment, the balances of bad years being recovered in good years, and where there was no balance the surplus produce being left to the people. The principle on which this assessment was made was that the demand of the State should equal half the net profits of cultivation, but there were few data available on which to base such calculations, and the Settlement Officer of the Darba pargana stated that his assessment approached to two-thirds of what the land was able to pay, leaving one-third as profits to the peasants. In the villages last settled Mr. Oliver made sure of his assessments being half net profit assessments by first fixing the rents to be paid by the actual cultivators and then taking half of this as the demand of the State.

Results.

The following table exhibits the results of the First Regular Settlement in the parganās lying within the present limits of the Sirsa tahsil. The statement includes the villages added since the settlement, and excludes those transferred to Bikánir in 1861.—

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Results.

Former Tahsil.	Pargana.	First year of Regular Settlement.	Number of villages.	Average demand of five years before Regular Settlement.		Full assessment of Regular Settlement.		PERCENTAGE.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Increase.	Decrease.
Sirsa	Darba	1883-84	44	12,078	10,908	...	11	...	...
	Sirsa	1884-85	98	27,200	26,800	...	...	...	...
	Banta	1885-87	93	51,230	40,550	...	...	...	...
Dabwali	Bor	1884-85	2	5,613	4,000	...	17	...	...
	Guda	1902-03	140	23,920	41,105	...	73	...	...
Total ... ..	...	...	306	1,13,478	1,32,300	...	11	...	...

On the disruption of the Sirsa district in 1884 the Dabwali tahsil was abolished, and the whole of the above tract with the exception of a few villages in Pargana Guda in Tahsil Dabwali was included in the new Sirsa tahsil, which consisted of the whole of the old Sirsa tahsil, and the whole of the old Dabwali tahsil with the exception of 31 villages now in the Ferozepore district. The assessment of the Regular Settlement by the modern assessment circles and former tahsils is as follows:—

Assessment Circle.	Former Tahsil.	Former number of villages.	Assessment of last year of Regular Settlement.		Full assessment of Regular Settlement.		PERCENTAGE.	
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bagar	Sirsa	87	17,078	15,221	...	11	...	...
Nali	Sirsa	104	21,646	20,903	...	14	...	...
	Dabwali	5	1,300	1,608	...	...	...	...
	Total Nali ...	109	22,946	22,511	...	14	...	...
Rohi	Sirsa	34	1,704	12,803	66	...	...	...
	Dabwali	123	24,900	43,705	82	...	...	...
	Total Rohi ...	157	26,604	56,508	77	...	...	...
Total	Tahsil Sirsa ...	189	38,624	37,117	...	7	...	...
	" Dabwali ...	157	26,923	45,113	76	...	...	...
	Total two Tahsils ...	346	1,13,295	1,32,230	11	...	...	...

In many villages in which a large increase was taken at the Regular Settlement the system of progressive assessments was resorted to. These have been included in the assessment shown above which also includes *jagir* assessment, but not those on *muafi* plots.

In 1881-82, the last year of the Regular Settlement, the actual demand, *Malsas* and *jagir*, stood as follows:—

	Rs.
Nali circle	62,022
Bagar	15,221
Rohi	56,489

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Land and Land Revenue.
- Results.** This was an increase in the actual demand realizable when the assessments were made owing to the subsequent effect of progressive assessment, lapse of *madfa*, &c.
- Working of Settlement.** The Regular Settlement worked of course far better than the previous Summary Settlements. In the drought of 1860-61 the kharif demand of 1860 was remitted to the extent of Rs. 58,416, or nearly one-third of the total demand of the year in the greater number of villages in the Bagar, Nali and Rohi circles. From 1862-63 to 1880-81 remissions averaged Rs. 3,000 a year for the whole of the old Sirsa district or 1½ per cent. of the annual demand. By far the greater part was given on account of calamities of season, especially in 1868-69 and 1869-70. The remissions were chiefly given in the sandy villages in the south of the district and those in the Sotar valley now included in the present Sirsa tahsil. Inclusive of the above remissions 8 per cent. of the demand of the whole of the old district was on the average in arrears at the end of each year.
- Revision of Settlement.** The period of the Regular Settlement, which, as stated above, had in the case of different parganas taken effect from different years, had come to an end in all parganas by 1875-76. A revised settlement was commenced in the whole of the old Sirsa district in 1879 by Mr. Wilson.
- Standard assessment.** of The standard of assessment was the same as that laid down in the case of the recent re-settlement of the four southern tahsils of the present Hissar district, *i. e.*, the Government demand for land revenue was not to exceed the estimated value of half the net produce of an estate, or in other words, half of the share of the produce of an estate ordinarily recoverable by the landlord, whether in money or in kind. In the case of land cultivated by the proprietors or by tenants at favourable rent, the half net produce would be taken to be the rent which would be payable if the land were let at the full rents ordinarily paid by tenants-at-will in the neighbourhood.
- Basis of assessment.** As in the four southern tahsils the half net asset or half net produce estimate was based mainly on cash rents paid in full year by year by tenants-at-will without reference to the nature of the season. It was found that by far the greater proportion of the area held by tenants-at-will except in the flooded lands paid rent in cash, and the rents taken as a basis for the half net asset estimate were those paid for land which had been brought under cultivation since settlement and not for the older cultivation which consisted of a better quality of soil near the village site. The half asset estimates so framed were checked by comparison with produce estimates based on the average share of produce taken by the landlord and on estimates of average yield and price. The latter have been already dealt with in Chapter IV. As in the four southern tahsils it was found that proprietors derived large profits from the village waste which the Settlement Officer estimated at about Rs. 3,90,000 for the whole Sirsa district. A certain fraction of the waste was exempted from

assessment as needed for grazing, and the balance was assessed at a low rate.

For assessment purposes the district was divided into five assessment circles, of which two, the Bāgar and the Nāli, are wholly within the present Sirsa tahsil, and a third, the Rohi, partly so. The physical features of these three tracts have been already fully described.

At the time of the settlement in the Bāgar assessment circle, which comprises 57 villages in the sandy tract south of Sirsa, only 184 acres were found to pay rent in kind at an average rate of one-fourth of the produce. Applying the average estimated rates of yield and price to the estimated average areas under crops, the above rate gave a half net produce estimate of Rs. 23,750 which, with some addition on account of the profits from waste, would give Rs. 25,000 for the half net produce of the whole tract. Over 80 per cent. of the area under cultivation was held by tenants-at-will paying cash rents. It was found, as in the other tahsils, that these cash rents were paid, year after year, on the whole area held, whether sown or unsown, and thus the half net asset rate deduced from rents, i. e., the half average full cash rent, would have to be applied to the whole cultivated, and not merely to the average area under crop. The half asset rate was 2 annas 6 pies per acre, which gave as an estimate of the half net assets of cultivation Rs. 21,733 or Rs. 23,000 for the half net produce of the tract inclusive of profits from waste. The soil of the circle is throughout light and shifting and water is 90 feet below the surface. Cultivation decreased by 11 per cent. between the Regular Settlement and that of 1881-82, and population by 9 per cent. since 1868, but it was 13 per cent. above that of 1853. The proprietary body is good, the greater proportion being Bāgri Jats. Almost the whole of the cultivation is under Kharif crops, mostly *bāya* and *molā*; 80 per cent. of the total area was cultivated in 1881-82. Sales and mortgages are low, and the people on the whole are prosperous. At first the Settlement Officer proposed to assess the circle at Rs. 18,000, but this was ultimately raised to Rs. 20,000 with a circle revenue rate of 2 annas 4 pies per acre.

The details of assessment are as follows:—

		Increase per Rs. cent. or former revenue.
Half net asset estimate by produce rates	25,000	64
Ditto. by cash rents ...	23,000	51
At sanctioned revenue rate ...	{ 20,284 — 0-2-4 }	83
Assessment announced ...	20,003	31
Former revenue ...	15,221	

The Rohi assessment circle in the late Settlement of the Sirsa district extended to a distance of some 80 miles from the

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Ghaggar, and a large part of it lay outside the present limits of the Sirsa tahsil. That part of it, however, which was included in the former Sirsa and Dabwali tahsils is with the exception of 31 villages included in the present Sirsa tahsil.

Of the area held by tenants-at-will 13 per cent. only at Settlement paid rent in kind at an average of one-fifth produce. The half net assets of cultivated land were therefore taken as one-tenth of average annual gross produce which came to Rs. 1,69,000; and the half net assets on produce of uncultivated land was estimated at Rs. 11,000. This gave Rs. 1,80,000 as the estimated half net assets of the tract. For the 87 per cent. of the area held by tenants-at-will for which cash rents were paid at settlement, 8 annas was taken as an average rent rate, paid on the whole area held whether cropped or not. Applying half this rate to the whole cultivated area the estimate for half net assets of the cultivated area was Rs. 1,63,565, which, with the estimated half net assets of the waste, gave Rs. 1,75,000 as the estimated total half net assets of the Rohi circle. The soil of the Rohi is sandy in places, but is generally a light easily worked loam. It is for the most part a flat plain broken here and there by a hillock of sand. Water is everywhere far below the surface, and in many places brackish. Population increased about 100 per cent. between the Regular Settlement and 1881-82, and by 33 per cent. between 1868 and 1881. Between the two Settlements cultivation increased 87 per cent. and at the latter date 47 per cent. of the area was still waste. The proprietary body is good, as nearly 33 per cent. of the area is owned by Sikh Jats and 25 per cent. by Bāgrīs. Two-thirds of the area is under kharif crops, but the area sown with rabi is rapidly increasing. The kharif crops are *jawār*, *bāra* and pulses and those of the rabi are gram and oilseeds. The tract is rich in cattle and alienations are light. The gross assessment proposed for the tract was Rs. 1,40,000, with a revenue rate on cultivation of 3 annas 6 pies per acre, and of 3 pies per acre on waste in excess of an area equal to one-third of the cultivated area. This was accepted by the Financial Commissioner who, however, indicated that the assessment was a low one.

The assessment of the whole Rohi chak was as follows:—

		Increase per cent. on former demand.
	Ra.	
Half net assets by produce estimate	1,80,000	110
Ditto by cash rents	... 1,75,000	104
Assessment at circle rates	... 1,48,894	74
Assessments announced	... 1,55,560	81
Former demand	... 85,767	...

Tahsil.	Number of villages.	Former assessment.	Assessment at circle rate.	Assessment when increased.	Increase per cent.
Sirsa	38	12,898	18,548	18,765	45
Dabwali	152	48,708	70,007	78,400	73
Total	190	61,606	88,555	97,165	58

The figures for the portions of the Rohi circle included in the former Sirsa and Dabwali tahsils and now included in the present Sirsa tahsil with the exception of 31 villages are as given in the margin.

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Rohi circle.

The Nāli circle comprises 100 villages along the Ghaggar valley. Most of them have some part of their area liable to be flooded, or some part of their area in the Ghaggar or Sotar valley with its hard clay soil, but with few exceptions they also have some area of light upland soil beyond reach of floods. A number of villages lying between the two branches of the Ghaggar have no flooded area and are included in the Nāli circle simply for convenience of boundaries.

Nāli circle.

There are thus four distinct classes of soil in the Nāli circle—

- (1) the unirrigated light soil of the uplands (*rohi bārāni*);
- (2) the hard clay soil of the Sotar valley dependent for moisture on the local rainfall (*sotar bārāni*);
- (3) land irrigated with the aid of Ghaggar floods (*sotar ruz*);
- (4) land irrigated by wells (*chāhī*).

The detail of areas at Settlement is given in the margin.

Soil.	Cultivated.	Recently sown.	Uncultivated paying rent.	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Irrigated from wells	922	—	—	922
Flooded	83,314	3,316	—	86,630
Unirrigated clay soil	6,411	2,142	—	8,553
Unirrigated light soil	192,650	4,346	4,985	197,981
Total	183,917	9,704	4,465	193,926

On the *rohi bārāni* lands at Settlement only one-ninth of the area held by tenants-at-will paid rent in kind, the average share being one-fourth and in the *sotar bārāni* one-half, the average share there also

Half net assets by produce estimates.

being one-fourth. After applying the assumed estimates of yield and price the half net asset estimate for the above two classes of cultivated land was fixed at Rs. 35,000. In the case of the *sotar ruz* lands it was found that on some 63 per cent. of the area held by tenants-at-will produce rent (*batāi*) was paid, and that the average rate was one-third. One sixth of the gross produce was therefore taken to represent the half net profits on flooded land. This gave an half net assets estimate of Rs. 40,000 for the area flooded on the average. The total half net assets estimate for cultivation in the Nāli circle was

Chapter V. B. thus Rs. 75,000 calculated from produce estimates. The half
Land and Land net assets from uncultivated land was estimated at another
Revenue. Rs. 5,000, and the total net assets stand thus as based on esti-
Half net assets by mates of gross produce :—
produce estimates.

					Rs.
Unirrigated cultivation	...	...	...	...	35,000
Irrigated ditto	...	...	...	...	40,000
Waste	...	...	...	...	5,000
Total					80,000

Cash rent esti- The cash rent estimate was more reliable in the case of
mate. unirrigated cultivation, as the areas on which cash rents were
paid far exceeded that paying kind rents. Of the *rohi bhāra* soil
on 89 per cent. cash rents are paid. Such rents, as usual, are paid
on the entire area held crop or no crop. The average rent rate for
this class of land was taken at 6 annas per acre, and applying it to
the whole cultivated area of this class, the half assets estimate for
rohi bhāra soil stood at Rs. 27,312. Similarly with an average
rent rate of 12 annas per acre the half assets estimate for the
sotar bhāra cultivation was Rs. 3,823. This gave, for the whole
unirrigated cultivation, Rs. 31,000 on the half net produce.
Cash rents are paid on so small a proportion of the flooded *sotar*
area, (*sotar ras*) that it was impossible to form any estimate
of half net assets for such land based on cash rents. The
small well-irrigated area was not dealt with separately,
but was treated as if it were flooded land growing wheat.

Assessment of the The general considerations bearing on the actual assessment
circle. of the Nāli circle were as follows :—

Much of the area of the circle consists of high unirrigated
soil like that of the Bāgar, but not quite so light and sandy.
The hard clay of the *sotar* has already been described. Water
is not far below the surface, and is everywhere sweet. Cul-
tivation had increased by 20 per cent. in the circle since
the Regular Settlement, mostly in the unirrigated uplands.
Population increased by 6 per cent. between 1868 and 1881;
about 50 per cent. of it consists of Mussalmāns, most of
whom are Rājāts and Jats (Pachāts), comparatively lazy
and thriftless. Most of the Hindūs are thrifty Bāgrīs.
The unirrigated lands are mostly cropped in the kharif with
bājra, *javār* and pulses. The flooded lands are cropped
with rice and *javār* in the kharif and wheat or gram in the
rabī; these crops are dependent on the Ghaggar floods which
are very variable. In 1861-82 83 per cent. of the flooded area
was uncultivated, and produced wood and grass of some value.
The amount of alienation up to 1881-82 had been greater
in this circle than in other parts of the district; but had
occurred mostly among Mussalmāns who had been transfer-
ring their lands to more thrifty Hindūs. The Settlement Officer
proposed a gross assessment of Rs. 74,000 for the whole circle
and this was accepted.

For the purpose of distributing this assessment the soil rates shown in column 2 of the marginal statement were proposed and sanctioned, giving a total assessment of Rs. 76,867. The rates actually used in fixing the detailed village assessments are given in column 3 and the resulting gross assessment in column 4. The assessment actually made aggregated Rs. 74,000.

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Land and Land Revenue.

Assessment of the circle.

Class of soil.	Sanctioned	Rates used.	Resulting
	soil rates.		assessment.
	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs.
Rice lands	3 0 0	1 12 0	15,023
Wet lands and wheat lands.	1 0 0	0 12 0	27,948
Other flooded lands ...	0 6 0	0 4 0	} 5,017
Unirrigated lands ...	0 6 0	0 4 0	
Unirrigated uplands ...	0 3 0	0 3 0	25,313
Culturable waste after deducting un-sold ...	0 0 0	0 1 0	5,448
Total			74,415

The table below brings together the various estimates for a gross fixed assessment and the assessment actually made in the Nālī Circle.

Increase per cent. on former demand.

	Rs.	
Estimated half net assets by produce ... estimate.	80,000	17
Ditto by cash rent estimate ...	76,000	14
Assessment at sanctioned soil rates ...	76,867	16
Ditto at rates actually used ...	74,415	12.9
Assessment actually made ...	74,000	12
Former assessment ...	66,312	

The total assessment of the former tahsils of Sirsa and Dabwālī as fixed in 1881-82 stands as below, the assessment by circles is also added:—

Total assessment.

Assessment Circles or Tahsils.	Former assessment.	Half net assets.	Assessment at circle rates.	Assessment as sanctioned.	INCREASE OR DECREASE PERCENT. OR		
					Assessment of 1881-82.	Half assets.	Assessment as revised (fixed) rates.
Sirsa	92,000	...	...	130,525	+19	...	...
Dabwālī	45,114	...	...	78,345	+74	...	...
Total	136,114	...	...	208,870	...	...	...
Bihar	15,201	20,000	20,201	20,000	+31	-18	-1
Nālī	66,312	71,000	70,867	71,000	+12	-3	-4
Rohi	55,774	...	60,514	55,125	+8	...	+7
Total	136,114	...	166,786	166,160	+27	...	+2

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NALI Fluctuating
assessment.

The area dealt with in the above statement corresponds, with the exception of 31 villages, with the area included in the present Sirsa tahsil.

During the progress of the Settlement the question was mooted whether a more elastic revenue system was not needed under the specially precarious conditions of agriculture obtaining in the Sirsa district. Two systems were propounded, the ordinary system of fluctuating assessment and that known as the cycle system. The proprietors of the Rohi and Bâgar uplands were unanimously opposed to either of these systems. Few of them realized their rents in kind, and the whole system of cash rents had been founded on the system of fixed cash assessments. The tenants generally pay average cash rents demandable whether there has been a crop or not, and generally paid sooner or later even after a run of bad years, so that the income of the proprietors does not necessarily vary so much from year to year as does the produce of their fields. To have introduced a system of fluctuating assessment would have revolutionized the whole rent system. It was decided, therefore, to maintain the system of fixed assessment in the Bâgar and Rohi tracts and also in the *lâvâni* lands of the Nâli circle, but power was taken by the insertion of a clause in the tender of engagement (*darbhâst mâlgusâri*) in the case of each village to introduce the cycle system of assessment if its revenue should fall into arrears.

The case of the flooded (*sotar*) lands in the Ghaggar valley was somewhat different. Rent on these lands is very generally taken in kind and the profits or net assets of cultivation vary enormously, and although a large proprietor might without difficulty pay an average half net assessment in good and bad years alike it was thought that a small peasant proprietor could not do so in a run of bad years without getting into difficulties. It was decided therefore to apply the fluctuating system to lands where cultivation depended on floods from the Ghaggar. Of the 109 villages in the Nâli circle 25 had practically no area subject to floods; 28 villages in the old valley of the *sotar* had no longer any land subject to floods; 23 villages lying in the upper part of the Ghaggar valley had only a very small area which was occasionally flooded; and 3 villages lying on a branch of the Ghaggar, south of the main stream, were specially circumstanced. All the above villages were given a fixed assessment. Of the remaining 31 villages the areas of 11 were almost entirely subject to floods and were put entirely under a fluctuating assessment. The remaining 20 had a considerable part of their area subject to floods, and this was dealt with in the same manner, their remaining areas being put under a fixed assessment. The total area placed under fluctuating assessment was 46,743 acres, of which 43,094 was culturable and 25,586 cultivated at settlement. While the profits from cultivation on these lands are very fluctuating those from the waste are fairly constant, and on this ground a fixed assessment averaging one anna per acre was put on the whole culturable area in its uncultivated aspect on account of profits from sale of wood, grass, grazing, &c. The total

assessment amounted to Rs. 2,835. The fluctuating assessment was to be made by crop rates on areas cropped, and the rates were pitched so as to represent at the prevailing produce rent rate of one-third gross produce, the half net assets or profits realized by a landlord from land actually producing a crop.

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N.B. Fluctuating
assessment.

The rates per acre were as follows :—

	Rs. a. p.
1. Manji rice	2 8 0
2. Wheat alone or with gram, kharsu rice, tobacco, vegetables, rape seed, pepper, dhania, etc, kasumbha or cotton ...	1 8 0
3. Other rabi crops	} 0 12 0
4. Jauar alone or with pulses ..	
5. Other Kharif crops	0 8 0

All fields or parts of fields having no produce are exempted from assessment, and those in which the produce is poor are assessed at half rates. New land broken up from waste pays half rates only for the first two years. Lands included in new rice lands or in old rice kunds which have been repaired pay only half rates for 10 and 5 years respectively.

The sum of Rs. 74,000, which was the total of the fixed assessments of the whole Nali circle, is distributed thus between the villages which finally received a fixed assessment and those which were treated under the fluctuating system :—

Fixed assessment announced	Rs. 40,925
Assessments fixed but not announced in villages which ultimately received a fluctuating assessment	" 33,075

Year.	Assessment of kharif harvest.	Assessment of rabi harvest.	Total assessment of year including fixed assessment.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1882-83	12,666	10,651	23,317
1883-84	7,850	3,997	11,847
1884-85	14,631	15,969	30,600
Average of three years	11,725	10,039	21,764
1885-86	11,400	14,888	26,288
1886-87	12,794	12,084	24,878
1887-88	19,763	16,117	35,880
1888-89	15,943	15,361	31,304
Average of last four years	14,600	14,603	29,203
1889-90	13,347	1,478	14,825
1890-91	6,190	26,434	32,624
Average since settlement	13,179	11,669	24,848

The table in the margin gives details of the working of the fluctuating system from 1882-83 to date. The average annual gross assessment since settlement is thus considerably below the fixed assessment for the same lands made at settlement, and this, although the four years 1885-86 to 1888-89 were much above

the average, so far as the volume and time of the floods were concerned. On the other hand, the system has been worked with a considerable amount of leniency.

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Revenue
Total assessment
of Tahsil Sirsa.

The complete fixed assessment of the Sirsa tahsil as now constituted by assessment circles is as shown in the margin, and in addition to this there is a fluctuating assessment on the flood lands, the estimate for a fixed assessment of which was Rs. 35,075.

Period of settle-
ment.

Working of Est-
tlement.

Circle.	Cultivation in 1884-85 in acres.	Cultivation in 1890-91 in acres.	Increase per cent.
Bagar	136,000	148,000	17
Nali	267,268	420,300	31
Rohi	158,073	217,910	18
Total	561,341	786,210	33

The assessment has been sanctioned for a term of twenty years with effect from Kharif 1880-81.

The assessment in Sirsa is undoubtedly light and has worked well. The tract has progressed greatly since Settlement cultivation has increased as is shown in the margin.

Concurrently with this increase in cultivation there has been a marked rise in rents. Even so far back as 1886-87 in the Bagar, Nali and Rohi circles 6,484, 17,678 and 43,411 acres held by tenants-at-will were paying more than 8 annas per acre rent as against 679, 4,077 and 6,830 acres, the corresponding areas at Settlement. The tract has been opened up

Year.	Acreage recover- able.	Suspen- sions.	Remissions.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1887 (Kharif)	1,125	21,727	1,386*
1888-89	175	...
1889-90	8	...
1890-91
1891-92	300	...
1892-93	4,221	...
Rabi 1888-89 to Rabi 1890-91
1889-90	1,001	...
1890-91	1,963	...

by the construction of a railway and prices have risen. The statement in the margin shows the remissions and suspensions given in the tahsil since settlement.

Total district
assessment.

The complete assessment of the district for the year 1890-91,

Tahsil.	Total assess- ment.	Khasra.
	Rs.	Rs.
Bhawal	1,07,350	1,07,123
Bawal	1,75,000	1,71,997
Bawal	1,35,116	1,34,150
Faridkot	1,91,931	1,91,173
Sirsa (fixed)	1,44,574	1,37,950
Total fixed	7,54,031	7,43,393
Sirsa fluctuating	29,589	27,950
Grand Total	7,83,620	7,71,343

the first year in which the new assessments were paid in the four southern tahsils, is shown in the margin. Of the total fixed land revenue demand of the district 83 per cent. is due in December after the kharif and 17 per cent. in June after the rabi harvest.

Canal revenue
Owner's rate.

There are three canal systems from which irrigation is carried on in this district:—

- (i.) The Western Jumna Canal which runs through Tahsils Hānsi and Hissār and just into Fatehābād ;
- (ii.) The Dabwāli Rājbaḥā of the Kotla Branch of the Sirhind Canal which irrigates a small area near Dabwāli in the Sirsa tahsil ; and
- (iii.) Two rājbaḥās from the Choyn Branch of the Sirhind Canal which irrigates the greater part of the area of the Budhlāda ilāqa.

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Canal revenue.
Owner's rate.

As already stated the revenue due to canal irrigation from lands irrigated by the Western Jumna Canal formed, prior to the recent Settlement, a portion of the land revenue assessment of the lands in question, in fact they were assessed on their irrigated aspect and had been so since the period of Mr. Brown's Settlement.

The portion of the former lump wet assessment, which should be ascribed to canal irrigation otherwise known as water-advantage, has been calculated thus—

	Rs.
Tahsil Hānsi	44,136
„ Hissār	5,008
	<hr/>
Total	49,144

In the recent Settlement the fixed assessment announced was made on the unirrigated aspect of the irrigated lands, and the extra revenue due to canal irrigation is realized by owner's rates (*kāush kaisyatī*). The owner's rates are assessed harvest by harvest by the canal officials. They are crop rates equal in amount to half the occupier's rates which are assessed, and paid in addition to the owner's rates. The charge for canal water is thus divided in two portions:—(1) Occupier's rates which have been paid all along, and which represent the price of water, and (2) a newly imposed owner's rate which represents the increment to the State's share of the half net assets due to canal irrigation. A comparison of the accounts of rent collections in canal villages with those of collections of occupier's rates showed that half the latter rate very approximately represented the increment mentioned above.

The collections of owner's rate for 1890-91, the first year in which the system was in force, stood thus—

	Rs.
Kharif 1890	47,337
Rabi 1891	57,303
	<hr/>
Total	1,04,640

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—
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Revenue.
Canal revenue.
Owner's rate.

as against a previous estimated fixed water-advantage of Rs. 49,144. Thus the first year of the settlement in the four southern tahsils of the district shows an increase of Rs. 2,19,382 in fixed dry land revenue to which has to be added a further increase of Rs. 55,496 in canal revenue in the shape of owner's rates.

In the small canal-irrigated area in Sirsa no owner's rate is paid and as the irrigation has only been introduced since settlement, no fixed water-advantage is paid. Only occupier's rates are paid, and the same is the case on the irrigated area in Budhláda, where no additional assessment was imposed on account of canal irrigation.

Cesses.

The Government cesses levied in the district by a fixed rate on the land revenue demand and collected at the same time as the latter are the local rate, the lambardári cess and the patwári cess. The first is levied at an uniform rate of Rs. 10-6-8 per cent., and the second at one of 5 per cent. of the land revenue demand in all tahsils.

The rate at which the patwári cess is levied varies in different parts of the district. In the lately settled portion of the four southern tahsils it has been consolidated and is now Rs. 5-3-4 per cent. of land revenue. In Budhláda it is Rs. 4-0-11 per cent. and in Sirsa Rs. 6-0-4 per cent.

The total cesses per cent. of land revenue stand thus in different parts:—

	Four Southern Tahsils. Except Budhláda.			Budhláda.			Sirsa.		
	Rs.	s.	p.	Rs.	s.	p.	Rs.	s.	p.
Local rate	10	6	8	10	6	8	10	6	8
Lambardári	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0
Patwári	5	3	4	4	11	0	6	4	0
Total	20	10	0	20	1	8	21	10	8

All these three cesses are levied on canal owner's rate as well as on fixed dry revenue. There are other cesses leviable by custom in villages, but include little beside *kudí kamání* or a hearth tax on non-cultivators and sometimes on certain classes of cultivators.

Government es-
tates.

Table No. VII gives statistics of Government Estates which have been already described in the last section of this Chapter. The only area which has been declared a reserved forest under the Forest Act is a portion of the Hissár Government Bir.

Assignments of
land revenue.
Jágirs.

Table No. XXX gives full detail of all revenue assignments in the district, both *jágirs* and *muágís*. There are only two *jágirs*. The first consists of 14 villages in the Budhláda Jungle tract, and has already been referred to. The *jágirdár* is Bhai

Anokh Singh of the Arnauli family, who resides sometimes at Sidhowal in Karnal district and sometimes in Budhláda. The *jágir* was declared at Settlement to be one of the larger estates referred to in Government of India's orders dated 12th February 1851, laying down rules for the *pattidári* or horsemen's shares. The succession to it is not regulated by the rules therein laid down nor does it depend on the status of 1808-9, but is regulated by the custom of the family, though no doubt the status of 1808-9 would be referred to in deciding between the conflicting claims of several collaterals.

The area of the *jágir* villages is 32,051 acres. Of their revenue Rs. 11,712 is taken by the *jágirdár* and Rs. 38 are *muáf* in favour of various proprietors. Kulána is the only *khalsa* village with a *jama* of Rs. 950. Commutation is paid by the *jágirdár* at the rate of one anna per rupee of revenue, and amounts in all to Rs. 732.

The other *jágir* consists of 7 villages, 154,958 acres in area, situated in the Sirsa Rohi, viz., Dádu, Singhapura, Bámpura, Rewal, Chittah, Pakkah and Dharampur.

The *jágirdár* at present is Sardár Jiwan Singh, Shaáid, son of Sheo Kirpál Singh, a Sikh Jat, residing at Shahaádpur in the Umballa district. The *jágir* was confirmed by Government of India letter No. 1251, dated 8th February 1856. The total revenue of the *jágir* villages is Rs. 3,455. Of this Rs. 6 is *muáf* in favour of a proprietor, Rs. 36 is paid to the *zaildár*, and the balance Rs. 3,413 goes to the *jágirdár*. No *nazrána* is paid, but the *jágir* revenue is collected at the *tahsil* and remitted to the *jágirdár* by the Deputy Commissioner. The villages were held by the Shahaádpur Shaáida when we annexed the country, and they have been allowed to draw the land revenue ever since, but have no jurisdiction over the villages.

The other assignments are of land revenue remitted in favour of the proprietors themselves, and not assigned by Government to a third party. Other assign-
ments.

They include three main classes—

- (i.) *Sukhlambári* grants, the nature of which has already been explained;
- (ii.) Grants for maintenance of institutions of which there are not many in the district; and
- (iii.) Grants for good service rendered in the Mutiny. Several of the latter have lately been renewed.

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Revenue.Assignments of
land revenue.
Jágira.