

## CHAPTER V.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Chapter V.  
Administration  
and Finance.Executive and  
Judicial.

The Ambála district is under the control of the Commissioner of the Ambála division. The ordinary head-quarters staff of the

| <i>Tahsil.</i> | <i>Qanungos<br/>and<br/>Naibs.</i> | <i>Patwaris<br/>and<br/>Assistants.</i> |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Ambála ...     | 2                                  | 68                                      |
| Jagádhri ...   | 2                                  | 81                                      |
| Kharar ...     | 2                                  | 83                                      |
| Ropar ...      | 2                                  | 73                                      |
| Naraingarh ... | 2                                  | 62                                      |
| Pipli ...      | 3                                  | 78                                      |
|                | 13                                 | 445                                     |

district consists of a Deputy Commissioner, a Judicial Assistant, an Assistant Commissioner, one European Extra Assistant Commissioner, and two Native Extra Assistant Commissioners. An Assistant Commissioner is posted in charge of the sub-division of Ropar. Each *tahsil* is in charge of a *Tahsildár* assisted

by a *Náib*. The village revenue staff is shown in the margin. There are four *Munsiffs* in the district, stationed at Ambála, Jagádhri, Ropar and Pipli, and have jurisdiction as follows:—

|                 |              |  |
|-----------------|--------------|--|
| <i>Munsiff,</i> | Ambála ...   | <i>Parganas</i> Ambála, Naráingarh, Kotáha and Mubárikpur. |
| Do.             | Pipli ...    | Whole <i>tahsil</i> Pipli and <i>pargana</i> Mullána.      |
| Do.             | Jagádhri ... | Whole <i>tahsil</i> Jagádhri and <i>pargana</i> Sadhaura.  |
| Do.             | Ropar ...    | Whole <i>tahsil</i> Ropar and <i>pargana</i> Kharar.       |

Criminal, Police  
and Gaols.

The executive staff of the district is supplemented by a Cantonment Magistrate stationed at the Ambála cantonments, situated at a distance of four miles from the civil lines of Ambála. There are also seven Honorary Magistrates in the district exercising magisterial powers within the limits of their *jágers*. The Honorary Magistrates of Shahzádpur and Bhareli exercise powers in some of the Government villages in addition to their *jáger* villages.

The police force is controlled by a District Superintendent

| Class of Police.        | Total strength. | Distribution.    |                           |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------------|
|                         |                 | Standing guards. | Protective and detective. |
| District (Imperial) ... | 734             | 159              | 575                       |
| Cantonment ...          | 144             | ...              | 144                       |
| Municipal ...           | 95              | ...              | 95                        |
| Ferry Police ...        | 11              | ...              | 11                        |
| Total ...               | 984             | 159              | 825                       |

and three Assistants, one of whom is in special charge of the Ropar sub-division. The strength of the force, as given in Table No. I. of the Police Report for 1883, is shown in the margin.

In addition to this force, 2,366 village watchmen are entertained and paid by a cess upon the revenue of the village. The *thanas* or principal police jurisdictions and the *chaukis* or police outposts are distributed as follows:—

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*Tahsil Ambála.*—*Thánas* Ambála City and Mullána.

*Tahsil Kharar.*—*Thánas* Kharar, Chandigarh, Mubárikpur, and outpost of Mani Májra.

*Tahsil Ropar.*—*Thánas* Ropar and Morinda.

*Tahsil Naráingarh.*—*Thánas* Naráingarh, Sadhaura and Garhi, and 2nd class outposts of Morni and Patwi.

*Tahsil Jagádhri.*—*Thánas* Jagádhri, Biláspur, and Chhappar.

*Tahsil Pipli.*—*Thánas* Pipli, Sháhábád, Thánesar, Pihova, Radaur, Sanghaur, and Ládwa; and Biloch guard at Ismáilábád.

There is a cattle-pound at each *thána*, and also at the outpost of Patwi, subordinate to the police station Naráingarh. The Ambála district lies within the Ambála Police Circle under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Ambála.

The district gaol at head-quarters contains accommodation for 797 prisoners. This gaol relieves the smaller gaols in the southern portion of the Province when they are getting overcrowded or from other causes. This is one of the prisons of the Province in which prisoners for transportation to the Andamans collect.

The Biloch tribe is the only registered criminal tribe under

| Tribe.       | Men. | Women. | Children. | Total. |
|--------------|------|--------|-----------|--------|
| Bilochis ... | 400  | ...    | ...       | 400    |

the Criminal Tribes Act in the district, and their number on the register on the 31st December 1883 is

shown in the margin. During the year 45 were convicted of the following offences:—Absence without leave, 36; housebreaking in Montgomery district, 7; under Section 174, Indian Penal Code, 2. They live chiefly about Pihova, &c., Thánesar and Sháhábád. They do not commit much crime in this district, but go to other districts utilizing the railway greatly in their expeditions. The crimes they are chiefly addicted to are burglary, *dakaiti*, and serious non-bailable offences. There are 340 male and 250 female Sásnis in the district; they are not registered, and do not seem very criminally inclined.

The revenue collections of the district for the last 14 years are shown in Table No. XXVIII., while Tables Nos. XXIX., XXXV. and XXXIII. give further details for Land Revenue, Excise, License Tax, and Stamps respectively; Table No. XXXIIIA. shows the number and situation of registration offices.

Revenue, taxation  
and registration.

The central distilleries for the manufacture of country liquor are situated at Ambála, Jagádhri, Kharar, Ropar and Pipli. Poppy cultivation is carried on in the district to a considerable extent.

Table No. XXXVI. gives the income and expenditure for the last five years from district funds, which are controlled by a Committee consisting of 16 members selected by the Deputy Commissioner from among the leading men of the various

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and registration.

*tahsils*, and of the Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners at the *Sadr* station; the *Tahsildars* of the district, Civil Surgeon, District Inspector of Schools, and Executive Engineer are *ex-officio* members, and the Deputy Commissioner is President. Table No. XLV. gives statistics for municipal taxation, while the municipalities themselves are noticed in Chapter VI.

The income from provincial properties for the last five years is shown below. The ferries, bungalows and encamping-grounds have already been noticed at pages 55, 56; and the cattle-pounds at page 59. Figures for other Government estates are given in Table No. XVII.

*Income from Provincial Properties for the last five years.*

| Source of income.               | 1877-78. | 1878-79. | 1879-80. | 1880-81. | 1881-82. |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                 | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      | Rs.      |
| Ferries with boat bridges ...   | 1,590    | 1,660    | 861      | 1,100    | 1,105    |
| Ferries without boat bridges... | 5,651    | 5,913    | 5,020    | 5,342    | 5,494    |
| Staging bungalows, &c. ...      | 956      | 1,035    | 990      | 1,118    | 1,001    |
| Encamping-grounds, &c. ...      | 1,802    | 2,187    | 2,062    | 1,853    | 1,940    |
| Cattle-pounds ...               | 4,088    | 2,932    | 3,214    | 3,335    | 3,287    |
| <i>Nazul</i> properties ...     | 241      | 162      | 180      | 247      | 221      |
| Total ...                       | 14,328   | 13,889   | 12,336   | 12,995   | 13,048   |

Settlements of  
land revenue.

In the days of the empire, the Ambála district formed part of the "*súba*" of Sarhind. The revenue was then regularly assessed, but the statistics of the settlement are not procurable. Part were lost in the period of anarchy that preceded the consolidation of the Sikh power, and the rest were made away with by the jealousy of the Patialá chief, who did not wish them to fall into the hands of the British Government. Among the Sikhs there was no such thing as an assessment. The almost universal system was to collect the revenue in kind from the person actually in possession. Two-fifths of the gross produce was the ordinary proportion which they took in the Cis-Sutlej States. But where the soil was very poor, or in special cases, where, for instance, the occupants were Sikhs, this rate was lowered to one-third or even one-fourth. In Jálándhar the proportion was as high as one-half, but it did not in any case exceed two-fifths in the Ambála district.

Summary settlements of the land revenue were effected at various times for such parts of the district as lapsed prior to 1846; in the next year, 1847, the preliminary operations of a regular settlement were set on foot, under Mr. Wynyard, in the southern *tahsils* of the district as then constituted. At first the proceedings of the Settlement Officer were much embarrassed by the doubtful nature of his instructions as to the assessment of the large tracts still in the hands of Sikh



chiefs, but this difficulty was removed by the further changes introduced in 1849. In 1853 the regular settlement operations were extended, under Mr. Melvill, to the northern *tahsils*, and the settlement of the whole district, as then constituted, was completed and sanctioned in 1855.

In the Thánesar district, Summary Settlements were effected in each portion, as it came under British rule. The first regular settlements were made separately, in two divisions, at distinct periods, and by different officers. The western, or Kaithal, portion (now in the Karnál district) was, for a short time after 1846, treated as a separate district, and was first brought under regular settlement in 1846 by Captain Abbott, whose proceedings began and ended within the year. This assessment, however, was never reported for sanction, doubts existing from the first as to its fairness. The portion of the district comprising the estates of Thánesar and Ládwa was first assessed by Mr. Wynyard. Here too doubts were soon raised as to the equity of the assessment, and in 1853 (Kaithal being by this time incorporated into the Thánesar district), a revision of assessment in the whole Thánesar district was entrusted to Captain Larkins, then Deputy Commissioner. His assessment was completed and reported upon in 1856. It soon appeared, however, that though Captain Larkins had granted considerable remissions, the assessment was still in parts too high, and further reductions were directed to be granted. This operation was carried out by Captain Busk, who reported the results in 1859. The assessment, however, was still too high, and the greatest difficulty was experienced in its realization. Accordingly, at the suggestion of Mr. Roberts, then Financial Commissioner, who pronounced the condition of the district to be a blot upon British administration, it was determined to effect another revision. This revision was reported by Captain Elphinstone in 1860; but was again pronounced unsatisfactory, and a further revision ordered. This was effected by Captain Davies, who reported its completion in 1862. The settlement was then finally sanctioned. (The sanction accorded to the separate settlements of the several portions of the district were so arranged that their periods should expire together at the end of March 1880. The whole district is now under revision of settlement.)

Table No. XXIX. gives figures for the principal items and

| Source of revenue.                        | 1880-81.   | 1881-82.   |
|---|------------|------------|
| Surplus warrant <i>tahabani</i> ... ..    | Rs.<br>540 | Rs.<br>500 |
| Fisheries ... ..                          | 78         | 70         |
| Gold washings ... ..                      | 141        | 143        |
| Water mills ... ..                        | 84         | 425        |
| Revenue fines and forfeitures ... ..      | 38         | 56         |
| Other items of miscellaneous land revenue | 108        | 128        |

the totals of land revenue collections since 1886-69.

The remaining items for 1880-81 and 1881-82 are shown in the

margin. Table No. XXXI. gives details of balances, remissions and agricultural advances for the last fourteen years; Table No. XXX. shows the amount of assigned land revenue; while Table No. XIV. gives the areas upon which the present land revenue

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Settlements of land revenue.

Statistics of land revenue.

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forests, &c.****Assignments of  
land revenue.****Education.****Government  
Wards' Institute,  
Ambála city.**

of the district is assessed. The incidence of the fixed demand per acre, at it stood in 1878-79, was Rs. 1-6-4 on cultivated, Re. 1-0-10 on culturable, and Re. 0-12-11 on total area. The statistics given in the following tables throw some light upon the working of the Settlement:—Table No. XXXI.—Balances, remissions and *tukávi* advances. Table No. XXXII.—Sales and mortgages of land. Tables Nos. XXXIII. and XXXIIIA.—Registration. The instalments of revenue and the cesses are noticed below at page 65.

Gains or losses by alluvion and diluvion of less than 10 per cent. of the village area have hitherto been disregarded as affecting the assessment. It is proposed in future to take up all such cases individually where the people have recorded their agreement.

Table No. XVII. shows the area and income of Government estates; while Table No. XIX. shows the area of land acquired by Government for public purposes. The forests have already been noticed in Chapter IV. (page 50).

Table No. XXX. shows the number of villages, parts of villages, and plots, and the area of land of which the revenue is assigned, the amount of that revenue, the period of assignment, and the number of assignees for each *tahsil* as the figures stood in 1881-82. The principal assignees have already been noticed in Chapter III. (page 40).

Table No. XXXVII. gives figures for the Government and aided, high, middle and primary schools of the district. (There is a Government district school at Ambála and another at Jagádhri. There are 11 middle schools situated at Mullána, Thánesar, Sháhábád, Ládwa, Búria, Biláspur, Kharar, Mani Májra, Sadhaura, Naráingarh and Morinda; one aided school at Ropar, a girls' school at Kharar, and another at Chunni. In addition to these there are 64 primary schools. There is also at Ambála the Government Wards' school, which is separately described below.) The district lies within the Ambála circle, which forms the charge of the Inspector of Schools at Ambála. Table No. XIII. gives statistics of education collected at the census of 1881, and the general state of education has already been described at pages 34—37.

(The Wards' school was first started by Major Tighe, Deputy Commissioner of Ambála (1866), as a local one, and was intended chiefly for the sons of *Sardárs* of the Ambála district; but it is now open to the sons of the native gentlemen of good social position from all provinces. The education given comprises instruction in English, Persian, Urdu, History, Geography, Mathematics, and such other branches of learning as may be required. Particular attention is also paid to games and out-door exercises of every description. The pupils all live in the school compound, and each maintains a separate establishment. The Superintendent, who is an English gentleman, has control over each pupil's household, personal expenses, and education; competent masters assist him in the school room. The management of the school is in the hands of the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner



of Ambála. A yearly examination is held by the Inspector of Schools, Ambála Circle, whose report is submitted to Government. The fees paid by the pupils vary according to circumstances; but the rate for wards and minors of the Ambála district is 12 per cent. on their incomes. The regular vacations are—a month in the hot weather and a fortnight at Christmas. The more important native holidays are also allowed. The school, as far as mere numbers go, has not been well supported by the class it is intended to benefit, the principal reason being its expensive character, and the great dislike evinced by parents to send their children any long distance from home. It is in contemplation to place the school on an entirely different footing, and to conduct it more on the plan which has been found to work successfully in the Ajmer and Kathiawár colleges.)

Table No. XXXVIII. gives separate figures for the last five years for each of the dispensaries of the district, of which there are five, as follows:—

1. Ambála city ... Civil Hospital in medical charge of an Assistant Surgeon.
2. Ropar dispensary ... Ditto.
3. Jagádhri dispensary ... Ditto.
4. Thanesar dispensary ... In medical charge of a Hospital Assistant.
5. Sadhaura dispensary ... Ditto.

All are under the control of the Civil Surgeon. There is also a Leper Asylum at the head-quarters of the district under the superintendence of the American Missionary stationed here. The average number of yearly in-patients is 33; there are no out-patients. (It is separately described below. There is a Lock-Hospital in the Ambála cantonments under the control of the Staff Surgeon. It is of the 1st class, and was opened in 1866.

The Leper asylum was founded in 1856; the money for the buildings and for the support of the inmates being contributed mostly by officers in cantonments. It is situated north-east of the city and north of the Grand Trunk Road. The objects of the institution are to provide comfortable homes for lepers who have no other means of support than begging, and to prevent lepers from begging by the roadside and in the *bázárs*. It is not expected that their disease of leprosy will be entirely cured, but they are made more comfortable while they live by having good medical treatment for such diseases as can be cured, as fever, dysentery, &c., and by having good nourishing food regularly supplied, and suitable clothing. About 40 patients can be accommodated. The asylum is under the care of the American Missionary at Ambála. Medicines are supplied gratis by the City Charitable Dispensary, and the Civil Surgeon gives every assistance in his power. The figures in the marginal statement show the expenditure and number of patients for the past five years.)

| Year.    | Expenditure. | Patients. |
|----------|--------------|-----------|
|          | Rs.          |           |
| 1878 ... | 1,187        | 24        |
| 1879 ... | 1,735        | 33        |
| 1880 ... | 1,944        | 35        |
| 1881 ... | 1,541        | 34        |
| 1882 ... | 1,487        | 34        |

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### Administration and Finance.

Government  
Wards' Institute,  
Ambála city.

Medical.

Ambála Leper  
Asylum.

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## Ecclesiastical.

Troops and  
cantonments.

There is a large church in the Ambála cantonment capable of seating more than 1,000 persons, which is reputed the finest in the Panjáb. In the Sadr Bázár there is a small church, frequented principally by Eurasians, and a church and school belonging to the American Presbyterian Mission. There is also a small church in the civil station belonging to the same Mission. In addition to the above, there are in the cantonment a Roman Catholic and a Presbyterian Chapel. There is a resident Chaplain at Ambála, and also a Deacon; and there is a resident Roman Catholic Priest and a Presbyterian Minister.

The ordinary garrison of Ambála consists of two Batteries R.H.A., one British Cavalry Regiment, one Battalion of a British Infantry Regiment, one Native Cavalry and one Native Infantry Regiment. The strength of the garrison as it stood in 1883

is shown in the margin.

| Station.   | Officers. | Non-Com-<br>missioned<br>Officers<br>and Men. |
|--|-----------|---|
| 2 Batteries R. H. A. ..  | 10        | 314   |
| 1 British Cavalry Regiment   | 24        | 465   |
| 1 " Infantry ..  | 20        | 886   |
| 1 Native Cavalry ..  | 9         | 550   |
| 1 " Infantry ..  | 9         | 632   |
| Staff of Division and of<br>station, A. M. Depart-<br>ment, Commissariat, P. W.<br>Department, &c., &c. .... | 25        | ...   |
| Total ... ..   | 108       | 3,037   |

In the hot season, however, it is customary to send up half the British Infantry Battalion to Solon, both on account of its better climate and lower temperature, and because the Infantry barracks at Ambála are not constructed for a complete regiment. For

about four months in the cold season the troops from the hill stations in the Division, two complete Battalions, and a Mountain Battery, in addition to the half Battalion from Solon, are usually brought down and encamped at Ambála for manœuvres. The Native Infantry Regiment quartered at Ambála is always one of the two Pioneer Regiments of the Bengal Army. Ambála cantonment is the head-quarter station of the Sarhind Division.

(Ambála is also the head-quarters of a Transport Dépôt. The dépôt transport consists of 20 Government elephants, 100 hired camels, and 250 Government mules. Besides these, the British Infantry Battalion and the Native Cavalry Regiment stationed in Ambála are each provided with half transport; these two regiments having between them 102 hired camels, 108 Government mules, and 13 light carts, each of which is drawn by one mule.) For the rest any additional transport that might be required at any time for military purposes would have to be obtained through the interposition of the civil authorities. The Ambála cantonment is quite open on all sides, and is not provided with any fort or other means of defence. The water-supply is brought in by an aqueduct from some wells about seven miles north-east of cantonments.

(The Sindh, Panjáb and Dehli Railway runs through the district, and a branch line from Ropar to Nálágarh under the charge of the District Traffic Manager at Ambála cantonments. The head office of this railway is at Lahore.) The portion of the

Head-quarters  
of other  
departments.

Western Jamná Canal running within the district is under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Karnál Division, stationed at Dádúpur (Ambála *viâ* Jagádhri). The Superintending Engineer of the Canal has his head-quarters at Delhi. The Grand Trunk Road within the district is under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, at Ambála cantonments, who has charge of all public civil buildings in the district, and is subordinate to the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, Panjáb, stationed at Jálándhar. The military buildings and cantonment water-supply works are under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Military Works, at Ambála, subordinate to the Superintending Engineer, Military Works, at Lahore. The Telegraph lines or offices of the district are controlled by the Assistant Superintendent, Telegraphs, at Ambála, and the Post Offices by the Superintendent of Mails at Kálka.

The following table gives details of the instalments of land revenue and of the cesses; with the date and amount of each. The cess rates are uniform throughout the district:—

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Head-quarters  
of other  
departments.

| Tahsil.           | LAND REVENUE.   |            |                 |               |          |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|
|                   | 1st Instalment. |            | 2nd Instalment. |               | Total.   |
|                   | 15th June.      | 15th July. | 1st December.   | 1st February. |          |
| Ambala ... ..     | 35,286          | 30,079     | 39,338          | 33,908        | 1,38,611 |
| Jagadhri ... ..   | 27,372          | 23,591     | 33,652          | 29,144        | 1,11,759 |
| Ropar ... ..      | 26,738          | 23,649     | 44,146          | 37,424        | 1,31,957 |
| Kharar ... ..     | 27,453          | 23,637     | 40,897          | 33,609        | 1,25,596 |
| Naraingarh ... .. | 31,632          | 17,780     | 31,365          | 26,035        | 96,812   |
| Pipli ... ..      | 46,791          | 44,470     | 48,791          | 44,470        | 1,84,522 |
| Total ... ..      | 1,87,297        | 1,80,406   | 2,38,189        | 2,03,610      | 7,89,502 |

  

| Tahsil.           | ROAD CESS AT RE. 1 PER CENT. |                 |        | EDUCATION CESS AT RE. 1 PER CENT. |                 |        | LOCAL RATES CESS AT 8 PIES PER RUPEE. |                 |          |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                   | 1st Instalment.              | 2nd Instalment. | Total. | 1st Instalment.                   | 2nd Instalment. | Total. | 1st Instalment.                       | 2nd Instalment. | Total.   |
|                   | 15th June.                   | 1st December.   |        | 15th June.                        | 1st December.   |        | 15th June.                            | 1st December.   |          |
| Ambala ... ..     | 1,038                        | 1,129           | 2,167  | 1,038                             | 1,129           | 2,167  | 8,596                                 | 9,408           | 18,004   |
| Jagadhri ... ..   | 952                          | 1,142           | 2,094  | 952                               | 1,142           | 2,094  | 7,833                                 | 9,434           | 17,267   |
| Ropar ... ..      | 791                          | 1,186           | 1,977  | 791                               | 1,186           | 1,977  | 6,182                                 | 10,171          | 16,353   |
| Kharar ... ..     | 906                          | 1,328           | 2,234  | 906                               | 1,328           | 2,234  | 7,456                                 | 11,299          | 18,755   |
| Naraingarh ... .. | 696                          | 940             | 1,636  | 696                               | 940             | 1,636  | 5,630                                 | 7,913           | 13,543   |
| Pipli ... ..      | 1,317                        | 1,317           | 2,634  | 1,317                             | 1,317           | 2,634  | 10,908                                | 10,908          | 21,816   |
| Total ... ..      | 5,694                        | 7,043           | 12,737 | 5,694                             | 7,043           | 12,737 | 46,596                                | 59,133          | 1,05,729 |