

appointment for life, and providing that the first one or two vacancies should not be filled up.

During the settlement of 1909, the arrangements were far from satisfactory, particularly in the Thanesar tahsil and the northern portion of the Kaithal tahsil where it was not uncommon to find 3 or 4 headmen in a village, the total revenue of which was less than Rs. 300. Efforts were, however, made for reducing the number of Lambardars where the amount of *pachotra* was not sufficient to induce them to carry out their duties. In other villages where owing to the extension of canal irrigation the *pachotra* of a Lambardar became generally sufficient for the justification of that number of headmen, the number was allowed to remain as such.

The *zaildari* system was introduced by Ibbetson at the settlement of the Panipat tahsil and Karnal paigana in 1872-1880. Shortly afterwards the system was extended to the rest of the district. No Zaildar was appointed in the Thanesar tahsil though the Inamdars who took their place practically corresponded to Zaildars in every thing but their remuneration. In 1904, there were 16 Zaildars in the Karnal tahsil, 7 in the Panipat tahsil and 15 in the Kaithal tahsil, and 14 Inamdars in the Thanesar tahsil. Their remuneration was very uneven. The Panipat Zaildars in some cases received as much as Rs. 700 per annum, while the Thanesar Inamdars had to be content with only Rs. 60. During the settlement of 1909, Zaildars were appointed throughout the district and were divided into three categories each receiving Rs. 300, Rs. 250 and Rs. 200 annually. The boundaries of *zails*, though primarily based on tribal distinctions, were slightly altered in order to make them correspond as far as possible with the boundaries of *thanas*.

Ibbetson during the settlement of 1879 appointed Ala Lambardars in the Panipat tahsil and Karnal pargana, but, barring a few exceptions, Ala Lambardars did not show themselves deserving of the remuneration of 1 per cent of the land revenue, which they deducted from the revenue of their village. The system was, therefore, abolished in 1909. In the Kaithal tahsil, Thanesar tahsil and Indri Pargana, *sufedposhi inams* along with the *zaildari* system, were created in the settlement of 1891. In 1909 these *inams* were allowed to continue.

Till 1948, Zaildars and Sufedposhes continued to supervise and assist in the collection of land revenue. They were paid from a portion, usually 1 per cent of the land revenue, set aside for the purpose. The institutions of *zaildari* and *sufedposhi* were abolished in 1948, revived in 1950 and finally abolished in 1952.

Now only Lambardars are responsible for the revenue collection on payment of *pachotra*, a cess charged at the rate of 5 per cent of the land revenue. In case the Lambardar is unable to collect the land revenue, he makes a written petition to the Tahsildar who helps him in effecting recovery. The total number of Lambardars in the district on the 31st March, 1970 was 3,380.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND RECORDS

The unit of revenue administration is an estate which is usually identical with the village. Each of them is separately assessed to land revenue and has a separate record-of-rights and register of fiscal and agricultural statistics. All its proprietors are by law jointly responsible for the payment of land revenue, and in their dealings with Government they are represented by one or more Lambardars. Estates are grouped into patwar circles each of which is under the charge of a Patwari. About 20 of these circles form a charge of a Kanungo whose duty is to supervise the work of Patwaris. A tahsil, as a rule, contains from two to four hundred of the revenue estates.

The district has been sub-divided into tahsils, *kanungo* circles and *patwar* circles as follows :—

Tahsils	Kanungo circles	Patwar circles	Revenue estates
Karnal	Tirawari (Taraori)	20	91
	Indri	20	106
	Karnal	22	98
	Gharaunda	20	68
	Jundla	19	61
Panipat	Panipat	24	87
	Samalkha	23	56
	Naultha	23	42
Thanesar	Radaur	19	94
	Babain	19	124
	Thanesar	19	130
	Shahabad (Shahbad)	20	81
Kaithal	Kaithal	20	73
	Pundri	21	79
	Rajaund	21	68
Gula (Guhla)	Gula (Guhla)	13	82
	Pehowa	16	89

The following staff in the tahsils attends to the revenue work :—

Tahsil	Number of Tahsil- dars	Number of Naib Tahsil- dars	Number of Office Kanun- gos	Number of Assis- tant Office Kanun- gos	Number of Kanun- gos	Number of Pat- waris	Num- ber of Assis- tant Pat- waris
Karnal	1	5	1	1	5	101	1
Panipat	1	3	1	—	3	70	1
Thanesar	1	3	1	—	4	77	1
Kaithal	1	3	1	—	3	62	1
Gula (Guhla)	1	2	1	—	2	29	—
Total (for the district) :	5	16	5	1	17	339	4

For the purpose of revenue administration, the district is under the charge of a Collector (Deputy Commissioner). He is a steward of the State and is bound to respect and preserve from encroachment every private right in the soil which has been created or confirmed by the State. Where the revenue has been fixed for a term only, he is not only to collect it but also to look forward to a time when it will be revised and hence he is to record, in a systematic manner, statistical information which will facilitate its equitable re-assessment. He must ensure and assist in the measures to prevent the damage to crops from causes which are in any degree controllable by man. He must encourage and assist in every effort made by a right-holder for the development of his estate. As a measure of decentralising the revenue work, the powers of Collector have been delegated to the Sub-Divisional Officers for their respective tahsils.

The Tahsildar is an important functionary and is in charge of the tahsil for revenue work including revenue judicial work. He has to control the *patwar* and *kanungo* agency, to collect revenue punctually, to point out promptly to the Collector any failure of crops or seasonal calamity which renders suspension or remission necessary and to carry out within his own sphere other duties connected with land revenue administration. He is

a touring officer and his tours afford him ample opportunities to deal, on the spot, with partition cases and other matters connected with appointment of Lambardars, lapses of land revenue assignments, etc.

The Patwari is an inheritance from the village system of old days.¹ He is appointed for a circle consisting of one or more villages. Besides the proper maintenance of records, the Patwari is required to report to the Tahsildar any calamity affecting land, crops, cattle or the agricultural classes, and to bring to his notice alluvial and diluvial action of rivers, encroachments on Government lands, the death of revenue assignees and pensioners, progress of works made under the agricultural loans and similar laws, and the emigration or immigration of cultivators. He undertakes surveys and field inspections, aids in other Government activities like distribution of relief, etc., prepares the *bachh* (distribution of revenue over holdings) papers showing the demand due from each land-owner to the village *jama* (land revenue demand). When revenue collections are in progress, he must furnish all information that may be required to facilitate the collections. He himself is not permitted to take any part in the collection of the revenue except when any Lambardar refuses to accept the *dhal bachh* (total demand from each land-owner) and no immediate alternative arrangement can be made.

The Patwari is under the immediate supervision of a circle supervisor known as Kanungo who has been functioning since medieval times. The Kanungo is responsible for the conduct and work of Patwaris. He constantly moves about his circle, supervising the work of Patwaris, except in the month of September when he stays at tahsil headquarters to check *jamabandis* received from Patwaris.

The Office Kanungo is the Tahsildar's revenue clerk. His chief work is the maintenance of the statistical revenue records. He has also the charge of the forms and stationery required by Patwaris, keeps the account of mutation fee, records the rainfall and maintains the register of assignees of land revenue and other miscellaneous revenue registers. He is the custodian of all the records received from the Patwaris and a well ordered Kanungo's office is an important factor in the revenue management of a tahsil.

1. Under section 3 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, he was 'Village Officer' and was paid from the village officers' cess, but in 1906 (*vide* Punjab Government, Department of Revenue and Agriculture/Revenue notification Nos. 268 and 269, dated November 22, 1906) the liability of the land-owners for the payment to Patwari was abolished.

At district headquarters, there is a District or Sadar Kanungo assisted by a Naib Sadar Kanungo. The Sadar Kanungo is responsible for the efficiency of Kanungos and should be in camp inspecting their work for at least 15 days in every month from October to April. He is the keeper of all records received from Kanungos and Patwaris. He maintains with the help of his assistant, copies of the prescribed statistical registers for each assessment circle, tahsil and the whole district. The responsibility of Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildars for the inspection and correctness of the work of Kanungos and Patwaris is, however, not affected by the duties of the Sadar Kanungo.

LAND REVENUE AND SPECIAL CESSES

Land Revenue.—The details of income from land revenue and remissions during 1961 to 1969 given in Table XXXIV of Appendix indicate that during the years of floods and drought land revenue was remitted to provide relief to the farmers.

Special Cesses.—The following cesses are imposed on the land-owners:—

Village Officers' Cess.—This cess used to include Patwari cess also. In the earlier settlements a normal rate for the Patwari cess was considered to be 6 pies per rupee of land revenue, equivalent to a surcharge of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, an additional $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent being taken on account of Patwaris' stationery. Later on it was found impossible to meet the expenditure with so light a cess, and the rate was increased, $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent being commonly taken. The Patwari cess was remitted in 1906 and the village officers' cess was reduced to 5 per cent on the land revenue; 1 per cent additional was charged for the chief headman, if there was one. At present only *pachotra*, 5 per cent of land revenue, is charged as the village officers' cess.

Local Rate.—It has grown from small beginnings. It was usual in early settlements to levy a road cess at 1 per cent of the land revenue. Subsequently, an education cess amounting to 1 per cent and a dak cess amounting to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent respectively were added. But by the Punjab Local Rates (XX) Act of 1871, a local rate amounting to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on land revenue was imposed. This local rate was raised by the Punjab Local Rates (V) Act, 1878 from $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for providing relief to the famine stricken people. With the passing of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, the road, education and postal cesses were merged into the local rate, and the legal limit of the rate was

raised to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the land revenue and owners' rate. The rate was reduced to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on April 2, 1906,¹ as a result of the abolition of the famine cess.

In 1919, the local rate was raised to $10\frac{5}{12}$ per cent of the land revenue. This was further increased to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in January 1945, $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in June 1945, and $31\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in 1950. In 1954, on the recommendations of the District Board, Karnal, the Punjab Government raised the local rate to 50 per cent of the land revenue and owners' rate.² The following table shows the amount of local rate collections during 1953 to 1970 :—

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Local rate collections (Rs.)
1953	4,37,276
1954	5,18,272
1955	6,60,329
1956	6,92,953
1957	7,26,460
1958	7,08,981
1959	7,85,247
1960	6,31,300
1961	6,09,292
1962	7,83,422
1963	7,27,605
1964	6,57,048
1965	8,14,469
1966	10,59,598
1967	7,64,833
1968	9,89,248
1969	9,19,335
1970	9,12,812

1. *Vide* Notification No. 87, dated April 2, 1906.

2. *Vide* Punjab Local Government Department Notification No. 3605-LB-54/18638, dated August 16, 1954.

Surcharge on Land Revenue¹.—The assessment of land revenue in the settlement of 1909 was made chiefly on the basis of prices of the produce then prevailing. The increase in prices of various crops had increased the net assets of land and an increase in the assessment of land revenue fell due. But it was not possible for the Government to conduct regular settlements owing to administrative difficulties, and as Government needed more revenue immediately to meet the ever increasing expenditure on development, it was decided that a surcharge should be imposed on the existing land revenue.

Accordingly, the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, was enacted for the levy of a surcharge, from the *rabi* harvest of the agricultural year 1953-54. Under the Act, every land-owner who pays land revenue in excess of ten rupees, is liable to pay a surcharge thereon to the extent of one quarter of land revenue if the amount payable by him as land revenue does not exceed thirty rupees, and two-fifths of the land revenue if it exceeds thirty rupees. It is also provided in the Act that this surcharge shall continue to be levied so long as the assessment of land revenue prevailing at the commencement of the Act continues to be in force. The income from the surcharge in the district during 1954 to 1969 is given below :

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Collection of Surcharge		Total
	on account of previous year	on account of current year	
1	2	3	4
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1954	—	17,870	17,870
1955	—	4,30,577	4,30,577
1956	10,725	2,28,617	2,39,342
1957	4,351	2,44,667	2,49,018
1958	21,204	2,52,997	2,74,201
1959	31,132	2,03,186	2,34,318
1960	25,376	2,42,776	2,68,152
1961	21,320	1,98,230	2,19,550
1962	19,508	2,05,402	2,24,910
1963	23,294	2,06,389	2,29,683

1. Also see foot note on p. 300.

1	2	3	4
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1964	9,592	1,99,119	2,08,711
1965	8,894	2,07,753	2,16,647
1966	5,173	2,12,059	2,17,232
1967	7,415	2,07,337	2,14,752
1968	13,984	2,19,879	2,33,863
1969	5,760	2,19,048	2,24,808

Special charge on land revenue¹.—As the surcharge levied from 1955 proved to be inadequate to meet heavy financial obligations created by various development schemes, it became necessary to augment the State revenues in every possible manner and hence a special charge was levied under the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charge) Act, 1958, from *rabi* harvest of agricultural year 1957-58. The rate of special charge is based on income tax pattern with different slabs for different categories of land-owners. The slab rates are such that the incidence of special charge falls on those who can afford to pay it. While the land-holders paying revenue (land revenue plus surcharge) up to Rs. 50 have been exempted from the provisions of the Act, those paying more than Rs. 1,000 have been subjected to 300 per cent increase in land revenue. The special charge is to be a permanent feature of the taxation policy of the State Government. The income under the Act in respect of the Karnal district has been as follows :—

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Collection of Special Charge		Total
	on account of previous year	on account of current year	
1	2	3	4
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1959	—	1,00,846	1,00,846
1960	25,909	71,791	97,700
1961	16,150	58,296	74,446

1. Also see foot note on p. 300.

1	2	3	4
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1962	17,031	49,249	66,280
1963	11,890	57,736	69,626
1964	14,092	55,206	69,298
1965	13,935	56,066	70,001
1966	3,881	56,182	60,063
1967	7,432	52,443	59,875
1968	7,037	53,419	60,456
1969	2,217	52,357	54,574

Commercial crops cess.¹—A cess on commercial crops namely cotton, sugarcane and chillies at the rate of Rs. 4 per acre in the case of land which is irrigated by canal water and Rs. 2 per acre in case of other land, has been levied from *kharif* 1963 under the Punjab Commercial Crops Cess Act, 1963. Areas under commercial crops, sown solely for domestic use up to one *kanal* in the case of chillies and 2 *kanals* in the case of sugarcane or cotton are exempted from this levy. The income from this cess from the date of its inception was as follows :—

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Amount
	(Rs.)
1964	3,39,471
1965	3,53,494
1966	4,79,825
1967	3,94,352
1968	4,01,310
1969	3,71,866

1. Also see foot note on p. 300.

1	2	3	4
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1962	17,031	49,249	66,280
1963	11,890	57,736	69,626
1964	14,092	55,206	69,298
1965	13,935	56,066	70,001
1966	3,881	56,182	60,063
1967	7,432	52,443	59,875
1968	7,037	53,419	60,456
1969	2,217	52,357	54,574

Commercial crops cess.¹—A cess on commercial crops namely cotton, sugarcane and chillies at the rate of Rs. 4 per acre in the case of land which is irrigated by canal water and Rs. 2 per acre in case of other land, has been levied from *kharif* 1963 under the Punjab Commercial Crops Cess Act, 1963. Areas under commercial crops, sown solely for domestic use up to one *kanal* in the case of chillies and 2 *kanals* in the case of sugarcane or cotton are exempted from this levy. The income from this cess from the date of its inception was as follows :—

Year ending <i>Rabi</i>	Amount
	(Rs.)
1964	3,39,471
1965	3,53,494
1966	4,79,825
1967	3,94,352
1968	4,01,310
1969	3,71,866

1. Also see foot note on p. 300.

Additional surcharge.¹—An additional surcharge on the land revenue at the rate of 50 per cent was levied for the development of Kurukshetra University/ town. Initially this had been levied for one year that is for *kharif* 1967 and *rabi* 1968 but it was extended for *kharif* and *rabi* harvests for the agricultural year 1968-69. The income from this during 1967 to 1969 was as follows :—

<u>Year ending <i>Rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1967	..
1968	6,53,825
1969	6,52,502

Water rates.—Water rates are levied on the area irrigated during each crop under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873. The rates were revised a number of times and the last revision was effected from *rabi* 1948. The rates were slightly reduced on wheat and gram crops in 1953-54. The income from this during 1963 to 1969 was as follows :—

<u>Year ending <i>Rabi</i></u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1963	49,90,940
1964	41,29,900
1965	46,16,795
1966	43,45,661
1967	63,30,185
1968	71,02,072
1969	80,15,986

1. It was felt by the State Government that the collection of levies under various Acts was cumbersome not only for the revenue agency but also for the cultivators. To overcome this difficulty, the State Government passed the Haryana Land-Holdings Tax Act, 1973 (Act No. 18 of 1973), which came into force on June 16, 1973. This Act consolidated various levies into a single tax known as 'Land-Holdings Tax'. The levies consolidated are : (i) Surcharge, under the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954; (ii) Special Charge, under the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charge) Act, 1958; (iii) Cess on Commercial Crops, under the Punjab Commercial Crops Cess Act, 1963; and (iv) Additional Surcharge, under the Haryana Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Act, 1969 (Haryana Act No. 9 of 1969). However, the Land-Holdings Tax shall not be levied and charged on land which is liable to special assessment under Section 59 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, or the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1955. Further, during the period the above tax is levied and charged, the land shall not be liable to payment of land revenue by way of general assessment under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, or the payment of local rate under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961. The Act brings out a concept of the holding on the basis of a family rather than the individual holding as a unit for the purposes of imposition of tax and provides for graded taxation on the basis of size of the holding.

Betterment charges.—Betterment charges are levied under the Punjab Betterment Charges and Acreage Rates Act, 1952. This is levied on the areas served by irrigation projects covered under the Act. The levy is to cover the cost of unproductive portion of these irrigation projects. The income from this levy during 1963 to 1969 was as follows :—

<u>Year ending Rabi</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1963	11,07,523
1964	15,00,845
1965	17,81,730
1966	16,69,110
1967	23,05,118
1968	23,29,437
1969	20,32,032

LAND REFORMS

Prior to the British occupation, the nature of the peasants' tenure cannot be described accurately in precise legal terms. The tenancy system was the outcome of insecure days when life was disturbed and armies traversed through a tract of 'no-man's land' from one corner to another. This happened during the decay of the Mughal empire and early British rule when there was a struggle for power among various chieftains and tribal chiefs. As a result of insecure conditions of life and one or the other of the numerous famines, the area was desolated and people fled leaving behind deserted villages and fields. To encourage habitation the British leased out patches of waste land and deserted villages to influential and powerful persons of other villages who further sub-let these waste lands to landless people. Thus came into existence the two classes — the landlords and the tenants. The tenants worked under the fear of insecurity and ejection by the landlords. The landlords mainly consisted of the Nawabs, Bhais or the Sikhs and, in some cases, the Rajputs. The Nawabs of Mandal family had their sway in *khadar* tracts of the Karnal and Panipat tahsils with their residence in Karnal, Panipat and Kunjpura. The Bhais or the Sikhs were mainly concentrated in Thanesar and the northern portion of Indri pargana. The Rajputs were

predominant in the *Nardak* tracts of the district. The landlords were neither considerate nor did they grant any concession in a season of scarcity. On the contrary the sole aim was to squeeze as much out of the estate as possible. Poverty ruled over the life and work of the cultivators.

Taking into consideration the deteriorating state of agriculture and the cultivator, the Punjab Tenancy Act of 1887 was enacted which provided for the right of occupancy, but the right was restricted to a small number of tenants. Under the provisions of the Act, a tenant to qualify for the right of occupancy must have held at revenue rates for 30 years, or be the third generation of a family which had held at revenue rates for 20 years or be an ex-proprietor or heir of an ex-proprietor with proprietary and tenant-at-revenue rates status of 20 years' standing. Evidently, only a few could qualify. The other tenants who had no right of occupancy and did not hold for a fixed term could be ejected at the end of any agricultural year. This position continued throughout the British regime. Thus the security of tenure assured to a tenant before Independence was nominal. As shown below, in 1946-47, 31 per cent of the net sown area in the district was held by persons who had no occupancy rights and were always at the mercy of the landlords:

Percentage of the net
sown area held

Peasant proprietors	66
Occupancy tenants	3
Tenants-at-will	31

After Independence, the Government felt immediately concerned to introduce suitable land reforms. The State initiated a policy to extend security of tenures to tenants and coincide ownership with the actual cultivation. To eliminate intermediaries and provide adequate security against eviction and enhancement of rents the Government enacted the following laws :—

- (1) The East Punjab Utilisation of Lands Act, 1949
- (2) The Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952
- (3) The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952
- (4) The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953

(5) The Punjab Bhudan Yagna Act, 1955

Under the East Punjab Utilisation of Lands Act, 1949, the Government enforced the utilisation of every inch of available culturable land for growing more food and other essential crops. Under this Act a notice to take over the land, is served on every land-owner who allows his land to remain uncultivated for 6 or more consecutive harvests and the land thus taken over is leased out to others for a term ranging from 7 to 20 years, priority being given to Harijans. Under the provisions of this Act, approximately 48,000 acres of land was taken over in the district by the end of 1969-70, the whole of which was leased out.

Under the Punjab Abolition of *Ala Malikiyat* and *Talukdari* Rights Act, 1952, all rights, title and interest of an *ala malik* in the land held under him by an *adna malik* were extinguished and the *adna malik* was required to pay compensation. The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952, declared all the occupancy tenants as the owners of the land.

The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, as amended up to date not only reduced the acreage which could be reserved but also specifically prohibited ejectment of tenants from all un-reserved areas, except in case of default in payment of rent or in proper cultivation. Section 9-A, enacted vide Act XI of 1955, provided that no tenant liable to ejectment would be dispossessed of his tenancy unless he was accommodated on a surplus area or otherwise on some other land by the State Government. Rent was limited to one-third of the crop or its value or to the customary rent if that was lower. However, payment for services provided by the landlord excluded from the computation of rent. The Act further extended the opportunities for tenants to become owners. A tenant of 4 years' standing acquired a right of pre-emption at sales or foreclosures; but more important than that, tenants of 6 years' standing were allowed to buy un-reserved area from their landlords at three quarters of the 10-year average of prices of similar land.

Government was further empowered to utilise the surplus area of both land-owners and tenants for the re-settlement of ejected tenants, landless labourers and small land-owners. All areas owned by a local owner above 30 standard acres and by a displaced person above 50 standard acres were considered as surplus area. A small owner, who has up to 30 standard acres, cannot eject a tenant under the Act from 5 standard acres unless the tenant has been settled by Government on surplus area.

The work of assessment of surplus area under the Act made considerable headway. By 1968, 2,068 cases of surplus area were decided and about 45,541 standard acres of land was declared surplus.

The re-settlement of eligible tenants was also started all over the district and about 8,044 tenants were re-settled on an area of about 12,729 standard acres. Proprietary rights were given to 917 tenants in an area of approximately 3,047 acres.

The State Government gives financial assistance to those tenants and landless agricultural workers who are being re-settled on the surplus area for reclamation purposes, and also advances loans for building houses and sinking wells.¹

1. The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953 and the Pepsu Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955 which contained *inter alia* provisions relating to ceiling on agricultural land-holdings, utilization of surplus area and security for tenants against exploitation and ejection were in force in different parts of Haryana. On a consideration of the report of the Central Land Reforms Committee, a national policy was evolved in 1972 for removing economic disparities by making available additional land for equitable distribution among the landless persons and also for enlarging the scope of employment. It was felt that this national objective would be achieved by the lowering of the ceiling on agricultural holdings, and that with the increase in agricultural production the ceiling could be lowered without rendering the holdings uneconomic. With this end in view and also to remove certain defects which had come to notice in the course of the implementation of the two Acts, the Haryana Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, was enacted. This Act repeals the provisions of the two earlier Acts in so far as they relate to the placing of a ceiling on land-holdings and utilization of surplus area. The new Act provides for the assessment of permissible area in relation to a family instead of an individual, and reduces the permissible limit to 7.25 hectares of land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least two crops in a year, 10.9 hectares of land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least one crop in a year or 21.8 hectares in respect of any other land including *banjar* and land under orchards. In case the family comprises more than three minor children, an additional area at the rate of 1/5th of the permissible area of the primary unit is permitted for each additional member provided that the total does not exceed twice the permissible area of the primary unit. The head of a primary unit has also been given a right to select for each of his major sons (or widow and minor children of a pre-deceased son) area equivalent to the permissible limit of a primary unit. Further, unlike the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, the new Act provides for the vesting of the surplus area in the Government and for its utilization for settlement of tenants and other economically weaker sections of society, for example members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, landless agricultural labour and others. A utilization scheme is being prepared by the State Government and the provisions of the Act would be given effect to as soon as the scheme is formulated.

The Punjab Bhudan Yagna Act, 1955, gave recognition to the Bhoodan Movement, the object of which is to receive donations of lands and distribute them among landless persons who are capable of cultivating them personally. Bhoodan work in the Karnal district was started in 1954 by a committee called District Bhoodan Samiti. As a result of the efforts of this committee, 774 acres (313 hectares) of land was received as donation. Of this, 217 acres (88 hectares) of land has been transferred in the name of the Haryana Bhoodan Yagna Board. The Board has so far (1970) allotted 100 acres (40.5 hectares) of land to 29 landless families.

Consolidation of holdings.—The work of consolidation of land-holdings was started in 1930 by the Co-operative Department but in the absence of any legislation, it did not make much headway. To make good this legislative deficiency, the State Government enacted the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948 and created a separate Consolidation Department in 1949. The work in the district was started in 1951 and partially completed in December 1962. The action is being taken towards the consolidation of the remaining area.

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE, STATE AS WELL AS CENTRAL

OTHER SOURCES OF STATE REVENUE

In addition to the land there are other sources from which the State derives its revenue. These are described below briefly:

Stamp Duty.—This duty is collected under the Court Fees Act, 1870, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. The former was enforced on April 1, 1870, and the latter on July 1, 1899. Both these Acts were amended a number of times. The Court Fees Act was last amended by the Court Fees (Haryana Amendment) Act, 1974. The Stamp Duty Act was last amended by the Haryana Act No. 7 of 1967. Both these Acts require the Collector (or Deputy Commissioner), District and Sessions Judge and all the Sub-Judges to ensure that the applications for all suits and other relevant documents are properly stamped according to schedule. The collection of stamp duty under these Acts during 1963-64 to 1969-70 was as follows :—

Year	Judicial (under the Court Fees Act)	Non-judicial (under the Stamp Act)	Total
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1963-64	4,82,160	25,88,253	30,70,413

1	2	3	4
1964-65	5,37,270	35,28,162	40,65,432
1965-66	6,06,184	26,47,592	32,53,776
1966-67	8,53,468	29,33,027	37,86,495
1967-68	7,35,981	48,69,174	56,05,155
1968-69	7,80,111	67,64,109	75,44,220
1969-70	9,93,228	26,25,934	36,19,162

Registration Fee.—The statement below gives the number of registrations, the value of property registered and the receipts for 1961-62 to 1969-70 :

Year	Registrations		Value		Amount of registration fee
	movable property	immovable property	movable property	immovable property	
	(Number)	(Number)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1961-62	462	9,825	3,27,475	2,31,23,907	1,83,035
1962-63	643	9,825	1,65,102	2,92,98,519	1,90,469
1963-64	617	10,012	66,599	2,99,68,036	1,97,206
1964-65	681	12,907	2,07,057	4,62,85,375	2,75,563
1965-66	654	12,889	1,19,275	5,18,33,340	3,58,417
1966-67	703	13,247	1,37,000	5,90,23,671	7,19,033
1967-68	804	14,325	80,900	7,72,46,441	8,58,483
1968-69	727	15,700	82,450	10,79,28,784	11,73,349
1969-70	787	16,876	1,45,700	12,96,93,353	13,66,348

Professions Tax.—Every person who carries on trade, either himself or through an agent or representative, or who follows a profession or calling or is in employment either wholly or in part, within the State, is liable to pay for each financial year or a part thereof, a tax under the Punjab Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation Act, 1956. The maximum limit of tax payable by any person is Rs. 250 in a financial year and the minimum is Rs. 120 when the total annual gross income exceeds Rs. 6,000. The Excise and Taxation Officer, Karnal, functions as

Assessing Authority under the Act. The table below shows the amount realised during 1956-57 to 1969-70 :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1956-57	9,637
1957-58	54,313
1958-59	96,709
1959-60	1,14,531
1960-61	1,05,407
1961-62	1,27,003
1962-63	1,95,459
1963-64	1,87,580
1964-65	2,25,890
1965-66	2,13,100
1966-67	4,56,270
1967-68	3,24,329
1968-69	3,90,197
1969-70	4,77,851

Excise and Taxation.—For the administration of Excise and Taxation Acts, the district in March 1970, was under the charge of an Excise and Taxation Officer who was assisted by 8 Assistant Excise and Taxation Officers. He was further assisted by 12 Inspectors on the excise side, and 19 Inspectors on the taxation side. Besides, there were 2 Additional Excise and Taxation Officers.

The State and Central Acts that are enforced in the State on the excise side are¹ : The Punjab Excise Act, 1914 ; The Punjab Local Option Act, 1923 ; The East Punjab Molasses (Control) Act, 1948 ; The Indian Opium Act, 1878 ; The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930 ; The Indian Power Alcohol Act, 1948 ; The Medicinal and Toilet Preparations

1. The East Punjab Opium Smoking Act, 1948, was repealed in 1960.

(Excise Duties) Act, 1955 ; and the Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control Act, 1955.

Excise revenue for 1956-57 to 1969-70 is shown below :

Year	Receipts from liquor licence fee	Receipts from excise duty	Receipts from opium	Receipts from <i>bhang</i>	Net excise revenue
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1956-57	3,57,796	16,74,886	2,10,810	8,855	22,25,545
1957-58	4,83,775	33,14,134	1,72,610	9,460	39,71,569
1958-59	7,16,276	30,19,460	1,03,280	9,325	38,17,564
1959-60	8,21,108	2,73,026	2,415	15,465	10,77,988
1960-61	8,38,044	2,94,843	960	8,545	11,24,259
1961-62	10,15,229	5,61,481	640	8,264	15,88,987
1962-63	11,06,388	6,33,662	900	6,165	17,53,707
1963-64	9,59,274	13,20,910	—	8,041	22,88,220
1964-65	9,43,894	23,32,187	—	13,410	32,89,490
1965-66	13,54,275	28,89,918	—	—	42,44,190
1966-67	54,043	50,74,343	—	—	51,28,380
1967-68	10,37,232	84,70,857	—	408	1,09,35,718
1968-69	1,37,06,676	18,87,069	860	1,085	1,55,95,690
1969-70	1,28,17,885	14,09,221	—	505	1,42,27,611

On the taxation side, the taxes as detailed below are collected under the State and Central Acts by the Excise and Taxation Department :

Property Tax.—This tax was levied under the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act, 1940. It is charged at the rate of 10 per cent except in 1961-62 when it was charged at the rate of 15 per cent of the annual rental value of the buildings and land, situated in the rating area. Besides, a surcharge at the rate of 50 per cent of the tax has also been levied from

1967-68. Collections under the Act during 1956-57 to 1969-70 were as follows :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1955-56	2,12,310
1956-57	1,96,762
1957-58	1,99,538
1958-59	2,23,972
1959-60	2,26,926
1960-61	2,79,823
1961-62	4,92,757
1962-63	3,75,939
1963-64	5,21,900
1964-65	5,38,630
1965-66	4,53,580
1966-67	4,60,800
1967-68	6,55,394
1968-69	4,84,367
1969-70	11,96,052

Sales Tax.—The Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1941, was repealed on May 1, 1949, when the East Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948,¹ came into force. The turnover pertaining to the period prior to May 1, 1949, however, continued to be dealt with under the old Act. The general rate of tax under this Act during 1969-70 was 6 paise a rupee. On luxury goods like motor vehicles, refrigerators, clocks and watches, iron and steel safes and almirahs, radios and radio-parts, gramophones, etc., the rate of tax was 10 per cent. Resin, groundnut and paddy are subjected to tax at the stage of purchase. Purchase tax on resin and groundnut is leviable at the rate of 2 per cent and on paddy it is leviable at the rate of 3 per cent. Goods that are exported, or are sold to registered dealers in the State or are the subject

1. Replaced by the Haryana General Sales Tax Act, 1973, since May 5, 1973.

of inter-State trade, are not taxed under the Act.

Special Treatment.—Special treatment has been given to the following goods, as is clear from the current rates (1969-70) of tax mentioned against each :

Foodgrains and pulses	3 per cent
Declared Goods ¹ (<i>e.g.</i> cotton, oil, iron and steel, etc.)	3 per cent
Gold and silver articles and wares, ornaments and jewellery	2 per cent
Bullion and specie	1/2 per cent
Sales to Government Department against a prescribed certificate	3 per cent
Ready-made sewn garments made out of handloom or mill-made cloth, etc.	2 per cent
Tractors	2 per cent
Raw hides and raw skins	3 per cent
Cotton waste and cotton yarn waste	3 per cent
All types of yarn except cotton yarn (woollen or silken)	2 per cent
Cotton yarn	1 per cent
Condensed milk and cream	exempted
Butter, cheese and milk powder	6 per cent
Vegetable ghee, cement, bricks and molasses	at first stage on general rate
Arms and ammunition, motor cycle and scooter	10 per cent
Cotton waste and cotton yarn waste	3 per cent

Exemptions.—Exemptions have been allowed to electric energy, agricultural implements, fertilizers, kerosene oil,² fodder, vegetables, fresh fruits, sugar, textiles,³ all goods sold to Indian Red Cross Society,

1. Goods which are of special importance in inter-state trade have been termed as 'declared goods'.

2. Sales tax at the rate of 7 per cent has been levied on kerosene oil since July 1, 1969.

3. Sugar and textiles have been exempted because excise duty has been levied on them by the Central Government.

John Ambulance Association, Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), United Nations Technical Assistance Board, Save the Children Fund, United Nations International Children and Emergency Fund, World Health Organisation and some co-operative societies.

The receipts of the sales tax during 1955-56 to 1969-70 given below indicate that this source of revenue has been assuming increasing importance :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1955-56	15,72,629
1956-57	19,14,030
1957-58	22,99,650
1958-59	18,39,445
1959-60	21,19,976
1960-61	22,25,292
1961-62	24,49,890
1962-63	30,64,218
1963-64	43,20,110
1964-65	53,25,750
1965-66	63,05,740
1966-67	67,78,890
1967-68	88,74,759
1968-69	1,39,72,495
1969-70	1,90,52,267

Entertainment Duty.—The Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1936, was repealed by the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1955, on November 4, 1955. The rates of duty have been changing and since 1966-67 the rate of tax is 50 per cent on the payment of admission to a show. Its incidence fall on the person who witnesses the entertainment. The collections during

1955-56 to 1969-70 under this Act were as follows :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1955-56	1,20,024
1956-57	1,60,851
1957-58	1,78,814
1958-59	2,12,860
1959-60	2,60,715
1960-61	3,21,827
1961-62	4,14,301
1962-63	5,12,261
1963-64	6,32,070
1964-65	6,90,440
1965-66	8,12,180
1966-67	9,66,050
1967-68	11,50,325
1968-69	14,39,109
1969-70	18,56,674

Motor Spirit Tax.—This tax was levied under the Punjab Motor Spirit (Taxation of Sales) Act, 1939. The rate of tax which was 3 annas¹ per imperial gallon till July 14, 1957 was enhanced to 4 annas on July 15, 1957. Again the rate was enhanced to 30 paise per imperial gallon on April 20, 1959. This was converted into 7 paise per litre on May 13, 1960. The tax on petrol was increased to 9 paise per litre on October 31, 1966. These rates were further revised on July 22, 1967 and the rate of tax in the case of all motor spirit other than petrol was fixed 4 paise per litre and in the case of petrol 5 paise per litre. The stage of levy of the tax was shifted from 'last sale' to 'first sale' within the State. These rates were again revised

1. One anna = 1/16th of a rupee.

on May 8, 1968 and the rate of tax fixed 6 paise per litre in respect of all motor spirits at the first stage of sales. Receipts under the Act during 1955-56 to 1969-70 were :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1955-56	1,84,843
1956-57	1,95,527
1957-58	2,56,727
1958-59	2,82,801
1959-60	2,50,356
1960-61	3,73,464
1961-62	4,25,052
1962-63	3,72,999
1963-64	3,79,580
1964-65	4,16,690
1965-66	4,22,910
1966-67	5,57,300
1967-68	3,09,791
1968-69	10,781
1969-70	17,332

Passengers and Goods Tax.—The Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952, was enforced on August 1, 1952. The Act provides that a tax shall be levied on all fares and freights in respect of passengers carried and goods transported in motor vehicles in the State. The rate of tax changed a number of times and in 1967-68 was 35 per cent of the fare and freight. It was further enhanced to 40 per cent from October 7, 1969. In the case of contract and public carriages, the levy was made in the form of a lump sum.

The collections made under the Act since the date of its enforcement are given below :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1952-53	1,41,816
1953-54	3,56,297
1954-55	3,77,116
1955-56	3,87,355
1956-57	6,63,923
1957-58	9,39,050
1958-59	11,59,457
1959-60	12,58,115
1960-61	12,76,133
1961-62	14,03,486
1962-63	18,34,675
1963-64	28,61,480
1964-65	29,63,740
1965-66	32,02,860
1966-67	33,12,800
1967-68	47,26,054
1968-69	59,20,295
1969-70	72,98,569

Show Tax.—The Punjab Entertainments Tax (Cinematograph Shows) Act, 1954 was enforced on May 4, 1954. The show tax is levied on the exhibitors for every show on the number of occupied seats of a cinema

house, The rate of tax in 1969-70 was as follows :—

Place	Rate per 100 seats per show
	(Rs.)
Karnal, Kaithal and Panipat	4.40
Thanesar	2.60
Shahabad (Shahbad)	1.74

The collections of tax since its enforcement are given below :

Year	Amount
	(Rs.)
1954-55	10,174
1955-56	16,194
1956-57	17,405
1957-58	16,403
1958-59	19,477
1959-60	20,237
1960-61	15,758
1961-62	17,683
1962-63	19,135
1963-64	21,800
1964-65	23,730
1965-66	46,780
1966-67	47,780
1967-68	1,28,949
1968-69	1,84,906
1969-70	2,07,125

Central Sales Tax.—The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, provides for levy of tax on sales effected in the course of inter-State trade and commerce. States have been authorised to administer this tax on behalf of the Government of India. The entire collections of the tax under the Act are appropriated by the States. The general rates of tax in 1969-70 were as under :

- (i) Inter-State sales to registered dealers 'C' forms 3 per cent

(ii) Inter-State sales to inregistered dealers	10 per cent
(iii) Declared goods to registered dealers or un-registered dealers	Up to 3 per cent

The collections made in the district since the enforcement of the Act are given below :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (Rs.)
1957-58	48,007
1958-59	1,31,112
1959-60	2,20,105
1960-61	2,31,555
1961-62	3,07,223
1962-63	3,34,477
1963-64	5,10,330
1964-65	5,92,340
1965-66	6,02,480
1966-67	11,53,040
1967-68	17,26,432
1968-69	47,71,414
1969-70	55,08,694

CENTRAL SOURCES OF REVENUE

Central Excise Duties.—The Karnal district falls in Rohtak division for Central excise duties. The work in the district is looked after by the Superintendent Central Excise, Yamuna Nagar. Tobacco, cotton fabrics, sugar, *khandsari*, vegetable non-essential oils and cycle parts are the main sources of Central excise duty. The collections of central excise duties were as below :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	(Rs.)
1958-59	38,56,144
1959-60	36,12,221
1960-61	36,39,946

The collections made in the district under this Act during 1958-59 to 1969-70 were :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1958-59	7,109
1959-60	2,587
1960-61	1,184
1961-62	617
1962-63	8,337
1963-64	5,280
1964-65	62,777
1965-66	40,665
1966-67	25,333
1967-68	9,745
1968-69	30,244
1969-70	35,445

Wealth Tax.—The Wealth-tax Act, 1957, came into force from the assessment year 1957-58. In the case of an individual the tax is leviable if the net wealth exceeds Rs. 1 lakh, and in the case of Hindu undivided family, if it exceeds Rs. 2 lakhs. The collections under this Act during 1958-59 to 1969-70 were :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1958-59	4,285
1959-60	4,942
1960-61	955
1961-62	1,458
1962-63	2,405
1963-64	1,000

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	(Rs.)
1964-65	11,000
1965-66	11,000
1966-67	14,000
1967-68	19,000
1968-69	30,227
1969-70	52,656

Gift Tax.—The Gift-tax Act, 1958 was enforced on April 1, 1958. It is leviable on all gifts made after April 1, 1957, if the total value of the gift (movable or immovable) exceeds Rs. 10,000. The collections made in the district under this Act during 1958-59 to 1969-70 were :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	(Rs.)
1958-59	19,336
1959-60	8,133
1960-61	3,417
1961-62	6,425
1962-63	5,712
1963-64	10,000
1964-65	38,000
1965-66	22,000
1966-67	12,000
1967-68	8,000
1968-69	30,539
1969-70	12,136

Chapter XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

INCIDENCE OF CRIME

Cattle-stealing was the characteristic crime in the district during the opening years of the present century. Such thefts were performed in a very systematic form, the animals being rapidly transferred to great distances and to other districts through a chain of accomplices. The aggrieved party generally appealed to a self-constituted *panchayat*, or a committee of the leading men in a village or tract, in order to secure the return of his animal, instead of reporting the matter to the police. This practice naturally rendered the crime extremely difficult to handle. Crimes of violence were not very common in the district, though occasionally murders and dacoities of a serious nature did occur.¹

The crime data prior to 1940 are not available. However, the general crime situation conformed more or less to what is stated above. Serious crime was still rare but a lot of petty crime, particularly cattle lifting was committed. It was not reported to the police, as the village *panchayats* played a vital role in settling small disputes.

The table below shows the trend of criminal cases of all kinds brought to trial during the years 1940—69. This shows at a glance the picture of crimes in the few years preceding the Partition in 1947 and in the subsequent years :

Year	Total cases reported	Cases brought forward from previous year	Cases cancelled ²	Cases pending at the close of the year	True cases ²
1	2	3	4	5	6
1940	2,058	237	331	247	1,717
1941	2,014	247	356	329	1,576

1. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1918, p. 202.

2. Out of the reported cases, those which are admitted by the police are termed as 'true cases' whereas those found false are treated as 'cancelled'.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1942	1,446	329	298	279	1,398
1943	2,012	279	390	416	1,458
1944	2,243	416	446	441	1,772
1945	2,374	441	397	569	1,849
1946	3,071	569	381	981	2,278
1947	3,378	981	400	1,615	2,344
1948	5,923	1,615	420	1,598	5,520
1949	6,450	1,598	315	1,523	6,210
1950	4,600	1,523	269	1,338	3,916
1951	4,480	1,338	229	1,238	4,451
1952	3,736	1,238	195	986	3,793
1953	3,107	986	205	797	3,091
1954	2,939	797	202	819	2,715
1955	2,849	819	205	948	2,515
1956	3,077	948	225	976	2,824
1957	3,137	976	180	1,085	2,898
1958	3,036	1,085	140	1,231	2,750
1959	3,143	1,231	149	1,478	2,747
1960	3,408	1,478	161	1,684	3,041
1961	3,373	1,684	160	1,649	3,248
1962	3,701	1,649	133	1,534	3,683
1963	3,993	1,534	206	1,546	3,774
1964	4,284	1,546	304	1,682	3,844
1965	4,930	1,682	369	2,147	4,096
1966	5,456	2,147	313	2,596	4,694
1967	5,433	2,596	316	2,621	4,992
1968	5,203	2,621	155	2,891	4,778
1969	5,420	2,891	141	3,576	4,594

The reported cases show an overall increase in crimes. The highest figures are for the years 1948 and 1949. The disorderly conditions resulting from the Partition were responsible for this increase. Consequent upon the Partition, the Muslims migrated to Pakistan and in their place the displaced persons from that side who settled here, mostly consisted of Virk and Rai Sikhs from the notorious criminal districts of the West Punjab. Having lost almost everything on account of the Partition, they were in a desperate mood and indulged in all kinds of crime. The setting up of new Camps/Model Towns at Karnal, Panipat, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri), etc., also contributed to the rising trend in crimes. The downward trend began after 1949 and almost stabilised with slight variations during the period 1953—59. Virk and Rai Sikhs having settled on the lands allotted to them began to clear the jungles on their lands putting in real hard work. This turned them to constructive work resulting in welcome decline in crimes. The steady rise in the number of reported cases after 1959 may be attributed to increase in population, illicit distillation on a large scale and a growing desire to report all crimes/disputes to the police. The police on their part had also become more vigilant in detecting cases under the Excise Act, the Arms Act and also extensive action under the Police Act for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity. The table below illustrates this contention :

Particulars of cases	Cases detected			
	1946	1950	1967	1969
Under Police Act	119	735	1,048	877
Under Excise Act	41	582	1,546	1,920
Under Arms Act	39	101	167	171

Under the Police Act, which is applicable in the towns and deals with lesser offences relating to public peace, regulation of traffic, etc., there was an increase of 616 cases in 1950, 929 in 1967 and 758 in 1969 as against the figure of 1946. Under the Excise Act the increase was to the tune of 541, 1,505 and 1,879 cases in 1950, 1967 and 1969 respectively as compared to the figure of 1946. Similarly under the Arms Act, there had been an increase in detections. No doubt there is overall increase in the incidence of crime, the law and order situation in the district is well under control. The incidence of grave crimes like dacoity and robbery, is conspicuous by its absence.

The following statement shows the number of cognizable offences reported to the police :—

Year	Reported cases ¹	True cases ²
1946	2,477	1,833
1947	2,500	1,691
1948	3,325	3,341
1949	2,983	2,891
1950	2,219	2,092
1951	1,982	1,889
1952	1,861	1,789
1953	1,596	1,553
1954	1,539	1,307
1955	1,575	1,389
1956	1,491	1,390
1957	1,353	1,209
1958	1,436	1,107
1959	1,312	983
1960	1,388	1,068
1961	1,444	1,293
1962	1,555	1,445
1963	1,694	1,572
1964	1,685	1,521
1965	1,680	1,531
1966	2,178	1,986
1967	2,000	1,806
1968	1,948	1,680
1969	1,859	1,625

1. These cases include all cognizable offences except cases under the security sections of Criminal Procedure Code and cognizable offences in which complaints were filed direct before the Magistrates.

2. Number of true cases includes those pending from the previous year.

The incidence of cognizable offences reported during 1946—49 shows an increase, the main cause for which was the unsettled conditions then prevailing. As the conditions improved, the incidence of crime decreased. The steady increase is again noticeable during 1960 and 1966. There are, however, no alarming features in this upward trend. The reasons are the same as have already been explained while discussing the general crime situation. However, the incidence of crime has taken a downward trend from 1967 onward.

Murder.—The incidence of murder in the district from 1955 onwards is illustrated in the following table :—

Year	Cases reported	Total cases dealt with (including pending cases from the last year)	True cases	Cases tried	Cases convicted
1955	37	54	32	27	9
1956	40	61	42	34	15
1957	26	45	27	22	11
1958	31	49	34	30	18
1959	36	51	21	18	7
1960	32	61	29	27	16
1961	49	79	39	33	15
1962	47	86	52	39	23
1963	30	61	43	39	27
1964	33	50	25	24	15
1965	40	65	32	28	11
1966	44	77	46	33	18
1967	43	74	47	39	17
1968	46	71	35	26	20
1969	44	80	33	32	18

Murder statistics are notoriously slippery and fluctuating depending upon sudden outburst of violence. The significant motives behind murder are usually illicit sexual relations, domestic quarrels, blood feuds, land disputes, lure of property, canal water disputes, personal enmity, etc. The incidence of this type of crime is mainly confined to rural areas and is common among the Jats and Virks. Their revengeful nature acknowledges no time limit.

Dacoity.—The offence of dacoity greatly increased during the Partition days when 64 dacoities were reported in the district during 1947 and 37 during 1948. Some of the criminals were treated as heroes and accorded special recognition by various anti-social elements. Anti-dacoity staff was organised to operate in the affected areas. During the period 1947 to 1950, several notorious gangs were liquidated. The measures taken by the police proved effective and this form of crime has become rare. During 1959—69, only 5 cases of dacoity were reported; one each in 1959, 1961 and 1966 and two in 1964.

Robbery.—The incidence of this crime was much too high in 1947 and in the subsequent few years. The cases reported were 103 in 1947, 97 in 1948, 71 in 1949, 54 in 1950 and 51 in 1951. Extensive measures adopted by way of patrolling and other preventive measures by the district police brought the offenders to book and the crime declined considerably. The downward trend in this crime was evident in 1952 when only 16 cases were reported. The anti-robbery measures and strict vigilance have almost eliminated the crime. Only 31 cases were reported during the years 1961—69; 6 in 1961, 6 in 1962, 4 in 1963, 6 in 1964, 4 in 1965, 2 in 1968 and 1 each in 1966, 1967 and 1969.

Burglary.—The following figures indicate the incidence of burglary in the district during 1947 to 1969 :—

Year	Cases brought forward from previous year	Cases reported during the year	True cases	Cases tried	Cases convicted	Cases untraced
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1947	214	708	600	97	70	503
1948	264	743	832	184	135	648

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1949	142	777	747	252	197	495
1950	133	625	604	217	175	387
1951	123	537	522	187	152	335
1952	118	485	462	129	105	333
1953	112	400	415	141	115	274
1954	81	376	358	138	112	220
1955	87	349	346	150	118	196
1956	83	316	311	95	70	216
1957	73	259	257	101	74	156
1958	58	252	240	78	50	162
1959	60	228	217	58	42	159
1960	83	276	209	45	33	164
1961	121	307	300	88	59	212
1962	108	341	306	88	61	218
1963	133	364	344	95	74	249
1964	140	382	376	122	64	254
1965	130	315	271	107	52	164
1966	154	452	353	169	134	184
1967	242	404	417	144	98	273
1968	210	403	383	140	93	243
1969	223	413	388	131	93	257

The Partition presented unprecedented problems. The deteriorated economic

situation and the unsettled conditions then prevailing in the Punjab had adversely affected the morale of the people. Burglary was committed by some people who had exhausted their resources, who were unemployed and who had, therefore, no other means of livelihood. Besides, the criminal elements in the population took full advantage of the unsettled conditions. The population of the towns had more than doubled; but the police force was not strengthened to cope with the situation.

Despite manifold handicaps, considerable improvement was brought about by vigilant patrolling, rounding up of large number of hitherto untraced criminals, efficient working of the District Central Intelligence Agency and effective action under Sections 109 and 110 of Criminal Procedure Code. The incidence of burglary which showed an abnormal increase during 1948 to 1951, started showing a downward trend from 1952 and it was the lowest in 1959. There was considerable rise in crime from 1960 onward. Economic conditions exercise much influence on the fluctuation of crime particularly against property. The high cost of living and the rising prices naturally provided an impetus to criminal elements to commit crime. The other factors responsible were the enormous increase in population, springing up of suburban localities in the vicinity of towns, development of fast means of transportation, unemployment, weakening of the moral fibre and growing desire to find an easy way to live comfortably. While crime recorded an increase and population also increased at a fast pace, the police force had still not been increased in consonance with the changed circumstances.

The proportion of untraced burglary cases is no doubt high but certain factors, partly inherent in the crime, and partly stemming from the ignorance of the people seriously hamper successful investigation. Burglars are usually active during the summer nights when the people sleep outside in the open. And again, the circumstantial evidence and other possible clues left by the criminal at the time of the commission of crime are destroyed unwittingly by the parties concerned through ignorance.

Rioting.—Riots generally occur over land disputes or personal enmity and are usually common among the rural people. In recent years this crime has considerably decreased. Only 8 cases were reported in 1960, 10 in 1961, 11 in 1962, 4 in 1963, 5 in 1964, 2 in 1965, 7 each in 1966 and 1967, 10 in 1968 and 4 in 1969.

Theft.—The following table gives the incidence of theft during 1948 to 1969 :—

Year	Cases reported	Total cases (including pending for the last year)	True cases	Cases tried	Cases convicted
1948	1,043	1,281	1,006	443	375
1949	739	934	758	328	253
1950	485	622	460	172	140
1951	460	586	441	165	138
1952	422	542	414	124	103
1953	369	476	402	134	113
1954	384	440	352	109	92
1955	378	450	316	150	123
1956	340	454	329	142	102
1957	331	413	311	127	95
1958	324	395	291	131	99
1959	274	362	248	100	76
1960	270	373	253	95	74
1961	314	420	274	120	86
1962	354	492	324	112	85
1963	389	545	356	166	129
1964	380	544	354	143	107
1965	397	546	275	136	102
1966	607	847	432	236	171
1967	554	933	553	214	146
1968	561	910	494	238	185
1969	482	881	448	219	169

The above figures show that a large number of thefts were committed during 1948 and 1949. The factors responsible were the Partition in 1947 and consequent immigration and economic misery of the displaced persons. After 1949, the offence declined steadily and the upward trend again started only after 1960. Free registration of cases accounts for the high incidence of reported cases of theft. A large proportion of such cases is usually of minor nature involving small amounts of stolen property. High figures of the reported cases in the years 1966, 1967 and 1968 are really intriguing; but this increase was due to larger number of bicycle-thefts resulting from negligence on the part of bicycle-owners. In the previous years, the bicycle-thefts were comparatively less as the following figures would show :—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Bicycle-thefts</u>
1957	47
1958	52
1959	32
1960	52
1961	54
1962	67
1963	73
1964	69
1965	66
1966	105
1967	112
1968	97
1969	74

Cattle-theft.—As stated earlier, it was once recorded as the characteristic crime of the district.¹ The tracing out of gangs of cattle-thieves and efforts of the police to liquidate such lawless elements brought the crime under control to a considerable extent. The increase in the trend of cattle-thefts after 1953 is not so high as to require special comments. The

1. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1918, p. 202.

following table shows the incidence of this crime during 1948 to 1969 :—

Year	Cases brought forward from last year	Cases reported	Total cases	True cases	Cases tried	Cases convicted
1948	170	640	810	621	148	106
1949	129	569	698	516	167	133
1950	147	472	619	474	143	115
1951	116	322	438	298	103	83
1952	119	314	433	300	88	72
1953	113	267	380	307	99	82
1954	54	161	215	156	54	45
1955	46	162	208	135	90	53
1956	61	142	203	173	74	47
1957	24	129	153	121	40	23
1958	30	113	143	93	37	22
1959	45	93	138	72	39	19
1960	65	112	177	96	40	20
1961	78	96	174	106	42	22
1962	58	120	178	103	29	16
1963	73	181	254	130	38	24
1964	116	163	279	173	63	41
1965	90	138	228	123	56	34
1966	91	169	260	104	58	23
1967	142	136	278	148	55	22
1968	121	123	244	145	55	31
1969	91	112	203	97	30	177

There is an interesting contrast between the large number of cases reported and relatively a small number of convictions. The large number of cases includes cases of straying cattle originally registered as theft cases.

Traffic in women.—The crime registered an increase during the years immediately following the Partition and fluctuated thereafter. After the Partition, the morality of the people and the respect for law was at the lowest ebb, which caused an increase in the incidence of sex crime. However, during the last few years no case under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, has been registered in the district. Under the Act, no brothel house or place of ill-repute is allowed to be set up.

The reported cases of kidnapping and abduction were isolated in character, and not the work of any organised gangs. Most of the cases were the result of love affairs, the abducted females being the consenting parties.

Cheating.—The offence is not much common. The cheats remain on the look-out for persons of credulous nature, whose minds are worked upon with rosy assurances and under that spell they are made to part with cash and property. Unemployment and a general lack of scruples among the business community lead to cheating in various forms. This offence is bailable and compoundable. The aggrieved party, in the event of redress offered to it, prefers to compound the offence rather than pursue it. During the period 1955—69, the number of cases reported was the highest (78) in 1967. However, during this period the number of cases reported each year averaged 36.¹

Offences against local and special laws.—These offences comprise cases of public nuisance and those covered under the Indian Arms Act, 1878, the Punjab Excise Act, 1914 (including illicit distillation), the Opium Act, 1878, the Public Gambling Act, 1867, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, the Indian Railways Act, 1890, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1955, and the Defence of India Rules. Table XXXV of the Appendix gives data about the cases reported under these Acts from 1955 onwards. Of these, special mention needs to be made about the cases under Excise Act, Opium Act and Defence of India Rules. The background to the offences committed under the Excise Act and Opium Act has been explained with much detail under the heading 'Use of Intoxicants' in the Chapter on 'Other Social Services'. The figures pertaining to the cases under the Defence of India Rules for the three years, viz. 147 in 1964,

1. 35 cases in 1955; 33 in 1956; 38 in 1957; 28 in 1958; 14 in 1959; 15 in 1960; 27 in 1961; 19 in 1962; 36 in 1963; 42 in 1964; 34 in 1965; 65 in 1966 and 78 in 1967.

63 in 1965 and 75 in 1966, requires an explanation. During these years the prices of sugar, *shakkar* and *gur* had shown a sharp rise in this district as compared to the prices prevailing in the adjoining districts of the Uttar Pradesh. It was natural for the anti-social elements on either side of the State to be tempted to earn easy money by indulging in smuggling of these commodities. The district police curbed these nefarious activities by invoking the provisions of the Defence of India Rules and this accounts for the registration of a number of cases under the Defence of India Rules in 1964, 1965 and 1966.

Road traffic and transport.—The road traffic, besides the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, is regulated by several other Acts.¹ The incidence of motor vehicle accidents in the district has been on the increase. This is due to the increasing number of motor vehicles and other means of transport plying on the roads.

POLICE

Brief history.—The police is the guardian of law and order and as such it constitutes a vital organ of the government. The institution of police is not something new to India. But the police organisation, as it stands, is an inheritance from the British regime in the country. Towards the end of the 19th century, the police force in the Karnal district was controlled by a District Superintendent and the strength of the force as reported in the Police Report for 1889, was as follows :—

Class of police	Total strength	Distribution	
		Standing guard	Protection and detection
1. District Imperial	450	48	402
2. Municipal	153	—	153

The police force as reported in the Karnal District Gazetteer, 1918, was :

1. (i) Sections 279, 304 A, 337 and 338 of Indian Penal Code;
- (ii) The State Carriages Act XVI of 1861;
- (iii) The Hackney Carriages Act, 1879;
- (iv) The Police Act III of 1888;
- (v) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act XI of 1890;
- (vi) The Punjab Municipal Act, 1911;
- (vii) The Punjab Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1925; and
- (viii) The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

1 Superintendent of Police, 1 Assistant Superintendent (when available), 1 Deputy Superintendent of Police (at Kaithal), 1 Court Inspector, 1 Reserve Inspector, 4 Circle Inspectors (with headquarters at Karnal, Panipat, Kaithal and Thanesar), 31 Sub-Inspectors, 84 Head Constables, 573 Foot Constables and 3 Mounted Constables. There were 23 police stations including the one at the Railway Station, Karnal, besides three city police posts at Karnal, Panipat and Kaithal and one post at Pipli on the Grand Trunk Road.

The growth of urban areas, the effect of World War I, the new economic and political urges, the growth of nationalist movement and the British attempts to suppress it, resulted in increase of police force. Eventually in November 1925, Punjab Provincial Police Committee headed by Mr. Lumsden was appointed. The committee submitted its report in 1926. It contained *inter alia* recommendations about Karnal district as well.¹ As a result of the recommendations of this committee various changes took place in the police set-up.

The duties of the police increased manifold as a result of the World War II. The police had to meet a new situation every now and then. After the War there was a shortage of essential commodities and the police force had to be employed to check black marketing. The political parties became very active and there were agitations for the attainment of independence. The visits of the British delegations to India for political settlement involved a big security question for the police.

The Independence of the country further increased the duties of the police force. Fresh burdens were thrown on it by expansion in social activities and branches of the public administration. While the responsibilities increased, the police force was not proportionately or adequately strengthened, nor were its salaries and conditions of work reviewed in the light

1. "There are town police strength in Karnal, Panipat and Kaithal. Panipat with 27,000 inhabitants is understaffed with only 40 constables for both watch and ward and for the work of the separate *thana* in the town, especially in view of communal difficulties. Karnal also has an inadequate force and we propose an increase of 10 constables in each town and of six constables in Kaithal.

"In addition to the two urban *thanas* in Karnal and Panipat, there are 20 rural *thanas* with an average area of over 200 square miles. Several of these are lightly worked and we suggest the abolition of the Singhaur *thana*, its jurisdiction being divided between Ladwa and Radaur. If this be accepted, we estimate the force necessary at 2 Inspectors, 30 Sub-Inspectors, 23 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 78 Head Constables and 543 Constables as against the existing 2 Inspectors, 31 Sub-Inspectors, 87 Head Constables and 519 Constables."

of altering economic circumstances. It was finally in 1961 that the State Government constituted the Punjab Police Commission under the chairmanship of late Shri Mehr Chand Mahajan, retired Chief Justice of Supreme Court, to enquire into and report on the role of the police in the context of democratic rights consistent with the paramount security of the State; measures for controlling meetings, demonstrations and mobs; police-public co-operation; steps for improving the work of investigation and detection; staff position; emoluments and conditions of service; relations of the police with the magistracy; mutual obligations of the police and *panchayats*, etc. The recommendations of the Police Commission were made in May 1962 and are being implemented.

ORGANIZATION OF POLICE

For the purpose of police administration, the district falls in Ambala range, which is under the charge of a Deputy Inspector General of Police. In 1947, the district police was controlled by a Superintendent of Police who was assisted by 3 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 4 Inspectors, 39 Sub-Inspectors, 47 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 115 Head Constables and 798 Constables. In 1970, the district police comprised one Superintendent of Police who was assisted by 5 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 4 Inspectors, 46 Sub-Inspectors, 58 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 120 Head Constables, and 947 Constables. The details are given in Table XXXVI of Appendix. Village chowkidars or watchmen also assist the police.

There were 22 *thanas* or police stations and 8 police posts in 1970, a list of which has already been given in Chapter on 'General Administration'. There was also a Railway Police Station at Karnal with outposts at Kurukshetra and Panipat.

Civil police.—Civil police is detailed for duty at the police stations. Of the 22 police stations in the district, 3 were in urban and 19 in rural areas. Each of these was under the charge of a police officer, known as the Station House Officer assisted by one or more Second Officers, a Head Constable, a Moharrir or Clerk-Constable and a number of Constables. The Station House Officer is responsible for law and order and investigates offences occurring within his jurisdiction.

Armed police and mounted police.—This force is kept in the reserve police lines. The armed police is deployed for the protection of important vulnerable points and the mounted police is useful for general patrolling.¹

1. The buildings for the headquarters staff and the personnel of the Haryana Armed Police were under construction at Madhuban, near Karnal, in 1970.

Prosecution staff.—Sometime back the prosecution staff was drawn from the regular members of the police force who had passed law examinations from the Police Training School, but this wing has been re-organized and officers with legal qualifications are directly recruited to it. The Prosecution Branch at district level is under the charge of the Superintendent of Police.

Criminal Investigation Department.—The strength of the C.I.D. staff in the district is : Inspector 1, Sub-Inspector 1, Assistant Sub-Inspectors 4, Head Constables 6, and Constables 6. The district C.I.D. staff makes independent and secret enquiries on the directions received from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, C.I.D. The District Inspector of C.I.D. is required to liaison with the district police authorities.

Police wireless station.—The police wireless organisation provides the quickest means of transmission of messages and is the only dependable source when other means like telephone and telegraph have broken down. In the maintenance of law and order or during emergencies, e.g. floods, locust invasion, etc., the system plays a vital role. Armed Reserves can be rushed to a disturbed area and movements of dangerous criminals from one district to another can be conveyed forthwith. There is one police wireless station at the district headquarters at Karnal and one sub-station at Kaithal.

Railway police.—It is not allotted to any district in particular but is a part of a separate State Organization working under an Assistant Inspector General of Police. The circles of the Railway Police are formed according to the sections of railway lines and they are concerned with the prevention, detection and control of crimes committed in railway trains and within the railway premises. There is a Railway Police Station at Karnal with 2 outposts at Kurukshetra and Panipat.

Home Guards.—Keeping civil emergencies in view and appreciating the needs of the time, a voluntary organization known as Punjab Home Guards was started in 1960 in border districts and in all the important towns of the State. Since the creation of Haryana State, the Department of Punjab Home Guards has been re-christened as Home Guards, Haryana. Its constitution is still governed by the Punjab Home Guards Act, 1947 and the rules framed thereunder.

The overall charge of the district is with the District Commander Karnal, who is assisted by the Commander, Training Centre, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) and the Company Commanders at Karnal, Kaithal, Shahabad

(Shahbad) and Panipat. A company, which is under the charge of a Company Commander, usually consists of 110 volunteers. There were 25 companies in the district, 10 urban companies raised in 1961 and 15 rural companies raised in 1963. Three urban companies having been disbanded in 1968, their number came down to seven. These are located at Karnal (4), Panipat (1), Kaithal (1) and Shahabad (Shahbad) (1). The rural companies are located in each of the 15 blocks in the district. Urban companies are trained at the respective places of their location. For the rural wing, there is a training centre at Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) and the training is completed at the centre by running camps. In 1970, there were 700 volunteers in urban companies and 1,492 volunteers in rural companies against an authorised strength of 770 and 1,650 respectively.

The trainees are trained in drill with and without arms, *lathi* drill, fire-fighting, first-aid, crowd control, *naka bandi*, maintaining essential services and in helping the civil authorities. They are also trained in using weapons, taking cover, judging distance, beat patrolling and performing general duties. An instructor has also been posted at Karnal for imparting training in civil defence to the general public and organisation of civil defence services in the town.¹

Every effort is made to raise the standard of the organization in keeping with its aims and objects. The Home Guards have discharged their duties efficiently on various occasions particularly at the time of Pakistani aggression in 1965, the General Elections in 1967 and 1972, Mid-Term Elections in 1968, Solar Eclipse Fair at Kurukshetra in 1968, and the All India Congress Committee Session at Faridabad (Gurgaon district) in 1969.

Village police.—For over a century the police functions at village level were performed by Zaildars, Sufaidposhes, Chowkidars and Inamkhors. The institution of *chowkidari* alone survives all the other institutions which were abolished in 1948. The Chowkidars report births and deaths in a *thana* fortnightly, give information of crime, keep surveillance over the bad characters residing in the village and report their movements. Besides attending to watch and ward duties, they generally assist the public officers on tours.

In the remote past, the village Chowkidar used to receive, as his

1. Considering the importance of the civil defence, the Company Commanders and Instructors receive training at the National Civil Defence College, and the National Fire Service College, Nagpur.

remuneration, a share from each cultivator's produce which was reckoned according to the number of hearths. Now the Chowkidars are paid by the Government.

Previously *thikar* Chowkidars were selected by lot from among the residents of the village; those unwilling to serve were obliged to pay the cost of a substitute. These Chowkidars were provided only during an epidemic, outbreak of crime and emergencies. With the advent of democratic decentralisation, the *chowkidari* system, which was a sort of *shramdan* aimed at providing safety to person and property, has now become very weak and is not of much help in the field of watch and ward. People generally are averse to Thikri Pahara and are no longer enthusiastic. The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, has however authorised *panchayats* to raise their own voluntary force for the purpose.

JAILS AND LOCK-UPS

District Jail.—Located, since 1871, on the Grand Trunk Road near the District Courts, Karnal, this had been a sub-jail before it was upgraded as district jail on May 8, 1967. It is under the charge of a Superintendent who is assisted by a Deputy Superintendent, two Assistant Superintendents, one Sub-Assistant Superintendent and other miscellaneous staff.

The authorised accommodation which previously had been for 180 prisoners and undertrials was increased to 400 after the sub-jail was raised to the status of district jail.¹ This jail is meant mainly for keeping undertrials in judicial custody till the decision of their cases. The offenders after their conviction are transferred to the Central Jail, Ambala and the District Jail, Rohtak. The juvenile delinquents below the age of 21 are transferred to the Borstal Jail, Hisar (Hissar). The prisoners except those convicted under the Railways Act², on their release, are given free railway passes for journey to their homes.

There is a separate ward for women prisoners. A female warder is deputed to look after them. The women ward is meant for those awaiting trial who on conviction are transferred to the Central Jail, Ambala.

The jail dispensary has a 5-bed ward for in-patients. Serious cases are sent for treatment to the Civil Hospital. Every care is taken for the sanitation and cleanliness of apartments and wards. A part-time Medical

1. The total population of the jail was 267 on March 31, 1970 and 265 on March 31, 1974.

2. The Indian Railways Act IX of 1890.

Officer and a whole-time dispenser attend to the patients. The Medical Officer is deputed from the Civil Hospital by the Chief Medical Officer, Karnal.

Welfare of prisoners.—The accent of modern prison system is more on reformation rather than punishment. Consequently, there is a significant change in outlook towards the welfare of prisoners and a number of facilities are now afforded to them. In pursuance of the Jails Reforms Committee's recommendations, not only the facilities of interviews with their relatives and writing to them have been liberalised, but also they have been provided with better clothing and utensils. They are allowed to supplement food and toilet requirements from their relatives and the jail canteen. The District Crime Prevention Society extends assistance to the needy prisoners for their daily requirements. To infuse a sense of responsibility and spirit of trust among the prisoners, they are associated with work connected with their own welfare through a *panchayati* system. This is working successfully and is of great value in the maintenance of discipline.

The visits, from time to time, of official and non-official visitors prove useful. These create a healthy atmosphere among the inmates who realise that despite their being behind the bars, they are cared for and not ignored. This produces confidence in them and promotes better discipline. These visits also serve as liaison between the jail administration and the prisoners. Their suggestions for the betterment of the prisoners are given due consideration.

The prisoners are taught the modern methods of agriculture, the use of implements, the latest varieties of seeds, fertilizers and insecticides on the 90-acre farm and 6-acre garden attached to the jail where a tractor has also been provided. The annual produce of this farm is worth about one lakh rupees. Besides agriculture, the prisoners are imparted training in the manufacture of phenyl, soap, weaving of *niwar* and durries. In this way they earn while they learn. This also inculcates in them the habit of working hard and collectively with a sportsman spirit.

Since only the undertrials are kept in this jail, the facilities and amenities provided to them cannot be on a large scale. However, efforts are made for their mental uplift and physical development so as to effect a change in their attitude and criminal tendencies. Arrangements exist for imparting elementary education to them. They also take advantage of jail library where they can read newspapers, periodicals and other books. A radio set has been provided by the District Crime Prevention Society.

The Welfare Officer of the jail, with the assistance of the Public Relations Department, arranges dramas and film shows for entertaining the prisoners.¹ Besides indoor games, outdoor games and sports are also arranged for them. The object of these reforms is that on release the prisoners go back to the society as useful citizens and civilised persons.

Sub-Jail, Panipat.—A subsidiary to the District Jail, Karnal, this sub-jail is located in the Industrial Area behind the Sub-Divisional Magistrate's Court at Panipat. Before being converted into sub-jail on April 1, 1962, its building was utilised as judicial lock up. The building has two rooms with an authorised accommodation for 14 prisoners. However, its population on an average remains 20 to 30 and only under trials are confined here.² The boundary wall of the sub-jail was constructed in 1968 while the administrative block and residential quarters in 1970. In 1970, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate acted as Superintendent of the sub-jail and was assisted by a Sub-Assistant Superintendent. A piece of land measuring 8 *kanals* and 10 *marlas* has been attached to this sub-jail where vegetables and fodder are grown and the prisoners acquire the skill of cultivation.

Police and judicial lock-ups.—An accused person is confined to a police lock-up when in police custody, to a judicial lock-up during trial and to a jail after conviction. Each of the 21 police stations in the district is provided with one male and one female police lock-up having a capacity of 8 and 4 persons respectively which at times is too small for the number of persons detained. None of the police lock-ups has the amenity of electrification.

As stated earlier, the District Jail, Karnal and the Sub-Jail, Panipat, serve as the judicial lock-ups. However, the undertrials are kept separate from the convicted persons, if any, undergoing imprisonment.

JUSTICE

There are three kinds of courts existing in the district, viz. civil, criminal and revenue.

CIVIL COURTS

In early 19th century conditions were very different. Civil suits were tried solely by the Sadar Amin at Panipat who adjudged cases according to Muhammadan law.³ The language of the courts was

1. A television set has also been provided in 1974.

2. The total population of the sub-jail was 14 on March 31, 1970 and 30 on March 31, 1974.

3. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1892, p. 63.

Persian till 1836. No suits against Government were admitted in the courts of the Delhi territory, and no stamps were affixed on petitions till, in 1830, Regulation X of 1829 was extended to the courts by proclamation. Sale of land was not permitted without the consent of the whole village, except with the express sanction of the Governor-General in Council.

During the latter part of the 19th century, a Munsif was appointed in the district who had jurisdiction within Karnal and Panipat tahsils and in *pargana* Asandh of the Kaithal tahsil. He held his court alternately, for two months at Karnal and two months at Panipat. Besides, the Honorary Magistrates, conferred with various powers, exercised magisterial jurisdiction within the limits of their respective jagirs and in the towns of Kaithal and Karnal. By the beginning of the present century, the civil judicial work was placed under the supervision of a District and Sessions Judge posted at Karnal. He had under him two Subordinate Judges stationed at Karnal and two Munsifs stationed one each at Karnal and Kaithal respectively. Practically, all the civil work was done by them, but a few civil suits were sent to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kaithal. The Honorary Magistrates continued to have jurisdiction in various parts of the district for civil judicial work.

Till the separation of the judiciary from the executive in 1964, the administration of civil judicial work in the district was handled by the District and Sessions Judge, Karnal, who was assisted by the Senior Sub-Judge, Karnal and three Sub-Judges, one each at Karnal, Panipat and Kaithal. An Additional Sub-Judge III Class was appointed at Karnal in 1965. After the separation of the two functions, the Senior Sub-Judge and Sub-Judges Ist Class have been invested with the powers of a Judicial Magistrate Ist Class. The Additional Sub-Judge III Class enjoys the powers of Judicial Magistrate II Class.

Senior Sub-Judge, Karnal.—He performs many functions of a judicial nature. He is appellate authority in Small Cause cases of money suits not exceeding Rs. 100, land suits not exceeding Rs. 250, and unclassified suits not exceeding Rs. 500 in value. He is also a Subordinate Judge Ist Class and as such can hear suits of any value. He is Rent Controller under the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1947. He can try cases under the Guardian and Wards Act, 1890, and the Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920. He is Commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936. He acts as Tribunal under the Displaced Persons (Debt Adjustment) Act, 1951.¹ He is a Judge of the Small Cause

1. He was also a member of the Tribunal constituted under the Defence of India Act, 1962, which ceased functioning in 1968.

Court under the Provincial Small Cause Courts Act, 1887.

He hears transfer applications in *panchayat* cases, and revision applications under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952. He can hear applications under the Indian Succession Act, 1925, and dispose of cases under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. Besides, he is in charge of the process serving establishment.

Sub-Judge Ist Class.—The Subordinate Judge of the First Class has jurisdiction to try civil suits irrespective of their valuation. He can exercise the powers and functions of the Rent Controller under the East Punjab Urban Rent Restriction Act, 1949. He is also competent to dispose of a petition under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, when it is transferred to him by the District Judge. At the tahsil headquarters, the Sub-Judge with First Class powers is also competent to entertain a petition for obtaining a Succession Certificate under the Indian Succession Act, 1925.

Additional Sub-Judge III Class.—He exercises jurisdiction in cases of which the value does not exceed Rs. 5,000.

CRIMINAL COURTS

In the early 19th century murder cases were tried at Delhi; and the bodies of criminals executed were left hanging on the gibbets. This practice continued till 1838. Flogging was abolished in 1825. The tract law was, however, rigorously enforced, holding the village to which the thieves were traced and even that in which the robbery took place, if connivance was suspected, responsible for the full value of the stolen property; and though this practice was discontinued on the introduction of the Regulations in 1832, yet the Court of Directors expressly ordered its revival on the ground of the number of feudatory chiefs whose territories bordered on the tract. The police establishment was notoriously corrupt. During the five years from 1828 to 1832, the average number of cases brought into court, excluding assaults, was only 628 for the whole of Panipat district. In 1879, the corresponding number for a little large population was 1,750. The police duties in large towns were discharged by watchmen, while in villages the people themselves were responsible for these duties. For the jagir holdings, the police was furnished by the jagirdars. There were no headquarters of the district in 1827, and the Magistrate was always moving about and carrying his jail with him, the prisoners sleeping in the open under nothing but a guard.¹

1. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1892, p. 63.

By the beginning of the present century, the criminal judicial work came to be supervised by the District and Sessions Judge, Karnal. He was assisted by the District Magistrate, the Senior Sub-Judge and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kaithal, 2 Extra Assistant Commissioners with Class I powers, 4 Tahsildars with Class II powers and 6 Naib-Tahsildars with Class III powers. The Junior Sub-Judge stationed at Karnal was also allowed to perform criminal work during the month of September. Besides, the Honorary Magistrates, conferred with various powers, exercised criminal jurisdiction in different parts of the district.¹

In 1963, the organisation of criminal justice was controlled by the District Magistrate, Karnal, who was assisted by an Additional District Magistrate; three Magistrates Ist Class at Karnal; General Assistant, Karnal; Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil) at Panipat, Kaithal and Thanesar; and Resident Magistrates at Panipat and Kaithal.

With the separation of the judiciary from the executive in 1964, powers of the District Magistrate, on the criminal side, were vested in the Chief Judicial Magistrate under the control of the District and Sessions Judge, Karnal. There are in all 7 courts on criminal side, viz. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Karnal, 2 Judicial Magistrates Ist Class, Karnal, Additional Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Karnal, 2 Judicial Magistrates Ist Class at Kaithal, and Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Panipat. The Chief Judicial Magistrate supervises the criminal judicial administration of the district. He is invested with exclusive powers to try all cases of the entire district under the Essential Commodities Act in a summary manner. He allots the police stations to the Judicial Magistrates with the approval of the District and Sessions Judge. All the Judicial Magistrates try cases under the Indian Penal Code, the Punjab Excise Act, 1914 and other special Acts. The Judicial Magistrates Ist Class, Karnal and Kaithal are also invested with the powers to try certain offences in a summary way. Challans are put in by the police in the courts of Judicial Magistrates also called Illaqa Magistrates who also watch the investigation of criminal cases. A case generally takes two months for trial but cases of complicated nature with long lists of prosecution witnesses and cases of inter-district or inter-State nature generally take a longer time.

All the Judicial Magistrates have been invested with the powers of Sub-Judge with varying jurisdiction and *vice versa*.

1. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1918, p. 142.

The civil and criminal work has increased considerably in recent years. Table XXXVII of Appendix shows that about 1,500 civil suits more were instituted in 1969 as compared to the figure of 1968. The figure for the first six months of 1970 shows that there is likely to be cent per cent increase in 1970 over the figure of 1968. The increased number of private complaints shows that people are now becoming more and more aware of their rights and the remedies available to them. While this has led on the one hand to the institution of an increasing number of criminal cases, there has also been a corresponding increase in the institution of police challans.

After the passing of the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, some of the functions of the civil, criminal and revenue courts have been made over to the *panchayats*. Where cases lie in the exclusive jurisdiction of the *panchayats*, their cognizance by other courts is barred. The Chief Judicial Magistrate is empowered to revise their decisions and he in turn can delegate these powers to the Illaqa Magistrate. The *panchayats* being elected bodies, however, do not generally consist of persons having adequate knowledge of law. The usual formalities of procedure are thus conspicuous by their absence in the trial of cases by the *panchayats*.

REVENUE COURTS

The Collector is the highest revenue judicial authority in the district and an appeal or revision from his orders lies to the Commissioner and against the orders of the Commissioner an appeal or revision lies to the Financial Commissioner. The Government has invested the Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil) in the district with the powers of Collectors. The General Assistant, the Assistant Commissioners/Extra Assistant Commissioners are Assistant Collectors of the first grade. However, the Tahsildars assume powers of an Assistant Collector of the first grade in partition cases.

BAR ASSOCIATIONS

There is a Bar Association at the district headquarters and separate Bar Associations at Kaithal, Panipat and Thanesar. There is no record to show when the District Bar Association was founded.¹ Its strength was 48 before the Partition; it rose to 119 in 1962 and

1. From the entries in the Punjab Gazetteer, dated June 4, 1903, it appears that Mir Usaf Ali was admitted as pleader II grade on August 28, 1876.

163 in 1970. The Karnal Bar has spacious building with grassy plots. A few particulars about the other Bar Associations are given below:

Name	Year of establishment	Membership in 1970
Bar Association, Kaithal	1905-06	60 (including 3 pleaders)
Bar Association, Panipat	1927	51
Bar Association, Thanesar	1962	8

A legal practitioner entitled to practise as a lawyer must become a member of the Bar Association. The Association promotes the administration of law and justice and protects and safeguards the rights and privileges of the members belonging to the legal profession in general and the members of the Association in particular. These Associations function under the rules framed by the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

The recent legislation like Agrarian and Rent Restriction laws has led to an increase in litigation thus providing better chances for the young-recruits entering the legal profession.

Chapter XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The organisational set-up, staff, duties and functions of the departments not mentioned in other chapters are briefly given here.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The three wings of the Public Works Department located in the district are : (i) Public Health Engineering (ii) Buildings and Roads and (iii) Irrigation.

(i) PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

Public Health Division, Karnal.—This division, which has been functioning since 1956, is headed by an Executive Engineer and functions under the overall control of the Superintending Engineer, Ambala Cantt. The Executive Engineer of the division is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Engineers, two stationed at Karnal and the third at Kurukshetra.¹ This division undertakes the execution of public works relating to drainage other than land drainage, sewerage, water-supply and sanitation in rural and urban areas. It provides public health amenities in Government buildings and is also responsible for the maintenance of public health engineering installations in public buildings, rural areas and in the towns where the municipal committees desire the Government to maintain such facilities on their behalf.

During recent years, the division has executed a number of public health engineering works in Karnal, Kaithal, Pehowa, Shahabad (Shahbad), Thanesar, Kurukshetra, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) and Panipat and has provided water-supply and sewerage facilities in Kurukshetra University, Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra and Sainik School, Kunjpura. This division also looks after the water-supply arrangements during the solar eclipse fairs at Kurukshetra.

1. (a) A new sub-division was formed at Kaithal in April 1970, for the execution of the works of the Kaithal tahsil.

(b) With the formation of the new district of Kurukshetra on January 23, 1973, a separate Executive Engineer has been made in-charge of the Kurukshetra Division with one Sub-Divisional Engineer each at Kurukshetra and Pehowa and two at Kaithal. The Executive Engineer at Karnal also has four Sub-Divisional Engineers under him, viz. three at Karnal and one at Panipat.

(ii) BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Karnal Circle, Karnal.—The roads and buildings in the district were formerly under the charge of a Provincial Division at Karnal (formed in 1955). Another division named Construction Division was opened at Karnal on January 7, 1969, which was later shifted to Panipat on August 11, 1969. A full circle for P.W.D. (B & R) Works at Karnal and one more division at Kaithal were opened on July 23, 1969. This circle supervises the work of four divisions located one each at Karnal, Panipat, Kurukshetra and Kaithal. The work of electric installations in the Government buildings is attended to by the Karnal Electrical Sub-Divisions No. I and No. II located at Karnal.¹

A special construction division, viz. Kurukshetra Construction Division² was created in 1964 for the construction of the buildings of Regional Engineering College at Kurukshetra, etc.

For proper upkeep of the road building machinery, a Mechanical Division was opened at Karnal on August 19, 1969. A Mechanical Sub-Division was also opened at Karnal on October 6, 1969.³

(iii) IRRIGATION

A brief description of the various offices of the Irrigation Department located in the district is given below :

Karnal Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Karnal.—An Executive Engineer holds charge of this division under the Superintending Engineer, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, East Circle, Delhi. He is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers namely, Karnal Sub-Divisional Officer, Nardak Sub-Divisional Officer and Gohana Sub-Divisional Officer. A part of the Rohtak district is also included in this division.⁴

This division is concerned with the irrigation works relating to the Main

1. Karnal Electrical Sub-Division No. II was shifted to Chandigarh in August 1970 and the other one was called Karnal Electrical Sub-Division. It was raised into a division on August 29, 1972. The headquarters of the circle under a Superintending Engineer were also located at Karnal on September 16, 1970. It also supervises the work of all other divisions which are functioning in other districts.

2. This division was closed on August 16, 1972, and its works entrusted to Kurukshetra Provincial Division.

3. A Mechanical Circle has also been located at Karnal since June 25, 1971.

4. Irrigation division does not coincide with the civil district but is determined by the irrigation channels which it administers.

Branch of Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Chautang Canal System, Bazida Distributary, Nardak Distributary and Gohana and Israna Distributaries.

Pehowa Division, Kaithal¹.—This division was opened in 1954 at Ambala but shifted to Kaithal in 1956. The Executive Engineer in charge of this division functions under the Superintending Engineer, Ambala Bhakra Canal Circle, Chandigarh. This division which is sub-divided into 4 sub-divisions, *viz.* Sarusti (Sarasvati) Sub-Division, Pehowa Sub-Division, Jotisar Sub-Division and Jhansa Sub-Division, is mainly concerned with the development of canal irrigation and drainage works relating to Narwana Branch of First Bhakra Main Line and the Sarusti (Sarasvati) Canal system. It also maintains flood protection bunds for the safety of canals.

Karnal Drainage Division, Karnal.—The origin of this division may be traced to Drainage Division No. III which was established in 1957 at Karnal for providing suitable drains to overcome the difficulties created by the floods every year. In October 1961, the administrative control of Drainage Division No. III was transferred from the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal East Circle, Delhi, to the Drainage Circle, Karnal. In 1964, the Dhanaura Drainage Division was closed and amalgamated with Drainage Division No. III and its name was changed to Karnal Drainage Division, Karnal. The purpose of this division was to complete the main schemes already undertaken by Drainage Division No. III and Dhanaura Drainage Division besides some other works including measures to check floods and water-logging in the Karnal and Ambala districts. At that time it consisted of three sub-divisions namely, Karnal Drainage Sub-Division, Karnal; Jagadhri Drainage Sub-Division, Yamunanagar; and Samalkha Drainage Sub-Division, Panipat. Subsequently Samalkha Drainage Sub-Division was merged into Karnal Drainage Sub-Division and Jagadhri Drainage Sub-Division was transferred to Ambala Drainage Division, Ambala. In 1965, on the closing down of Barara Drainage Division, Gurgaon, Palwal Sub-Division was transferred to the Karnal Drainage Division. In November 1966, works of bunds along the Yamuna from Dhanaura to Sanauli bund (near Panipat) were transferred to this division from Karnal Division, Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal, Karnal. For the upkeep and maintenance of these works, a new Bund Sub-Division has also been opened. Thus there are now three sub-divisions executing the works pertaining to drains and bunds, *viz.* Karnal Drainage Sub-Division, Karnal; Palwal Drainage Sub-Division, Palwal; and Bund Sub-Division, Karnal.

1. Since the bifurcation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973, this division has been included in the Kurukshetra district.

The Executive Engineer in charge of this division is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Drainage Circle, Karnal. For draining flood water, this division has taken up a number of schemes namely, Re-modelling Main Drain No. 2; Re-modelling Indri Drain, Nisang Drain, Safidon Drain, Sarasvati Drain and construction of bunds near Kunjpura along the Yamuna.

Mechanical Drainage Division, Karnal.—The Executive Engineer in charge of this division is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Drainage Circle, Karnal. He is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers, viz. Mechanical Drainage Sub-Divisions, Kaithal¹, Karnal, and Hodal² (Gurgaon district). This division was opened in March 1961, to assist in mechanical jobs connected with the execution of allied work, flood control and drainage works schemes under execution of the Drainage Circle, Karnal.

Investigation Drainage Division, Karnal.—This division, which was opened in November 1961, is headed by an Executive Engineer under the Superintending Engineer, Drainage Circle, Karnal. It was transferred to the Project Drainage Circle, Chandigarh, on February 28, 1963. This division finds out ways and means of checking and controlling floods in the Western Jumna (Yamuna) Canal tract of the Karnal, Rohtak and Hisar (Hissar) districts.

Tubewell Division, Karnal.—The Executive Engineer in charge of this division is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Ambala Bhakra Canal Circle, Chandigarh. He is assisted by five Sub-Divisional Officers, one each at Karnal, Panipat and Kurukshetra³, Ambala and Yamunanagar (Ambala district). The main function of the division is to distribute tubewell water among the cultivators and to maintain the existing tubewells in running condition.⁴

A subsequent significant achievement of the Irrigation Department is the construction of Augmentation Canal which was commissioned in January 1973. A write-up on this canal has been appended to Chapter IV on

1. In the Kurukshetra district since January 23, 1973.

2. Transferred to Feeder Gurgaon Circle, Delhi, on December 1, 1968. A new Mechanical Drainage Sub-Division of Drainage Circle, Karnal, with headquarters at Rohtak was opened on November 11, 1969.

3. In the Kurukshetra district since January 23, 1973.

4. Besides these offices, some more were established at Karnal in connection with the construction of the Augmentation Canal. The canal having been completed, most of these offices were wound up. However, two sub-divisions, viz. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. III and No. IV, have been functioning at Karnal since March 1, 1974. Details about the Augmentation Canal have been appended to the Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'.

Agriculture and Irrigation. However, the details of the establishment engaged for its construction from time to time are given below:

Augmentation Canal Circle No. I, Ambala (from February 11, 1971 to February 28, 1974)

- Divisions:**
1. Augmentation Canal Division No. I, Yamuna Nagar
 2. Augmentation Canal Division No. II, Karnal
 3. Augmentation Canal Division No. III, Yamuna Nagar
 4. Augmentation Mechanical Division No. I, Yamuna Nagar

- Sub-Divisions:**
1. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. I, Yamuna Nagar
 2. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. II, Yamuna Nagar
 3. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. III, Yamuna Nagar
 4. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. IV, Yamuna Nagar
 5. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. V, Karnal
 6. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. VI, Karnal
 7. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. VII, Karnal
 8. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. VIII, Karnal
 9. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. IX, Yamuna Nagar
 10. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. X, Yamuna Nagar
 11. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. XI, Yamuna Nagar
 12. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. XII, Yamuna Nagar
 13. Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division No. I, Yamuna Nagar
 14. Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division No. II, Yamuna Nagar
 15. Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division No. III, Yamuna Nagar
 16. Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division No. IV, Yamuna Nagar
 17. Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division No. V, Yamuna Nagar

Augmentation Canal Circle No. II, Karnal (from June 6, 1971 to August 16, 1973)

- Divisions:**
1. Augmentation Canal Division No. IV, Karnal
 2. Augmentation Canal Division No. V, Karnal
 3. Augmentation Canal Division No. VI, Karnal
 4. Augmentation Mechanical Division No. II, Karnal

- Sub-Divisions:**
1. Shahpur Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 2. Makhu Majra Sub-Division, Karnal
 3. Subri Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 4. Rasulpur Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 5. Shakhupura Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 6. Madhuban Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 7. Bijna Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 8. Budhanpurabad Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal
 9. New Colony Sub-Division, Karnal
 10. Survey Sub-Division, Karnal
 11. Augmentation Material Sub-Division, Karnal
 12. Link Channel Sub-Division, Karnal
 13. Naval Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division, Karnal
 14. Gharaunda Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division Gharaunda
 15. Baragaon Augmentation Mechanical Sub-Division, Karnal
 16. Stores Procurement and Workshop Sub-Division, Karnal

Establishment for Augmentation Canal from March 1, 1974

- Circle:** Sutlej Yamuna Link Circle, Ambala
Division: Augmentation Canal Division, Yamuna Nagar

- Sub-Divisions:**
1. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. I, Yamuna Nagar
 2. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. II, Yamuna Nagar
 3. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. III, Karnal
 4. Augmentation Canal Sub-Division No. IV, Karnal

HARYANA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

The following offices¹ under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Haryana State Electricity Board, Karnal, are functioning in the

1. Except the Operation Division, Kurukshetra, which functions under the Superintending Engineer, Operation Circle, Chandigarh.

district for the distribution of electricity to domestic, commercial, agricultural, industrial and other types of consumers and also for the maintenance and construction work of electricity lines and other installations:—

Karnal City Division.—This division was established as the 'Karnal Operation Division' in February 1953, and functioned under the Punjab Public Works Department, Electricity Branch. Later on its control was transferred to the Punjab State Electricity Board on its establishment in 1959.¹

Under the charge of an Executive Engineer, this division is sub-divided into 5 sub-divisions, headed by the Assistant Engineer Commercial, Karnal; the Assistant Engineer Technical (Local), Karnal; the Assistant Engineer, Transmission Lines and Sub-Station Engineer, Karnal; the Assistant Engineer, Technical (Suburban), Karnal; and the Assistant Engineer Construction-cum-Augmentation Sub-Division, Karnal.

Suburban Division, Karnal.—This division, under the charge of an Executive Engineer, was created on August 12, 1967. The offices under the control of this division are : Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Jundla; Operation Sub-Division, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) with a sub-office at Tirawari (Taraori); Operation Sub-Division, Indri; Operation Sub-Division, Nisang; Construction Sub-Division, Nisang; and Construction Sub-Division, Indri.

Operation Division, Kurukshetra.—This division was established on January 29, 1968, and is under the control of an Executive Engineer. The offices under the control of this division are: Kurukshetra Operation Sub-Division; Pipli Sub-Division with sub-office at Amin; Ladwa Sub-Division with sub-offices at Udana and Ramsaran Mazra; Construction Sub-Division, Ladwa; Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Thanesar with sub-office at Kirmach; Construction Sub-Division, Pipli; and Assistant Engineer Transmission Lines and Sub-Station Engineer, Pipli.

City Division, Panipat.—Under the charge of an Executive Engineer, this division has been sub-divided into four sub-divisions headed by the Assistant Engineer Commercial, the Assistant Engineer Technical I, the Assistant Engineer Technical II Suburban, and the Assistant Engineer Construction and Augmentation Sub-Division. All these Sub-Divisions are located at Panipat.

1. Consequent upon the creation of the new State of Haryana, the Haryana State Electricity Board was formed on April 1, 1967 and began its operation on May 2, 1967. Prior to this, the Punjab State Electricity Board functioned as a common board for both the States, viz. Punjab and Haryana.

Suburban Division, Panipat.—This division is under the charge of an Executive Engineer. Six sub-divisions under its control are: Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Israna; Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Matlauda; Samalkha Sub-Division; Attached Officer and Sub-Divisional Officer Transmission Lines Sub-Division, Panipat; Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Asandh; and Gharaunda Sub-Division.

Kaithal Division, Kaithal.—This division was created on July 31, 1968 and is under the charge of an Executive Engineer. The offices under the control of this division are: Kaithal City Sub-Division; Pehowa Sub-Division;¹ Suburban Sub-Division, Kaithal; Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Pundri; Construction Sub-Division, Pehowa; Construction Sub-Division, Kaithal; Assistant Engineer Transmission Lines and Sub-Station Engineer Sub-Division, Kaithal; and two sub-offices at Dhand under Pehowa Sub-Division and Chika under Suburban Sub-Division, Kaithal.

Maintenance and Test Sub-Division, Karnal.—This sub-division is under Karnal Circle and looks after the maintenance of supply system in the Circle.

Besides these six divisions functioning under the Superintending Engineer, Karnal, there is another divisional office (Shahbad Division) at Shahabad (Shahbad) which is under the Superintending Engineer, Chandigarh. Two of its sub-divisions, *viz.* Shahbad Sub-Division and Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Ismailabad are located in the Karnal district whereas the remaining sub-divisions and sub-offices are located in the Ambala district.

In addition to one 220 kv. grid sub-station at Panipat, there are four 66 kv. grid sub-stations at Indri, Shahabad (Shahbad), Karnal and Pipli, and fifteen 33 kv. grid sub-stations at Ladwa, Pipli, Bhor, Dhand, Kaithal, Shahabad (Shahbad), Kurukshetra, Pehowa, Kurali, Nisang, Samalkha, Ismailabad, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri), Gharaunda and Chika.

The progress about rural electrification in the Karnal district has been discussed at the end of this chapter.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

This department is represented by the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Karnal, and two Assistant Registrars—one at Karnal and the other

1. A new division has been created at Pehowa on October 3, 1972, with five sub-divisions, *viz.* (i) Operation Sub-Division, Pehowa, (ii) Suburban Operation Sub-Division, Pehowa, (iii) Operation Sub-Division, Dhand, (iv) Operation-cum-Construction Sub-Division, Ismailabad, and (v) Assistant Engineer Transmission Lines and Sub-Station Engineer Sub-Division, Pehowa.

at Kaithal. The post of the Deputy Registrar was sanctioned in June 1967, when Intensive Agricultural District Programme was extended to Karnal by the Government of India. The Deputy Registrar is under the administrative control of the Director of Agriculture, Haryana. The Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Karnal, has his jurisdiction over the Karnal and Panipat tahsils whereas the co-operative societies in the Kaithal and Thanesar tahsils function under the control of the Assistant Registrar at Kaithal. Two more Assistant Registrars, namely Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Milk Supply, and Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Fertilizers, have started functioning at Karnal since July 1968 and October 1968 respectively. The former looks to the organisation and supervision of the Dairy and Milk Supply Societies and the latter to the Marketing Societies.¹

The Assistant Registrars are entrusted with the healthy growth of co-operative movement. They arrange for the agriculturists, through Central Co-operative Banks, Land Mortgage Banks, Agricultural Credit Societies, etc., adequate and timely supply of short, medium and long term credit and agricultural requisites, such as chemical fertilizers, improved seeds, insecticides and pesticides. The produce is routed through the marketing co-operatives so as to ensure better remunerative prices to the agriculturists. Besides, consumer goods, *e.g.* sugar, foodgrains, kerosene oil, etc., are also arranged for them through a net work of village service co-operatives.

1. After the bifurcation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973, the Co-operative Department has the following organisational set-up in the Karnal and Kurukshetra districts:—

Karnal district

1. Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, (Intensive Agricultural District Programme), Karnal
2. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Karnal
3. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Panipat
4. Assistant Registrar, Milk Supply Societies, (Intensive Cattle Development Programme), Karnal
5. Industrial Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Karnal

Kurukshetra district

1. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Kaithal
2. Assistant Registrar, Milk Supply Societies, (Intensive Cattle Development Programme), Kurukshetra

The jurisdiction (general line) of the Deputy Registrar, Karnal, extends to the Karnal and Kurukshetra districts whereas the Deputy Registrar, Industrial at Chandigarh and Deputy Registrar, Milk Supply at Chandigarh have the whole of Haryana State under their jurisdiction for the respective type of societies.

DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND BACKWARD CLASSES

This department is represented by the District Welfare Officer for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes who is assisted by five Tahsil Welfare Officers, one in each tahsil, and the Male and the Lady Social Workers with Lady Attendants working in the community centres in the district.¹ The main functions of this office include creating public opinion against untouchability and to adopt measures for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Vimukat Jatis and Other Backward Classes.²

The Male Social Workers hold adult classes and deliver lectures against the evil practice of untouchability and also work for the uplift of the Harijans. This work is intensively carried out through the welfare community centres located at Asandh, Dhons (tahsil Kaithal), Jundla, Shamgarh, Samana Bahu (tahsil Karnal), Israna (tahsil Panipat) and Radaur (tahsil Thanesar).

The Lady Social Workers hold sewing and *balwadi* classes and arrange *sat sangs* in the community centres. They deliver lectures to Harijan women on the care of babies and general cleanliness. Besides, they visit Harijan *bastis* and create a public opinion among the residents to the effect that they should observe no distinctions even among themselves.

The Lady Attendants are trained Dais and provide maternity aid.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The district treasury is under the control of a Treasury Officer, assisted by three Assistant Treasury Officers (one each for the Sub-Treasuries at Panipat,

1. After bifurcation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973, the work of this department in the newly created Kurukshetra district comprising the three tahsils of Kaithal, Gula (Guhla) and Thanesar, is looked after by a separate District Welfare Officer for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

2. For details about schemes for their welfare and uplift, the Chapter on 'Other Social Services' may be seen.

Thanesar and Kaithal).¹ His threefold functions comprise (a) receipt of revenue including sale of stamps on behalf of Central and State Governments; (b) disbursement of bills of pay and allowances of Government employees, bills of contingencies, grants-in-aid, scholarships and pensions including military pensions; and (c) maintenance of accounts pertaining to (a) and (b).

The cash transactions of the treasury and sub-treasuries are conducted through the branches of the State Bank of India at Karnal, Kaithal, Panipat and Thanesar.

The district treasury was previously under the charge of an Extra Assistant Commissioner (Revenue Department) who could not obviously devote full attention to this job, being entrusted with magisterial work in addition to treasury duties. Under the scheme of Reorganisation of Treasuries, introduced in December 1955, the district treasury came under the administrative control of the Finance Department and a whole-time Treasury Officer, belonging to the Punjab (now Haryana) Finance and Accounts Service cadre and well-versed with the accounting procedure, was appointed for efficient working of the treasury and maintenance of its accounts.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

This department is represented by the District Public Relations Officer who maintains a constant liaison with the Press and the public in general for

1. After the bifurcation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973, the Finance Department has the following organisational set-up in the Karnal and Kurukshetra districts:—

Karnal district

The District Treasury at Karnal is under the control of a Treasury Officer assisted by two Assistant Treasury Officers, one each for the Sub-Treasuries at Panipat and Tirawari (Taraori). The cash transactions of the treasury and sub-treasuries are conducted through the branches of the State Bank of India at Karnal, Panipat and Tirawari (Taraori).

Kurukshetra district

Besides the District Treasury at Kurukshetra, there is another full-fledged Treasury at Kaithal. The Treasury Officer, Kurukshetra is assisted by two Assistant Treasury Officers, one each for the Sub-Treasuries at Shahabad (Shahbad) and Ladwa. The cash transactions of the treasury and sub-treasuries are conducted through the branches of the State Bank of India at Kurukshetra, Shahabad (Shahbad) and Ladwa. The Treasury Officer, Kaithal is also assisted by two Assistant Treasury Officers, one each for the Sub-Treasuries at Pehowa and Gula (Guhla). The cash transactions of the Kaithal Treasury are conducted at the State Bank of India, Kaithal, and of Pehowa Sub-Treasury at State Bank of Patjala, Pehowa, while Gula (Guhla) is a non-banking sub-treasury.

putting across the Government point of view. He also keeps the Government informed of public reactions to its plans and policies and conveys public grievances to the district and State authorities.

The District Public Relations Officer is assisted by the Field Publicity Staff including a Drama Party, a Bhajan Party and a Mobile Cinema Unit. He maintains an Information Centre at the district headquarters and also looks after tourism and cultural affairs. He distributes Government publicity literature, organises public meetings, conferences, exhibitions, film and drama shows. He is in charge of the Community Listening Scheme under which radio sets have been allotted to *panchayats*, co-operatives and schools. The radio mechanics under him are responsible for their proper maintenance. Radio repair workshops have been established at all the tahsil headquarters.

FIRE FIGHTING DEPARTMENT

Although there is a Fire Officer stationed at Chandigarh for the State as a whole, no such department exists at the district level. The administrative control of the fire stations rests with the municipal committees concerned. The Fire Officer, Haryana, advises them on technical matters and also assists them by providing equipment out of the grant-in-aid. In the Karnal district a fire brigade is maintained only by the Municipal Committee, Karnal, and its services are made available to the whole of the district.

FOOD AND SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

This department is represented by the District Food and Supplies Controller, who is assisted by a District Food and Supplies Officer and five Assistant Food and Supplies Officers. His duties include the procurement of foodgrains and arranging their despatches to other States and deficit areas in the State, looking after proper storage of the stocks of foodgrains kept in Provincial Reserve besides arranging for their distribution and the distribution of sugar, kerosene oil, cement, coal/coke, vegetable ghee, etc., at reasonable/control prices through fair price shops. These activities are regulated/carried out through various control/licensing orders issued by the Food and Supplies Department mainly under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

There is a permanent barrier at Sanauli (tahsil Panipat) and seasonal barriers at Asandh (tahsil Kaithal), Samalkha and Israna (tahsil Panipat) to intercept smuggling of foodgrains to other States.

Karnal is on the top in the State in procurement of wheat and rice as is

evident from the following figures for the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 :—

Year	Wheat		(Metric tonnes)	
	Procured in the State	Procured in the Karnal district	Procured in the State	Procured in the Karnal district
1966-67	8,616	3,480	88,594	65,367
1967-68	49,428	21,179	1,68,424	1,21,554
1968-69	2,03,394	79,284	1,59,549	1,09,709
1969-70	2,70,756	1,41,317	2,34,016	1,55,594

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Economic and Statistical Organisation under the administrative control of the Planning Department, Haryana, is represented in the district by the District Statistical Officer. His functions are centred in co-ordinating the statistical activities of the different departments at the district level. He collects, compiles, analyses and maintains statistics relating to various socio-economic aspects of the district, checks and scrutinises the periodical progress reports prepared by the Block Development and Panchayat Officers and by various other District Officers, and prepares District Statistical Abstract and Municipal Year Book. He conducts various socio-economic surveys in the district assigned by the Economic and Statistical Adviser to Government, Haryana. He also renders technical guidance to the reporting agencies in collecting and compiling reliable statistics and to the other departments in conducting surveys and enquiries.

NATIONAL SAVINGS ORGANISATION

The National Savings Organisation came into existence during World War II when it was known as the National Savings Central Bureau. It was re-organised in 1948, when a Regional Director was appointed in each State, assisted by an Assistant Regional Director, and one or two District Organisers, National Savings, in each district.

The Karnal Branch of the National Savings Organisation was established in 1951-52 under a District Organiser, National Savings. In 1963, another Organiser for Small Savings, with jurisdiction over Panipat and Kaithal tahsils,

was posted at Panipat. The main functions of the District Organiser are as under:

- (i) to promote the habit of thrift among the public;
- (ii) to persuade the public to invest their savings with Government in one of the Small Savings Securities;
- (iii) to appoint, guide, train and motivate the agents;
- (iv) to form savings groups and watch the efficient functioning of these groups;
- (v) to work for the promotion of Savings Movement in close relationship with other Government organisations like the Post Offices, Community Projects, Co-operatives, Schools and Colleges, Municipalities and State Governments, and to utilise the good offices of the non-official organisations for the purpose.

A Savings Committee reviews the progress of the Small Savings Scheme every month and devises ways and means for its intensification. The district targets are sub-divided among various trades and professions, educational institutions, industries, bazaars, mandis, offices, etc., and the implementation of these is entrusted to the members of the Savings Committee. In order to educate the people regarding the advantages of the Scheme to them and to the nation, publicity is carried out by means of cinema slides, films, folders, posters, exhibitions, public meetings, door-to-door and shop-to-shop canvassing, etc.

The gross and net¹ collections for the years 1959-60 to 1969-70 in the district were as follows:—

Year 1	Gross collections 2	Net collections 3
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1959-60	1,97,63,078	29,68,333
1960-61	2,11,19,218	17,70,112
1961-62	1,89,14,749	3,26,217
1962-63	1,98,92,306	9,98,551
1963-64	1,77,29,568	20,14,173

1. The difference between deposits and withdrawals made during a particular year is reckoned as 'net collections'.

1	2	3
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1964-65	2,00,47,441	29,61,113
1965-66	2,34,91,713	30,55,705
1966-67	2,54,71,621	18,15,390
1967-68	3,35,12,728	56,32,403
1968-69	3,72,22,931	51,16,706
1969-70	6,73,17,000	2,47,36,000

Taking 1967-68 as the base year, the Karnal district in 1969-70 has increased its net collections by 450 per cent and has attained first position in the State. This performance has won an award of five lakh rupees from the State Government to be spent on developmental activities in the district.

LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

In 1957, language teachers were appointed by the Punjab Government to teach Hindi and Panjabi to its employees. In order to ensure an easy and smooth switch-over to Hindi and Panjabi by October 2, 1962, in Hindi and Panjabi regions respectively, Introduction Cells were created in September 1962, at all district headquarters. In the beginning an Instructor represented the Language Department in the district. The office of the District Language Officer, Karnal, was created in 1964.

Efforts to impart training in Hindi were, however, intensified after the formation of the new State of Haryana. The District Language Officer paid visits to various Government offices located in the district, guided and helped the staff in their difficulties. Training in Hindi typewriting and shorthand to the Government employees was also imparted by an Instructor in his office. The duration of type classes was 4 months and that of shorthand classes 9 months. The candidates who had completed these courses successfully by October 31, 1968 were awarded certificates and cash prizes of Rs. 100 and Rs. 150 respectively as an incentive. Hindi was introduced as the official language in the State on January 26, 1969. The objective having been achieved, the training classes in Hindi stenography and typewriting were closed on December 31, 1969 and the office of the District Language Officer was wound up in April 1970.

In order to promote Hindi and Sanskrit, the Department of Languages, during the Second Five-Year Plan (1956—61), introduced two schemes of literary

contests and merit awards. Debating, dramatic and poetical contests are held every year to enrich the Hindi language and two individual prizes of Rs.75 and Rs. 50 are awarded in each category besides a running shield and a cash prize to each of the winning teams in debating and dramatic contests. For popularising Sanskrit, declamation and recitation contests have also been introduced during the Fourth Five-Year Plan (1969—74). Every year two prizes of Rs. 100 (first prize) and Rs. 75 (second prize) are awarded. A total amount of Rs. 975 is distributed as prizes in the contests at the district level in addition to the prizes awarded at State level. A sum of Rs. 500 is spent on giving merit cash awards to the students attaining first position in Hindi or Sanskrit language in the Middle, Matric and Higher Secondary Examinations. To arrange a Kavi Sammelan annually in the district is another activity of the Language Department.

CENTRAL SOIL SALINITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This institute was established at Karnal in October 1969. Its extensive aims and objects include collection of detailed information concerning the formation, distribution, extent and characteristics of salt-affected soils in different parts of the country; to conduct research on the methods of reclamation of such soils. They also comprise investigation of the methods and techniques of drainage of such soils and the feasibility of utilizing poor quality waters for irrigation of various crops under different soil and climatic conditions. This institute conducts research in the effect of irrigation under varying conditions of soil, topography and geological formations on water table, salinity development and crop growth with a view to evolving optimum irrigation and water use practices for arid and semi-arid areas. It evolves varieties of crop plants suitable for growing in salt-affected and water-logged areas and investigate the physiological attributes responsible for salt tolerance in plants.

A well-equipped library and basic laboratory facilities are currently housed in a hired building popularly known as Jarnaili Kothi. The institute has a farm of about 40 hectares laid out in 25 metres X 100 metres experimental plots. A large portion of this farm has highly saline-sodic soil (PH 10, E_{Ce} 25 mmhos/cm and ESP exceeding 90 per cent of the cation exchange capacity) representative of the major saline-alkali area of alluvial soils in the Indus-Ganga plain. The institute also carries out its programme at Research Sub-Centres at Canning (West Bengal) for costal soils, at Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) for alluvial soils and at Indore (Madhya Pradesh) for black soils. The Project Co-ordinator for the Co-ordinated Project on Water Management is also stationed at the institute.¹

1. For the achievements of the institute, see Chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'.

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

The district office of the Food Corporation of India was established at Karnal in October 1966. It covers the entire Haryana State and functions under the Regional Office for Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh. The headquarters of the Corporation are at New Delhi.¹

The functions of the Corporation include purchase, storage, movement, transport, distribution and sale of foodgrains and other food-stuffs. The Corporation assists in setting up of rice mills, flour mills and other undertakings for the processing of foodgrains and other food-stuffs. It acts as a support price organisation to ensure a minimum price for the producer, of which he is assured at all times. At the same time it controls the market against rise in prices. As soon as the prices in the market register higher trend, the Corporation releases its stocks through open auction in the *mandi* to bring down the prices so that the consumer is not required to pay more.

The Food Corporation of India through its Karnal Office procured foodgrains, as shown below, during 1968-69 to 1970-71:

Commodity	Procurement (Quintals)		
	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
Rice	1,58,000	2,28,000	2,41,000
Paddy		6,000	9,900
Wheat	1,79,000	2,80,000	3,64,000
Bajra	4,000	4,200	20,000
Barley		10,000	6,000
Gram		12,500	32,000
Maize			6,700
Mustard Seed			1,400

1. The Food Corporation of India, with its headquarters at Madras, was established in 1964 as a result of the Act of the Parliament for the purpose of trading in foodgrains and other food-stuffs and dealing with other connected matters. Its headquarters were shifted to New Delhi in 1967. The general administration and management of the affairs and business of the Corporation rests with a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors acts on business principles having regard to the interest of the producer and consumer and is guided by such instructions and questions of policy as may be decided upon by the Union Government.

DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING, URBAN ESTATES AND COLONIZATION

The Divisional Town and Country Planning Unit for the Karnal district started functioning at Karnal in June 1972. Prior to this, the town planning work of the district was handled by the Divisional Town Planner at Ambala. The Divisional Town Planner-cum-Estate Officer, Karnal, is now in charge of the town and country planning work and urban estates in the district. Colonization work is managed directly from the headquarters at Chandigarh. All these three branches function under the overall charge of one officer with three separate designations, viz Director, Town and Country Planning; Director, Urban Estates; and Director, Colonization-cum-Special Land Acquisition Officer, Haryana, Chandigarh.

The Department of Town and Country Planning is concerned with the planned and orderly development of the district. It renders technical assistance in the works relating to Municipal Committees, Improvement Trusts, Colonization, Rural Development, schemes pertaining to the Government departments and in the preparation of master plans. There are two Improvement Trusts in the district, one at Karnal and the other at Panipat. Interim master plans for Karnal and Panipat towns were prepared by this department in 1973-74. In addition, land for setting up an urban estate at Karnal was acquired between the Model Town and the by-pass and, on the basis of finalized lay-out, plots sold/allotted to the public.

This department also prepares schemes on behalf of the Rural Development Board (constituted in February 1971) for development and provision of public amenities in villages. Accordingly, Arjanheri village is being developed as a model village in the district.

The Department of Colonization was established for providing modern marketing facilities in the areas irrigated by canals. In the Karnal district, the Department has established a new mandi-township at Indri and steps are being taken to establish new mandis at Asandh, Tirawari (Taraori), Amin, Samalkha and Kunjpura. Master plans and detailed lay-out plans have been prepared by the Town and Country Planning Department.

The Urban Estate Department looks after the requirements of the people for residential plots in urban areas. Under the Haryana Restriction on Colonies (Development and Regulations) Act, 1971, the Government has placed restrictions on the haphazard sale of plots by private colonizers. A residential urban estate, as already stated, is being developed at Karnal for

which 762 acres of land has been acquired. In the first phase, an area of about 339 acres has been planned and is being developed on modern lines. Civic amenities like wide roads, open spaces, parks, community buildings, water-supply, sewerage, electricity and drainage, would be provided. The remaining land will be developed in the second phase. The area would be completely free from flooding since a system of drainage has been provided for the discharge of rain water. Plots of different sizes, viz. one kanal (420 square metres), 14 marlas (300 square metres), 10 marlas (210 square metres) and 6 marlas (138 square metres) have been offered for sale on freehold basis. The price varies from Rs. 39.50 to Rs. 44.30 per square metre. It is also proposed to develop residential and industrial urban estates at Panipat for which 869 acres of land is being acquired.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

The Haryana State Electricity Board started functioning on May 2, 1967. Till then, only 1,251 villages out of a total of 6,669 had been electrified in the State. There were 18,663 kilometres of transmission and distribution lines and the number of sub-stations was 5,437. The number of power-run tubewells was 20,568. The State was deficit in foodgrains and industrially and technologically, too, it was backward, inasmuch as the benefit of power was unknown in most parts of the State. Haryana was not consuming its full share of power from the Bhakra Complex and the Delhi Thermal Plant. After the formation of Haryana, and particularly after Shri Bansi Lal had taken over as Chief Minister in May 1968 the electrification of villages and energisation of tubewells was accelerated. By March 1969, the number of electrified villages rose to 1,464 and of energised tubewells to 45,370 as from 1,262 and 29,000 respectively in May 1968. In 1969-70, 1,903 villages were electrified and 22,856 power-driven tubewells were installed and finally on November 14, 1970, the rural electrification programme in the State was completed. The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, formally switched on a symbolic light in the last village Uchani (a hamlet of Uchana) near Karnal on November 29, 1970. By July 1973, the number of tubewell connections rose to 1,18,763. These tubewells irrigated about 4.6 lakh hectares of cultivated land which was nearly 50 per cent of the area irrigated by the canals. The length of transmission and distribution lines increased to about 75,000 kilometres and the number of sub-stations was more than

20,000. About 11,500 industrial and 2,15,000 general connections had been added during the period April 1968 to July 1973. The number of electric consumers was more than 6.78 lakhs by the end of July 1973 as compared to 3.57 lakhs in May 1968. The daily consumption had increased from 2.03 million units in March 1968 and touched 6.2 million units in March 1973.

In the Karnal district, 289 villages out of a total of 1,357 villages had been provided with electricity till the 31st March, 1968 and there were 9,823 power-run tubewells by that date. During 1969-70, the number of electrified villages rose to 686 and of power-run tubewells to 24,550. By June 1971, this district had 32,580 tubewells out of a total of 89,021 tubewells in the State and had thus topped among all districts in minor irrigation facilities. Electricity is now used for threshing crops, grinding wheat, shelling rice, cutting fodder, ginning cotton and for other agricultural activities. Artisans like blacksmiths and mechanics have started using power-run wheels and furnaces in their workshops and small industrial units are coming up in rural areas.

Chapter XIV

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The history of development of local government institutions in the district covers a period of one hundred years. The first step towards the introduction of local Government in the district was taken in 1867 by constituting municipalities at Karnal, Panipat, Kaithal, Thanesar, Shahabad (Shahbad), Ladwa, Pundri, Pehowa and Kunjpura. In 1885, Thanesar and Shahabad (Shahbad), and in 1886, Karnal, Panipat and Kaithal were re-constituted as class II municipalities. Pundri, Pehowa and Kunjpura municipalities were abolished between 1885 and 1887. In 1908, Ladwa municipality was converted into a Notified Area Committee. A notified area committee was also constituted for Kaithal Mandi the same year. In 1924, it was raised to a small town committee and Pundri and Radaur were also declared as small town committees.

In 1949, Karnal Municipal Committee was raised to the status of class I. In 1953, the Notified Area Committee of the Civil Lines of Karnal, was merged into it, and a class III municipal committee was created at Gharaunda. The Punjab Small Town Committees Act, 1921, was repealed by the Punjab Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1954, and it converted all small town committees into class III municipal committees. Accordingly, the small town committees at Ladwa, Radaur, and Pundri were converted into class III municipal committees in 1955. The Notified Area Committee, Kaithal Mandi (created in 1908) was merged into Kaithal Municipal Committee in 1955. In 1954, a notified area committee was established at Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri). In 1959, the Panipat New Township was merged into Panipat Municipal Committee and a class III municipal committee was constituted at Pehowa.

In 1970, the district had 11 municipal bodies: Municipal Committee, Karnal was class I; Municipal Committees, Panipat, Kaithal, Thanesar and Shahabad (Shahbad) were class II; Municipal Committees, Ladwa, Radaur, Pundri, Pehowa and Gharaunda were class III and Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) was a Notified Area Committee.¹

1. Since January 1973, the Municipal Committees of Kaithal, Thanesar, Shahabad (Shahbad), Ladwa, Radaur, Pundri and Pehowa have fallen in the Kurukshetra district.

Each municipal committee is divided into wards. The members of the committees are elected on the basis of adult franchise. Some seats are, however, reserved for Scheduled Castes.

The main duties of the committees are to supply water for drinking and other purposes; maintain streets, roads, drains and sewerage; control dangerous or offensive trades; construct buildings and design lay-out of streets; make arrangements for fire-fighting and to look after public health and scavenging of the town. They also provide street lights, playgrounds, public parks, medical aid, public libraries, etc.

Octroi is the main source of income, the other sources of income include house tax, *tehbazari*, licence fee, building tax, rent of municipal property, sale of compost, etc.

KARNAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

Karnal town was constituted into a class II municipal committee in 1886. In view of its growing importance, it was raised to the status of class I in 1949. There was a separate notified area committee for the Civil Lines but in 1953, it was merged into Karnal Municipal Committee. The area of the town is 3.80 square miles. It is divided into 23 wards. The committee had 18 members but has been superseded since July 1968.

Water-supply.—Formerly, the sources of water-supply in the town were shallow percolation wells and hand pumps. In 1952-53, piped water-supply was made available to the old town partially which was later extended to the Railway Road area. The extension of water-supply in the Civil Lines and other parts of the old town is in progress. The Model Town has an independent water-supply system. This scheme was executed in 1949.

Drainage.—The town is provided with surface drainage. The construction of underground drainage has been in progress since 1965-66. In a part of the Model Town, underground drainage was provided in 1954.

Streets and street lighting.—The streets are well paved. Electric lights have been provided almost in all parts of the town and the old oil lamps have become a thing of the past. In 1967, there were 1,240 light points including 24 mercury lamps provided at prominent places. The number, in 1970, rose to 1,310 electric points which included 625 fluorescent tubes.

Parks.—Karan Park spreading over an area of 8 acres has been laid out by the municipal committee. A portion of the park equipped with different

kinds of play material has been ear-marked for children. A few small parks have also been laid out in the Model Town and the Mud Hut Colony.

Conservancy.—The conservancy and public health are under the supervision of a Municipal Medical Officer, who is assisted by sanitary staff. Three tractors with trolleys and 10 carts are maintained for the removal of rubbish and nightsoil from the town. On the basis of their customary right to the disposal of the refuse, the sweepers deposit it in heaps at places just outside the municipal limits and eventually sell it to the farmers without converting it into compost manure.

Education.—Prior to the provincialisation of schools in 1957, the committee maintained nine primary schools for boys and one middle and four primary schools for girls.

Fire brigade.—The committee purchased fire fighting unit consisting of a jeep, fire engine with trailer and other equipment in 1961. The services of this fire brigade are available to the whole of the district.

Library and reading rooms.—The municipal committee runs two library-cum-reading rooms; Gandhi Municipal Library-cum-Reading Room and Ram Nagar Municipal Library-cum-Reading Room.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

PANIPAT MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

The Municipal Committee, Panipat, was first constituted in 1867. It was re-constituted in 1886 as a class II municipal committee. It covers an area of 3 square miles and is divided into 23 wards. It has 23 members (1970).

The streets are well-paved and most of them are provided with side drains. In 1967, the underground drainage was in progress. The town is provided with 1,252 electric light points including 206 fluorescent tubes. The piped water-supply is available in the town and there are 3,600 connections besides 375 public stand posts. The committee maintains ten parks and one library-cum-reading room. In 1966-67, a fire fighting jeep was purchased by the committee.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

KATHAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

It was first established in 1867, but was reconstituted in 1886 as a class II municipal committee. The Notified Area Committee, Kaithal Mandi constituted in 1908 was merged into it in 1955. Its area is about 3 square miles and is divided into 16 wards. In 1969, it had 17 members. The committee was, however, superseded in April 1969 and put under the control of an Administrator.

The piped water-supply to the town was started in 1959-60 and in 1970, there were 1,458 private connections besides 120 public stand posts. The streets, provided with surface drains, are well-paved and well lighted with 614 electric light points. The conservancy and public health work is looked after by a Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Jamadars under the overall charge of the Administrator. The committee maintains two municipal parks, one library-cum-reading room and two tractors and trolleys for the removal of refuse from the town.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

THANESAR MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

Local government in the town was initially introduced in 1867. In 1885, it was re-constituted into a class II municipal committee. It covers an area of 6 square miles and is divided into 12 wards. It had 13 members, but the committee was superseded in February 1968 and put under the control of an Administrator.

The town is provided with piped water-supply; 723 private connections besides 101 public stand posts. The 338 electric light points do not cover all the streets; so 52 points have been provided for kerosene oil lamps in various parts of the town which are therefore not as well lighted. The municipal committee maintains a municipal park and a library-cum-reading room.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

SHAHABAD (SHAHBAD) MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

In 1867, a municipal committee was set up at Shahabad (Shahbad) which was re-constituted as a class II municipal committee in 1885. It covers an area of 0.68 square mile and is divided into 12 wards. In 1970, it had 13 members.

The piped water-supply in the town was commissioned in 1961. In 1970, there were 1,102 private connections besides 110 public stand posts. There is proper arrangement for street lighting for which 380 electric light points have been provided. The committee maintains a library and reading room.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

PEHOWA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

Local government was first introduced in Pehowa in 1867, but was abolished between 1885-87. It was constituted as a class III municipal committee in 1959. It serves an area of 0.52 square mile and is divided into 10 wards. It had 11 members in 1970.

The committee maintains a reading room. A tractor has been purchased for the removal of refuse from the town. The committee has provided 150 electric street light points and 50 fluorescent tubes at various places.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

LADWA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

Ladwa was first constituted as a municipal committee in 1867 but, in 1908, it was reconstituted as notified area committee. It was converted into a small town committee in 1924 and was raised to class III municipal committee in 1955. It covers an area of 0.25 square mile and is divided into 10 wards. It had 11 members in 1970.

The municipal committee maintains a public park and a well equipped library and reading room. The streets are paved and lighted. In 1970, there were 178 electric light points including 27 four-feet and 12 two-feet fluorescent tubes. The committee maintains a tractor and two trailers for removal of refuse from the town.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

RADAUR MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

Radaur was first declared as a small town committee in 1924. It was raised to class III municipal committee in 1955. It covers an area of 1.00 square mile and is divided into 10 wards. In 1970, it had 11 members.

There is proper arrangement for street lighting and 25 fluorescent tubes and 36 electric points have been installed at various places. The pavement has been done in a number of streets. The committee also maintains a library and a reading room.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

PUNDRI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

It was first constituted in 1867 but was abolished between 1885 and 1887. In 1924, it was declared as a small town committee and was converted into a class III municipal committee in 1955. It covers an area of 1.5 square miles and is divided into 9 wards. In 1970, there were 11 members elected to the municipal committee.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

GHARAUNDA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

This committee was constituted as a class III municipal committee in 1953 and its first election was held in 1959. It covers an area of 0.60 square mile and is divided into 11 wards. It has 13 members.

The income and expenditure of the municipal committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

NILU KHERI (NILO KHERI) NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE

A notified area committee was established at Nilu Kheri in 1954 and sanitation, street lighting and arboriculture of the town were entrusted to it. In 1961, the remaining municipal functions were also transferred to the notified area committee. The committee covers an area of 1.81 square miles.

The township of Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) has all the modern amenities like water works, drainage, street lighting and public parks. The committee has also set up a small reading room.

The income and expenditure of the committee during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given in Table XXXVIII of Appendix.

TOWN PLANNING

Town planning is the responsibility of the local authorities. They prepare schemes relating to the area falling within the municipal limits. These schemes

envisage demarcation of the area into building or residential plots of varying sizes as well as areas for roads and open spaces.¹

There are two Improvement Trusts at Karnal and Panipat. These Improvement Trusts have taken up a number of schemes for the acquisition of land and its development by laying out plans for the construction of roads, water-supply, sewerage, disposal works, etc.

The Government also laid out and constructed model townships in 1948-49 at Karnal, Panipat and Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) through the Public Works Department.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

In the past, the proprietary body possessing rights of ownership in the common land of the village formed the nucleus round which the subsidiary parts of the community were grouped. The proprietary body was seldom wholly confined to one single family, strangers having almost always obtained admission in one way or another. Very often the community consisted of two distinct tribes or the sections of the same tribe holding more or less equal share in the village. The community, however constituted, was sub-divided into *pannas* (wards), each *panna* embracing a branch of the family descended from some common ancestor, with some strangers settled by that branch who were not sufficiently numerous to constitute a separate *panna* by themselves. The *pannas* were very commonly again sub-divided into *thulas* which were also based upon community of descent.

The village was represented by one or more headmen for each *panna* or *thula* according to size; and these again were assisted by *thuladars*, a kind of assistant headmen who were not officially recognised. The headman had a considerable discretion in the choice of his *thuladars* but the latter were chosen carefully to represent the various genealogical branches of the community. The headmen and the *thuladars* together with such men as had gained influence by age or ability constituted the *panch* or village council. Such councils sometimes known as *thapas*, exercised considerable authority and successfully settled a large number of disputes. The distribution of the revenue was also wholly in the hands of the *thapas* and village councils. The

1. There is a Divisional Town Planner at Ambala under the Haryana Town Planning Organisation. His function is to assist the local bodies and the Government in town planning. The Karnal district falls within his jurisdiction.

institution represented not only the collective will but also the collective wisdom of the entire rural community. These looked to all the needs of the village and administered justice irrespective of caste, creed and faith.¹

These traditional village councils of old continued during the Muslim period and also in the Sikh period. The Muslim rulers being indifferent to this matter, the village communities were left to manage their own affairs undisturbed except for the payment of land revenue to the ruling power. The *Qazi* and the *Kotwal* were no doubt invested with some powers which had previously been exercised by the *panchayats* but no direct steps were taken to abolish the *panchayats*.

The village *panchayats* were, however, partially revived in the Sikh regime for helping the government in administration, collection of taxes and maintenance of law and order. The ancient traditions of village *panchayats* began to crumble during early British rule. British influence, dominant and all embracing, almost killed all village institutions and the foremost amongst them was the village *panchayat*. An average villager realised that under the regime of village officials, the *panchayat* was completely ignored. In the circumstances the headman, hitherto not so prominent, acquired considerable power and prestige.

As the *panchayats* became ineffective in community life, it was realised that for the routine administration of common affairs of the village some kind of organisation was necessary. The Decentralisation Commission of 1908 concluded that it was desirable that an attempt be made to constitute village *panchayats* for the administration of local affairs. The attempt made in 1912 to revive the *panchayat* system failed to inspire any confidence or respect in the people because only those persons could find a place in the *panchayats* who had ingratiated themselves with the authorities. The Village Panchayat Act, 1922, abolished the *panchayats* created by the Act of 1912 and provided for the re-constitution of *panchayats* consisting of elected Panches who would hold office for 3 years. The *panchayats* were given administrative functions and judicial powers both criminal and civil although to a nominal extent. The Panchayat Act of 1939 consolidated and extended the law relating to *panchayats* and gave them wider judicial powers and powers of taxation.

The necessity to establish village *panchayats* throughout the country was fully recognised after the Independence and this was laid down in the

1. *Karnal District Gazetteer*, 1883-84, pp. 114-15.

Constitution as one of the Directive Principles of State Policy. In pursuance of this, the Gram Panchayat Act of 1952 (Punjab Act IV of 1953) was passed. In all, 968 *panchayats* were elected covering entire rural population of the district. The final step toward the implementation of the Panchayati Raj was the enactment of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961. Under the Act, the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad were constituted at the blocks and district level respectively. In this way, the Panchayati Raj became a three-storeyed edifice having *panchayat* as its basic unit at village level, Panchayat Samiti at the block level and Zila Parishad at the district level.¹

(i) PANCHAYATS

The total membership of 968 *panchayats*² was 6,366 which included 1,233 Harijan Panches and Sarpanches and 890 women Panches and Sarpanches.

Every person, male or female, who is entered as a voter on the electoral roll of the State Legislative Assembly is a member of the *gram sabha* and it is these members who elect the Sarpanch and Panches from amongst themselves. The number of Panches per *panchayat* shall not be less than 5 or more than 9, the exact number depending on the population of the *sabha* area.

Democratic considerations necessitated that no section of the community should remain unrepresented on the *panchayat*. If no woman is elected as a Panch of any *sabha*, the woman candidate securing the highest number of votes amongst the women candidates in that election is to be co-opted by the *panchayat* as a Panch of that *sabha* and where no such woman candidate is available, the *panchayat* is required to co-opt as a Panch a woman member of the *sabha* who is qualified to be elected as a Panch.

Every *panchayat* has to have one Panch belonging to the Scheduled Castes if their population is five per cent or more of the total population of the *sabha* area, provided that every *panchayat* with seven or more Panches has to have two Panches who are members of the Scheduled Castes if the population of the Scheduled Castes is 10 per cent or more of the total population of *sabha* area. If the required number of Scheduled Castes are not elected as Panches, the Scheduled Castes candidate or candidates, as the

1. The institution of Zila Parishad has been abolished since June 13, 1973.

2. After the reorganisation of the Karnal district in January 1973, the number of *panchayats* has decreased to 467.

case may be, securing the highest number of votes from amongst themselves is or are deemed to have been elected as the last Panch or the last two Panches. In case the requisite number of Scheduled Castes are not elected in the aforesaid manner, then the *panchayat* itself is required to make up the deficiency by nominating a duly qualified person or persons of such castes. Should, for any reason, the requisite number of Scheduled Castes be not elected or co-opted in the above manner, Government has the authority to make good the deficiency by nomination.

Income.—The *panchayats* are authorised to levy taxes, duties and fees. Apart from miscellaneous items, the main sources of income are : grants from government, house tax, income from *shamlat* land, voluntary contributions, ten per cent of the land revenue of the *panchayat* area, fees and fines.

Judicial functions.—*Panchayats* have been given powers to try certain minor offences like petty thefts, affray, public nuisance, etc., and are also empowered to impose fines. They are not bound by the provisions of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, and as such, lawyers are not permitted to appear in the proceedings before a *panchayat*. The *panchayats* have also been given powers for trying civil and revenue judicial cases within certain pecuniary limits. In respect of these cases, they are under the control of the District Judge and the Collector respectively.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate hears appeals from their orders in criminal cases, and is empowered to transfer cases from one *panchayat* to another.

The judicial (criminal and civil and revenue) work done by the *panchayats* during 1956-57 to 1968-69 is shown in Table XXXIX of Appendix.

Public utility work.—The functions of the *panchayats* cover all important matters relating to municipal and development works in villages and also encouragement of industries and agriculture for improving the economic condition of the community. The public utility work done by the *panchayats* during 1956-57 to 1968-69 is given in Table XL of Appendix.

(ii) PANCHAYAT SAMITIS

The entire district has been divided into 15 blocks¹, each with a

1. With the reorganisation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973, the number of blocks has decreased to 8, viz. Karnal, Gharaunda, Nisang, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri), Panipat, Samalkha, Madlauda and Asandh.

Panchayat Samiti which consists of 19 primary members ; 16 members elected by Panches and Sarpanches, 2 members elected by co-operative societies, and 1 member elected by market committees. Every M.L.A. representing the constituency of which the block forms a part, works on the Panchayat Samiti as an associate member. Two women members and four members belonging to the Scheduled Castes, if not elected otherwise are co-opted to the Panchayat Samiti. The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) and Block Development and Panchayat Officer work as *ex-officio* members. The *ex-officio* and associate members do not have the right to vote.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Panchayat Samiti are elected by the primary and co-opted members from amongst themselves for a term of 3 years. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer is the Executive Officer of the Panchayat Samiti.

The details about the Blocks, *panchayats* and their Panches are given in Table XLI of Appendix.

Panchayat Samiti is the most important structure in Panchayati Raj. Most of the work relating to the development of villages in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, health and rural sanitation, communications, social education, co-operation and a number of other miscellaneous subjects is entrusted to it. It is an agency of the Government for the formulation and execution of the community development programme and disbursement of loans.

The Panchayat Samiti has a vital role to play in building up a sound financial structure for Panchayati Raj. The Samiti fund consists of : (1) the apportionment made to it by the Government out of the balance of the district fund standing to the credit of the District Board concerned, (2) local rate allotted to Panchayat Samiti, (3) proceeds of all taxes, cesses and fees, (4) funds allotted to Panchayat Samiti and income arising from all sources placed at its disposal, (5) rents and profits accruing from property vested in it or managed by the Panchayat Samiti, (6) all sums contributed to the fund by the Central Government or State Government or any local authority including the *gram panchayat* or any private persons, (7) all sums received by the Panchayat Samiti in the discharge of functions exercised by it, (8) all sums paid by Government to Panchayat Samiti to meet expenses for the performance of agency functions, (9) grants made by Government for the implementation of community development programme and (10) proceeds of all sources of income which the Government may place at the

disposal of Panchayat Samiti. In addition, the Panchayat Samiti with the permission of the Zila Parishad could impose any tax which the State legislature has power to impose.¹

ZILA PARISHAD

The rural area of the district prior to June 13, 1973, was under the administration of the Zila Parishad, which replaced the District Board in February 1964. The idea of the District Board can be perceived in the Local Rate Act, 1871, wherein the Lt. Governor was empowered to appoint committees in each district to assist him in determining the manner in which the local rate in rural areas was to be applied. Accordingly, the first committee in the district was formed in February 1872. It consisted of 10 non-official members who were appointed on the recommendation of the Deputy Commissioner. In 1883, however, by virtue of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, the principle of election was made applicable to the district committee which was then termed as District Board. It consisted of 32 elected, 6 appointed and 10 ex-officio members. The Deputy Commissioner was the ex-officio Chairman. Simultaneously, 4 local boards, one in each tahsil, were also established. The Sub-Divisional Officer acted as President of local board at Kaithal whereas in other tahsils, the Tahsildars acted as Presidents. The district was divided into 32 electoral circles usually composed of one or two *zails*. Every male person of not less than 21 years of age who paid Rs. 2-1-4 or upwards as local rate, or was a Lambardar was qualified to vote for the election in his *zail* or circle. The local boards did not prove of much utility and hence were abolished in 1902.

The Deputy Commissioner continued to be the chairman of the District Board up to 1949. The first (and the last) non-official chairman of the District Board, Karnal, was elected during 1949 and continued up to June 1954, when the Board was suspended. It was re-constituted on the promulgation of the Governor's Ordinance, 1954 and was subsequently replaced by the Punjab District Board (Temporary Constitution) Act, 1954 whereby all the members of the Board except official members vacated their seats and the administration of the Board passed on to the Deputy Commissioner in his official capacity as chairman.

With the enactment of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, the District Board was replaced by the newly constituted

1. Since the abolition of the Zila Parishad on June 13, 1973, its powers have been vested in the Deputy Commissioner.

Zila Parishad in February 1964.

The Zila Parishad consisted of : two members elected by each Panchayat Samiti ; the Chairman of every Panchayat Samiti ; the Deputy Commissioner ; every M.P. and M.L.A. from the district and co-opted members. The Zila Parishad had at least two women members and five members belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The Zila Parishad elected its Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Secretary was appointed by the Government.

Duties.—The Zila Parishad advised, supervised and co-ordinated the plans prepared by the Panchayat Samitis, examined and approved their budget and advised the Government about *panchayats* and Panchayat Samitis and kept a watch over the agricultural production and construction works.

Income.—The income of the Zila Parishad accrued from the funds allotted to it by the Central Government or the State Government, grants from all-India bodies and institutions for the development of cottage, village and small-scale industries, local rate, income of endowments and contributions levied on Panchayat Samitis.

The income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad, Karnal during 1964-65 to 1969-70 are given below :

Year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1964-65	17,32,292	10,37,180
1965-66	6,99,720	7,89,850
1966-67	6,65,387	6,53,226
1967-68	12,98,579	12,76,309
1968-69	16,35,798	11,34,794
1969-70	18,33,697	13,87,827

The Zila Parishads in the State were abolished on June 13, 1973 under the provisions of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads (Haryana Amendment) Act, 1973, and their duties and functions have been entrusted to the respective Deputy Commissioners.

Chapter XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The district was "the centre from which Indo-Aryan culture spread, first throughout the Hindustan, and eventually throughout the whole sub-continent." A major part of the later Vedic literature, including the *Brahmanas*, the *Aranyakas*, the *Upanishads* and the *Canonical Sutras*, was composed on the banks of the sacred river Sarasvati where the *rishis* lived with their numerous disciples. The *ashrams* of these *rishis* were the most important centres of study of subjects which formed the bed-rock of ancient Indian culture, namely religion, philosophy and ethics. Later, the great sage Vyasa composed the *Mahabharata*, and the renowned law-giver Manu is also said to have compiled his epoch-making code, the *Manu Samriti*, in this very region.

This area continued to be for centuries the centre of religious learning which took precedence over secular knowledge. With the expansion of Aryan influence over the Ganga plain, Mathura and Varanasi came to occupy the place of honour. The spread of Buddhism eventually produced opportunities for a socio-religious get-together of Buddhistic with the Brahmanical culture, which gave birth to Hinduism. Thanesar played an important part in generating and practising that cultural amalgam which is considered to be the essence of Hindu culture.

Harsha of Thanesar and Kanauj was a distinguished patron of this new learning which was typified by the courses taught at the most important university of his time at Nalanda. In addition to Mahayana Buddhism, Brahmana philosophy, Vedic literature and grammar and even the agnostic Sankhya system were taught at this centre of learning. Mathematics and medicine were the only subjects which could possibly be considered as secular. Himself reputed as a poet and author of three Sanskrit dramas, Harsha made liberal grants to Nalanda and created rich endowments 'in favour of monasteries and seats of higher learning around Sthanvishvar (Thanesar)' as well as in the rest of his kingdom. He took a leading share in forging the new cultural matrix.

With the onset of foreign invasions the Hindu cultural and educational pattern described above was thrown everywhere into disarray and it was not until the Muslim Sultanate was established at Delhi that this region once more participated in forging a still newer cultural matrix. It became the home of *Sufi* saints, divines, scholars, theologians and stipendaries who helped to some extent in synthesising the best in Muslim and Hindu thought. They also became responsible for advanced learning. Schooling as such was almost entirely in the hands of Muslims who, besides teaching the *Quran* in the mosques, gave instruction in the Persian classics, as also in the writing of letters and documents. Gurukuls of the old type in which Brahman boys learnt Sanskrit and received a predominantly religious training were few and far between. In addition, there was a large number of secular schools (Mahajani) where sons of Hindu shopkeepers were taught to keep accounts and read and write the trader's script (*lande*). One significant feature of these indigenous schools was that they were not confined to any particular class, but were open to anyone who cared to attend. Like other districts of the Punjab, Karnal had also a number of such indigenous schools. The Arabic School at Panipat was also quite well known.

After the Annexation of the Punjab in 1849, the modern system of secular education made its appearance. Slow to begin with it gathered tremendous force as time passed. This secular system, covers such an increasing number of secular subjects including science with its manifold branches that in the end the ability to earn livelihood has become the principal object of education for an individual. The development of educational institutions in the Karnal district as elsewhere must be viewed in this light. The Government founded schools in the cities and larger towns while the district officers founded and maintained schools at minor places out of local funds. In 1888-89 there were 5 (3 English and 2 Vernacular) middle schools, 63 (3 English and 60 Vernacular) primary schools in the district. Besides, the Delhi Zenana Mission at Karnal ran two schools.

Educational institutions increased in number in the district but the general public by and large remained apathetic towards them. In 1900-01, there were 1 high school, 9 middle schools and 87 primary schools, but by 1930, the number rose to 9 high schools, 116 middle schools and 309 primary schools. The pace of education was steady after 1930 and there were 15 high schools, 104 middle schools and 341 primary schools in 1948-49.

The Independence ushered in a new era, which stirred the Government and the people alike. It was realised that education alone could

enable the population to meet the demands of the new social order. As would appear from the data given below, expansion in education occurred rapidly with the result that in 1969-70, the district had 27 higher secondary schools, 126 high schools, 124 middle schools and 821 primary schools including basic schools, and 1 pre-primary school :

Year	Number of schools				Number of scholars		
	Higher Sec- ondary	High	Middle	Primary and junior basic	Total	Boys	Girls
1948-49	—	15	104	341
1960-61	6	73	99	861	1,23,428	92,955	30,473
1965-66	29	70	123	928 ¹	1,88,064	1,34,787	53,277
1966-67	29	75	123	859	2,01,911	1,45,947	55,964
1967-68	29	97	118	842	2,14,386	1,55,577	58,809
1968-69	28	111	123	825	2,31,060	1,66,325	64,735
1969-70	27	126	124	821	2,39,851	1,72,659	67,192

More details about the progress in the field of education at the school level in the urban and rural areas of different tahsils of the district are given in Table XLII of Appendix.

EDUCATION OF WOMEN

The education of women had been totally neglected. In 1880, there was no school for girls, and of the individual effort, if any, no trace has been left except that of a Brahman Pathshala at Karnal which had been established about 1860. The education of girls moved very slowly. In 1911-12, there was only one primary school for girls. In the post-Independence period, a veritable revolution in the field of women's education was witnessed when voluntary organisations like the Singh Sabha, Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Arya Samaj and others also opened a number of schools for girls. By 1970, the district was well advanced in the field of women's education and there were 5 higher secondary schools, 19 high schools and 16 middle schools for girls. The consistent efforts made toward the spread

1. This figure is inflated because it includes branch primary schools.

of female education may be gauged from the data given below :

Year	Girl schools			
	Primary	Middle	High	Higher Secondary
1951-52
1955-56	81	10
1960-61	188	17	16	2
1965-66	—	18	14	5
1968-69	—	18	17	5
1969-70	—	16	19	5

It is a healthy sign of the times that at places where no institutions for girls were started, people were ready to send their girls to the institutes for boys. All the primary schools have been made co-educational. The middle, high and higher secondary schools at places having no separate schools for girls have also been made co-educational.

The number of girl students which was 17,057 in 1955-56, rose to 30,473 in 1960-61, 53,277 in 1965-66 and 67,192 in 1969-70. The district ranked third in the State in respect of female education, the first two being Ambala and Rohtak districts respectively.

The Karnal tahsil led in female literacy. The following table shows tahsil-wise percentage of literate females in 1961 and 1971 :—

Tahsil	Percentage of literate females	
	1961	1971
Karnal	12.93	30.08
Panipat	11.32	27.98
Thanesar	10.02	23.86
Kaithal	7.25	19.12

EDUCATIONAL SET-UP

Prior to the re-organisation of the educational set-up in 1963, the high and higher secondary schools were controlled by the Divisional Inspector and Divisional Inspectress of Schools located at Ambala. The boys and girls schools up to middle standard were controlled by the District Inspector/District Inspectress of Schools and the primary schools by the Assistant District Inspector/Inspectress.

Consequent upon the re-organisation of the educational set-up on May 8, 1963, the District Education Officer, Karnal, has been made responsible for the administration of all primary, middle, high and higher secondary schools. He is directly under the administrative control of the Director, Public Instruction, Haryana, Chandigarh. He is assisted by 3 Deputy Education Officers.¹ If the District Education Officer is a man, one of the Deputy Education Officers has to be a woman who will be generally consulted in matters relating to the women teachers' establishment.

The District Education Officer is further assisted by 20 Block Education Officers whose areas of operation are normally co-terminus with the development block². There may, however, be more than one Block Education Officer in a block depending upon the number of primary schools. This explains why there are two Block Education Officers each in Karnal, Panipat, Thanesar, Shahabad (Shahbad), Ladwa and Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) blocks and one each in the other blocks except Rajaund. Besides, an Assistant Education Officer for Physical Education advises the District Education Officer in matters relating to National Fitness Corps and looks after the execution of the programme in primary and middle schools.

EDUCATION (GENERAL)

The district board (now Zila Parishad) and municipal committees also contributed to the spread of education and did pioneer work in the field of elementary education. The number of primary, middle and high schools maintained by the local bodies prior to the provincialisation of schools on October 1, 1957, is given below :

Name of the Local Body	Primary Schools		Middle Schools		High Schools	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
District Board, Karnal	660	49	76	13	18	2
Municipal Committee, Ladwa	—	—	—	1	—	—
Municipal Committee, Thanesar	2	1	—	1	—	—
Municipal Committee, Shahabad (Shahbad)	3	4	—	—	—	—

1. According to the subsequent re-organisation of the district education administration in October 1971, each District Education Officer is assisted by one Deputy District Education Officer and one Sub-Divisional Education Officer at each civil Sub-division. If the District Education Officer is a man, the Deputy District Education Officer has to be a woman. The same position continues after the bifurcation of the Karnal district on January 23, 1973.

2. The district has been divided into 15 development blocks. For details see Chapter on 'Economic Trends'.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Municipal Committee, Panipat	6	4	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Kaithal	4	3	—	—	—	—
Municipal Committee, Karnal	9	4	—	1	—	—
	684	60	76	16	18	2

As a consequence of provincialisation, the local bodies were required to pay their contribution annually to the Government towards the maintenance of the provincialised schools.

The position in respect of different grades of schools as well as colleges imparting higher education is discussed below :

Pre-primary schools.—Pre-primary education in the district is not widely organised. There is only one school at Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri) which is run by the Government. Despite this, pre-primary education has been gaining popularity and a few private schools have been started. Panipat, Karnal, Kaithal, Nilu Kheri (Nilo Kheri), Tirawari (Taraori), Thanesar and Shahabad (Shahbad) are the places which have pre-primary schools. In rural areas, the Central Social Welfare Board and Community Development Administration run 33 *balwadis* which look after the younger children.

Primary and basic schools.—The course of primary education covers a period of five years. Since April 1, 1961, primary education has been made compulsory. Starting with age-group 6-7 in 1961, it was extended to one higher class in each subsequent year so that by 1965 the age-group 10-11 could be covered. In 1970, there were 821 primary schools. Almost every *panchayats* area had a primary school. Out of the total of 1,350 villages (as enumerated at 1961 Census), 1,227 were covered under this scheme. The remaining 123 uncovered villages were served by the schools situated in the neighbouring villages. The education at this stage is imparted free and all such schools are mixed. Teachers are provided at the pupil-teacher ratio of 50:1. Single-teacher schools are very few and function only in villages and habitations with a small population because in such schools the number of students is also small. Most

of the teachers are either basic trained or oriented to the basic pattern. Under the basic system of education which has been accepted as the pattern of education, the primary schools are re-oriented to five-grade basic schools.

The medium of instruction is Hindi. According to the new policy adopted by the State Government in April 1967, the teaching of Hindi as the first compulsory language and as medium of instruction begins from Class I. English is taught from 6th class as second compulsory language. Sanskrit/Urdu/Punjabi/Telgu is taught as third compulsory language in Class 7th and 8th. Certain safeguards have also been provided for linguistic minorities. The teaching of Urdu/Panjabi as additional subject (in addition to Hindi) from the 1st primary class is made if there are 10 students in a class or 40 in a primary school or primary department of middle/high/higher secondary schools desirous to study this language. But the medium of instruction and the first language even for these students remain Hindi. If, however, a privately managed school had Panjabi as the medium of instruction before the creation of the new State of Haryana, i.e. November 1, 1966, the school is allowed to retain it. Five such schools in the Karnal district are : Shaikhupura Khalsa High School, Karnal; G.N. Girls High School, Karnal; Khanewal Khalsa High School, Shahabad (Shahbad); S.G.N.P. Girls High School, Shahabad (Shahbad); and G.N. Kanya Pathshala, Panipat.

Middle schools.—It was proposed to introduce compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years, but in view of the immense difficulties such as lack of adequate funds, continuous increase in population and inability of poor parents to buy even books for their children, it could not be translated into practice. Anyhow, the introduction of compulsory primary education has its impact on the enrolment at the middle stage. The primary schools are upgraded to middle schools according to their enrolment. The pupil-teacher ratio of 30 : 1 has been adopted for this stage and the education is free in all Government institutions. In 1970, there were 124 middle schools.

Secondary schools.—For a majority of students, the secondary education has to be of a terminal character. Only for a limited number who intend pursuing higher education it provides a preparatory stage. This postulates that secondary schools should offer a variety of courses calculated to meet the requirements of those who wish to earn their livelihood after completing the secondary education besides preparing a broad base for admission to higher courses of study. In order to pursue this aim and provide diversified courses, some high schools were converted into higher

secondary pattern. Conversion involves complex problems like funds for additional buildings and equipment and adequate trained personnel. Progress has, therefore, been slow. In 1970, there were 19 Government and 8 privately-managed higher secondary schools and 103 Government and 23 privately-managed high schools.¹

To encourage the education of boys and girls belonging to poor families, a reduced scale of fee is charged from them. The education is free for all whose family income is less than Rs. 1,000 per annum in the case of boys and less than Rs. 3,000 per annum in the case of girls. Boys whose family income is between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 3,000 are charged fee at half the rates. Boys whose family income exceeds Rs. 3,000 per annum are charged fee at full rates whereas the girls in this category are charged fee at half the rates.

The students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes, who are studying in 9th, 10th and 11th classes, are given stipends at the rate of Rs. 6 per mensem² under the State Harijan Welfare Scheme provided income of their parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 1,800 per annum. They are also allowed refund of examination fee. The students belonging to Scheduled Castes are exempted from the payment of tuition fee, but the students belonging to Other Backward Classes are allowed this concession subject to the above income condition. These concessions (varying from Rs. 15 to Rs. 25 per mensem) are also available to students belonging to Other Backward Classes at the Post-Matric Stage subject to the above income condition and that the eligible students have secured at least 40 per cent marks in their previous annual examinations.

The students belonging to Scheduled Castes are also given stipends under the Government of India Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme. The stipend includes refund of examination fee, tuition fee and other compulsory non-refundable charges. The rate of stipend varies from Rs. 27 to Rs. 75 according to different income slabs.

No tuition fee is charged from the children of serving defence personnel or of defence personnel who have been killed or disabled during the national emergency.

1. The policy of starting higher secondary schools (also called multi-purpose) with diversified elective groups (humanities, science, commerce, agriculture, fine arts, home science and technical) was initiated in 1957 on the recommendations of Mudaliar Commission (Secondary Education Commission). But the experiment did not prove a success and now the policy is to revert to the old high school pattern. The latest thinking, however, is to a 12-year schooling pattern.

2. The rate of stipend has been increased to Rs. 8 per mensem since 1970-71.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sainik School, Kunjpura.—The school was established in July 1961. It is housed in the palace of the earstwhile Nawab of Kunjpura. The school acquired an estate which covers an area of 275 acres and includes a small lake and agricultural land adjoining the palace. It is situated on the Karnal-Kunjpura road.

The administration of the school is vested in an autonomous Board of Governors under the chairmanship of the Union Defence Minister. The school is a member of the Indian Public Schools Conference.

It is a residential school for boys. The admission is normally confined to the boys between 9 and 10 years as on the 2nd July of the year of admission. The admission is regulated through an all-India entrance examination. Sixty-seven per cent of the seats are meant for boys from the Haryana State. A few seats are reserved for the sons of defence service personnel and ex-servicemen.

The State Government awards a number of scholarships to the students. The scholarships are of the value of full fee, three quarters fee, half fee and are awarded on the basis of means-cum-merit. The school prepares boys for admission to National Defence Academy and the All-India Higher Secondary Examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Examination, New Delhi.

The school which started with 174 students in 1961, had 496 boys on its roll on March 31, 1970, excluding 18 day scholars (10 boys and 8 girls).

St. Theresa's Convent School, Karnal.—The school was opened in January 1961, under the patronage of the Bishop of Simla. It is run by the Sisters of the Little Flower, a religious order that runs several schools in various parts of India.

This institution is a high school and prepares for the Indian School Certificate Examination. In 1966, the school was affiliated to the Council for Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi. The students are taught courses in humanities, science, fine arts and physical education. There were 524 students including 230 girls, on its roll as on March 31, 1970.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The instruction in higher education was conspicuous by its absence prior to Independence for no institution for higher education was then in existence in the district. The phenomenon progress made in this behalf after 1947 is

evidenced from the data given below :

Name of institution	Year of establishment	Number of scholars on roll								
		1951-52			1960-61			1969-70		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1. Dyal Singh College, Karnal	1949	445	43	488	795	94	889	1,522	70	1,592
2. R.K.S.D. College, Kaithal	1954	—	—	—	309	4	313	1,005	195	1,200
3. Arya College, Panipat	1954	—	—	—	521	—	521	809	286	1,095
4. Inder Bhan Bharatri College, Panipat	1956	—	—	—	—	122	122	373	296	669
5. D.A.V. College for Women, Karnal	1957	—	—	—	—	145	145	—	855	855
6. Government College, Kurukshetra	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	903	204	1,107
7. Janta Agricultural College, Kaul	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—	141	—	141
8. Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Shahbad Markanda	1968	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	134	134
9. S. D. College, Panipat	1969	—	—	—	—	—	—	559	88	647
10. Indira Gandhi Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Kaithal	1970	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Gandhi Adarsh College, Samalkha	1970	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The above colleges, which are affiliated¹ to the Panjab University, Chandigarh, are described in brief :

(1) **Dyal Singh College, Karnal.**—The Dyal Singh College, originally started at Lahore, owes its existence to the munificence of the late Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia. The Dyal Singh College Trust Society laid the foundation of this college there on May 3, 1910. At the time of the Partition in 1947, the entire

1. All the colleges in Haryana have been affiliated to the Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, since July 1974.

assets of the trust were left in Lahore. The lofty idealism which had inspired the activities of the trust in its long career of service at Lahore, was not dimmed by the catastrophe. After a survey of the educational requirements of different parts of the then East Punjab and considering other cognate problems, the trustees established the Dyal Singh College at Karnal on September 16, 1949. The college is housed in Umar Manzil, an evacuee building with ample space for playgrounds, extra mural and co-curricular activities. A new science block, a canteen, a common room for the resident students and some more class-rooms are the recent additions. It is also proposed to construct a gymnasium.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A. and B.Sc. It had 1,592 students including 70 girls on its roll on March 31, 1970.

(2) **R.K.S.D. College, Kaithal.**—The college was started in May 1954 by the Rashtriya Vidya Samiti, Kaithal. It was originally started in a private building lent *gratis* but in 1959 it was shifted to its own newly-constructed building on the Kaithal-Ambala Road. The college is affiliated to the Panjab University and prepares students for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A. and B.Sc. There were 1,200 students including 195 girls, on its roll on March 31, 1970.

(3) **Arya College, Panipat.**—Situated on the National High Way No. 1 (popularly known as Grand Trunk Road), Arya College, Panipat, was established in 1954. The college is managed by a local Managing Committee appointed by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha. A separate section for girls was added in 1961. A separate building was also constructed for this section in 1965. Thus the classes are held separately for boys and girls in separate buildings. Besides extensive playgrounds and hostel amenities, the college has a rich library, well-equipped laboratories, a shooting range, a workshop and a museum.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University for Pre-University (Arts, Science and Commerce), Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical, B.A., B. Com., B.Sc. and M.A. (for girls only) in History, Economics and Political Science. It had 1,095 students including 286 girls on its role on March 31, 1970.

(4) **Inder Bhan Bharatri College, Panipat.**—The college though started as a women college in 1956, was affiliated to the Panjab University in 1961. It was made a co-educational institution in 1966-67. It prepares students for Pre-University (Arts, Commerce and Science), Pre-Engineering, B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. It had 669 students including 296 girls on its roll on March 31, 1970.

D.A.V. College for Women, Karnal.—This institution was established in 1968 with a view to provide training facilities to female students of the area. It is managed by the local D.A.V. Managing Committee.

The college maintains a library which is stocked with 1,945 books on different subjects. It has its own playgrounds for various games, *i.e.* hockey, volley ball, badminton, etc. Besides, it has a separate audio visual room equipped with wall-maps, plastic maps, globes, scientific and biological models, charts, portraits of eminent poets and scientists, etc. The college equipment also include a projector and an epidiascope.

The college provides financial help to poor students. The year-wise number of students on its rolls from 1968-69 to 1971-72 was as given below:

Year	Number of students	
1968-69	150	
1969-70	120	
1970-71	100	} The university allowed only two units, each consisting of 50 students of B.Ed. classes.
1971-72	100	

(6) Government College, Kurukshetra.—The Government established a college for women at Kurukshetra in 1961 as a constituent college of Kurukshetra University. The college prepared the students for Pre-University, Pre-Medical, B.A. and B.Sc. In August 1963, the college was converted into Sports College for Women, providing additional facilities for attaining better standards in sports. But in July 1967, it was converted into a co-educational Degree College. The undergraduate classes run by the Kurukshetra University were discontinued and attached to this college. It prepares the students for Pre-University (Arts and Science), Pre-Medical, Pre-Engineering, B.A., B. Com. and B.Sc. There were 1,107 students including 204 girls on its roll on March 31, 1970.

(7) Janta Agricultural College, Kaul.—The college was established in 1965 by raising Janta Higher Secondary School, Kaul, to the status of a degree college. Since the college is located within the radius of 10 miles of Kurukshetra University, it is affiliated to it and functions as its constituent

institution. It prepares students for Pre-University and B.Sc. (Agriculture). There were 141 students (boys) on its roll in 1970.

(8) Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Shahbad Markanda.—This college for girls which was established in 1968 in the memory of Swami Daya Nand, is situated on the Barara Road. The college has its own playgrounds. It also maintains a library which is stocked with about 1,500 books on different subjects.

It is affiliated to the Panjab University and prepares students for Pre-University (Arts) and B.A. (Three-Year Degree Course). In 1969-70, 134 students were on its roll. This number included three students belonging to the Backward Classes.

(9) S.D. College, Panipat.—This college is an extension of the S.D. Higher Secondary School for Boys, Panipat and started functioning in July 1969. It is managed by the Sanatan Dharam Education Society, Panipat.

The college is affiliated to the Panjab University. It prepares students for B.A., B.Sc. (Medical and Non-Medical), and B. Com. (Three-Year Degree Course). In 1969-70, 647 students (559 boys and 88 girls) were on its roll.

(10) Indira Gandhi Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Kaithal.—The growing need of a college for women in Kaithal and its surrounding areas prompted the Bal Shiksha Samiti, Kaithal to establish this institution in April 1970. It is situated on Kaithal-Karnal Road.

The Vidyalaya has a library stocked with 1,306 books on different subjects. It also subscribes to a number of journals, magazines and newspapers. The Vidyalaya has vast playgrounds for different games and has also made provision in its plan for the construction of a museum, a swimming pool, a hostel-block and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,000. However, a teachers' hostel is under construction.

It is affiliated to the Panjab University and prepares students for Pre-University (Arts) and B.A. (Three-Year Degree Course). It has a separate Home Science Block holding classes in Home Science which has been introduced from 1971-72 session.

In the very first session of 1970-71, the number of students on its roll was 192 which rose to 332 in 1971-72.

(11) Gandhi Adarsh College, Samalkha.—This college was established in July 1970 by the Samalkha Education Society. It has its own playgrounds