

CHAPTER IX

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For purposes of General Administration the district is divided into two subdivisions, viz., Bhagalpur Sadar and Banka subdivision. J. Byrne in 1911, in his Bhagalpur Gazetteer had mentioned that the district of Bhagalpur comprised of four subdivisions, namely, Bhagalpur and Banka, south of the Ganga; and Madhipura and Supaul, north of the Ganga. After the creation of the Saharsa district in 1934, Madhipura and Supaul subdivisions went to Saharsa district.

The General Administration of the district is headed by the District Magistrate and Collector who has his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The District Magistrate receives orders both direct from the State Government at Patna and the Divisional Commissioner at Bhagalpur. Bhagalpur is also the Divisional headquarters of Bhagalpur Division. From old records, it appears that Bhagalpur Division was created in 1829 and is one of the oldest Divisions of the then Lower Provinces of Bengal. This Division then not only comprised of the areas which are now in this Division but also of Darjeeling and Maldah Districts of West Bengal.

The Commissioner of Bhagalpur who has his headquarters at Bhagalpur is the administrative head of Bhagalpur Division. The Commissionary office of Bhagalpur is said to be the oldest building in the town and was probably built by the Dutch traders who had flourishing trade in the past in this district.

The District Magistrate is at the apex of the administrative structure, the base of which is being more and more broadened by the development of the country-side and the posting of Block Development Officers. He has been given a large number of officers to help him in the administration of the district. For revenue purposes, he has an Additional Collector and for development work a District Development Officer who remains posted at the headquarters of Bhagalpur, and there are two Land Reforms Deputy Collectors posted at each of the subdivisions. At the subdivisional headquarters of each of the two subdivisions, there is a subdivisional Magistrate, incharge of Law and Order as well as revenue matters. The subdivisional administration is headed by the Subdivisional Officer who has several Officers under him. The Subdivisional Officers are under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate occasionally inspects the working of the Subdivisional Magistrates of Banka and Sadar subdivisions.

There is a Superintendent of Police with headquarters at Bhagalpur to maintain law and order. The Superintendent of Police is assisted by three Deputy Superintendents of Police. The Police structure of the administration has been described in chapter 'Law, Order and Justice'.

The District Magistrate is also responsible for the execution of all planning schemes in the district and as the head of the District Planning Committee it is his duty to co-ordinate the function of all the nation building departments of the district. He is responsible for maintaining law and order and the smooth running of administration at the district level.

The separation of judiciary from executive has been introduced in the District of Bhagalpur since 1st July 1957. The judicial powers of the district are now vested in the District and Sessions Judge. A detailed account of the District Magistrate and his office has been given elsewhere.

The District Magistrate of Bhagalpur had the following Gazetted Officers under him on the 1st April 1961 :—

(1) Additional Collector	..	..	1
(2) District Development Officer	..	..	1
(3) Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector	..	..	4
(4) Senior Deputy Collector	..	..	1
(5) Sub-Deputy Collector	..	..	1
(6) District Welfare Officer	..	..	1
(7) District Panchayat Officer	..	..	1
(8) District Public Relations Officer	..	..	1
(9) Land Acquisition Officer	..	..	1
(10) District Statistical Officer	..	..	1
(11) District Industries Officer	..	..	1
(12) District Accounts Officer	..	..	1
(13) District Agricultural Officer	..	..	1
(14) Treasury Officer	..	..	1
(15) Special Rehabilitation Officer	..	..	1
(16) Personal Assistant to Collector	..	..	1
(17) District Education Officer	..	..	1
(18) Block Development Officer-cum-Anchal Adhikari*			21

The Sadar Subdivision has the following Officers :—

(1) Subdivisional Officer	..	..	1
(2) Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development.			1
(3) Deputy Magistrate of Planning	..	..	1

*The Block Development Officers, however, do not form a part of the district establishment.

(4) Sub-Deputy Magistrate	1
(5) Assistant Settlement Officer	1
(6) Assistant Engineer, N.E.S.	1
(7) Anchal Adhikari and Block Development Officer ..	10

Banka Subdivision has the following Officers—

(1) Subdivisional Officer	1
(2) Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development ..	1
(3) Sub-Deputy Magistrate	1
(4) Anchal dhikari and Block Development Officer ..	11

THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE AND HIS OFFICE

The District Magistrate from the very beginning of the present set-up of the administration in the district and from the days of British rule was treated as the very pivot of the set-up. At first a promoted 'writer', later a covenanted hand and then a member of the Indian Civil Service or the Provincial Civil Service, the District Magistrate who was also the Collector was the officer who counted most. In the early years of British rule the District Magistrate controlled indigo plantation as well. For a long time he was the Chairman of the District Board, and looked after the roads, rural sanitation and health, village education and arboriculture.

With the growing complexity of administration there have been ramifications and special officers for some of the administrative departments. Thus the District Magistrate came to be helped by a gazetted Superintendent of Excise for the administration of excise affairs, a Superintendent of Police for running the police administration, a District Sub-Registrar for the registration of documents, a Superintendent of Jail for running the day-to-day jail administration, a Civil Surgeon to run the medical department, etc. He was given a number of gazetted officers who were Magistrates of various ranks for running the core of the administration. They were also Revenue Officers and as such designated as Deputy Collectors. These officers used to be vested with magisterial and revenue powers by publication of notification in the Official Gazette.

Even with the creation of posts for high powered officers like the Superintendent of Police or the Subdivisional Officers incharge of subdivisions, to whom considerable devolution of powers were made, he had the overall administrative supervision and responsibility and was the invariable link with the State. He was to implement the State policy in every branch of the district. He was accountable to the Government for bad administration. Quelling of communal disturbances combined with distribution of prizes in schools at a remote corner of his district occupied the District Magistrate's

programme. The multifarious work of the District Magistrate went on multiplying but the District Magistrate's office known as the Collectorate retained almost the same pattern as had been evolved when the work was much less and there was more of executive work for the District Magistrate and Collector and his staff.

Another duty of the District Magistrate was to hear criminal cases and to decide them. Usually the District Magistrate at one time heard the appeals from the 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates and the revenue appeals. He could also try some important original cases both criminal and revenue. In another chapter details have been given as to how justice is administered now.

With the development of public opinion the District Boards were made independent bodies but the District Magistrates had still certain responsibilities to see that the Board was functioning properly. Many of the District Officer's departments like Excise, Co-operative, Jails, etc., were made into separate departments at Secretariat level and the local officer at district level for that department was put under his departmental boss as well. Thus an Excise Superintendent had to work under the District Magistrate directly but he was also put under the Deputy Commissioner of Excise at the Division and the Commissioner of Excise at Government headquarters. But that does not absolve District Magistrate from his overall control of these departments.

After Independence was achieved in 1947, the character of the administration has been undergoing a great change. Briefly, the State has assumed the role of a Welfare State. More and more development work and projects were introduced. More agrarian reforms came in adding to the work of the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate's functions as the Collector went on rapidly multiplying. A large number of District Councils for Education, Sanitation, Small Savings Drive, Irrigation, etc., came to be formed. The District Magistrate was invariably the head of the all these District Councils.

As is well known every district is divided into several units as the Subdivision. The Subdivisional Officer was the executive head of the subdivision and held in him the same type of functions and responsibilities as a District Magistrate but under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. The Subdivisional Magistrate was also a Deputy to the Collector in revenue matters. Thus the District Magistrate and Collector was at the administrative head of the district with his Deputies, firstly a number of Joint Magistrates, Assistant Magistrates, Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors at the district headquarters and secondly the Subdivisional Officers and a number of officers at the subdivisions combining the magisterial and revenue work and he had the further assistance of officers

in charge of specialised departments like Excise, Registration, Medical and Public Health, etc., at headquarters with their subordinates at the lower level. With the dwindling of the European members of the Indian Civil Service in 1947 by their wholesale retirement by the Government, there was a vacuum in the rank of the top and experienced officers. The vacuum was sought to be filled up by the creation of a service known as the Indian Administrative Service. This service was filled up by promotion from the Provincial Civil Service, and recruitment from the market by selection and open competitive examinations. There are also emergency recruitments by interview only.

As mentioned before the office of the District Magistrate known as the Collectorate had continued the same type of pattern from almost the beginning of the district administration under British rule. A detailed study of the district and subdivisional offices which included the recommendations regarding the standard of staffing and the organisation to be adopted for the Collectorate and Subdivisional offices was done in 1905 by a committee known as the Slacke Committee. This committee was set up to draw a comprehensive scheme for improving the position of the ministerial officers. The pattern that was set up followed the needs at that time. The English Office in the Collectorate was the clearing house of the District Magistrate's administration and every letter went to the English Office and had to be treated in the various departments concerned but under the control of the English Office. Apart from the confidential section there were separate criminal and revenue departments and the Office Superintendent was at the head of the ministerial officers. Each of the departments in the Collectorate like English Office, Establishment, Nazarat, Tauji and Cess, Land Registration, Treasury, etc., was put under a Deputy Collector or an Assistant Magistrate or a Joint Magistrate who belonged to the Indian Civil Service. The establishment was technically under a Deputy Collector and under him the head of the ministerial establishment, namely, the Office Superintendent ran this section. The position of the Office Superintendent depended much on his personality and the impression he had created on the District Magistrate. Far too often he acted as the hidden fifth wheel of the coach and the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the establishment left matters to the Office Superintendent for more than one reason and the ministerial officers were absolutely left under the control of the office Superintendent.

With the emergency on the wake of the Second Great War various price control measures had to be enforced. Cloth, kerosene oil, sugar, medicines, consumers' goods, and various other more necessary commodities had to be controlled. The Deputy Magistrates had to take up the role of a trader, a shop-keeper, and a godown

Superintendent. They did not have the training for all this work. Overnight a Sub-Deputy Magistrate with a small pay of Rs. 200 per month found himself changed into a Price Control Officer or a District Supply Officer controlling transactions of lakhs of rupees. The original strength of the ministerial officers could not cope with the great pressure of work and quickly large temporary recruitments had to be made. The temporary recruits knew very well that their establishments might not last for a long time. They had very big temptations before them and it is no wonder that a certain incidence of corruption and demoralisation of the administrative machinery had crept in. This was not peculiar to this district alone but it was all over the State and probably over all the States in India.

Many of the temporary departments that had been created because of circumstances brought in by the Second Great War closed down at the proper time. Some of them like Supply Department had to be continued in some shape or other and has received fillip occasionally. New problems were created with the partition of the country and the creation of Pakistan. A number of Muslims from Bhagalpur district for various reasons had migrated to Pakistan. There was a panic among both the communities for some months following the communal outburst in 1946. This tension received its peak after the partition which encouraged the Muslims to migrate.

As has been mentioned before development work has been given a great emphasis in the present set-up of administration of the Welfare State. The rigours of casteism are sought to be removed both by statute and by propaganda. Laws have been passed removing the disqualification of the Harijans from entering temples. Wide facilities have been given to the backward communities and scheduled castes for education. A large number of welfare schemes have been taken up for the backward communities and scheduled castes and the aboriginals. National Extension Service Blocks and Community Projects have been started in various corners of the district. The idea is to upgrade a chain of villages under a particular project or a block so that by process of osmosis the other areas will also upgrade themselves. The abolition of zamindari had thrown the society into a whirlpool which has not yet subsided. The administrative set-up has had to change very considerably because of the abolition of zamindari. There is no intermediary link now between the State and the cultivators. The landless labourers have been thought of in the present overall schemes for the improvement of the country. All these changes at the district level were to be controlled from the Collectorate and had taxed to the utmost the set-up of the Collectorate, the office of the District Officer with its own old pattern. It was felt that this pattern must go. For this reason the State Government had

deputed a senior I.C.S. Officer Shri B. D. Pande, who studied the problems of the reorganisation of districts and subdivisional offices and gave his scheme. This scheme was implemented by the Government in July, 1958. By this order the set-up of the district offices has been completely changed to suit the new conditions.

Shri B. D. Pande, I.C.S., took into account the existing circumstances which covered the separation of the judiciary and the executive, the development programmes and the consequent changes towards a welfare administration and the staff that had been recruited on *ad hoc* basis, the lack of method of working, supervision or inspection. It was felt that the Collectorate was not organised into properly defined unit with a proper structure which was essential for efficient office organisation. Ill-assorted arrangement at the top was bound to affect the ramifications and the actual working of the schemes.

The number of clerical staff had gone up more than four times as compared with the number of clerical staff in 1904. In some districts the number of ministerial staff had gone to near about 600 persons. If to this were added the number of field staff that were working under the Collectorate, namely, *Karamcharis*, Village Level Workers, *Gram Sewaks*, Inspectorates, etc., it was found that the non-gazetted establishment under some of the Collectorates would amount to as large as 2,000. This huge array of assistance itself called for administrative and organisational problem of its own.

Shri Pande found that most of the correspondence was carried out in the main office of the Collectorate known as English Office which was itself a misnomer. The English Office formerly had two main divisions, Judicial and Revenue while a number of revenue subjects were still dealt with in the English Office. There was a fairly big separate revenue establishment, consequent on the abolition of zamindari. Correspondence was also carried on in a large number of smaller offices. This led to duplication of files and papers, loss of papers, lack of supervision, etc. He felt that the best arrangement for the organisation of the main Collectorate Office was to divide the Collectorate into seven principal sections as follows :—

- (1) Confidential—This was to be directly under the Collectorate.
- (2) General Office—This was to replace the English Office.
- (3) Revenue Office—This was to correspond to the present Revenue Office set-up on the abolition of zamindaris.
- (4) Development Office.
- (5) Establishment Office.

(6) Legal Section.

(7) Treasury and Accounts.

The proposed distribution of subjects was as follows :—

Section I—Confidential.

Section II—General—(1) Law and Order; (2) Agrarian disputes; (3) Maintenance of Public Order Act; (4) Collective Fines; (5) Police and Homeguards; (6) Requisitioning and derequisitioning of property; (7) Allotment of houses; (8) Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Board; (9) Elections; (10) Census; (11) Cinemas and dramatic performances; (12) Licenses (Arms Explosives, etc.); (13) Press, including examination of newspaper cuttings; (14) Public Relations; (15) Relief and Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from Pakistan; (16) Evacuee Property Act; (17) Passports and Visas; (18) Domicile Certificate; (19) Political Sufferers; (20) Jails; (21) Supply and Price Control; (22) Anti-Corruption; (23) Assembly, Council and Parliament questions; (24) Local Bodies, that is, Municipalities, District Boards, Notified Area Committees and other Union Committees; (25) Library; (26) Forms and Stationery; (27) Labour, including Minimum Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation, etc.

Section III—Revenue—(1) Land Reforms; (2) Tenancy Act; (3) Rent and Cess; (4) Khas Mahal; (5) Rent Commutation; (6) Chaukidari; (7) Settlement; (8) Balabandi; (9) Malkhana; (10) Registration; (11) Chakrana; (12) Embankment; (13) Excise and Opium; (14) Kanungo Establishment; (15) Taxation Measures; (16) Record Room; (17) Copying Department; (18) Certificate; (19) Nazarat; (20) Circuit House; (21) Land Acquisition; (22) Ferries; (23) Mining; (24) Treasure Trove; (25) Stamps; (26) Crop and Weather Reports; (27) Flood and Scarcity.

Section IV—Development—(1) Five-Year Plan and Co-ordination; (2) District Development Committee; (3) District Planning Committee; (4) District Education Committee; (5) Community Project and National Extension Service; (6) Local Development Works Programme; (7) Irrigation (major, medium and minor); (8) Reclamation of Wasteland; (9) Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes; (10) Gram Panchayats; (11) Vested zamindari improvement works; (12) Welfare activities of other departments including Grow More Food; (13) Statistics; (14) Forests; (15) Loans, including Agriculturists' Loans,

Land Improvement Loans, Loans under the State Aid to Industries Act, etc.; (16) National Savings Scheme; and (17) Works Staff in the District.

Section V—Establishment—(1) Personal cases—maintenance of service books, character rolls, leave accounts, etc., of personnel employed under the Collector; (2) Appointments, postings and transfers; (3) Leave; (4) Departmental Proceedings; (5) Provident Fund, Gratuity; (6) Pensions; (7) Security; (8) Bill and Budget Works of the Collectorate.

Section VI—Legal Section—(1) Revenue and Judicial Munshikhana; (2) Civil Suits; (3) Pauper Suits; (4) Criminal Motions; (5) Inspection of Trial Registers; (6) Appeals; (7) Correspondence with the Legal Remembrancer; (8) High Court; (9) Release of Prisoners; (10) Pleaders, Mukhtars and Revenue Agents; (11) Probate; (12) Wakf Estates—Religious Endowments; (13) Payment of Pleader's bills; (14) Judicial Accounts; (15) Criminal Fines; (16) Law Agents and Law Clerks; (17) Other Criminal, Civil or Revenue Appeals or Motions and matters connected therewith and (18) Court Malkhana.

Section VII—Treasury and Accounts—(1) Treasury and Accounts; and (2) Sale of stamps.

Shri Pande made a detailed recommendation for the offices indicating the scales of pay under the different heads. He had further recommended for the removal of the artificial distinction between Class A and Class B Districts. At the time of the Slacke Committee's Report a distinction was made between the districts mainly on the basis of the number of assistants employed under a Collectorate. Where the number of clerks was below 100 the district was placed in a lower category in respect of the pay of the supervisory staff. The number of clerks in every district was well above 100 when Shri Pande made his enquiry and he felt that the ministerial officers employed in the different districts should have equal opportunity of promotion to a higher post. Therefore, he recommended that the distinction between the different districts in matter of salaries to be drawn by persons doing the same kind of jobs should be abolished.

There was a certain amount of invidious distinction between a Sadar subdivision and a mofussil subdivision. The recommendation was that the Sadar subdivision should be organised more or less on the lines of mofussil subdivisions. The Sadar Subdivisional Officer was to have the following departments :—

General Office; Elections; Developments; Confidential; Loans and Relief; N.E.S. and Gram Panchayats; Supply and

Price Control; Minor Irrigation; Public Relations; Welfare; Chaukidari; Nazarat; Certificates; B. T. Act cases; Library; Land Reforms—L.I. Fee—Revenue Munshikhana; Arms and Cinemas and other licenses.

According to Shri Pande the Collectorate should also retain Probate, Civil Suits, Malkhana, Mines, Revenue Appeals, Settlement, Embankment, Balabandi and Land Acquisition Sections. Another important change that had to be taken cognizance of was that with the abolition of zamindari and the vesting of the zamindari into the State, the Khasmahal Department of a district had lost its separate entity. The Khasmahal was, therefore, to be completely merged with the Land Reforms Department. The Landlord Fee Department of the Collectorate had to be abolished as with the abolition of the zamindari, no money-orders had to be sent or acknowledged. It was recommended that arrangements should be made with the District Registration Office or the Sub-Registrar to deposit the Landlord Fee direct into the Treasury and send notices to the Circle Officers or the *Anchal Adhikaris* concerned.

Shri Pande went into some detail as to the necessary augmentation of certain departments like Nazarat, Certificate, Record Rooms, etc. He considered that since the *Anchal Adhikari* was also the Block Development Officer, the certificate powers should not be vested in him and the procedure of getting certificates executed through the Subdivisional Officer should continue. It may be noted here that the work in connection with certificates has been transferred to the *Anchal Officers* in the other Raiyatwari States of Bombay, Madras, Uttar Pradesh, etc.

Shri Pande had also given elaborate suggestions for the working of the Development Office, Welfare Departments, Gram Panchayats, Loans Department, Establishment Office, Legal Office, Inspections, etc. He had recommended that questionnaires to assist in the inspection as in the case of some of the older manuals should be prescribed for the new branches also like those of development, revenue, etc. They will be of valuable guidance to junior officers.

He also felt that there should be adequate delegations of powers to officers at all levels, namely, *Anchal Adhikaris*, Subdivisional Officers, Collectors etc. He had also indicated the necessity of a regular training of the newly recruited assistants and that the training should be closely integrated with practical training in the office itself.

The Chief Secretary in his no. OM/R-302/56—10443, dated* the 20th December 1957 had approved of the suggestions and informed the District Officers by name that the arrangements should be made forthwith to introduce the Reorganisation Scheme in the districts and subdivisions from the 2nd January 1958. He reiterated that the Collectorate should be divided into seven principal sections as recommended by Shri B.D. Pande. He further

expected that the Sadar Subdivisional Officers should function separately from the Collectorate like Mofussil Subdivisional Officer with the departments as recommended by Shri Pande and the Collectorate should, however, retain the nine subjects mentioned before as per Shri Pande's recommendations. There was a further reiteration of Shri Pande's scheme in the letter of Shri M.S. Rao, I.C.S., Chief Secretary bearing no. R2-302/56-CSR.—365, dated the 9th July 1958. In this letter the existing distinction between A and B Class districts in respect of pay scale for various categories of the posts was abolished. Orders were passed for the merging of the Khasmahal Office in the General Land Reforms Office, the abolition of L.I. Fee Department and other recommendations regarding Nazarat, Certificate, Establishment, Legal Section, etc.

REGISTRATION OFFICE

The District Sub-Registrar is the administrative head of the Registration Department under the immediate control of the District Registrar. The Inspector-General of Registration, Patna, is the head of the department. There are four Sub-Registry offices in the District at Bhagalpur Sadar, Banka, Colgong and Bihpur. Each Sub-Registry office is under the charge of a Sub-Registrar.

The District Sub-Registrar assists the District Magistrate in supervising the work of the Sub-registry offices in the district. The District Sub-Registrar's office at the headquarters of the district has got a big record room where there are many registers and indices of all Sub-Registry offices situated in the district. Registers and books contain copies of documents registered since 1796 A.D. Strict secrecy with regard to the contents of documents copied in the register books is maintained as in doing so it yields good income to the Government in the shape of searching and copying fees.

The Statistics below would show the number of documents registered, receipts and expenditure of the District from 1950 to 1960.

Year.			Documents registered.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1			2	3	4
				Rs.	Rs.
1950	..	..	51,315	4,02,450	94,716
1951	..	..	63,266	4,50,674	1,12,322
1952	..	..	46,562	3,69,365	92,532
1953	..	..	44,867	3,34,969	96,781
1954	..	..	22,070	2,05,328	58,962
1955	..	..	21,294	1,94,378	52,293
1956	..	..	23,670	2,21,086	55,498
1957	..	..	26,775	2,31,655	56,942
1958	..	..	31,087	2,75,239	62,088
1959	..	..	31,119	2,89,216	67,635
1960	..	..	35,078	3,33,647	68,679

In the year 1950, there was an increase of 9,840 documents and receipts of Rs. 59,151 as compared with the figures of the previous year. The reason for increase may be assigned to high prices of foodgrains and other commodities of life.

In the year 1951, there was an increase of 11,951 documents and receipts of Rs. 48,224 as compared with the figures of the year 1950. The reason for increase may be assigned to a huge number of documents executed by cultivators to whom the loans were given by the Government, and number of bonds executed by the refugees.

The Registration Offices in the district including Sadar have registered 46,562 documents, during the year 1952 against 63,266 documents during the year 1951 and total receipt of Rs. 3,69,365 as against Rs. 4,50,674 of preceding year.

In 1958 there was increase both in the total number of registration and the receipt is due to the failure of crops last year for want of timely rain which necessitated the people to take loans by mortgaging their lands to meet the necessary expenses of their daily life and crops.

In 1960, there is an increase in the total number of registration which is mainly due to registration of large number of documents of the refugees from East Pakistan. There is increase of Rs. 1,044 in the total expenditure as compared with the figures of the year 1959. The increase is due to an increase in the total number of registration.

STAMPS

There is one Treasury Officer of Finance Service at the District Treasury Office. Besides there is one Sub-Treasury Officer at Banka. These Officers are under the direct control of the Collector.

The revenue from the sale of stamps is an important source of income to the State Government.

The statistics of receipts from sale of stamps from 1953 to 1961 are given below:—

				Receipts. Rs.
1952-53	..	..	..	13,65,235
1953-54	..	..	..	13,61,622
1954-55	..	..	..	8,39,691
1955-56	..	..	..	7,95,681
1956-57	..	..	..	10,16,117
1957-58	..	..	..	10,43,935
1958-59	..	..	..	10,52,993
1959-60	..	..	..	11,40,109
1960-61	..	..	..	12,74,362

There was decrease of Rs. 3,616 in 1953-54 against the year 1952-53 due to decrease in number of general cases and sale of lands, etc.

There was decrease of Rs. 5,21,931 in 1954-55 against the year 1953-54 due to separation of Saharsa district with effect from the beginning of the year.

There was decrease of Rs. 44,010 in 1955-56 against the year 1954-55 due to decrease in number of general cases and of lands, etc.

There was increase of Rs. 2,20,436 in 1956-57 against the year 1955-56 due to increase in the sale of special adhesive stamps due to Rajya Transport.

The great receipts under stamps and Court Fee Act for the year 1957-58 was Rs. 10,43,935 against Rs. 10,13,117 of the preceding year. There was increase of Rs. 27,818 due to increase in number of general cases and of lands etc.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Prior to 1952 the Public Relations Department was known as Publicity Department. There is a District Public Relations Officer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is assisted by an Assistant Public Relations Officer. The jurisdiction of Public Relations Officer is now confined to South Bhagalpur. For the North Bhagalpur area there is a separate unit under the charge of an Additional Public Relations Officer with his headquarters at Naugachhia. This unit was created in 1959 under the Second Five-Year Plan.

The District Public Relations Officer and Additional Public Relations Officer are under the immediate control of the District Magistrate. These officers have to make the people aware of the development works that have been or are being carried out in the district and to induce them to co-operate with Government and the department concerned to make the development schemes successful.

Besides this main function of the Public Relations Department, it also helps in the cultural uplift of the people by music and drama, exhibitions, etc.

Under the Community Listening Scheme, Radio sets are distributed by this Department to villages having population of 1,000 and above. Up till now 198 sets have been distributed in the district by both units.

The office of the Deputy Director of Public Relations Department was created under the Second Five-Year Plan at Bhagalpur with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is under the immediate control of the Commissioner, Bhagalpur. He is the Technical Controller of District Public Relations Offices. There is also a Divisional Information Centre under his charge.

DISTRICT WELFARE OFFICE

The District Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur is the administrative head of this office. The District Magistrate has direct control over that office. There is an Assistant Welfare Officer to assist the District Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. Besides, Welfare Inspector has been posted in each Block for the welfare work in his jurisdiction.

The Welfare Department is gaining importance now-a-days due to various welfare programmes covered in the First and Second Five Year Plans. The Secretary of the Welfare Department is the administrative head of the Welfare Department. A number of wells have been constructed and all wells repaired in the Harijan and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe's colonies.

The Department aims to launch various economic plans for the upliftment of the downtrodden people.

COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT

The Bhagalpur Circle of the Commercial Taxes Department was created in 1944 and the area of the Circle coincides with the area of the revenue district of Bhagalpur comprising in Sadar and Banka subdivisions. There is a Commissioner of Commercial Taxes with his headquarters at Patna. The Superintendent of Commercial Taxes is the administrative head of the Circle. There are three Assistant Superintendents of Commercial Taxes to assist the Superintendent of Commercial Taxes in the matter of assessment of tax on dealers and assesseees of the Circle. Besides, there are three Inspectors in the district.

The Department is concerned with the assessment and realisation of the following taxes:—

- (1) *Agricultural Income-tax*.—It was levied in 1938 under the Bihar Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1938, but its administration was first taken over by the Commercial Taxes Department in 1944-45. The collection from the tax reached its peak in 1951-52 when it rose to Rs. 3,76,093 which was mainly due to enhancement in the rate of tax. In 1956-57 it recorded a big fall to Rs. 43,470 only. The reason for it was mainly due to taking over the big zamindaries by the State Government and the bad economic condition of the agriculturist in general. Secondly, many of the zamindars of the district filed petition to Government that the unpaid dues of agricultural Income-tax may be realised from the *ad interim* compensation money to be payable to them by the Government. It had, however, shown an upward tendency later.

- (2) *Bihar Sales Tax*.—It was introduced in the State from 1944-45. In 1960-61 the collection from this tax amounted to Rs. 19,05,641. The collection in 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57 in this Circle amounted to Rs. 14,18,072, Rs. 14,92,631, Rs. 14,50,749 and Rs. 14,71,270 respectively. The reason for downward and upward trend during the aforesaid years was mainly owing to the deregistration of a large number of dealers consequent upon the raising of the registrable limit from over Rs. 10,000 to over Rs. 15,000 from 1954.
- (3) *Central Sales Tax*.—Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 was introduced in Bihar from the 1st July 1956 and collection from this tax during the year 1957-58 was Rs. 22,348. Since then there had been constant rise in collection which rose to Rs. 93,952 in 1959-60. This was partly due to increase in the rate of tax.
- (4) *Entertainment Tax*.—The administration of this tax was taken over by the Commercial Taxes Department in 1948-49. Its collection had shown steep rise in 1958-59 and 1960-61 when there had been collection of Rs. 2,28,839 and Rs. 2,49,784 respectively during these two years. In years 1954-55 to 1957-58 the collection under this Act had shown a fall which is mainly due to arrear in collection.
- (5) *Electricity Duty*.—It was first levied in the district in 1948-49. The collection from this tax reached its peak in 1959-60, rose to Rs. 1,39,739 and in 1960-61 the collection was Rs. 1,17,939. The slight fall in collection during the year 1960-61 in comparison with the collection in 1959-60, was mainly due to the fact that some Electricity generating concerns had been deregistered on account of stoppage of Electricity generation by them.
- (6) *Motor Spirit (Sales) Tax*.—Before 1949 this tax was realised by the Excise Department. In 1956-57 total receipt from this tax amounted to Rs. 1,53,796. Since then there has been constant rise in collection which rose to Rs. 2,10,781 in 1959-60. This was partly due to rise in duty and the gradual improvement in the condition of the roads of the district.
- (7) *Passengers and goods Transport Tax*.—It was levied for the first time in 1950. During the year the total yield from the tax was Rs. 38,727. It has shown upward tendency since then and in 1959-60 and 1960-61 the total receipt from this tax rose to Rs. 2,70,235 and Rs. 2,10,610 respectively. The increase was mainly due to realisation of outstanding arrear dues.

The statistics of Commercial Taxes Department under receipt and expenditure are given below:—

RECEIPT.

Year.		Agril. Incom- tax.	Bihar Sales Tax.	Central Sales Tax.	Entertainment Tax.	Electricity Duty.	Motor spirit.	Passengers and Goods Trans- port Tax.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1950-51	.. ..	3,66,657	16,14,838	..	2,18,810	37,594	95,825	38,727
1951-52	.. ..	3,76,093	15,72,710	..	2,61,276	42,054	1,53,583	59,180
1952-53	.. ..	2,89,674	15,14,844	..	2,43,402	45,248	1,22,446	76,057
1953-54	.. ..	3,16,138	14,89,072	..	2,33,259	68,873	1,38,093	59,819
1954-55	.. ..	1,43,132	14,92,631	..	1,67,121	74,408	1,31,374	35,970
1955-56	.. ..	84,200	14,50,749	..	1,59,495	77,958	1,46,195	58,133
1956-57	.. ..	43,470	14,71,270	..	1,82,277	86,619	1,53,796	1,30,983
1957-58	.. ..	91,165	16,89,037	22,348	1,75,268	93,952	1,65,785	81,557
1958-59	.. ..	1,28,500	17,29,101	54,350	2,28,839	96,837	1,85,525	1,01,690
1959-60	.. ..	1,39,895	15,83,758	93,952	1,08,259	1,39,739	2,10,781	2,70,235
1960-61	.. ..	3,03,432	19,05,641	67,922	2,49,784	1,17,939	1,85,424	2,10,610

EXPENDITURE.

Year.					Pay of Officers.	Pay of Establishment.	Travelling allowance.	Cost of living allowance.	Contingencies.
1					2	3	4	5	6
					Rs. As. p.	Rs. As. p.	Rs. As. p.	Rs. As. p.	Rs. As. p.
1954-55	..	..	..	..	6,483 0 0	22,624 5 0	6,836 6 0	11,679 12 0	3,419 6 0
1955-56	..	..	..	..	5,406 13 0	22,438 9 0	6,866 4 0	11,541 14 0	2,891 15 0
1956-57	..	..	..	..	8,944 3 0	23,095 5 0	6,326 7 0	12,677 6 0	5,601 10 0
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1957-58	..	..	..	..	10,901.36	23,145.57	3,999.66	13,418.57	5,137.09
1958-59	..	..	..	..	13,419.47	22,804.80	5,198.78	14,990.14	3,058.81
1959-60	..	..	..	..	13,322.90	25,855.86	6,300.17	15,846.53	4,800.90
1960-61	..	..	..	..	13,628.26	26,868.86	4,832.46	19,979.94	7,079.46

Commercial Taxes Department is one of the most important revenue-yielding Departments of the State Government. So far as income of the State Government is concerned it has replaced income-tax which is now the Central subject.

INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT

Administration of Income-tax is a Central subject and is administered by the Central Government. The jurisdiction of the Income-tax Officer, Bhagalpur, extends over the whole of Bhagalpur district. There are two Income-tax Officers posted at Bhagalpur. One is known as Income-tax Officer, Ward 'A' and the other is known as Income-tax Officer, Ward 'B'.

The Controlling Officer of the Income-tax Officers at Bhagalpur is the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax, Northern Range with his headquarters at Patna. He is under the Commissioner of Income-tax with his headquarters at Patna whose jurisdiction extends over the whole of Bihar and Orissa.

The Income-tax Officer issues notices every year at the beginning of the financial year to all assesseees to file return of income of the previous year and frame assessments in due course. The rate of tax, however, is determined by the Annual Finance Act passed by the Central Legislature.

The important trade and industry in the circle are Silk Industry in Bhagalpur city and at Nathnagar, a suburb of Bhagalpur. Trade in grains and oil-seeds at Naugachia, Colgong and Sultan-ganj is done on a large scale. Another industry worth mentioning is *Khandsari* Sugar Industry in Banka subdivision of Bhagalpur district.

For Estate Duty cases including the Income-tax, the Assistant Controller of Estate Duty-cum-Income-tax with his headquarters at Patna is the authority. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Controller of Estate Duty, Calcutta Range with his headquarters at Patna.

With regard to appeals all the cases from the Income-tax Officers of Bhagalpur lie with his Appellate Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax with his headquarters at Bhagalpur.

The figures of assessment and collection of Income-tax along with the number of assesseees are given below for four years:—

Year.	No. of assesseees.	Net demand.	Net collection.
1	2	3	4
		Rs.	Rs.
1957-58	1,164	7,54,000	4,76,000
1958-59	1,249	4,59,000	2,51,000
1959-60	1,223	5,50,000	2,87,000
1960-61	1,263	5,42,000	2,19,000

In four years, i.e., 1957 to 1960 net demand decreased about 28% and net collection decreased about 54%.

EXCISE DEPARTMENT

There is a Superintendent of Excise for this district at the head of the administration at the district level. He is under the immediate control of the Collector, Bhagalpur. The Superintendent of Excise is also under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Northern Range with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur.

There is also a separate temporary Superintendent of Excise posted for Ganja cultivation between 1st of November to 30th April every year for the supervision of staff and cultivation of Ganja. There is a permanent quarter for him near Jichho. The staff are posted from all districts of the State for the supervision of Ganja cultivation. He has got his separate establishment. He is also under the immediate control of Collector of Bhagalpur and under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Northern Range with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur.

The district is divided into two ranges each under the charge of one Inspector with headquarters at Bhagalpur and Banka.

These two ranges have further been subdivided into five circles, each under the charge of one Sub-Inspector at Bhagalpur (Sadar), Colgong, Bihpur, Banka and Katoria. The headquarters of Katoria Sub-Inspector is also at Banka.

There are three Warehouses at Bhagalpur, Banka and Bihpur, each under the charge of one Sub-Inspector with headquarters at Bhagalpur, Banka and Bihpur.

There is one district Ganja and Bhang *gola* under the combined charge of the Sub-Inspector who is incharge of Warehouse at Bhagalpur.

There is one provincial Ganja *gola* in this district under the combined charge of Range Inspector, Sadar.

There are three special centres at present at Bhagalpur, Sultan-ganj and Bihpur under the charge of one Sub-Inspector each.

There is one Instructor at the Constables' Training School at Nathnagar. He is under the control of the Principal, C.T.S., Nathnagar. He has to instruct the Excise Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Excise peons deputed for training at the C.T.S., Nathnagar.

Ganja has been successfully cultivated in this district for the last 27 years. The cultivation is confined to several plots of land that lie between Bhagalpur and Sabour, the soil of which is very

suitable for the purpose. About 70 to 80 acres of land is annually put under cultivation and Ganja produced in these fields is sufficient to meet the demand of the State. The average yield of Ganja is 8 maunds an acre.

Bhang plants grow in the rural areas of this district. The leaves are used as the basis of intoxication. The revenue from Bhang is derived from license fees and duty. The communication of Bhang from the license shop is nominal. The consumption of foreign liquor is confined only to the richer class of the people and does not hamper the sale of country spirit.

The greater portion of the Excise revenue is derived from the taxes levied on country spirit, ganja, toddy and miscellaneous including denatured spirit.

THE STATISTICS OF REVENUE DERIVED FROM DIFFERENT KINDS OF EXCISABLE COMMODITIES FROM 1950-51 TO 1960-61.

Year.	Spirit.	Ganja.	Bhang.	Opium.	Foreign Liquor.	Tari.	Cocain.	Denatured spirit including Mrit Sanjivan Sudha.	Druggist permit poppy head.	Pach- wai.	Miscella- neous.	Total revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1950-51 ..	8,74,252	1,80,159	6,021	67,297	3,992	2,97,120	4	63,810	69	20	51,367	15,53,111
1951-52 ..	8,80,566	2,03,072	6,243	32,529	11,361	2,98,261	5	54,206	68	18	53,701	15,40,030
1952-53 ..	7,04,691	1,27,098	5,101	34,203	16,759	2,85,997	16	67,016	169	4	30,175	12,71,229
1953-54 ..	6,54,355	1,15,498	4,763	35,390	14,420	2,95,807	4	58,292	142	2	50,674	12,29,141
1954-55 ..	4,77,584	86,822	4,766	25,494	12,587	2,08,522	5	70,212	97	4	27,700	9,13,793
1955-56 ..	4,65,342	61,693	4,170	23,637	11,544	1,95,373	4	69,956	97	4	44,282	8,70,102
1956-57 ..	4,81,789	64,820	3,495	23,949	9,830	18,252	4	75,896	103	..	48,500	8,90,997
1957-58 ..	4,03,986	51,301	2,741	11,877	14,102	1,62,601	5	50,278	553	..	57,241	7,54,685
1958-59 ..	4,13,431	43,649	2,797	6,575	11,091	1,53,325	2	48,372	155	..	47,625	7,26,891
1959-60 ..	5,53,153	49,509	2,638	536	11,951	1,65,323	5	52,209	508	..	77,512	9,13,344
1960-61 ..	5,86,232	47,343	2,664	11	14,201	1,42,845	1	72,483	151	..	54,941	9,20,872

From the appraisal of the above statement, it will appear that revenue derived from Excise was highest in 1950-51. There has been a slight fall in next year and after that revenue has fallen precipitately. The precipitate fall in revenue in 1954-55 appears to be due to creation of Saharsa district. In 1954, except in the two years, i.e., 1959-60 and 1960-61 there had been slight decrease in the receipts of excise.

Bhagalpur is not a prohibited district. Prohibition as a State Policy has not yet been adopted and the only step to bring about prohibition is the increase of Excise duty which raises the price of intoxicants. It is unfortunate that an investigation shows that the incidence of drinking and use of other intoxicants has definitely increased.

ANTI-CORRUPTION DEPARTMENT

The Anti-Corruption Department was started in 1956 with an Inspector of Police under the direct administrative control of a Deputy Superintendent of Police who is incharge of the work for Bhagalpur Division. The Inspector has a subordinate staff. The main function of this department is to enquire into charges of corruption among Government officials.

This department is under the administrative control of an officer of the rank of the Superintendent of Police at the Secretariat level. He is also a Deputy Secretary to the Government.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

A Divisional Auditor, Co-operative Societies in Bhagalpur, took charge of the division as Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies on the 20th December, 1920. The jurisdiction of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bhagalpur Division, extends to the whole of Bhagalpur Division. In course of time consequent upon the creation of the offices of the Assistant Registrars, Co-operative Societies, its jurisdiction went on decreasing. With the creation of the office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Banka Circle in the year 1958, the area of operation of Bhagalpur Circle comprises of Bhagalpur Sadar subdivision only. Its divisional head is the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bihar, Patna who is the administrative head of the Co-operative Department.

There are seven Community Development Blocks functioning in this Circle. One Inspector, Co-operative Societies designated as Co-operative Extension Supervisor and one Local Auditor, Co-operative Societies are posted to each of the Blocks, besides the other supervisory staff of the rank of Supervisors Co-operative Societies.

To meet the credit needs of the members of the various types of Co-operative Societies scattered over the whole of the subdivision, there is one Bhagalpur Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., functioning. With the introduction of Reorganisation Scheme of Central Co-operative Banks, the Banka Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., has merged with the Bhagalpur Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd. which is now functioning as district headquarters Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., under the name of the Bhagalpur Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd. The affairs of the Central Co-operative Bank are managed by a General Manager posted by the Co-operative Department and a Board of Directors.

One branch of Land Mortgage Bank to meet the long term credit needs of the members is functioning since August, 1959. Its area of operation extends to whole of Bhagalpur district.

To link credit with marketing, three *Vyapar Mandal Sahyog Samiti*, Ltd., at Naugachhia, Bihpur and Colgong and six large sized Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies at Saidpur, Bihpur, Shahkund, Sonhaura, Pirpainty and Jagdishpur have been registered and functioning. Except Jagdishpur all the large sized Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies and *Vyapar Mandal Sahyog Samities* have been provided with a godown of their own.

The progress achieved by the Co-operative Societies will be apparent from the statistics as on 30th June, 1960 :—

Type of Co-operative Societies.	Total no. as on 30th June, 1960.	No. of Members.	Paid up Share Capital.
1	2	3	4
			Rs.
1. Multipurpose Co-operative Societies ..	211	11,000	1,83,058.00
2. Oilmen's Co-operative Societies ..	34	699	61,210.00
3. Credit Co-operative Societies ..	63	29	..
4. Weavers' Co-operative Societies ..	69	9,288	2,08,200.00
5. Fishermen's Co-operative Societies ..	3	178	1,470.00
6. Milk Union Co-operative Societies ..	6	170	4,680.00
7. Co-operative Stores ..	14	524	25,440.00
8. Teachers' Co-operative Societies ..	14	978	945.00
9. Hand Pounding Co-operative Societies ..	19	423	7,505.00
10. <i>Gramadyog</i> Co-operative Societies ..	4	73	1,328.00

Type of Co-operative Societies.	Total no. as on 30th June, 1960.	No. of Members.	Paid up Share Capital.
1	2	3	4
11. <i>Vikash Mandal</i> Co-operative Societies	2	56	Rs. 26,345.00
12. <i>Grihyalyog</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	9	51.00
13. <i>Targur</i> Co-operative Societies ..	3	15	312.00
14. <i>Gur Khandsari</i> Co-operative Societies ..	5	10	190.00
15. Butter Farming Co-operative Societies ..	1	..	..
16. Joint Farming Co-operative Societies ..	2	44	1,365.00
17. Housing Co-operative Societies ..	1	15	1,000.00
18. <i>Khadi Rachnatmak</i> Co-operative Societies	4	72	2,233.00
19. <i>Harijan</i> Co-operative Societies ..	3	149	..
20. Dyeing and Painting Co-operative Societies	1	..	..
21. <i>Biri Mazdoor</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	2	10.00
22. Carpenters' Co-operative Societies ..	6	160	2,176.00
23. <i>Diyasalai</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	..	..
24. <i>Charmakar</i> Co-operative Societies ..	2	110	3,610.00
25. Vegetable Co-operative Societies ..	1	47	954.00
26. Salary Earners' Co-operative Societies ..	1	364	10,380.00
27. Poultry Co-operative Societies ..	2	44	1,200.00
28. <i>Kutirshilp</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	38	500.00
29. Industrial Co-operative Societies ..	4	..	..
30. <i>Madhupalak</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	..	..
31. <i>Laghu Udyog</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	21	4,100.00
32. <i>Hath Kargha</i> Co-operative Societies ..	1	13	130.00
33. Potters' Co-operative Societies ..	15	65	610.00
34. <i>Vyapar Mandal</i> Co-operative Societies..	1	..	..

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

A Public Health Engineering Division with its headquarters at Bhagalpur was created in 1950. The main object was to afford

proper facilities of drinking water to the people of the Bhagalpur and other towns. Monghyr and Santhal Parganas were also placed under the same division. An Executive Engineer is the head of the Division and is under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer with his headquarters at Patna. The headquarters of the Chief Engineer is at Patna.

This Division comprises two subdivisions in Bhagalpur district, namely, Bhagalpur no. I Subdivision and Bhagalpur no. II Subdivision. Besides there is one Subdivision at Monghyr and another at Deoghar with headquarters at Monghyr and Deoghar.

Since the creation of the Division, the following important schemes have been taken up in Bhagalpur district:—

- (1) Bhagalpur no. 1 water supply scheme.
- (2) Bhagalpur no. 2 water supply scheme.
- (3) Bhagalpur town water supply scheme.

Bhagalpur town water supply scheme amounting to Rs. 13,19,037 had been executed and further supplementary scheme for Bhagalpur town water supply amounting to Rs. 24 lakhs is under execution. New Water Tower of 1 lakh gallon capacity near Training College is completed. The work on filtration plant at Barari and clear water reservoir, etc. is in progress.

About four hundred tube-wells with $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter have been sunk in flood drought affected areas of this district.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE

The Employment Exchange Office was started at Bhagalpur in 1948 under the charge of the District Employment Officer. Prior to 1956, the Directorate of Employment Exchange was under the Central Government and there used to be a Regional Director of National Employment at the State Level. But since October, 1956, the Department has come under the State Government and the administrative head is known as the State Director of National Employment service with his headquarters at Patna. Below the Deputy Director is the Regional Employment Officer with his headquarters at Patna. The work of Employment Exchange in the district of Bhagalpur is looked after by the District Employment Officer of gazetted rank. He has one field staff to assist him in the work. The District Employment Officer of Bhagalpur is controlled by the Regional Employment Officer, Patna.

The chief function of the District Employment Officer is to find employment for the unemployed. It is his duty to be in touch with different sources of employment and to make the

Exchange popular with them. The unemployed irrespective of their age, educational qualifications, etc., are expected to register themselves indicating their preference for particular trade. The entries are categorised and whenever there is a demand from any employer the Exchange Officer sends up the names of the possible candidates.

A statement is given below to show the number of applicants registered, placed and number of vacancies notified at the end of each year for two years:—

Year.	No. of Employment Exchange.			No. of registration.	No. of applicants placed.	No. of vacancies notified.
1	2			3	4	5
1959 ..	1	..	..	2,132	143	340
1960 ..	1	..	..	2,773	76	301

ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT

The Electricity Executive Engineer, Electricity Supply Division, Bhagalpur is incharge of the division and is under the control of the Electrical Superintending Engineer, Bhagalpur Circle, with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Chief Engineer, Electricity Department, Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna is the head of the department.

The Executive Engineer, Bhagalpur is assisted by three Assistant Electrical Engineers with their headquarters at Bhagalpur, Sultanganj and Deoghar. They are incharge of the transmission and distribution in their respective jurisdiction. There are three power houses, one at Sahebganj, other at Monghyr and third at Pakur.

The following towns have been electrified:—

Bhagalpur, Banka, Sultanganj and Colgong.

There has not been more expansion of electrification of villages. So far only Akbarpur near Bhagalpur has been electrified.

CENTRAL EXCISE DEPARTMENT

Bhagalpur Circle was created in March, 1943 having the jurisdiction over the Bhagalpur Commissary, namely, Bhagalpur, Santhal Parganas, Monghyr, Saharsa and Purnea. In the year 1945, a separate Purnea Circle comprising only the district of Purnea came into existence and the remaining four districts continued to

be under the charge of Bhagalpur Circle. In the year 1951, on account of range re-scheming, Begusarai Circle was created. The entire Circle at present is divided into eight ranges. Bhagalpur range is under the charge of Deputy Superintendent. Other seven ranges, namely, Colgong, Sahebganj, Pakur, Dumka, Deoghar, Madhipura and Jhajha are under a charge of Inspector.

The Bhagalpur Circle is under the administrative charge of a Superintendent of Central Excise with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is assisted by a Deputy Superintendent. This Circle is under the direct control of an Assistant Collector of Bhagalpur Division. The Assistant Collector is under the control of the Collector of Central Excise with headquarters at Patna.

The main function of the Superintendent is to look after the proper collection of excise duty levied by the Central Government from time to time.

The following table will show the collection of Revenue from Central Excise in Bhagalpur District:—

			1959-60 Realised	1960-61 Realised
			Rs.	Rs.
Tobacco	..	..	30,92,344	41,17,621
Vegetable non-essential oil	..	..	2,42,687	3,56,836
Khandsari Sugar	..	..	18,159	29,971
Woollen Fabrics	..	..	72,964	75,551
Silk	..	..	..	17,185
Soap	..	..	3,689	1,747

Besides the above commodities three other items have come under excise control this year as per Finance Bill, 1961, viz., patent and proprietary medicine, woollen yarn and china and porcelain-ware. The expected revenue from the above three items is above 1 lakh per year.

The Circle is not important for purposes of growing tobacco because it comprises hills and not fit for tobacco cultivation.

INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT

The District Industries Officer, Bhagalpur, with headquarters at Bhagalpur, is under the direct control of the Director of Industries, Bihar, with headquarters at Patna. There is one Subdivisional Inspector of Industries posted at Banka Subdivision. There are seven Industrial Extension Supervisors in the different Community Development Blocks of the district.

The district of Bhagalpur is to some extent industrialised. There is one Engineering School and College in Bhagalpur City. There is also one Model Blacksmithy Centre, one Aluminium Factory at Bounsi, which is about 32 miles south from Bhagalpur. There is one Industrial Women's School located at Bhagalpur City, where girl students are given training in knitting, embroidery and tailoring. There is a Dye House for dyeing yarn at Nathnagar. There are many Tassar Silk Factories by which a huge quantity of Tassar Silk fabrics are exported to America and other countries from Bhagalpur which is the main market of production of Tassar.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

The Irrigation Department is divided into two parts, namely, Major Irrigation and Minor Irrigation. The Major Irrigation Section is controlled by the Executive Engineer, Waterways, South Bihar Irrigation Circle with his headquarters at Bhagalpur.

Minor Irrigation Department was created in August, 1960 with its headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation, with his headquarters is posted at Bhagalpur. He is under the administrative control of the Additional Director of Agriculture Engineer, Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna. There are ten Assistant Engineers to assist the work of Executive Engineer. They are posted in ten subdivisions, namely, Bhagalpur Sadar, Banka, Monghyr, Jamui, Dumka, Godda, Sahebganj, Pakur, Deoghar and Jamatra. Besides there are Overseers who work under the Assistant Engineer of Minor Irrigation.

The implements, namely, Bihar Plough and Japani weeder, etc., are distributed to the Blocks and Agriculturists by the Deputy Director of Agriculture.

The details of the execution of the Major Irrigation Schemes have been given separately.

LABOUR OFFICE

The District Labour Officer, Bhagalpur with his headquarters at Bhagalpur is under the direct control of the Divisional Labour

Commissioner with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Labour Commissioner is the superior authority of Labour Officer.

There are five Labour Inspectors who are posted at Banka, Belhar, Naugachhia, Colgong and Bhagalpur proper. The District Labour Officer is assisted by five Labour Inspectors.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT

The Postal Department including Telegraphs and Telephones is under the Central Government. For the administration of postal services there is one Superintendent of Post Offices with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is directly under the control of the Postmaster General, Bihar with his headquarters at Patna.

The jurisdiction of the Superintendent roughly extends over the whole of the district of Bhagalpur. For administrative purposes and for running the services efficiently the entire Bhagalpur Postal Division is subdivided into four subdivisions, namely, Bhagalpur South, Bhagalpur North, Santhal Parganas East and Santhal Parganas West. Each subdivision is under an Inspector of the rank of junior selection grade of the Postal Services. The headquarters of Bhagalpur South and Bhagalpur North Inspector is at Bhagalpur. The headquarters of the Inspector of Santhal Parganas West is at Deoghar and Santhal Parganas East is at Sahebganj.

The Bhagalpur Post Office is the Head Post Office. There are 30 Sub-post Offices at Bhagalpur and two hundred sixty-seven branch Post Offices. The majority of the Sub-post Offices are served direct by mail communication with Railway Mail Service and few are served by roads through motor buses and runners.

The two hundred and sixty-seven branch Post Offices are located at the bigger villages and serve the village neighbourhood. Some of them are located at villages where there are police *thanas*.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Education Department at the district level is controlled by the District Education Officer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Regional Deputy Director of Education with his headquarters at Bhagalpur is the immediate superior of the District Education Officer. The Director of Public Instructions with his headquarters at Patna, is the head of the department at the State level. At the district level the District Education Officer is assisted by a number of Officers in running his department efficiently.

Each subdivision is placed incharge of a Subdivisional Education Officer with the headquarters at each of the Civil Subdivisional headquarters.

At the district level the District Education Officer is helped by the District Superintendent of Education, District Social Education Organiser, District Inspectress of Schools, Deputy Superintendent of Education and Deputy Superintendent of Basic Education and Physical Education with their headquarters at Bhagalpur.

There are three Deputy Inspectors of Schools in the District, two at Sadar Subdivision and one at Banka Subdivision. Below the Deputy Inspector of Schools there are 28 Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the whole district, each of them is responsible for the educational activities in his respective circle. There is one Deputy Inspectress of Schools in the district to help the District Inspectress of Schools in her activities regarding girls' education in the district.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

The District Animal Husbandry Officer, Bhagalpur with his headquarters at Bhagalpur is incharge of the Animal Husbandry Department in the district. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, Bhagalpur Range, Bhagalpur with his headquarters at Bhagalpur and the Director of Animal Husbandry with his headquarters at Patna.

Before September, 1954, the present Animal Husbandry Department was running under two different departments, namely, Veterinary Department and Animal Husbandry Department under two technical heads. During September, 1954 these two departments were amalgamated and Director of Veterinary Services was designated as Director of Animal Husbandry, Bihar.

The District Animal Husbandry Officer is assisted by the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Supervisors whose strength is 13, who are posted in each block to look after the Animal Husbandry work. There are two stockmen and one messenger to assist the Animal Husbandry Supervisors. Apart from them a Live-stock Inspector and a Fodder Overseer are working under the guidance of the District Animal Husbandry Officer at the district headquarters, Bhagalpur.

During the First Five Year Plan four schemes were taken, namely, opening of Artificial Insemination Centre and Sub-centres, Hospital and Dispensary (Class I Veterinary Dispensary), distribution of bulls and opening of Key-Villages in Bihar. During Second Five Year Plan nine additional schemes started.

A brief review of important schemes are given below:—Scheme concerning improvements of breeds—to improve the local breeds of cattle—the two schemes, namely, Bull distribution and Artificial Insemination are in operation.

(a) BULL DISTRIBUTION SCHEME

This scheme was started in First Five Year Plan and also has been taken up in the Second Five Year Plan. Under this scheme a minimum of ten *Hariana* Bulls are distributed in each block and rupees ten in North Bhagalpur and rupees thirty in South Bhagalpur is given to each Bull-keeper per month for the maintenance.

(b) ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SCHEME

This scheme was taken in the First Five Year Plan and during this period one Artificial Insemination Centre was started at Banka. During Second Five Year Plan six Artificial Insemination Centres were opened at Bihpur, Pirpainti, Sonhaura, Sultanganj, Naugachhia and Bhagalpur. Under the six main Artificial Insemination Centres, thirteen Artificial Insemination Sub-centres are running. Key-village Inspector remains incharge of Artificial Insemination Centre, Bihpur. Livestock Overseer remains incharge of the Artificial Insemination Main Centre of Pirpainti, Sonhaura, Sultanganj and Naugachhia under the supervision of Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

ERADICATION OF RINDERPEST

This scheme started functioning in March, 1960. Under this scheme it has been decided to eradicate Rinderpest disease by vaccinating all the heads of cattle.

POULTRY DEVELOPMENT

Under this scheme one Poultry Extension Centre has been opened at Bounsi and three hatching Centres are opened at Sabour, Banka and Katoria under Second Five Year Plan.

FODDER DEVELOPMENT

To encourage the farmers fodder growing seeds and cuttings of different types of fodder are distributed to the farmers free of cost. Besides this at each block headquarters in two acres of land different types of fodder grass, namely, Napier, Para, Lucern and Barseem have been introduced in the fodder demonstration plots.

CATTLE SHOW

To encourage the cattle owners for improving their livestock, one cattle show in each block is organised once in a year and one district cattle show in a year.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Prior to 1955, there was only one Subdivisional Officer of Public Works Department at Bhagalpur, who used to perform the duties of the Executive Engineer and who was directly under the Superintending Engineer, East Bihar Circle with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The subdivision used to be called Bhagalpur Independent Subdivision. But in the year 1955, the Bhagalpur Division was created with four subdivisions under its jurisdiction, namely, Bhagalpur, Banka, Sabour and Godda subdivisions.

The Division is under the charge of an Executive Engineer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is the administrative head at the district level. In the middle of the year 1956, another division, namely, Dumka was created and the Godda subdivision with all the work under it was transferred to that Division.

The main duties of the Executive Engineer is to supervise the execution of the scheme, look after the works of the Subdivisional Officers under him, to control expenditure and give payments to contractors. He is the administrative controller of the Superintending Engineer, East Bihar Circle, who has his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Chief Engineer, Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna is the technical and administrative head of the department.

At present, the Bhagalpur Division constitutes three subdivisions, namely, Bhagalpur, Sabour and Banka with one Subdivisional Officer in respect of each subdivision. Subdivisional Officer is assisted by Overseers.

There are 15 Sectional Officers in Bhagalpur Division to supervise the execution of work under the guidance of the Subdivisional Officers.

The Executive Engineer inspects the work and management of the Subdivisional Officers. The Subdivisional Officers and Overseers are responsible for the management and execution of works within their respective jurisdiction.

Prior to the First Five Year Plan, there was hardly any well surfaced Public Works Department Road in Bhagalpur district. A few roads are taken over under the Post-War Development Scheme and improvement work started in 1949, which gained momentum when the First Five Year Plan was started in 1951. At the end of First Five Year Plan, 69 miles were surfaced. By the end of the Second Five Year Plan, 151 miles of new roads have also been completed.

Many building projects for different departments of the Government have also been completed and many are in progress. With the development of Bhagalpur district, it is expected that many new building schemes will be taken up by this division during the Third Five Year Plan.

MALARIA DEPARTMENT

The Malaria Department at Bhagalpur and Banka was established in the month of February, 1959. The Anti-Malaria Officers at Bhagalpur and Banka are the administrative head of their respective circles with their headquarters at Bhagalpur and Banka. Both are under the administrative control of the Chief Malaria Officer, Patna with his headquarters at Patna.

The Anti-Malaria Officer, Bhagalpur is assisted by four assistant Anti-Malaria Officers, each of them is incharge of four sub-units, namely, Bhagalpur proper, Colgong, Rajaun and Amarpur, under the jurisdiction and supervision of Anti-Malaria Officer, Bhagalpur. There are 17 Malaria Inspectors and 78 Superior Field Workers under the guidance of Anti-Malaria Officer.

The Anti-Malaria Officer, Banka is assisted by an Assistant Anti-Malaria Officer, each at Banka, Katoria, Jhajha and Lakshmipur. Besides them there are 20 Malaria Inspectors and 20 Malaria Field Workers under the guidance of Anti-Malaria Officer, Banka. There are four sub-units, namely, Banka, Katoria, Jhajha and Lakshmipur under the jurisdiction and supervision of Anti-Malaria Officer, Banka.

D. D. T. is also being used by the Malaria Department. It has brought about a desired effect to a very great extent.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

The District Agriculture Officer, Bhagalpur, is the administrative head of the department. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Bhagalpur Range with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. The Director of Agriculture is the administrative head of the Agricultural Department at the State level. This department is functioning in Bhagalpur since 1905.

There is one Subdivisional Agriculture Officer at Banka. He is under the administrative control of the District Agriculture Officer.

The District Agriculture Officer is assisted by a team of subject matter specialists in Agronomy, Botany, Chemistry, Mechanics, Engineering, Marketing, Plant Protection, Well-boring and Fishery. Their job is to co-ordinate the result of research from laboratories to the farmers in the fields and to train the village level workers and Agricultural Extension Supervisors in different blocks on the latest findings of research for disseminating them.

The Subdivisional Agriculture Officer is also assisted by a team of specialists in Fishery, Horticulture, Plant Protection, Engineering and Agricultural Extension Supervisors working in 21 blocks of the district. The entire district has been covered with the different kinds of blocks where the Agricultural programmes and propaganda are being carried out through Agricultural Extension Blocks. One Agricultural Inspector and five village level workers have been posted to look after the work of agricultural programme.

There are sixteen Seed Multiplication Farms in Bhagalpur district where experiments and trials are frequently done. There is an Agricultural College at Sabour, 6 miles east from Bhagalpur. This college is a unique feature not only in this district but in whole State of Bihar. The details of this college have been given separately.

FOREST RANGE OFFICE

The Forest Range Office of Bhagalpur district is placed under the Range Officers with their headquarters at Banka and Katoria. Both Range Officers, one at Banka and another at Katoria are under the direct control of the Divisional Forest Officer, Deoghar with headquarters at Deoghar.

Banka and Katoria Ranges were established in 1946. Both ranges have done good progress in their work. Banka Range consists of 94 square miles demarcated area. Katoria Range consists of 70 square miles demarcated area. There are four beats, namely, Banka, Lakshmipur, Vitya and Belhar and there are twenty-five sub-beats under Banka Range. Sub-beats are looked after by Forest Guards.

The afforestation work is not done by Banka Range but the Katoria Range manages the afforestation work.

SOLDIERS', SAILORS' AND AIRMEN'S BOARD

There is a Secretary for the District Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is under the control of the District Magistrate, who is the Honorary President of the Board. State Soldiers', Sailors and Airmen's Board, Patna is the head office of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board. The Governor of the State is the President of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board. The State Board is affiliated to Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board with headquarters at New Delhi.

There are three districts under the jurisdiction of this board, namely, Bhagalpur, Saharsa and Purnea with their headquarters at Bhagalpur. There is a managing committee at Bhagalpur to look after the welfare matters of the Board. The main aim of this Board is to look after the welfare of the ex-service men and the

family of the serving soldiers. The total strength of this circle was 5,446 men including ex-service men, serving personnel and deceased (1956). The Board tries to help the ex-service personnel in securing service and in their litigations. The Board also helps the relatives of the service-men in their troubles.

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION

After nationalisation of Life Insurance work the Life Insurance Corporation was set-up. There is a Branch Manager who is the administrative head of the Bhagalpur Branch office with his headquarters at Bhagalpur. He is under the direct control of the Senior Divisional Manager with his headquarters at Patna. He is controlled by the Zonal Manager with his headquarters at Calcutta. There is an Assistant Branch Manager posted at Naugachhia, under the control of the Branch Manager. Besides there are fourteen Field Officers out of whom nine are posted at Bhagalpur Sadar, two at Colgong, one at Sultanganj, one at Bihpur and one at Gopalpur.