

CHAPTER VIII.

ECONOMIC TRENDS AND MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS.

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN.

The main economy of the district of Shahabad is agricultural as agriculture is the chief means of livelihood in the district. It is only since the last three or four decades that there has been some industrialisation in one area with Dehri including Dalmianagar as the centre. This industrialisation has attracted a large population from outside the district. There are also a few other projects under implementation like the Sone Barrage scheme at Indrapuri near Dehri, the exploitation of pyrites with Amjhor as the centre, etc., that have attracted a few thousands of men from outside the district.

The texts of some of the chapters in this Gazetteer have discussions indicating the economic trends of the district. Such chapters are "People", "Agriculture and Irrigation", "Industries" and "Banking, Trade and Commerce", etc.

The statistics in the different Census Reports are relevant to trace the occupational distribution of the people. There is, however, one difficulty. The headings of the break-up figures under the occupational distribution are not the same in the different Census Reports. For example in 1911 Census Report the occupations mentioned are agriculture, industry, commerce and professions. In 1921 Census Report besides these four occupations, there is a fifth heading which is 'others'. In the Census Report for 1931 we do not find the occupational details of 1911 and 1921 censuses. W. G. Lacey, Superintendent of Census Operations for Bihar and Orissa, in 1931, had given the analysis of the population recorded in 1931 Census under the headings:—non-earning dependents, working dependents, without a subsidiary occupation and with a subsidiary occupation. The Census Operations for 1941 were very much curtailed because of war exigency. As an economy measure many of the tables were curtailed and we do not get the details of the population under headings for occupation.

It is only when we come to the statistics for 1951 that we are on firmer ground. Different tables with occupational analysis have been incorporated in 1951 District Census Hand-Book which have been referred to later.

The 1961 population figures have not yet been published. But we can have some information on the livelihood pattern from another Statistical Hand-Book published by the State Government of Bihar. This book gives the break-up figures of the total population of the district under two broad categories, namely, workers and non-workers.

No reliable data could be had of the number of people from Shahabad district that has found employment in the main industries with Dehri as the centre. It is, however, gathered that this figure will be small.

It may be recalled that there is a marked mobility in changing the occupations. The agriculturists may also be teachers, lawyers or service-holders in the private or public sector. An agriculturist or a landless labourer depending on agriculture may take up the work of a rickshaw-puller or take a casual job in the industrial units when there is no work in agriculture. He may have been treated separately in the census. In the same manner persons engaged in the industries may have occasions to go back to his land and be a cultivator or be a part-time labourer depended on cultivation. But, nevertheless, the census statistics and the statistics mentioned in the other books like Hunter's Statistical Account of Bengal do make out a presentable picture of the occupational trends and the livelihood pattern.

Any discussion of the economic distribution of the district - at the present moment will have to be recognised by the fact that there has been a progressive debunking of the feature of castes following the traditional occupations. When W. W. Hunter collected data for his Statistical Account of Bengal, Shahabad District, published in 1877, there was certainly a much higher incidence of castes following their traditional occupations than now in the district. At that time a Brahman's occupation was either to do the work of the priest or of the teacher or to beg. An extremely small percentage of the Brahmans might be holding services; it can be imagined that there was no Brahman who worked as a *bania* by holding a shop or ran the trade of a timber business. Hunter mentioned that no Brahman could hold the plough; and Rajputs who, like the Babhans and Pathans, look upon themselves as hereditary soldiers, were also averse to the toil of cultivation. Before the Mutiny of 1857, there were many Shahabad Rajputs in the army. The Kayasthas were the traditional service-holders, lawyers, teachers and acted as the *munshis* (clerks) to the wealthy landowners and merchants. The members of the artificer class, as a rule, used to follow their professions of the smithy, carpentry, tailoring, etc., besides holding farms possibly. The *banias* were petty traders; this class included the *byaparis*, who moved commodities on pack bullocks between the villages and market towns. The labouring classes included both those who held small farms and those who used

to plough and act as day-labourers. A *chamar* could hardly be doing anything else but follow his traditional occupation of working on leather.

Hunter had significantly used the nomenclatures "Agricultural castes", "Castes engaged chiefly in personal services", "Artisans castes", "Weaver castes", "Castes engaged in selling fish and vegetables", "labouring castes", "Boating and Fishing castes", "Dancers, Musicians, Beggar and Vagabond castes" and "Trading castes". Hunter grouped these categories under Hindus and mentioned them after two other sections, namely, "Superior castes" and "Intermediate castes".

The table below taken from the book "A Statistical Account of Bengal" by W. W. Hunter will give the details of the castes following the traditional occupation in Shahabad district*:-

Hindus.

(i) Superior Castes—

(1) Brahman	..	..	..	1,98,631
(2) Rajpūt	..	..	..	1,85,652
TOTAL				3,84,283

(ii) Intermediate Castes—

(1) Babhan	..	..	..	72,038
(2) Bhat	..	..	..	7,101
(3) Kathak	..	..	..	10,161
(4) Kayastha	..	..	..	42,374
(5) Kishanpachhi	..	..	..	33
TOTAL				1,21,707

(iii) Trading Castes—

(1) Agarwala	..	..	..	1,069
(2) Agrahari	..	..	..	1,181
(3) Baniya	..	..	..	22,050
(4) Barnawar	..	..	..	96
(5) Kasarwani	..	..	..	2,806
(6) Kasandhan	..	..	..	547
(7) Khatri	..	..	..	352
(8) Mukeri	..	..	..	12
(9) Nauniar	..	..	..	1,160
(10) Rastogi	..	..	..	737
(11) Rauniar	..	..	..	1,879
(12) Sinduria	..	..	..	709
TOTAL				32,598

* A Statistical Account of Bengal, District Shahabad, 1877, pages 184-185.

(iv) Pastoral Castes—

(1) Gareri	..	..	..	18,259
(2) Goala	..	..	..	2,14,605
(3) Jat	..	..	..	366
TOTAL				2,33,230

(v) Castes engaged in preparing cooked food—

(1) Halwai	..	..	..	4,552
(2) Kandu	..	..	..	52,601
(3) Ganrar	..	..	..	7,544
TOTAL				64,697

(vi) Agricultural Castes—

(1) Barui and Tambuli	..	..	..	7,189
(2) Kamkar	..	..	..	8,827
(3) Keori	..	..	..	1,30,394
(4) Kurmi	..	..	..	58,540
(5) Mali	..	..	..	3,432
(6) Others	..	..	..	9
TOTAL				2,08,391

(vii) Castes engaged chiefly in personal service—

(1) Dhanuk	..	..	..	1,781
(2) Dhobi	..	..	..	14,568
(3) Hajjam or Napit	..	..	..	25,808
(4) Kahar	..	..	..	43,227
TOTAL				85,384

(viii) Artisan Castes—

(1) Barhai (Carpenter)	..	..	..	13,093
(2) Darji (tailor)	..	..	..	113
(3) Kansari and Thathera (brazier)	..	..	..	2,258
(4) Kumbhar (potter)	..	..	..	18,931
(5) Laheri (lack-worker)	..	..	..	243
(6) Lohar (blacksmith)	..	..	..	27,959
(7) Sonar (goldsmith)	..	..	..	14,997
(8) Sunri (distiller)	..	..	..	27,795
(9) Teli (oilmen)	..	..	..	41,440
TOTAL				1,46,829

(ix) Weaver Castes—

(1) Dhunia	..	..	26
(2) Jugi and Patua	..	..	2,914
(3) Tanti	..	..	8,156
(4) Tattanwa	..	..	1,057

TOTAL	..	12,153
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(x) Labouring Castes—

(1) Beldar	..	..	9,003
(2) Nuniya	..	..	13,183
(3) Others	..	..	7

TOTAL	..	22,193
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(xi) Castes engaged in selling fish and vegetables—

(1) Kewani	..	..	87
(2) Khatik	..	..	179
(3) Turaha	..	..	3,206

TOTAL	..	3,472
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(xii) Boating and Fishing Castes—

(1) Banpar	..	..	41
(2) Dhimar	..	..	41
(3) Gonrhi	..	..	4,002
(4) Keut	..	..	706
(5) Machua	..	..	21
(6) Mallah	..	..	15,267
(7) Muriyari	..	..	6
(8) Surahiya	..	..	72

TOTAL	..	20,156
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(xiii) Dancer, Musician, Beggar and vagabond castes—

(1) Gandharb	..	..	173
(2) Pawariya	..	..	16
(3) Ramjani	..	..	29

TOTAL	..	218
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The statistics quoted by Hunter do indicate the livelihood pattern of that age to a great extent. It is true that Hunter does not mention the actual figures that followed the different occupations, but working on the thesis that the castes followed more or less, the traditional occupations or professions we can arrive at certain tentative figures that followed the different occupations. The castewise population

given by Hunter includes adults both males and females and children. Calculating that a family consists of five or six persons including one or two male adults and two or three children, we could make some guess at the population following the different occupations. This theory, however, cannot be pushed too far. Even at that time there was a somewhat mobility and particularly with the different castes associated with land. Thus a *goala* or a *teli* holding some lands would actually cultivate their lands and also follow their own profession of a milk-vendor or an oilman.

Hunter's statistics would show that the predominant percentage of the population derived their livelihood from agriculture. A lesser percentage followed industries or trade. At that time there was no estimate taken of the more specialised occupation like persons in public administration, employees in local bodies, members of the recreations, legal and business, services or those following Arts, letters and Journalism.

By the time the first *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* by L. S. S. O'Malley was published in 1906, the livelihood pattern had not changed substantially although the categories treated by O'Malley were different. By 1906 there were changes in the following of the traditional occupation by the castes. The weavers, *telis*, artisans and cobblers were mostly following their traditional caste-occupations. The pressure of the economic incidence disintegrating the following of caste-occupations had not yet been felt. The census statistics, however, followed a somewhat different pattern in collecting the data. This is apparent from what O'Malley mentions in the first *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906). He observes as follows:—

“A large majority of the people are engaged in agricultural pursuits, no less than 64.8 per cent of the whole population deriving their livelihood from agriculture. Of these 53 per cent are actual workers, and these include 12,000 rent-receivers, 4,62,000 rent-payers and 1,92,000 labourers. Of the remainder 17.7 per cent are supported by industries; the professional classes account for 1.9 per cent; and, as might be expected in a district which contains no manufacturing towns or important trade centres, the commercial class is very small, amounting to only 0.5 per cent. The proportion of persons engaged in industrial occupations is larger than in the other districts of the Patna Division; it is approached only in the adjoining district of Patna (17.1 per cent), the next largest proportion being found in Gaya (14 per cent); and it is very much greater than in the trans-Gangetic districts. Native handicrafts have in fact not found the same home in the districts to the north as in those to the south of the Ganges; and it has been suggested that the reason of this is that after

the murder of Alamgir and the fall of Delhi in 1759 A.D., many members of the Muhammadan nobility attached to the Mughal court retired to the *jagirs* that had been given them in the Patna, Gaya and Shahabad districts, bringing in their train large numbers of artificers and traders who settled down in these three districts: while the districts to the north of the Ganges were still in an unsettled state, sparsely populated and only partially cultivated.”*

Regarding the occupational distribution of the People Mr. O'Malley in the subsidiary Table III, Chapter XII of the Census Report (1911) has mentioned as follows:—†

Occupations.	Total population of the district.	Number of persons engaged.	Percentage to total population.	Percentage to actual workers.	Percentage to dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agriculture ..	18,62,998	13,41,732	72.5	52	48
Industry ..	..	2,29,376	15.5	55	45
Commerce ..	..	1,31,259	9.5	51	49
Profession ..	..	37,090	2.5	51	49

The next census of 1921 was conducted under P. C. Tallents. The occupational statistics given in the subsidiary Table III to Chapter XII of the Census Report (1921) were as follows:—‡

Occupations.	Total population of the district.	Number of persons engaged.	Percentage to total population.	Percentage to actual workers.	Percentage to dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agriculture ..	18,14,229	13,57,859	75.0	51	49
Industry ..	..	2,06,811	11.8	53	47
Commerce ..	..	1,14,537	5.8	51	49
Profession ..	..	22,954	1.5	46	54
Others ..	..	1,14,660	5.9	59	41

From the above table it appears that there are variations in the figures for certain occupations. For example, the figure in 1911 for Industries, Commerce and Professions have a drop in 1921 Census while Agriculture moves from the 1911 figure of 13,41,732 to 13,57,859 persons. Secondly in 1921 Census, it has been shown that 1,14,660 persons are engaged in other professions while in 1911 this column has not been indicated. The obvious explanation is that there has been some difference in the interpretation of what population should be covered under Industries and Commerce. There

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), page 92.

† *Census of India, 1911, Vol. V, Part I report* (Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Sikkim), page 562.

‡ *Census of India, 1921, Vol. VII, Part I, Bihar and Orissa, page 269.*

may also be some unavoidable mistakes in the enumeration. But it is obvious that the figure for agriculture does make out that agriculture has continued to be the most important feature in the occupational pattern of the district.

W. G. Lacey, the Superintendent of the Census Operations, Bihar and Orissa, in 1931 had not given the occupational details for the districts. In subsidiary Table II to Chapter VIII, of the Census Report (1931), he had given the number per mille of the total population occupied under different occupations which are given below*:-

Number per mille of the total population occupied in (earners).

(1) Non-earning dependents	..	..	540
(2) Working dependents	..	..	1
(3) Without a subsidiary occupation	..	..	428
(4) With a subsidiary occupation	..	..	31

Lacey had left the number of non-working dependents in the different occupations under agriculture. The census operations of 1941 were conducted during the Second World War and as a war economy measure many of the tables were curtailed.

In 1951 Census the general population has been divided into two broad livelihood categories, namely, agricultural classes and non-agricultural classes. These two classes have been sub-divided into four groups and each group has three sub-sections. The following Table will show the break-up figures of each livelihood classes:-†

TABLE I.

Principal livelihood classes.	Number.	Percentage out of the total population.	Self-supporting.	Non-earning dependents.	Earning dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agricultural classes	.. 22,37,847	83	7,18,204	14,30,488	89,155
(i) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents.	13,74,312	Percentage out of the agricultural population 61.6	4,62,109	8,57,978	54,225
(ii) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned and their dependents.	2,53,035	11.6	73,140	1,63,384	16,511
(iii) Cultivating labourers and their dependents.	5,84,319	25.7	1,74,643	3,93,883	15,703
(iv) Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents.	26,181	1.1	8,312	15,243	2,626

* Census of India, 1931, Vol. VII, Bihar and Orissa, Part I Report, page 206.

† District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, pages 12-15.

TABLE II.

Principal livelihood classes.	Number.	Percentage out of the total population.	Self- supporting.	Non- earning dependents.	Earning dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Non-agricultural classes ..	4,50,593	17	1,18,924	3,12,715	18,954
(i) Production (other than cultivation).	1,00,735	Percentage out of the non-agricultural population 22.1	28,041	67,159	5,535
(ii) Commerce ..	1,34,968	29.9	32,695	96,555	5,718
(iii) Transport ..	22,334	4.8	6,142	14,981	1,211
(iv) Other services and miscellaneous services.	1,92,556	43.2	52,046	1,34,020	6,490

In the *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951* (pages 12-13) it has been mentioned that the principal means of livelihood of the earning dependents and non-earning dependents have been assumed to be the same as those of the persons on whom they are fully or partially dependent. A "self-supporting person" is one who earns enough to maintain himself. A "non-earning dependent" is one who earns nothing and is completely dependent on others. An "earning dependent" is a person who earns something, but not enough, for his maintenance.

The perusal of the foregoing table shows that 8,37,128 persons or 31.2 per cent of the total population (26,88,440) are self supporting, i.e., who are economically active persons.

The non-earning dependents who have to be supported wholly from the earnings of others, constitute 64.8 per cent of the total population. The remaining 4 per cent are persons who supplement the income of the family by their own earning which is, however, not sufficient even for their own maintenance. Under the joint family system most of the members of a family have some share in the landed properties so that the proportion of the non-earning dependents among persons engaged on the agricultural pursuits is smaller (63.9 per cent) than among those dependent on the non-agricultural occupations (69.4 per cent).

It has been discussed above that persons constituting 64.8 per cent of the total population are entirely dependent for their maintenance on the earnings of others. This large proportion of the wholly dependants is composed of children, old and infirm persons

and women. In the absence of suitable handicrafts and other village industries women are unable to supplement the actual income of the householders. But strictly speaking a good percentage of the women cannot be described as wholly dependent as they run the household, take part in various other work and even help processes of cultivation. On local enquiry it was ascertained that a large number of women of the agriculturist families particularly of the poorer classes actually work on the fields during certain agricultural operations like sowing and harvesting. The foregoing table also shows that 22,37,847 persons or 83 per cent of the total population fall under agricultural classes and the remaining 4,50,593 persons or 17 per cent under non-agricultural classes. This percentage of the agricultural population in comparison with the per cent of 1911 and 1921 is significant. In 1911 and 1921 the percentage of the agricultural population is 72.5 and 75 respectively. It indicates that the incidence of the agricultural population has been on the increase.

It may be compared with the two districts of Palamau and Darbhanga which have according to the Census of 1951, 91 per cent and 89.1 per cent agricultural population and 9 per cent and 10.9 per cent non-agricultural population respectively. The comparison with these two districts have been made because Palamau and Darbhanga have also some industries. In Shahabad district the agricultural population is less than the said two districts but the non-agricultural population is more than in those two districts. The all-India average of agriculturist and non-agriculturist population according to 1951 Census is 68.1 per cent and 31.9 per cent respectively while the average for Bihar is 86.4 per cent and 13.6 per cent respectively. There is no other State in India where the predominance of agricultural population is so high.

From the perusal of the preceding table it appears that the proportion of owner cultivator, i.e., cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned (livelihood class I) is 51 per cent of the total population. The cultivators of land mainly unowned (livelihood class II) constitute about 9 per cent of the total population. Cultivating labourer (livelihood class III) form 22 per cent of the total population and 28 per cent of the agricultural population. The reason for the large percentage of the cultivating labourers in the district is mainly owing to the absence of the alternative employment in the industries and other avenues of employment.

Non-cultivating owners of land and agricultural rent receivers (livelihood class IV) number a few. They constitute about 0.50 per cent of the total population. This class has now been merged into other sections due to the passing of the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950.

The non-agricultural population, as mentioned before, constitutes about 17 per cent of the total population which includes the percentage of production other than cultivation, commerce, transport and other services. The incidence of the low percentage of the population is due to the fact that the transport services have not fully developed in the district. There are a few long distance roads with buses and trucks running all the twelve months. Transport services are being developed and in 1961 Census probably the incidence will be higher.

Miscellaneous and other services include the residual class. This residual class will be discussed later in the section under "Miscellaneous Occupations". This class constitutes about 7 per cent of the total population in the district. Although a small percentage they form an important cross-section.

The details of the livelihood pattern as indicated in 1961 Census statistics are not yet available as they are still under compilation (May, 1964). But we can have some basic information regarding livelihood pattern from the General Population Tables of 1961 Census*. According to this publication the total population of the district in 1961 was 32,18,017 (16,16,732 males and 16,01,285 females). For economic purposes the population has been divided into two categories—workers and non-workers. Out of 32,18,017 persons, 1,19,431 have been enumerated under workers. Thus according to 1961 Census about 35 per cent of the total population are workers and the rest are non-workers.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

For an all-round development of rural economy, the Community Development Projects were started after the achievement of independence of the country. The Community Development Projects aim at an intensive and comprehensive programme covering different aspects of the rural life, namely, agriculture, rural cottage type industries, education, housing, health and recreation, etc. The C. D. Projects aim at utilising the surplus labour force in the rural areas for development purposes. The work is based on democratic principles and the people of the area are to be enthused to continue the trends set in for a general improvement.

The work on the Community Development Projects was started in Shahabad district on the 1st April, 1952. The first four blocks were started at Bhabua, Kudra, Sheosagar and Sasaram in 1952. Thirty-seven more blocks have been started till 1964.

* Census of India, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 29.

The following details of the Community Development Blocks in the district have been supplied by the Development section of the Collectorate at Shahabad:—

Serial no.	Name of the Community Development Blocks.	Present Stage.	Name of the block headquarters.	Subdivision.	Date and year of starting.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Barhara ..	II	Barhara ..	Arrah Sadar	2-10-1957
2	Arrah ..	II	Arrah ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
3	Udwantnagar ..	II	Udwantnagar	Ditto ..	1-4-1958
4	Koilwar ..	II	Koilwar ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
5	Sandesh ..	I	Sandesh ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1960
6	Shahpur ..	II	Shahpur ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1956
7	Bihea ..	II	Bihea ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1955
8	Jagdishpur ..	I	Jagdishpur ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
9	Piro ..	I	Piro ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
10	Charpokhari ..	I	Garahani ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
11	Tarari ..	I	Piro ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1961
12	Sahar ..	I	Sahar ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1961
13	Buxar ..	II	Buxar ..	Buxar ..	2-10-1957
14	Itarhi ..	I	Do. ..	Do. ..	1-4-1960
15	Rajpur ..	I	Do. ..	Do. ..	1-10-1961
16	Semri ..	II	Dumraon ..	Do. ..	19-5-1956
17	Dumraon ..	II	Ditto ..	Do. ..	1-4-1955
18	Barhampur ..	Pre-extension.	Barhampur ..	Do. ..	1-10-1962
19	Nawanagar ..	I	Athar ..	Do. ..	1-4-1962
20	Bikramganj ..	I	Bikramganj ..	Sasaram ..	1-4-1962
21	Karakat ..	I	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
22	Dinara ..	I	Dinara ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1960
23	Dawath ..	I	Surajpura ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
24	Nasriganj ..	I	Nasriganj ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1961
25	Dehri ..	II	Dehri ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1959
26	Karaghar ..	II	Karaghar ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
27	Nokha ..	I	Nokha ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
28	Sheosagar ..	Post stage II	Sheosagar ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1952
29	Rohtas ..	II	Rohtas ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1957
30	Sasaram ..	Post stage II	Sasaram ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1952
31	Nowhatta..	Tribal Development block II	Nowhatta ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1957
32	Chenari ..	II	Chenari ..	Ditto ..	14-10-1955
33	Durgawati ..	I	Durgawati ..	Bhabua ..	1-4-1960
34	Ramgarh ..	I	Ramgarh ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1962
35	Mohanja ..	II	Mohanja ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1956

Serial no.	Name of the Community Development Blocks.	Present Stage.	Name of the block head-quarters.	Subdivision.	Date and year of starting.
1	2	3	4	5	6
36	Kudra ..	.. Post stage II	Kudra ..	Bhabua ..	1-10-1952
37	Chand ..	.. Pre-ex-tension I	Chand ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
38	Chainpur..	.. I	Chainpur ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
39	Bhabua ..	.. Post stage II	Bhabua ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1962
40	Bhagwanpur	.. II	Bhagwanpur	Ditto ..	2-10-1957
41	Adhaura	.. Tribal Development block II.	Adhaura ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1957

ORGANISATIONAL PATTERN.

The Community Development Programme conforms to the All-India Pattern as adopted in the State of Bihar under the Department of the Community Development, now that of the Community Development and the Panchayat Raj. The Development Commissioner of the State is the co-ordinator at the State level. At the divisional level, the Commissioner with his headquarters at Patna and at the district level, the District Magistrate at Arrah are the co-ordinators. The District Magistrate has been vested with the powers of the "Head of the Department" over the finances and a large part of the administration of the Blocks except for disciplinary action over the staff not appointed by him. He is assisted in the work of co-ordination by the District Development Committee and the District Co-ordination Committee of which he is the Chairman and the District Development Officer its Secretary. The District Development Committee consists of the District Magistrate, members of the State Assembly and Councils and members of the Parliament representing the district population, eight non-officials prominent in social work and four Subdivisional Officers with headquarters at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua respectively and all the district technical heads of the Development departments. The District Co-ordination Committee consists of the same membership as the District Development Committee minus the members of the State Legislature, Parliament and non-officials and with the addition of all the Block Development Officers. The District Development Committee is expected to review every quarter the progress in the development block as also on other matters of development concerning the district specially with a view to assess and enthuse public participation and public co-operation. The District Co-ordination Committee is expected to remove the administrative bottlenecks. The District Magistrate further exercises administrative control over the activities and the staff of

all the development departments in the district including the subdivisions and the blocks. At the Block level the Block Development Officer is the co-ordinator of the development programme. He also looks after the revenue work in his area. He is assisted by a Block Development Committee consisting of all the *Mukhiyas* of the Gram Panchayats in the block and some prominent non-officials representing special interests, selected secretaries of the co-operative societies and other social workers. The technical officers of the development departments are *ex-officio* members of this committee. The District Magistrate is the Chairman of the Committee and the Block Development Officer its Secretary.

The team of the Block staff consists of the Block Development Officer, who is an officer drawn from the Bihar Civil Service, the supervisors and other staff of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Co-operative, Industries, Gram Panchayats, Statistics, Medical and Public Health Departments.

The Block Development Committee with its five sub-committees on Finance, Agriculture, Irrigation, Education, and Public Works Industries Sub-committee is expected to review and supervise the development work at the Block level and is responsible for creating public enthusiasm and seek public co-operation. At the village there is a village level worker who is the vital link with the Block Development Officer and is expected to be the executive for implementing the various programmes.

Some changes are likely to be introduced in this district as in the other parts of the State for decentralising the administrative authority under the newly-introduced legislation named "Panchayat Raj Act".

This law envisages transfer of the administrative authority from officials to the representatives of the people through the Panchayats. It is further anticipated that the Block Development Officers may be relieved of their revenue work. The Minister at Centre Shri S. K. Dey holds the view strongly that a Block Development Officer cannot get the environs nor the enthusiasm or the time and initiative to do development work if he is responsible for realising the revenue.

It is obvious that the king-pin of the organisation is the combination of the B. D. O. and the village level worker.

WORK DONE.

The table below has been supplied by the Development section, Arrah Collectorate and will give the details regarding the work of the Community Development Programme for the last twelve years (up to December, 1963), in the district under different items:—

(1) Distribution of Improved Seeds	..	32,49,413	maunds.
(2) Distribution of chemical fertilisers		12,45,678	"
(3) Number of compost pits	..	62,145	

(4) Use of green manures	45,437 acres.
(5) Number of agricultural implements distributed by the blocks.	12,487
(6) Cultivation of Japanese method of paddy cultivation.	10,457 acres.
(7) Number of Seed Multiplication farms	29
(8) Number of Artificial Insemination centres.	48
(9) Medium Irrigation Schemes completed	31
(10) Minor Irrigation Schemes completed	314
(11) <i>Pucca</i> and <i>Kutch</i> a wells constructed	1,518
(12) State dispensaries run by the blocks	37
(13) Number of Health centres run by the blocks.	123
(14) Number of drinking wells constructed	1,817
(15) Number of drinking wells repaired ..	1,009
(16) Number of schools started by the blocks.	819
(17) Number of Co-operative Societies run in the blocks.	2,818

The figures cover all the blocks in the district and suggest an image of the work done. The statistics of the table under different items have been accepted without any scrutiny. The figures, by themselves cannot indicate the "achievements" as the consequent impact (of these investments) in the form of agro-economic achievements cannot be located. It should not, for example, be taken to mean that all the dispensaries have got doctors or that the health centres are properly manned. It should not be taken as granted that all the irrigation schemes have been producing results or the drinking wells are being utilised. The figures indicative of the Japanese method of cultivation are to be judged from the point of view if the villagers are taking to them. The Development section could not supply the total expenditure in the last twelve years either in whole or the break-up figures under the different heads. No critical appraisal report was received from the department made either by the Department or by some other agency.

A rapid investigation was made by us into the working of some blocks and their impact on the tribal and non-tribal people in the district. Four blocks, viz., Nowhatta, Rohtas, Bhagwanpur and Adhaura were visited during the investigation. The evaluation reports on the said blocks have been discussed. They have been conducted on our own and they may be of some help to get the real picture of the role of the Community Development Blocks in some areas of the district.

NAUHATTA BLOCK.

The Nauhatta Block was started on the 26th January, 1957 as a National Extension Service Block. This was upgraded as a Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block with effect from 23rd May, 1957. It has now relapsed into the Tribal Development Block, Stage II since 1st April, 1963.

In the Second Five-Year Plan 43 tribal blocks were set up in India out of which 8 were in Bihar. Nauhatta Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block is one of them.

The area of the block is 151 square miles out of which 40 square miles fall within the region of the Kaimur hills. The block is like a long strip with a width of only 3 to 5 miles and the length is about 20 miles. On the east and north the Sone river and on the west the Kaimur hills mark the boundary. The western part of the block touches the district of Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh. There are 58 villages (six unpopulated) distributed under 12 Gram Panchayats. According to the statistics supplied by the Nauhatta Block Office (1963 January) the total population is 34,670 persons out of whom 5,081 are tribals. The percentage of the tribal population comes to 14.6% only. It is rather curious that with such a low percentage of tribal population, there should be a special multi-purpose tribal block here. The report of the Committee on special multi-purpose tribal block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, March, 1960, p. 184, recommended that special tribal block should cover an area where there is a population of 55 per cent of the total.

The tribal population in Nauhatta is mainly concentrated in five villages, two villages, namely, Kamal Khairwa, and Chaffla on the plains and three villages, namely, Rehal, Pipradih and Korhas are on the Kaimur hills. The main tribals found in the block are Cheros, Dhangars and Oraons. The impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals and non-tribals was studied in five selected villages, namely, Rehal, Jadunathpur, Daranagar, Tilokhar and Nauhatta. Some details for each of the villages studied are given below:—

Rehal.

This village is situated on the Kaimur hills (about 2,400 ft. high) at a distance of about six miles from Nauhatta, the Block headquarters. It has an area of 8,312 acres and a population of 779 persons (387 males and 392 females). Out of 779, 710 are tribals. Among tribals the Oraons are in majority. The total number of households is 148 out of which 86 belong to Oraon, 26 to Kharwar, 8 to Harijans and 28 to other castes such as Baniya, Ahir and Mohammadans. The Research Assistants interviewed 25 persons of

this village. Besides, they had informal conversation with about 50 persons. The details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.			Land held in bighas.	Annual production (in maunds).	Cattle owned.	Debt.	
				Daughters and sons.	Other members.	Total.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
										Rs.	
1	Sheonandan Mahton	..	45	Oraon	3	2	5	15	120	17	Nil.
2	Bifi Mahton	..	48	Do.	1	2	3	5	30	3	50
3	Rajnath Mahton	..	35	Do.	5	2	7	10	80	7	Nil.
4	Maheshi Mahton	..	54	Do.	3	2	5	3	24	5	200
5	Ganesh Mahton	..	35	Do.	3	2	5	15 kathas	5	5	Nil.
6	Briksh Mahton	..	36	Do.	3	2	5	3	24	5	100
7	Matar Mahton	..	55	Do.	5	8	13	9	80	8	500
8	Bhachu Mahton	..	46	Do.	6	8	14	5	45	7	300
9	Rambriksh Mahton	..	38	Do.	3	1	4	2	16	3	200
10	Rahan Mahton	..	40	Do.	3	6	9	6	45	4	Nil.

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.			Land held in bighas.	Annual production (in maunds).	Cattle owned.	Debt.
				Daughters and sons.	Other members.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	Bhalelek	45	Kharwar	1	2	3	9	65	6	Rs. 130
12	Dangai Singh	48	Ditto	2	1	3	3	25	2	60
13	Kailash Singh	45	Ditto	5	4	9	7	60	4	150
14	Baldeo Singh	42	Ditto	4	3	7	7	60	5	100
15	Briksh Singh	40	Ditto	2	2	4	6	50	3	200
16	Kail Chamar	30	Harijan	3	2	5	3½	18	5	60
17	Mangal Chamar	42	Ditto	Nil	3	3	3	14	3	300
18	Chamman Chamar	28	Ditto	3	2	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	60
19	Ramman Chamar	40	Ditto	1	2	3	..	..	..	56
20	Ramjee Chamar	50	Ditto	1	2	2	..	..	..	Nil.
21	Mahesh Chamar	48	Ditto	3	2	5	..	..	..	60
22	Ramdeo Chamar	50	Ditto	4	10	14	..	..	..	..
23	Rupnarain Dom	40	Ditto	2	2	4	..	..	..	..
24	Chhedi Mian	50	Mohammedan	4	2	6	10	80	8	400
25	Bhikhari Sahu	35	Baniya	3	2	5	1½	12	4	200

Out of 25 persons interviewed ten were Oraons, five Kharwars, eight Harijans, one Baniya and one Mohammedan.

From the analysis of the above table it appears that most of the tribal people are in debt. Out of 15 tribal families 11 had taken loan. So far as agricultural land is concerned only one tribal family has 15 bighas, five tribal families have 5 to 10 bighas and the other tribal families have less than 5 bighas. It was ascertained that the tribals take loan from the *mahajans* of Rohtas on an excessive rate of interest. It was found that some tribals take loan and pay five maunds of paddy as interest per annum for Rs. 100 advanced to them. When a tribal cannot repay loan to a particular *mahajan*, he goes to another *mahajan* and takes loan from him and in case he again fails to repay him loan, he may go next time to a third *mahajan*. After the harvesting of paddy, the *mahajans* come to this area for realising their dues. The Co-operative Society is not functioning at Rehal.

All the families of the Harijans were selected for investigation. The condition of the Harijans was found worse than the tribals. The statistics given show that out of eight families six are landless. The Harijans here consist of two castes, namely, Chamar and Dom. The male members of the Chamar caste are cobblers while the females attend the delivery cases. But their joint income is not sufficient and they often incur debt for maintaining themselves. There is only one Dom family in the village which carries on the traditional profession of basket-making, etc. But the sale is very poor.

For the improvement of the socio-economic condition of the villagers the Block constructed four *chuans*, repaired five drinking wells, opened one grain-gola and one Ayurvedic dispensary and started two (one lower primary and the other upper primary) schools. Two bulls and one he-buffalo were distributed in the village. One bull was killed by a tiger in 1962 and the he-buffalo became a prey to a tiger in 1963.

Appraisal of the Development Work.

It was found that due to the construction of the *chuans* and repairing of the drinking wells scarcity of water particularly during the summer season has been reduced to some extent.

The Welfare Department is running an Ayurvedic Dispensary here. The figures of the patients treated in the dispensary are 1,334, 798, 1,137, 330, 2,156, 3,346 in 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963 respectively. The main diseases from which the villagers suffer are fever, cold and cough, bowel troubles and skin diseases. The figures of patients as given above may be an exaggeration. This is a tribal area and the tribals still believe in the treatment of the diseases by local *Ojhas*. But a change is noticeable. The tribal

people have come to believe that injection has got some immediate effect to cure the disease and hence they prefer to get injected rather to taking tablets or mixture and are glad to pay Rs. 3 for one injection, however small be its real price. The general health of the villagers was found good and no epidemic has broken out for the last one decade. There is an Allopathic sub-centre running at Nimhat which is to be shifted to Rehal. There is a section of Anti-Malaria office under the charge of a superior field worker. The spraying of D. D. T. and other works to eradicate malaria have been completed in the village. The grain-gola at Rehal run by the Welfare Department has done some good to the people. The details of the loan advanced and realised by this grain-gola from 1955-56 to 1962-63 are given below:—

Years.	Paddy distributed.			Paddy realised.			Percentage of collection.	Total number of loanees.	Number of—			
									Sched- uled Tribes loanees.	Sched- uled Caste loanees.	Back- ward Classes loanees.	
1	2			3			4	5	6	7	8	
	M.	s.	ch.	M.	s.	ch.						
1955-56	..	354	12 0	419	5 0		95	39	60	..		17
1956-57	..	431	0 0	540	20 0		93	114	90	..		24
1957-58	..	496	0 0	..			..	116	102	..		14
1958-59	..	..		493	34 0		80	..	..	..		..
1959-60	..	466	0 0	439	8 0		90	101	92	..		9
1960-61	..	411	0 0	359	29 4		60	120	97	2		21
1961-62	..	326	0 0	568	9 0		60	85	90	2		13
1962-63	..	540	29 0	849	31 12		92	131	99	1		30

In the year 1957-58 paddy was not distributed and in 1958-59 it was not realised because of the falling down of the grain-gola buildings. Most of the beneficiaries belong to the Scheduled Tribes and the percentage of collection as given above is good. From the Kalyan Grain-gola Sevak it was ascertained that the tribals, if approached at the right time (i.e., during the harvesting period and before the *mahajans* approach them), are prompt in repaying the loan. The jurisdiction of Rehal grain-gola extends over other neighbouring villages too. The incidence of literacy as given by the Block office is seven per cent in the village. The number of students in the upper primary and lower primary schools is 48 and 31 respectively. But this is the figure of the students on the school register and the actual number of students reading regularly in the

U. P. and L. P. schools is reported to be eight and ten respectively. The tribals are not attracted towards education as their children are more helpful in adding to the income. Up till now only one tribal boy of this village could pass the middle standard examination.

Practically nothing has been done to improve agriculture which is the main occupation of the tribals. Due to lack of irrigational facility in summer season the villagers could not produce wheat, *rahar* or other *rabi* crops.

There are two beat foresters for afforestation purpose and five Forest Guards at Rehal. There is also a Rest House of the Forest Department. A new range, namely, Rehal Range has been created with effect from 1st January, 1964 and a Range Officer will now be posted at Rehal. A coupe covering an area of about 68 acres has been put at the disposal of the tribals for taking fuel free of any cost. The tribals derive great benefits from the forest. They are entitled to take forest produce free of cost. They get *Mahua* in abundance from the neighbouring jungle which is their main diet for about ~~two~~ months as well as they also sell its surplus quantity. They also get *Pyar*, *Tend*, *Aura*, *Herre*, *Bahera*, etc. But the price at which they sell the produce is very low. For example, they sell *Bari-Herre* at the rate of Rs. 2 per maund which is sold even at Dehri at Rs. 10 per maund. They sell *Aura* at Rs. 2 per maund. The tribals are also employed for the afforestation work for which they are paid Rs. 1.50 per day. Thus the forest is the main source of their livelihood.

Practically nothing has been done by the Block to improve the communications. This village is connected with Nauhatta by a *Dagar* (village pathway) up to five miles and about one and a half mile one has to cover by ascending on the Kaimur hills. However, the Forest Department has made some fair-weather jeepable roads which connect Rehal with Sasaram (40 miles), Adhaura (in Bhabua subdivision, 18 miles) and Rohtas (in Sasaram subdivision, 9 miles). But all these roads during the rains, become unserviceable because of the very swift current of the stream. For four months from June to September the area is cut off. There is no Post Office at Rehal. It falls under the jurisdiction of the Post Office at Chunhatta which is at a distance of about four miles. Chunhatta is on the plain while Rehal is on the Kaimur hills. Postal delivery is very spasmodic. There is a Statutory Gram Panchayat. The Mukhiya of this Gram Panchayat is an Oraon. As the area is mainly inhabited by the tribals and the Harijans which have their traditional Caste Panchayats, the concrete work of the Statutory Gram Panchayat has been practically negligible. The people prefer to settle the differences or disputes through their Caste Panchayats. In the Block out of the twelve Statutory Gram Panchayats only three Mukhiyas are tribals and the other Mukhiyas are non-tribals. Hence when some proposal is put forward by the tribal Mukhiya in the

Block Development Committee for improving his areas, it is hardly successful. The Mukhiya of the Gram Panchayat of Rehal as he said, once proposed for providing the Chamars of this village with one *Angreji Baja* to improve their economic condition. The Chamars usually play trumpet for hire on the occasion of marriage or on some important festivals of their neighbours. But they have no *Angreji Baja* (a better type of band) and therefore, if they are provided with it, it would be a source of income to them. But the proposal of the Mukhiya failed.

No *hat* is held in the village. There are, however, seven shops in the village which deal in commodities necessary for day-to-day use. But for vegetables, cloth and other articles, the people have to go to Chunhatta where these are available particularly on the Sunday when a *hat* is held there.

There is a liquor shop in the village which is locally called 'Bhathi'. The tribal population is accustomed to take liquor and the opportunity for its easily availability snatches away a good portion of their earnings.

Jadunathpur.

The village is situated at a distance of about 14 miles from Nauhatta. A District Board road running from Akbarpur to Jaradag (last village of the Block as well as of the State which borders Mirzapur district in Uttar Pradesh) connects Nauhatta with Jadunathpur. But this road is a village pathway for at least three to four miles between Nauhatta and Jadunathpur. This road is also crossed by four rivulets and some streams which make it unserviceable during the rains. This road is not jeepable even during the fair-weather. There is another road of the Forest Department running from Akbarpur (Rohtas) to Jaradag. This road is jeepable during the fair-weather and connects Nauhatta with Jadunathpur. There is an approach road from Nauhatta to the Forest road—a distance of about two to three miles. But during the rainy season the forest road is damaged badly by the swift currents of the streams passing through the road and hence communications through this road too stand still. Jadunathpur becomes isolated from other parts of the Block during the rainy season when the rivers are in flood.

The village has an area of 2,761 acres with a population of 153 persons (76 males and 77 females) according to the Census of 1961.* The population in 1951 Census was 191 (95 males and 96 females)† which shows a decrease of 38 persons or 7.8 per cent in 1961 Census. But the number of households in 1951 Census was 21 while in 1961 Census it was 32. This means the number of households in 1961 Census has increased. The number of members per household calculated on the basis of 1951 population comes to

* The figure of population was supplied by the Block Office.

† District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad (1954), page 238.

9 members which seems to be wrong and the population figure of 1951 Census appears to be over-estimated.

The castewise population with the number of households according to 1961 Census is given below:—

Tribe or caste.	Number of households.	Population.
Scheduled Tribe ..	12	60
Scheduled Castes ..	4	18
Others ..	16	75

The Scheduled Tribes include 11 Chero families and one Kharwar family and the Scheduled Castes include four Dusadh families. Other castes include two Rajput families, seven Jadava families, five Kahar families, one Teli and one Mohammedan families.

The economic condition of the Scheduled Tribes is miserably poor. Out of the 12 families belonging to the Scheduled Tribes only two families—one has about $1\frac{1}{2}$ bighas and the other has 2 bighas—have landed property and the remaining families have no land for cultivation. Out of the four Scheduled Caste families, three families have landed property. One family has two bighas, the other has three bighas and the third has 11 bighas of land. Only one family has no landed property. In comparison with the tribals and the people belong to other castes except Rajput, the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes seems to be better. There is one Rajput gentleman, who has about 300 bighas of land, almost all the cultivable land around the village. The Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes as well as other castes have settled on the land possessed by him and most of them are rather tied labour whom he employs for cultivating land. They are not allowed to work in the forest by the land-owner during the harvesting or sowing season. It was gathered that one Dusadh family was twice uprooted from the land on which it had constructed dwelling houses. There were complaints of high-handedness from the land-owner.

The main occupation of the people is to work in the field of the land-owner for wages during agricultural operations. They are paid two seers of paddy or maize per day. During the remaining period of the year they are employed in the neighbouring forest for cutting bamboo, etc., for which they are usually paid at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per day. They have also the privilege of getting fuel from the forest free of cost. The forest produce particularly *Mahua*, *Kend* and *Pyar* is abundantly available for consumption as well as for sale. It is a good source of subsistence particularly for the tribal population of this area.

There is only one lower primary school in the village. The nearest middle school is at Parchha, about eight miles away from Jadunathpur. The high school is at Baulia—30 miles away from this place. Both the places are unapproachable for about four months

during the rainy season. The Census of 1951 recorded no literate persons in the village.* But according to 1961 Census. 11 persons were recorded as literates. But it may be pointed out that all the literate persons belong to only one Rajput family and thus it may be said that complete illiteracy prevails among the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other castes except the Rajputs.

Development Work.

Two minor irrigation wells, two *Ahars* and two drinking wells were sunk by the Block. The irrigation wells do not serve the purpose as during the summer season they almost dry up. The *Ahars* are to some extent helpful in irrigation but that too only can irrigate not more than 20 acres. Therefore, agriculture mainly depends upon rain. The drinking wells are to some extent helpful to the villagers.

There are five culverts constructed by the Block on the District Board road passing through the village. But these as reported by the villagers and as actually found, are useless and do not serve or improve the communications in any manner.

There is a Multi-purpose Co-operative Society at ~~Mattan~~ under whose jurisdiction Jadunathpur falls. But only two non-tribal persons could purchase share and have become the members of the Society. For becoming a member, an individual has to purchase at least one share (one share is of Rs. 10). No loan has been given in this village from this Society. There is no grain-gola in the village but the jurisdiction of Nauhatta grain-gola extends to this village. But as Nauhatta is at a distance of 14 miles and there is again the lack of transport facility, none of the villagers has taken loan from the grain-gola. Six houses for rehabilitation of the tribal families are under construction. The Post Office is at Parchha about six miles away from the village. A weekly *hat* is held in the village on every Thursday when necessary commodities are sold.

The Research Assistant interviewed ten persons, the details of whom are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Caste or Tribe.	No. of family members.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Beni Prasad Singh	55	Rajput	18	300	14
2	Manglu Mahton ..	40	Ahir ..	5	..	10
3	Bife Mahton ..	50	Do. ..	3	..	7
4	Bhirgu Mahton ..	33	Do. ..	3	..	10
5	Ramdeo Chero ..	30	Chero ..	2	..	..
6	Fakira Chero ..	30	Do. ..	2	..	5
7	Mogli Chero ..	40	Do. ..	5	..	5
8	Kali Charan Chero ..	45	Do. ..	5	1½	5
9	Bandhu Dusadh ..	25	Dusadh ..	3	2	..
10	Khuti Kahar ..	40	Kahar	7	..	4

* District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad (1954), page 238.

Tilokhar.

This village at a distance of six miles from Nauhatta is connected by the District Board road which is jeepable only in the fair weather. It has an area of 1,224.95 acres with a population of 1,278 persons as mentioned by the Block office. In 1951 Census the village was described as Tilkhare with a population of 940 persons (486 males and 454 females).

The population is composed of different caste men and the backward classes particularly the Koeris are in a majority. There are about 200 families out of which 30 families belong to the Scheduled Castes which include Chamar, Dom and Dusadh. About 90 families are distributed among the other castes. The village has one upper primary school and one library. There is a post office at Parchha at a distance of one mile. The paper shows that 16 irrigation wells, one drinking well and one *Ahar* were constructed besides repairs to two drinking wells and four *Ahars*. On investigation only three or four irrigation wells were found serviceable. A culvert made by the block authorities was found to have made the communication worse as no levelling was done to connect the road with the culvert. The main occupation of the people is cultivation and the traditional caste functions. The main produce are paddy and chilli.

Ten persons were interviewed out of whom five were Koeris, one Kumhar, one Mallah, two Chamars and one Dom. Four Koeris and one Kumhar had lands and cattle. The economic condition of the landless families is pitiable.

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.	Land held in highas.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Ram Das Koeri	..	Koeri	10	10	3
2	Ram Narayan Koeri	..	Do.	10	5	4
3	Janardan Koeri	..	Do.	8	5	Nil.
4	Deo Datta Koeri	..	Do.	6	20	4
5	Girija Mahton	..	Do.	12	..	..
6	Piyari Kumhar	..	Kumhar	10	20	..
7	Bisundeo Mallah	..	Mallah	12	..	..
8	Dasrath Chamar	..	Chamar	6	..	5
9	Jagdeo Chamar	..	Ditto	10	..	6
10	Gouri Dom	..	Dom	10	..	..

From the analysis of the table it appears that out of 10 families only five families have cultivable land. The other families carry on traditional profession such as Chamars who carry on the business of shoe-making, pig-rearing, etc., the Dom does the work of basket-making, etc. The economic condition of the landless families is deplorable.

Nauhatta.

Nauhatta village is the headquarters of the Block. Due to lack of accommodation the office was temporarily located at Baulia from where it was shifted to Nauhatta in June, 1963.

This is a village which was visited by Buchanan Hamilton on 25th December, 1812. He spelt Nauhatta as Nauhata. There are also some relics of a very old temple which is said to date back to the Hindu period. There is a statue of *Vishnu* on one piece of black stone about five feet high. The deity is in standing pose on a lotus flower. The portions of two hands after elbow are missing. The statue has a sacred thread and a crown on the head. It is said that the original building made of stone was destroyed in course of time and a new building was built. There are some old stone pillars near about. The new building of this temple is about 100 years old.

The population of the village in 1961 Census as supplied by the Block office is 1,777 (933 males and 844 females) and according to 1951 Census, 1,530 persons (796 males and 734 females).^{*} This shows an increase of 247 persons or 16.1 per cent in ~~1961~~ Census. The number of households in 1961 is 346 as against 228 in 1951. The area of the village is 1,229 acres.

The village is connected with Nauhatta Road Railway Station on the Dehri-Rohas Light Railways with a road. The distance from the railway station is about three miles. The road becomes almost unserviceable during the rainy season.

The village has one Girls' Lower Primary School, and one Middle School. The number of students attending the Lower Primary and Middle Schools in January, 1964 was 35 and 132 respectively.

In the village there are six shops which deal in grain and other commodities of daily rural life. Previously there was no hotel or shop selling cooked food. But with the opening of the Block office at Nauhatta in 1963 a shop has been opened. A weekly *hat* is held here on every Wednesday but the sale is very poor. The village has not been electrified but electric poles have been installed and electric connection is soon to be given. There is a post office in the village.

Development Work.

For the development of the village the Block has sunk 59 minor irrigation wells and 21 drinking wells, repaired 18 drinking wells and five *Ahars*, constructed 20 culverts and one *Ahar*. During the investigation it was ascertained that out of 59 minor irrigation wells only eight wells are utilised for irrigation purpose and the remaining wells dry up during the summer season. Most of the drinking wells

^{*} District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad (1954), page 238.

have been sunk more to benefit some individual families. Moreover some wells were found without water even in the winter season. The sinking of the irrigation and drinking wells in such a large number is of very little use to the villagers.

To improve the communications 20 culverts were constructed. But on investigation it was found that out of 20 at least 15 were uselessly constructed and instead of improving the communication, they have made it worse.

There is a grain-gola of the Welfare Department but it is not functioning well. In 1962-63 only about 41 maunds of paddy was distributed to 23 loanees.

There is a static dispensary under the charge of a Medical Officer. There are one compounder and one trained *dai*. Three sub-centres, namely, Rehal (at present at Nimhat), Tiarakala and Bhadara also function at present under the same Medical Officer.

There is also a Seed Multiplication Farm at Nauhatta functioning since 1958. Previously it was under the management of the Block but in 1951 it was taken over by the Agriculture Department and since then it is functioning under the administrative control of the Subdivisional Officer, Agriculture, Sasaram. There is a Farm Assistant at Nauhatta. The area of the farm is 25 acres and paddy is mainly cultivated.

The Research Assistants interviewed 10 persons. The details are given here:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Gorakh Nath Dubey	..	55 Brahman	20	75	45
2	Surendra Upadhyay	..	56 Ditto	10	15	10
3	Chakardhar Pathak	..	61 Ditto	12	16	10
4	Mahabir Mahton	..	44 Koeri	10	4	2
5	Aliar Singh	..	42 Do.	12	10	8
6	Bandhu Mahton	..	46 Do.	8	8	10
7	Raffisan Mistry	..	45 Barai	9	2	4
8	Somaru Ram	..	40 Chamar	8	1	1
9	Jawahar Ram	..	40 Ditto	6	5	6
10	Bircha Ram	..	36 Ditto	8	1	4

The table indicates that most of the interviewers representing the village have some cultivable land. The land near the Sone river gives good yield because of the irrigational facility available from the said river. A few acres of land are also irrigated from the two tanks (about two furlongs from the Block office) in which water is stored during the rainy season. The economic condition of the villagers except the 30 Harijan families seems to be good. The

Harijans generally work as tied labour to the big land-owners who are Brahmans by caste. The Harijans generally take loan from them and in payment of loan they are obliged to work in their field. Complaints of high-handedness were made.

Daranagar.

This village is situated at a distance of about six miles from Nauhatta. There is a *kachcha* District Board road from Nauhatta to Daranagar. The road is jeepable only during the fair weather. The nearest railway station is Mahadeopur Bhadara at a distance of two miles from the village.

The village has an area of 2,558.04 acres with a population of 3,012 persons (1,512 males and 1,500 females) according to the Census of 1961 as supplied by the Block office. In 1951 Census the population of the village was 2,200 (1,094 males and 1,106 females). The number of household is 698 according to 1961 Census.

The village is inhabited by people of different castes such as Brahman, Rajput, Kayastha, Ahir, etc. There is no tribal family in the village.

The village is electrified. The village has a post office, an upper primary school, one youth club and one library. A *hat* is held on every Wednesday and Sunday.

Some details of investigation are as follows:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Jagdish Tiwari ..	55	Brahman	10	5	7
2	Narsingh Datta Pathak ..	47	Ditto	12	8	5
3	Nagendra Nath Sahi ..	55	Rajput	10	13	8
4	Raghubar Chaudhury ..	28	Sinhi	10	8	3
5	Tribeni Chaudhury ..	50	Bania	20	13	6
6	Bhichan Chamar ..	60	Chamar	5	..	..
7	Baldeo Dusadh ..	50	Dusadh	6	..	3
8	Basudeo Nonia ..	45	Nonia	10	..	..
9	Adalat Dhobi ..	80	Dhobi	10	..	2

Development Work.

The figures as supplied by the Block office show that 27 minor irrigation wells and three drinking wells were sunk. On investigation it was found that only five wells can be used only for drinking purpose. The remaining irrigation wells are useless as the water is not available for irrigation or even for drinking purpose. Most of the culverts constructed are not only useless but in some cases where the levelling work has not been done, are also harmful. A *pucca* drain measuring about four furlongs has been constructed but for rural areas the utility of this drain is negligible.

Conclusion.

The Block was provided with Rs. 27 lakhs, Rs. 15 lakhs by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Rs. 12 lakhs by the Community Development Ministry during the Second Five-Year Plan. In the Second Five-Year Plan every Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block was provided with this sum of money. It was also decided to extend the life of the Block for a period of two years more in the case a Block would not be able to spend the whole amount (i.e., 27 lakhs) within the Second Five-Year Plan. This Block has also spent two years after the expiry of the period of Second Five-Year Plan but could not be able to utilise the entire amount. A statement showing the allotment and expenditure under sub-heads during the Second Five-Year Plan and thereafter in 1961-62 and 1962-63 may be useful for proper appraisal of the impact:—

Serial no.	Sub-heads.	Schematic ceiling for Second Five- Year Plan.	Amount spent during the Second Five- Year Plan.	Expendi- ture during 1961-62.	Expendi- ture during 1962-63.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Project Headquarters ..	.. 6,00,000	3,62,388	1,01,976.06	1,02,768
2	Agriculture ..	.. 66,000	43,163	10,967.42	8,709
3	Animal Husbandry ..	.. 84,000	70,125	14,439.88	17,006
4	Co-operation ..	.. 2,00,000	81,301	5,881.84	33,882
5	Irrigation ..	.. 4,00,000	2,58,118	95,000	56,177
6	Health and Rural Sanitation ..	.. 2,00,000	1,05,440	8,458.94	24,964
7	Education ..	.. 75,000	52,430	8,100.33	18,751
8	Social Education and Publicity ..	.. 75,000	54,097	13,963.27	9,912
9	Communications ..	.. 4,00,000	1,56,242	24,724.18	52,057
10	Rural Arts and Crafts ..	.. 2,00,000	93,501	22,804.37	17,753
11	Housing for Staff ..	.. 1,00,000	42,613	30,000	12,674
12	Rural Housing ..	.. 2,50,000	1,21,497	1,080.96	5,187
13	Miscellaneous (Survey, etc.) ..	.. 50,000	..	..	..
14	Suspense ..	.. 50,000	13,529	3,103.15	14,046
	GRAND TOTAL ..	.. 27,00,000	14,62,443	3,40,500	3,73,886

The table shows that even after two years of the Second Five-Year Plan the Block could be able to spend Rs. 21,76,829 out of Rs. 27 lakhs and thus it failed to utilise Rs. 5,23,171 during the prescribed time.

The Tribal Block, as this one, was provided with the large sum of Rs. 27 lakhs with the object of spending them mainly on the development of the tribal people. But as stated elsewhere the tribal population of this Block is below 15 per cent only (14.6 per cent) according to 1961 Census and it was gathered that not even one-fourth of the total expenditure was invested for the development of such small portion of the tribal population. Thus the Block has been beneficial more to the non-tribals than the tribals. The principle with which the Tribal Blocks have been established does not appear to have been fulfilled.

One way to measure the success of the Block is to ascertain as to how much of the allotted sum it could spend on the development works. But the real touchstone is to find out as to how the money was spent and what effect it produced on the people for whom it was spent.

If this Block is examined on this ground it would be noticed it appears to have failed to fulfil the aim with which it was established.

First, it may be mentioned that the development schemes over which lakhs of rupees have been spent were not wisely planned. For example, with a view to improve the communications 204 culverts were taken up out of which 121 culverts have been completed. During the course of investigation it was found that most of the culverts are not only useless but also have made the communications worse due to unlevelling of the place connecting road with the culvert. It results in accumulation of water below the culverts which blocks the communications. Thus the money spent on communications amounting to Rs. 2,33,023 has not had much effect. The construction of the useless culverts has created a certain amount of public opinion against the Block. The villagers were found saying that Block does not spend money for their welfare but for some other purpose otherwise the culverts would not have been so uselessly constructed. It is a bad example set by the Block which has shaken the confidence of the public.

It is not the only example, but one of many examples. It was found during the course of investigation that most of the community halls, or other buildings constructed by the Block are very weak and some of them were reported to have fallen down after only one or two years of their construction. The grain-gola at Rehal was said to have fallen down only after two or three years after it was completed and occupied.

It is doubtful if the money spent on the construction of irrigation wells has been well spent. 550 minor irrigation wells were taken up out of which 450 have been completed. Some minor irrigation wells were also repaired. The amount spent on these schemes comes to Rs. 4,09,295. On investigation it was found that most of the irrigation wells were without water even in winter season and thus the money spent on them is fruitless. It may be pointed out that most of the area of the Block is hilly and for sinking irrigation wells on the hilly area the same amount is allotted as on the plain which does not meet the heavy expenditure on sinking them on the hills. So it is also one of the factors behind the failure of providing irrigation through sinking minor irrigation wells.

Thus though lakhs of money have been spent the result achieved is very discouraging.

So far the development of the tribal people is concerned which is the essence behind the establishment of the Tribal Block, the result is rather more discouraging. The main occupation of the tribals is cultivation and for its improvement the major step taken by the Block was to construct irrigation wells which proved a failure. The Japanese method of cultivation in view of the poor economic condition of the tribals is not practicable and the use of improved seeds and manure has been very little. So though Rs. 62,839 has been spent on Agriculture, the yield of the land possessed by the tribals or non-tribals has not increased to any appreciable extent and the Block has not been successful to improve their economic condition.

It may be pointed out that for the betterment of the tribals, four points are necessary to be borne in mind. One is to educate them for economic planning, the other is to provide them facilities for getting them out of the clutches of the *mahajans*, the third is to provide facilities for improved agriculture and provide suitable employment such as establishment of small-scale industries, etc., where they can work in the off seasons and the fourth is to give them opportunities for receiving higher education. The raw materials for starting small-scale industries are available in the neighbouring jungles. On investigation it was gathered that none of the points has been materialised and their economic condition stands still.

Most of the tribals have privilege of forest produce found in abundance in the neighbouring jungle. They are also provided with employment for afforestation, construction of houses or in stone-cutting work at Chunhatta. Some of the tribals have also land for cultivation and thus they have in a way sufficient sources of income but the tribals do not avail themselves of the opportunity. They are accustomed to take liquor. They generally do not prefer

to go to work till there is sufficient grain in the house for consumption. Moreover, on the important festivals and marriage, etc., they are prone to spend money beyond their means and thereby they fall into the vicious circle of debt. The work of social education through the Block is practically nil. So far as education is concerned only one Junior Basic School has been established on the hill particularly for the tribals and that too is not functioning well. The effort to get them out of the clutches of the *mahajans* was made through the establishment of co-operative societies but as they are very poor and are unable to purchase shares, the benefit does not go to them. Thus through the efforts of the Block their condition has not improved.

So far as non-tribals are concerned it may be pointed out that their main occupation is cultivation and very little improvement in cultivation has been done by the Block.

Most of the people have very small holdings measuring 3 to 5 acres and only a few ex-landlords possess the bulk of the land. Most of them are tied labourers.

During the investigation on the impact of the Community Development Programme on the tribal and non-tribal population of the Nauhatta Block it was found that the tribals of Rehal village usually drop *Mong*, a kind of intoxicating fruit found in the neighbouring forest in the water in the evening and in the morning the fishes will be floating half dead.

The tribals still wash their clothes by putting their clothes in a *handia* (an earthen pot) and fill it with water mixed with ashes. They boil the clothes in this water and then wash them in cold water. It is a very cheap method.

The Oraons observe almost all the Hindu festivals but in their own way. In *Holi* festival the Oraons engage themselves in continuous hunting for four days prior to the actual day of the *Holi*. They observe the Sammat festival by using crackers and other fireworks. They do not collect fuel and burn it like the Hindus. The impact of modernism is shown by the fact that the Oraons put *Abir* (coloured powder) on the forehead of each other. The women folk sprinkle coloured water and rub coloured powder on each other. The man folk go round in a dancing party and collect paddy and money which are utilised in a picnic.

Karma, an important festival, used to be observed by both the Oraons and the Kharwars. But now that the Kharwars are claiming to be purely Rajput, they do not take part in Karma. The very fact that some of the Oraons even observe purely Hindu festivals like Chhat and Jitia, discloses that pure tribalism is on wane.

The Kharwars dominate the village. They consider themselves to be superior than the Oraons or other castes and they cannot take food prepared or cooked by other castes, even by the Brahmans.

The Oraons also maintain untouchability like the Kharwars. It was noticed that the Kharwars do not allow the Oraon to sit on the chair or bench or bed in their presence and the Oraons are accustomed to stand up if they per chance see the Kharwars. Before sowing seeds in the land the Kharwars perform some *puja* and till the *puja* is not performed no Oraons or other persons are allowed to sow in their field. For performing *puja* the Kharwars also collect subscriptions from the Oraons, as well as from other people. The Oraons were found resenting over this traditional custom as sometimes if there is delay in performing the *puja*, it affects their cultivation.

It was found that the Oraons speak their own Kurukh language but they can speak and understand Hindi well. The Cheros speak local Hindi only. The Cheros, both males and females, dance and sing but now women are being discouraged from dancing. This is also because the Cheros also claim to be of Rajput descent. As the Hindus do not allow the women folk to dance publicly the Cheros are also following their example.

Our investigation based on the examination of the sampling of the heads of 30 households out of 148 households at Rehal village indicated that the average number of children per family came to three only. The popular belief is that the low incidence of fertility is due to bad climate. This matter was not pursued and it cannot be definitely said that bad climate alone is responsible for this factor.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL PEOPLE OF ROHTAS BLOCK (NORTH), DISTRICT SHAHABAD.

The object of the starting of the Community Development Blocks has been mentioned elsewhere.

The Rohtas Block in Sasaram subdivision with headquarters at Akbarpur was started in October 1957. The tribal people mostly inhabit the Kaimur plateau stretching over 800 square miles in Shahabad district. The block covers an area of 8,59,581.76 acres with 59 villages (out of which two are unpopulated), 1,028 households and 14 *gram panchayats*. According to the population statistics of 1961 supplied by Rohtas Block Office the total population of the block is 39,337 persons out of which 2,330 are tribal people. The tribals form about 7 per cent of the population. The tribals are found at villages, viz., Kachuar, Koriari, Aamdih, Budhua, Nagatoli, Diadih, Baknaur, Talnat and Samhauta under Rohtas Block.

An investigation was made by the investigators in October, November, 1963 to make an intensive study on the impact of Community Development Block on the tribals particularly and the non-tribals in general in five tribal villages (the majority inhabitants

being tribals), viz., Nagatoli, Budhua, Kachuar, Koriari and Aamdih and three non-tribal villages (exclusively non-tribals), viz., Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra.

(a) *Village Nagatoli*.—The village is at a distance of nine miles to the west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters and 34 miles to the south-west of Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 1,041.52 acres and 186 households. The total population is 966, i.e., 504 males and 462 females according to the figures supplied by the Block office. The Oraons (tribe) form the majority in the village. In the headquarters of Nagatoli gram panchayat the *Mukhiya* is elected from among the Oraons.

Ten persons in the village of whom eight were Oraons and two Gwalas were interviewed and studied. Some details regarding the persons interviewed are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Total number of members in the household.	Lands.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-goals.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Bighas	Rs.		
1. Karmu Oraon	60	5	10	325	3 mds. paddy.	3 including one milch cow.
2. Sita Oraon	45	4	16	Nil	Nil	4 including two milch cows.
3. Nathuni Oraon	55	10	9	Nil	1½ mds. paddy.	2 including one milch cow.
4. Somaru Oraon	35	7	13	50	Nil	Nil.
5. Etwari Oraon	60	3	4	Nil	Nil	Nil.
6. Mangara Oraon	50	6	2	100	2 mds. paddy.	2 including one milch cow.
7. Nandlall Oraon	25	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
8. Gora Oraon	45	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
9. Sheo Varan Mandal.	40	6	40	100	Nil	Nil.
10. Ram Pati Yadav.	36	3	32	100	Nil	7 including two milch cows.

The lands of the village are sandy. The tribal people generally practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown in the area are paddy, sugarcane, groundnut, maize, potato and oilseeds.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields.

The Block supplied the following quantity of improved seeds to Nagatoli:—

			Seeds.	No. of families.
1960-61	..	..	1½ mds.	3
1961-62	..	..	3 „	6
1962-63	..	..	4½ „	10
1963-64	..	..	Nil	Nil

The villagers, viz., Karmu Oraon, Somaru Oraon and Sheo Varan Mandal distributed about 10 maunds of seeds to 15 persons during 1963-64.

Besides, the Welfare Department distributed 10 maunds of seeds through grain-gola to village Nagatoli. It may be noted that the loanees have to pay 10 seers per maund per year as interest to Welfare Department. On an investigation it was ascertained that prior to the inception of the block, the Oraons generally used to take paddy seed from *mahajans* as interest. The Welfare Department also granted subsidy, i.e., Rs. 50.00 to Karmu Oraon of village Nagatoli for purchasing agricultural implements. Karmu Oraon was contacted during the investigation and it was ascertained that the man had utilised Rs. 25 in purchasing agricultural implements and the rest Rs. 25 had been spent otherwise. The villagers have started a co-operative society with 72 members. Rs. 2,950 have been advanced as loans and Rs. 1,435 have been paid by the members.

Half a ton chemical manures to village Nagatoli amongst four families had been given during 1963.

One *Hariana* bull had been given. This has not been of much help in improving the breed as the cows were of much shorter stature. Secondly the bull died because it had been unable to stand the unfamiliar climate and partly because it had not been properly looked after. Twenty pedigree birds to six persons, and 17 eggs had been distributed during 1960-61 to 1962-63.

The village has one lower primary school with 25 students and one teacher and one residential school with 30 students and one teacher. The residential school is maintained by the Welfare Department which provides free board, lodging and tuition to the students reading in it. Though there is a provision for 30 students, but on the average 15 students were found to attend the classes. The school building is in a very deplorable state. The tribal people are not so anxious to impart education to their children because of poverty. In the residential school visited it was found there was no cook and the students had to cook themselves. There was a social education centre but since 1962 December it was abolished. The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
145	10	155

One health centre has been started in village Nagatoli and on the average it was observed 13 persons attending the centre every week. The health centre is completely neglected by the medical officer located at Akbarpur, the block headquarters. The doctor has not visited the centre for six months.

(b) *Village Budhua*.—The village is at a distance of sixteen miles to the north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters and 27 miles to the south from Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 13,769.70 acres including 11,736.27 acres of forest areas and 180 households. The total population is 841, i.e., 456 males and 385 females, according to the figures supplied by Block office. The Kharwars form the majority in this village.

The Research Assistant interviewed twelve persons in the village of whom eight were Kharwars, three Oraons and one Gwala. Some details regarding the persons examined are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Total number of members in the household.	Lands.	Loan taken from the grain-gola.	Loan taken from the Co-operative Society.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Bighas.		Rs.	
1. Hisab Singh	65	9	50	1½ mds.	4,721	4 including one milch cow.
2. Ram Pati Singh	34	7	30	Nil	Nil	6 including two milch cows.
3. Ram Naresh Singh	51	4	40	Nil	Nil	2 including one milch cow.
4. Basudeo Singh	47	11	21	Nil	Nil	3 including one milch cow.
5. Ram Swarup Singh.	31	13	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
6. Kumar Singh	51	9	7	2 mds. paddy seed.	240	3 including one milch cow.
7. Jagdish Singh	60	6	14	Nil	Nil	Nil
8. Mishri Singh	39	12	21	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Pancha Oraon	48	4	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
10. Keshwar Oraon	51	3	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
11. Briksh Oraon	37	5	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
12. Mangal Yadav	41	7	3	Nil	148	6 including two milch cows.

The Community Development Block has supplied improved seeds as follows:—

	Seeds.	Number of families.
1960-61	2 maunds	4
1961-62	Nil	Nil
1962-63	1 maund	3
1963-64	2 maunds	4

The villagers distributed about seven maunds of seeds to ten persons during 1963-64. One and half tons of chemical manures to village Budhua amongst eight families had been given during 1963.

The village has one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher and one residential school with 30 students and one teacher. On personal visit it was found 15 students only attending classes. The condition of the building is very deplorable. The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
63	7	70

The village has one Co-operative Society and Rs. 1,572 has been advanced as loan to 21 members out of which Rs. 579 has been paid by the members.

(c) *Village Kachuar*.—The village is at a distance of six miles towards north-west from Banjari Railway Station and twelve miles to the north-west of Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 16,523.75 acres including 16,400.35 acres of forest area and 39 households. The total population is 193, i.e., 101 males and 92 females. The Kharwars only inhabit this village.

The Research Assistant had interviewed ten persons in the village of whom all were Kharwars. Some details regarding the persons interviewed are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Tribes or Caste.	Total number of members in the house- hold.	Loan taken from the Co-opera- tive Society.	Loan taken from the grain-gola.	Lands.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Rs.		Bighas.	
1. Malikha Singh	45	Kharwar	10	Nil	2 mds. paddy seed.	60	10 including four milch cows.
2. Lakshman Singh	37	Ditto	9	Nil	1½ Ditto	25	4 including one milch cow.
3. Subedar Singh	59	Ditto	7	Nil	Nil	12	2 including one milch cow.
4. Dhani Singh	43	Ditto	8	Nil	Nil	31	3 including one milch cow.
5. Bhagwan Singh	29	Ditto	4	Nil	½ maund	17	2 including one milch cow.
6. Bandhu Singh	35	Ditto	11	Nil	2½ maund	9	5 including one milch cow.
7. Geda Singh	51	Ditto	7	Nil	Nil	Nil (Labourer)	Nil.
8. Ram Dheni Singh	47	Ditto	10	Nil	Nil	6	Nil.
9. Pachor Singh	62	Ditto	9	Nil	1 maund	9	Nil.
10. Sadhu Singh	37	Ditto	6	Nil	35 seers	10	2 including one milch cow.

During 1963-64 only $1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds to three persons have been given in the village. Ten maunds of agricultural paddy seed had been given to five persons during 1962-63 by the Welfare Department. The village has one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher. The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
35	2	37

(d) *Village Koriari.*—The village is at a distance of eight miles towards west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 15,407.30 acres including 12,750.14 acres of forest area and 107 households. The total population is 572, i.e., 299 males and 273 females, according to the figures supplied by block office. The Oraons form the majority and there is only one family of Kharwar.

The Research Assistant interviewed 14 persons in the village of whom 13 were Oraons and one Kharwar. Some details of whom are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Tribes or Caste.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from the grain-gola.	Lands.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Rs.		Bighas.	
1. Budhu Oraon	35	Oraon	5	Nil	2 mds. paddy seed.	6	5 including one milch cow.
2. Ram Prasad Oraon.	36	Do.	4	Nil	3 Ditto	2	Nil.
3. Jangli Oraon	25	Do.	13	Nil	1 Ditto	30	Nil.
4. Pancha Oraon	52	Do.	7	Nil	4 Ditto	30	Nil.
5. Karma Oraon	36	Do.	3	Nil	Nil	10	Nil.
6. Tejak Oraon	50	Do.	6	Nil	4 maunds	12	Nil.
7. Nathuni Oraon	47	Do.	5	Nil	2 maunds	8	3 including one milch cow.
8. Bhoju Oraon	39	Do.	3	Nil	1 maund	8	4 including two milch cows.
9. Thupa Oraon	38	Do.	6	Nil	$1\frac{1}{2}$ maunds	1	Nil.
10. Balkhu Oraon	28	Do.	4	Nil	1 maund	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Nil.
11. Rajkumar Oraon	30	Do.	3	Nil	Nil	3	Nil.
12. Mukhdeo Oraon	36	Do.	5	Nil	Nil	4	3 including one milch cow.
13. Jokhu Oraon	30	Do.	8	Nil	2 maunds	$7\frac{1}{2}$	Nil.
14. Ram Kumar Singh.	60	Kharwar	3	Nil	3 maunds	40	5 including two milch cows.

During 1963-64, $4\frac{1}{2}$ maunds improved seeds to seven persons were given by the Community Development Block. Prior to that no improved seeds had been provided by the block. $15\frac{1}{2}$ maunds

of paddy seeds had been provided by Welfare Department to three Oraons during 1962-63. Four maunds to village Koriari amongst ten families had been given by the block during 1961-63. In the village five birds to two persons and 12 eggs to six persons had been given during 1960-61 to 1962-63. One *Hariana* bull had been supplied by the block in 1958-59 but during the same year it died. Hence it has not been of any help to the villagers. The village has one lower primary school with 35 students and 1 teacher. The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
37	5	42

There is one health centre and on the average 15 persons attend the centre. On enquiry it was ascertained that the doctor has not visited the centre for eight months. The village has no co-operative society.

(e) *Village Aamdih*.—The village is at a distance of six miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 255.83 acres and 15 households. The total population is 97, i.e., 53 males and 44 females. The village has three tribal elements, namely, Kharwar, Oraon and Chero.

The Research Assistant interviewed eight persons in the village of whom four were Oraons, three Cheros and one Kharwar. Some details of whom are given below:—

[illegible]

The Community Development Block supplied 1½ maunds of improved seed to six persons during 1963-64. The village has one lower primary school with 18 students and one teacher. The incidence of literacy is poor and only two persons are literate in the village.

(f) *Village Akbarpur.*—The village is at a distance of 24 miles towards south from Dehri-on-Sone and 35 miles to the south-east from Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 824.40 acres with 610 households. The total population is 3,557, i.e., 1,806 males and 1,951 females, according to the figures supplied by Rohtas Block Office. The Muhammadans form the majority in the village.

During investigation the Research Assistant examined about ten persons, some details of whom are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society.	Lands in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.			Rs.		
1. Ram Prasad Gupta.	40	Bania	10	15	60	5 including two milch cows.
2. Narain Singh	60	Koeri	12	100	100	6 including two milch cows.
3. Moinuddin Khan	55	Muslim	14	441	125	10 including four milch cows.
4. Fakir Khan	70	Ditto	15	300	475	12 including five milch cows.
5. Hafiz Khan	50	Ditto	10	Nil	212	10 including four milch cows.
6. Munshi Singh	40	Rajput	9	175	100	Nil.
7. Onkar Das	35	Kayastha	8	112	14	Nil.
8. Leeladhar Singh	55	Koeri	7	189	45	8 including four milch cows.
9. Sheo Kumar Singh.	45	Kurmi	6	Nil	31	3 including two milch cows.
10. Ram Narain Singh	39	Do.	5	212	18	Nil.

(g) *Village Ramdihra*.—The village is at a distance of 13 miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 752.96 acres with 268 households. The total population is 1,666, i.e., 855 males and 811 females according to the figures supplied by the Rohtas block office.

About ten persons were examined during investigation and some details of them are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society.	Lands in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.			Rs.		
1. Sakaldeo Singh	48	Rajput	14	1,200	175	25 including nine milch cows.
2. Dhaneshwar Singh	40	Ditto	7	400	40	10 including four milch cows.
3. Rajpati Lal Verma	54	Kayastha	12	400	15	Nil.
4. Kesho Singh	27	Rajput	4	Nil	50	5 including two milch cows.
5. Sukra Mahto	32	Koeri	4	Nil	40	4 including two milch cows.
6. Hakim Khan	45	Muslim	5	Nil	25	3 including one milch cow.
7. Bajrangi Mahto	56	Koeri	9	545	18	6 including three milch cows.
8. Shri Krishna Thakur.	47	Bhumihar Brahman.	8	413	75	5 including two milch cows.
9. Harihar Prasad Singh.	61	Rajput	3	310	41	4 including two milch cows.
10. Shyam Narain Singh.	47	Kurmi	6	Nil	31	2 including one milch cow.

(h) *Village Banjari*.—The village is at a distance of five miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 565.85 acres with 164 households. The total population is 1,911, i.e., 1,169 males and 742 females, according to the figures supplied by the Rohtas block office.

Eight persons were examined during investigation and some details of them are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society.	Lands in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.			Rs.		
1. Radha Prasad Singh.	30	Rajput	7	400	40	6 including three milch cows.
2. Baidyanath Singh	41	Ditto	6	200	15	4 including two milch cows.
3. Krishna Kumar Mahato.	37	Koeri	7	95	10	5 including two milch cows.
4. Ismail Khan	43	Muslim	3	54	30	3 including one milch cow.
5. Ram Pati Singh	51	Rajput	8	Nil	15	Nil.
6. Jangli Singh	49	Ditto	9	Nil	8	Nil.
7. Awadh Kishore Prasad.	29	Kayastha	12	145	10	Nil.
8. Mangal Yadav	51	Gwala	6	Nil	12	10 including four milch cows.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Agriculture.—The Community Development Block distributed some improved seeds as follows:—

Village.	Seeds in maunds.				Number of families.			
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Akbarpur..	4	6	7	9	6	7	9	10
2. Banjari ..	1½	2	1½	3	4	5	3	4
3. Ramdihra	5½	4	9	14	5	6	11	17

Twelve tons of chemical manures to village Akbarpur amongst forty-two families, three tons to village Banjari amongst thirteen families, one ton to village Ramdihra amongst seven families have been distributed by the block during 1959-60 to 1962-63.

Very few eggs and birds had been supplied by the Animal Husbandry Department to the villages visited. Not much improvement was noticed. Eggs are generally sold out at the village *hats* at higher price and hardly utilised for hatching. A few better type of birds were seen in village Akbarpur but they could hardly suggest a general upgrading of the standard.

Education.—Prior to the inception of the block, there were only four schools located each at Akbarpur, Karma, Ramdihra and Saraiya but now thirteen more schools have been started. The incidence of literacy in the villages is as follows:—

828 persons in village Akbarpur, 406 persons in village Banjari and 433 persons in village Ramdihra. Out of seventeen, two of the schools located each at village Akbarpur and Ramdihra, are exclusively meant for girls.

During 1962-63 the State Government had given grant in shape of books, i.e., 75 books to Akbarpur library, 56 books to Ramdihra library for development. On personal visit to the libraries it was observed about 50 persons visiting the libraries daily.

Co-operative Society.—The table below supplied by co-operative section of Rohtas Development Block, will show the expansion of the co-operative societies:—

Name of the village.	Number of Co-operative societies.	Number of members.	Loans advanced to society.
			Rs.
1. Akbarpur ..	4	187	4,341
2. Ramdihra ..	5	269	7,000
3. Banjari ..	2	43	1,130

The business of the co-operative societies is the distribution and collection of loans for agricultural purposes. The habit of repayment does not appear to be regular. It is also not known if the loan taken has been used for the purposes for which it was given. On enquiry it was found that Rs. 2,972 in Akbarpur, Rs. 4,918 in Ramdihra and Rs. 831 in Banjari have been paid by the members who took loan from the society.

Conclusion.—Out of 57 populated villages under the Rohtas Community Development Block (North), a sample survey of the activities and effect of the block on five tribal and three non-tribal villages was conducted.

To improve the lot of the tribals, it is essential that the Government officials should aim at the development of the area through a phased programme drawn up in consultation with the people concerned so that the tribals might take interest wherever possible and see that the programme is successfully implemented. This programme should be done to remove the factors that stand in the way of their development.

The major factors are—

- (1) Lack of communication between the Kaimur Plateau and the plain level.
- (2) Lack of proper and planned irrigation.
- (3) Lack of educational facilities.
- (4) Lack of facilities for the development of cottage industries.
- (5) Lack of market.
- (6) Lack of proper supervision by Government officials.
- (7) Lack of proper medical facilities.

The block has tried to remove these impediments and has been successful to some extent. There is no access to reach the tribal villages situated on the hill save and except on foot and that too becomes difficult during the rainy season. The only means to carry the goods on the hill is by head load. Ponies are also used to carry the goods.

Very little of improved type of crops or rice collected in the households were, however, seen in villages Nagatoli, Budhua and Kachuar. Out of the improved seeds supplied some villagers ate up the grain thus received as ascertained.

Agriculture.—The lands of most of the tribal and non-tribal villages visited by the investigators are sandy. The tribal people generally practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown in the area are paddy, sugarcane, groundnut, maize, potato and oil-seeds. Very few irrigation facilities have been provided and the people mainly depend on the rainfall.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost. The produce due to the application of chemical fertilisers, compost and better seeds yield better results only when the rainfall is timely and adequate.

It may be noted that the tribal people are not so desirous to purchase chemical manures because of improper irrigational facilities. Secondly, they do not grow sugarcane and groundnut crops in the hilly soil. In non-tribal villages there has been a good response in utilising the chemical manures. They generally utilise manures in sugarcane and groundnut crops. Chemical fertilisers are generally purchased by the Sugarcane Co-operative Society located at Tilouthu. The members of the Canegrowers' Co-operative Society in different villages purchase the manures on credit basis. The money is realised from the cultivators at the time of harvesting the crop.

Previously the members of the co-operative societies used to purchase chemical fertilisers without paying any interest but since April, 1963, they have to pay the interest at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total amount of loan taken from the society. Those who are not members of the Canegrowers' Co-operative Society can also purchase the chemical fertilisers but not on credit.

The attempt of the Community Development Block to introduce the Japanese method of paddy cultivation has not been successful in both the tribal or non-tribal villages because of the nature of the soil and want of irrigation. The area is not suitable for this type of cultivation, without proper irrigation. Thus it appears that the amount of money and energy spent in introducing this system of paddy cultivation has been a sheer waste. Attempts were made to sink wells to provide irrigation and also drinking water on the hill but these have proved unsuccessful to some extent due to the rocky nature of the soil in respect of the tribal villages. During 1963 the Japanese method of cultivation was introduced in the tribal village Nagatoli in four acres for demonstration purpose but the tribal people were not impressed by this demonstration. It would have been much better and beneficial if the amount spent in introducing the Japanese method of cultivation could have been utilised in supplying good poultry to the tribal people.

The incidence of indebtedness in tribal and non-tribal villages is high and the majority of the people are not free from it. There are several men at Akbarpur and Ramdihra who carry on *mahajani* business. In order to reduce the burden of indebtedness co-operative credit societies have been started in all the non-tribal villages and in some of the tribal villages also, viz., Nagatoli and Budhua which give loans on $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent interest. This is extremely low as compared with the interest charged by the *mahajans* who charge 25 per cent interest. The villagers now take loans from the co-operative societies and this has brought about some relief. Seven sewing machines to village Ramdihra and three machines to village Banjari have been distributed to liquidate the indebtedness. One Weavers' Co-operative Society is also functioning in village

Ramdihra. But in the tribal villages no industrial loan has been advanced to liquidate indebtedness nor any sewing machine has been given in their villages.

The villagers are also responsible for much of the poor development in the rural areas, because they have mistaken the block to be an agency for only distributing money. With the coming of the block in stage II, funds are not so abundantly available for granting subsidies. The people did not develop much of social consciousness or initiative and did not think it was necessary for them individually and collectively to continue the work that has been sponsored.

One of the basic ideas of Community Development Programme was that, spoon-feeding will be done at the initial stage and will gradually be diminished when the people will start taking up the work themselves. This objective has not been fulfilled. The villager still thinks that, if any scheme is completed, it is none of his duty along with others to keep it functioning.

Animal Husbandry.—Poultry farming is generally carried on by the tribals and muslims in the district. The Community Development Block began supplying the pedigree birds and eggs. It may be noted that the Kifarwars keep only cows, bullocks and buffaloes. They do not keep pigs or poultry which they consider as unclean. The Oraons and the members of the Scheduled Castes such as Chamars and Doms keep poultry. Pigs are also kept by the Oraons and Doms. Goats are also kept by some people. Cattle, i.e., cows and she-buffaloes kept by the tribal people yield small quantity of milk but the expense of maintaining them is almost nil as they are driven to the jungle for grazing and collected again in the evening. The cattle in the tribal villages are still of a very poor breed.

The Japanese method of paddy cultivation has not been successful or popular in either tribal or non-tribal areas. Facilities in getting improved seeds have been of some good to both the tribal and non-tribal villages. The more well-to-do villagers, either tribal or non-tribal, have been able to improve their crops to some extent.

The bulk of the tribals or scheduled castes or backward people is unable to purchase improved seeds, fertilisers, agricultural implements, etc., because of their bad economic condition.

Irrigation.—It was ascertained that eight pynes in Nagatoli village, one at village Budhua, five at Koriari, two at Aamdih, one at Kachuar, five at Akbarpur, four at Ramdihra and three at Banjari have been provided on 50 per cent basis. It is to be noted that a major scheme, viz., Titula *bundh* located at four miles from village Ramdihra has been sanctioned which will irrigate about 10,000 acres of land. Besides, a medium irrigation scheme has also

been sanctioned at village Koriari. The block has constructed drinking wells on 75 per cent basis through the help of the Welfare Department as follows:—

- (1) Village Nagatoli—8.
- (2) Village Budhua—6.
- (3) Village Koriari—2.

Besides, the block has constructed eight drinking wells at Akbarpur, six at Ramdihra and four at Banjari villages. Some help in irrigation matter has been given and has helped the people.

Industries.—The block has not been able to help in the development of small-scale industries. On enquiry it was gathered that there is no scope for small-scale industries because of the large-scale industries and a number of lime-stone quarries near the block. There are lime and cement factories at Kalayanpur and Baulia. Dehri-on-Sone is also near the block headquarters. Many tribals and non-tribals are employed in those factories. This contributes in liquidating the economic backwardness especially of tribal people.

Health and Sanitation.—With the opening of Development Block, one six indoor bedded State dispensary at Akbarpur and three health centres at villages Nagatoli, Karma and Koriari, have been started by the block. Prior to the establishment of the block the people used to go to either Dehri-on-Sone or Sasaram for proper medical treatment though there was a District Board dispensary at village Akbarpur. This District Board dispensary was upgraded to the status of a State Dispensary in 1957. The opening of the bedded State dispensary is a distinct relief for the villagers.

The tribal people are found to be physically fit and quite healthy. They are, however, not so neat and clean as we find the tribal people of Chotanagpur. The houses of the tribal people are of old types with little ventilation. It may be mentioned that after the inception of the block, the dispensaries have become popular among them. The tribal people now come down to take allopathic and ayurvedic medicines on the plain level. The health centres are seldom visited. On enquiry it appeared that they had no idea of family planning nor any party has visited them to propagate on that subject.

The State dispensary in the block has one doctor. Besides, there is one mobile health dispensary with one doctor which goes to the health centres once in a week to facilitate the villagers. On enquiry it was ascertained that the doctor in charge of the mobile health dispensary was transferred in August, 1963. Since then no doctor has joined. The present physician in charge of the State dispensary has not visited either the health centres or the villages.

Secondly, to help the villagers wells for drinking water have been dug in villages Nagatoli, Budhua, Kachuar, Koriari, Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra. A few soakage pits at Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra villages and a well latrine at village Koriari have been a sheer waste of money. They have had no influence on the people.

Market.—In the tribal villages lack of any market also comes on the way of improving their economic position. The tribal people have to come down to the plains to purchase or sell even a petty thing. They always remain in the clutches of the *mahajans* and *bantias* living on the plain. They purchase articles generally on credit and on an exorbitant rate. The *bantias* make much profit by cheating the innocent tribal people. The non-tribal people are also in trouble because they do not get any article in time. The businessmen generally bring commodities either from Dehri-on-Sone or Sasaram and sell on a very high rate.

Communication.—Very little improvement in communications has been made.

General.—A general application of the routine schemes is not indicated in this area. That means waste of money and man-power. The Block personnel have no tribal element and no one in the block speaks any tribal language. There is lack of proper human material to work out the schemes and also very poor response from the people who think they have no duty of their own.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL PEOPLE OF BHAGWANPUR BLOCK, DISTRICT SHAHABAD.

The Community Development Programme was started in the district in 1952 with the opening of Development Blocks at Sasaram, Sheosagar, Bhabua and Kudra. The Bhagwanpur Block with headquarters at Bhagwanpur in Bhabua subdivision was started in October, 1957 for the welfare of the tribal and non-tribal people living in the area. The tribal people are found in villages, viz., Makrikhoh, Parari, Bajdihwa, Bhitri Bundh, Karamchat and Baradih under Bhagwanpur Block. Though the villages are surrounded on all sides by the Kaimur hills, the tribals live on the plain level. The block covers an area of 159.11 square miles, i.e., 1,01,829.81 acres with 272 villages (out of which 86 are unpopulated), 8,866 households and 19 *Gram Panchayats*. According to the statistics of 1961 as supplied by Bhagwanpur Block Office, the total population of the Block is 58,247 out of which only 712 are tribals.

An investigation was made in November, 1963 to make an intensive study of the impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals and non-tribals. For this, two tribal villages (the majority inhabitants being tribals), viz., Makrikhoh and Parari and two non-tribal villages, viz., Ramgarh and Bajdihwa under Bhagwanpur Block were studied.

The background and the impact of Community Development Programme, villagewise, is indicated below:—

(1) *Village Makrikkoh*.—The village is at a distance of fourteen miles towards west from village Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and 22 miles to the south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 14,775.43 acres including 11,782.68 acres of forest area with 35 households according to the figures supplied by the Block office.

The castewise population figures are as follows:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	77
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	72
(3) Backward classes	..	..	39
TOTAL			188

The Cheros (tribe) form the majority in the village.

Impact of the Community Development Block.

It may be noted that twelve persons were interviewed during investigation to know the work done by the block. The details of the respondents are given below:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Occupation.	Lands in bighas.	Loans taken from different sources.	
					Cash.	Kind.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.				Rs.	
1. Materan Chero	50	Tribal	Cultivation and labourer in forest.	16	100	3 maunds of gram seed.
2. Ram Chela Ahir	35	Backward	Cultivation	8	50	2 ..
3. Gaya Mallah	50	Harijan	Ditto	20	175	1 ..
4. Raghunandan Chero	30	Tribal	Ditto	36	Nil	Nil.
5. Haricharan Chero	30	Ditto	Ditto	13	Nil	1 maund.
6. Mahadeo Mushar	45	Harijan	Labourer	Nil	115	2 maunds.
7. Bamhans Mushar	65	Ditto	Cultivation and labourer.	12	75	3 maunds.
8. Manager Mushar	45	Ditto	Labourer	Nil	45	2 maunds.
9. Bandhu Chero	35	Tribal	Ditto	Nil	85	Nil.
10. Baltu Chero	30	Ditto	Cultivation	15	Nil	Nil.
11. Jagannath Chero	60	Ditto	Ditto	40	Nil	2 maunds.
12. Budhi Mallah	50	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	100	1 maund.

An investigation was made regarding the past and present incidence of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Public Health, Irrigation and Co-operation, etc.

Agriculture.—The lands of the village are sandy loams. The villagers practise terrace agriculture on the hill slopes. The main crops grown in the area are Gram, Maize, *Jowar*, etc. On enquiry from Raghunandan Chero, the area has five irrigational-cum-drinking wells but only one has been constructed by the Block authorities during 1957-58. The Block had paid 50 per cent of the expenditure while the villagers contributed 50 per cent. The investigators also saw the deplorable condition of the wells. It is an acute problem for any body to take water from the wells because one has to procure at least 50 yards of rope. Naturally the well is not much used and it will require more than two persons to pull water out of the well. Besides, there is no provision for irrigation and the villagers mainly depend on rainfall.

The villagers are very backward in applying improved methods of cultivation. The Block has not supplied either improved seeds or chemical fertilisers in this village. However, with the help of the Village Level Worker, the villagers have started preparing compost for their fields. In the village it was found that four villagers, viz., Raghunandan Chero, Somaru Chero, Basanti Mushar and Modi Chero have started to prepare compost.

Besides, the tribal people and harijans have been given paddy seed and also cash subsidy to purchase bulls by the Welfare Department. They generally take paddy seed on loan from the grain-gola located at Bhagwanpur on 25 per cent interest. The repayment is done in kind.

During 1961-62 the Welfare Department distributed through the grain-gola 6 maunds of paddy seed to Mahadeo Chero, 3 maunds to Modi Chero and 5 maunds to Somaru Chero for cultivation purposes. On an enquiry it was found grain seeds loaned are often straight-way sold to the *Mahajans* of village Bhagwanpur and at the time of repayment ordinary paddy is given. In this way the purity of the grain seed loaned is also affected. A sum of Rs. 100 each was also given as agricultural subsidy to Materan Chero, Somaru Chero and Modi Chero during 1962-63 to purchase bulls.

Animal Husbandry.—The Community Development Block has supplied pedigree pullets and eggs in the village. During 1962-63 the Block supplied 11 eggs and 6 pullets to Basantu Mushar which died. Pullets of one day are usually distributed. The villagers as a rule are not equipped to rear such tender pullets. It is commonly complained that the eggs do not hatch. It is also possible that the

eggs were sold or eaten. It would be much better if pullets are reared in the Block office and the birds are sold when they are two or three weeks old.

No bull has been supplied to the village or to any village near the vicinity. The villagers generally go to village Bajdihwa located at about four miles from Makrikhoh for crossing their animals with the bull. During 1963 about 10 cows and buffaloes had been crossed which were found in the village. 149 cows and buffaloes were treated in Bhagwanpur veterinary dispensary during 1961-63.

Education.—With the help of the Block, one lower primary school has been started in 1962 which has 25 students and one teacher. There was a social education centre in the village but since December, 1962 it stands abolished when the very scheme was given up by the State Government. With the help of the social education centre the villagers have been benefited in becoming literate. The incidence of literacy in the village is as follows:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	8.
• (2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	5
(3) Backward Classes	..	..	6
TOTAL	•	..	19

The village has no library and no community centre. There is possibility of a readership if a small library was started.

Health and Sanitation.—The village has no health centre. There is a health centre at Ramgarh village located at about eight miles from this village. The villagers generally go to Ramgarh or Bhagwanpur for treatment. The health worker generally visits the village once in a week to distribute the medicines, if required.

No case of small-pox or cholera was reported in the village. During 1962-64 about 129 persons were vaccinated and 131 persons were inoculated.

Co-operative Society.—There is no Co-operative Society in the village nor the village is attached to any Co-operative Society.

Market.—There is no market or *hat* in the village. The villagers have to go either to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua to make their purchases. There is only one very small shop which does not meet the requirements.

Cottage Industries and Rural Housing.—There is no work on the cottage industry or rural housing scheme in the village.

Communications.—There is a fair-weather road from Bhagwanpur to village Makrikhoh constructed by the Forest Department but in the village no road has been constructed.

(2) *Village Parari*.—The village is at a distance of 17 miles to the west of Bhagwanpur and 24 miles to the south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 1,393.96 acres with 33 households according to the figures supplied by the Block Office.

The population figures are given below:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	60
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	48
(3) Backward Classes	..	..	47
(4) Others	..	..	45
TOTAL			200

The Cheros (tribe) form the majority in the village.

The following persons were examined during the investigation in the village:—

Name of the person.	Age.	Caste.	Land in acres.	Loans taken from different sources.		Occupation.
				Cash	Kind.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.			Rs.	Maunds.	
1. Nanahar Chero	55	Tribal	..	50	2	Cultivation and labourer in forest.
2. Jhullu Chero	60	Ditto	..	30	Nil	Ditto.
3. Jalim Chero	35	Ditto	..	75	1	Ditto.
4. Fouzdar Chero	65	Ditto	..	Nil	3	Ditto.
5. Banssi Chero	65	Ditto	..	Nil	Nil	Ditto.
6. Sadhu Mallah	45	Mallah	..	75	2	Cultivation.
7. Ramu Adhir Mallah	60	Ditto	..	55	Nil	Ditto.

The details regarding the impact of Community Development Programme are indicated below:—

Agriculture.—During 1958-59, about two maunds of gram seed had been distributed by the block authorities to Ishaq Mia, Jumrahi Mia, Rasul Mia and Shariff Mia but no seed multiplication was done by the villagers. They utilised the seeds in their own fields.

After 1958-59, seeds have not been distributed to anybody. The villagers have not purchased chemical fertilisers as the block authorities have supplied them.

For irrigation and water-supply the village has five drinking-cum-irrigational wells but four are privately managed and one has been constructed by the block during 1960-61. With the help of the Village Level Worker, five persons, viz., Ishaq Mia, Manahar Chero, Jhullu Chero, Jalim Chero and Fouzdar Chero have prepared compost for agriculture purposes.

No agricultural paddy seed or agricultural cash subsidy has been given by the Welfare Department to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes of this village. The Community Development Department has not distributed any pedigree birds or eggs in the village. The villagers generally go to village Bajdihwa for crossing the animals with the bull supplied by the block. About 183 animals were treated in Bhagwanpur veterinary dispensary during 1962-64.

Education.—There is no school in the village and the boys go to Makrikho Lower Primary School for study. There was a social education centre in the village but since December, 1962, the scheme has been abolished. With the help of the social education centre, there has been some increase in the incidence of literacy. The incidence of literacy in the village is as follows:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	5
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	4
(3) Backward Classes	..	..	5
(4) Others	..	..	20
TOTAL			34

The village has no library, no community centre, nor any provision for recreation.

Health and Sanitation.—There is no health centre in the village. The villagers generally go to Ramgarh Health Centre at a distance of eight miles for treatment. During 1962-64 about 157 persons were vaccinated and 149 were inoculated.

Co-operative Society.—There is no co-operative society in the village.

Market.—Nil. There is only one very small shop in the village which does not meet the requirements of the villagers. The villagers have to go to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua to make their purchases.

Rural Industries, Rural Housing.—No scheme has been taken up by the block or the villagers.

Communications.—There is no communication. A man has to reach the village on foot. Within the village, *kutchra* roads have been constructed by the villagers.

(3) *Village Bajdihwa.*—The village is at a distance of 11 miles towards west of Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and 19 miles towards south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 1,223.97 acres with 34 households.

The population figures castewise are given below:—

	Total population	..	180
(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	50
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	19
(3) Backward Classes	..	..	87
(4) Others	..	..	24

The following persons were interviewed during investigation:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Occupation.
	Years.		
1. Nagina Singh	.. 47	Rajput	Cultivation.
2. Sheo Tahal Singh	.. 30	Koeri	Ditto.
3. Balrup Mahto	.. 40	Do.	Ditto.
4. Ramadhar Chamar	.. 40	Chamar	Ditto.
5. Sukhdeo Chero	.. 75	Tribal	Ditto
6. Su er Kahar	.. 60	Kahar	Labourer.
7. Gajar Bari ..	.. 25	Backward	Cultivation.
8. Teju Ka ar	.. 40	Ditto	Ditto.
9. Balli Pandey	.. 45	Brahmin	Ditto.
10. Deonath Bind	.. 40	Backward	Ditto.
11. Motilall Dusadh	.. 25	Harijan	Ditto.

(4) *Village Ramgarh.*—The village is at a distance of seven miles west of Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and fifteen miles towards south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 501 acres with 266 households.

The population figures castewise are given below:—

	Total population	..	1,351
(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	..	5
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	..	327
(3) Backward Classes	..	..	607
(4) Others	..	..	412

The following persons were examined during investigation:—

Name.	Age.	Caste.	Occupation.	Loans taken from different sources.	
				Cash.	Kind.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Years.			Rs.	Maunds.
1. Khichri Chero	30	Tribal	Labourers	100	2
2. Mangru Chero	21	Ditto	Ditto	50	1
3. Gudu Chero	55	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
4. Sheo Chero	60	Ditto	Ditto	150	2
5. Sumaro Mushar	35	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	..
6. Jhunak Mushar	60	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
7. Dakhi Mushar	35	Ditto	Ditto	75	1
8. Sumair Mushar	23	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	Nil
9. Budhan Mushar	36	Ditto	Ditto	100	2
10. Hukkum Dusadh	60	Ditto	Chowkidar (Service)	85	Nil
11. Batai Dusadh	40	Ditto	Labourer	50	1
12. Bechan Dusadh	22	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
13. Ramnandan Dusadh	70	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
14. Sitai Dusadh	45	Ditto*	Ditto	100	1
15. Bhuneshwar Bahelia	50	Backward	Cultivation and Agricultural labourers.	Nil	..
16. Ram Lagan Chamar	25	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	..
17. Sobhan Chamar	45	Ditto	Ditto	100	2
18. Lakhn Chamar	68	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
19. Ram Prasad Chamar	28	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
20. Sultan Mia	45	Muslim	Cultivation	..	..

The said two villages cannot be said to be tribal. Bajdihwa village has got some tribal population but they are not in a majority.

It may be noted that only the Cheros were found in the four villages visited.

Impact of Community Development Project.—These two villages have been much influenced with the opening of Community Development Project at Bhagwanpur.

Agriculture.—The lands of the said two villages are sandy loam. The poor people generally practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown in the area are paddy, groundnut, maize, gram, etc. Very few irrigation facilities have been provided and the people mainly depend on rainfall.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields. In village Bajdihwa ten persons and in Ramgarh thirty persons have started to prepare compost with the help of the Village Level Worker.

The table below supplied by the Bhagwanpur Development Block will give an idea of the improved seeds distributed by the Block from 1959-60 to 1962-63 in the said villages:—

Name of the village.	1959-60.		1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
	Seeds in maunds.	Number of families.	Seeds in maunds.	Number of families.	Seeds in maunds.	Number of families.	Seeds in maunds.	Number of families.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Bajdihwa	1	3	3½	6	11½	8	17	9
2. Ramgarh	Nil	..	1	4	2	5	2½	5

(a) The seeds were distributed to Nagina Singh, Narayan Singh, Sheo Tahal Singh, Gajar Bari, Sripat Singh and Baya Ram. They have distributed about 50 maunds of seeds from 1960-61 to 1963-64 to about 25 persons.

(b) In village Ramgarh the seeds were distributed to Sultan Mia, Shri Krishna Singh, Hira Singh, Gudhu Chero, Ram Prasad Gupta and others. On investigation from the said persons, it was ascertained they have distributed about 25 maunds of seeds to 21 persons from 1960-61 to 1963-64.

The Welfare Department has not supplied agricultural paddy seed or agricultural cash subsidy to any villagers in Bajdihwa or Ramgarh.

Chemical manures.—Since the inception of the Block to 1962-63, 20 maunds of chemical fertilisers to 30 persons in village Ramgarh and 35 maunds to 23 persons in Bajdihwa have been distributed through the Bhabua Co-operative Society. The villages are not attached to any Co-operative Society. Hence difficulties in purchasing the chemical fertilisers. During 1963, the villagers of Ramgarh village have started a Co-operative Society and the villages Makri-khoh, Parari and Bajdihwa would be attached with this society.

The attempt of the Community Development Block to introduce partial Japanese method of cultivation has not been successful in the two villages visited because of the nature of the soil and want of irrigation. The area is not suitable for this type of cultivation, without proper irrigation. The Japanese method of cultivation was not introduced in village Ramgarh but in village Bajdihwa this method has been introduced in 45 acres from 1958-59 to 1963-64 by 20 families. On enquiry it was found that the villagers are not much benefited by the partial method of Japanese cultivation. Only line sowing will not be useful and full Japanese method of cultivation cannot be introduced because it requires proper irrigation, line sowing, use of chemical fertilisers and financial stability, etc.

Animal Husbandry.—No pullet or eggs were distributed in village Bajdihwa. The villagers generally rear indigenous type of poultry. In Ramgarh village, there is one cheap poultry house maintained by the block which has been neglected by the authorities. The eggs and five pullets had been distributed in 1962 to Karim Mia, Saluddin Mia and Shaukat Ali in Ramgarh village.

In village Bajdihwa, one *Hariana* bull had been supplied during 1960-61 but the supply of the bull has not been of much help in providing better breed as the cows are of much shorter stature. On enquiry from Shri Nagina Singh of village Bajdihwa it was ascertained that one bull had been supplied during 1958-59 but it died during the same year because it was not properly looked after. 227 animals from Ramgarh village and 139 from Bajdihwa village were given treatment in Bhagwanpur Veterinary dispensary during 1962-63 and 1963-64.

Education.—With the help of the Block one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher in village Bajdihwa and one upper primary school with 27 students and one teacher in Ramgarh have been started. The villages have no middle or high school. The villagers of Ramgarh send their boys to Bhagwanpur High School but the villagers of Bajdihwa are not in a position to send their boys because it is about 12 miles from Bhagwanpur.

There was also one Social Education Centre at Ramgarh but it does not exist now in the village. There is no library or recreation club in Bajdihwa village but in Ramgarh village there are a small library, one youth club and *kirtan mandali*. The Block has also supplied two footballs, one volley ball and one carom board to the members of a youth club.

The incidence of literacy in 1961 is as follows:—

Village.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ramgarh	113	12	125
Bajdihwa	30	2	32

Health and Sanitation.—The Block has one health centre at Ramgarh village under the supervision of a health worker who is a matriculate. On the average about 15 persons attend the centre daily but they mostly belong to Ramgarh village. The people of Bajdihwa village also go to Ramgarh health centre occasionally for treatment. The villagers are not satisfied with the working of the health centre because the Medical Officer has not visited the centre for six months. They do not want to take medicines from a quack. They either go to Bhagwanpur State dispensary or Bhabua.

For water-supply 22 irrigational-cum-drinking wells have been constructed out of which two had been constructed by the Block during 1960-61 and 1961-62. In village Bajdihwa 2 *ahars* and 7 wells have been constructed by the Block.

Besides, four soakage pits and seven borehole latrines have been constructed in village Ramgarh and two soakage pits and three borehole latrines in Bajdihwa village have been constructed by the Block during 1961-62. The impact is nil as the example has not been followed.

Co-operative Society.—The villagers of Ramgarh have started one Multi-purpose Co-operative Society in 1963 with 51 members. Rupees 1,831.00 have been advanced this year for agricultural purposes. There is no Co-operative Society in Bajdihwa village.

Rural Industries.—There are no small-scale cottage industries either in Ramgarh or Bajdihwa. Only two sewing machines in Ramgarh village have been distributed but the villagers are not benefited in general because it is their personal property.

Rural Housing.—No housing scheme has been taken up either in Ramgarh or Bajdihwa.

General discussion.—Out of 186 populated villages under Bhagwanpur Community Development Block, a sample survey of the activities and effect of the Block on two tribal and two non-tribal villages was conducted to find out the impact of the block on the people of the area. In discussing the points, it may be noted

that tribal people have changed their outlook. They do not feel any hesitation in sitting with the non-tribals. They attend the meeting of the Block Development Committee and fearlessly put their grievances and make efforts to get their work done. The Cheros who are tribal claim themselves to be the offshoots of Nagbansi Rajputs and they refuse to be called as Adivasis. But they want the privileges of the tribals.

The conclusion drawn during investigation is as follows:—

Agriculture.—The lands of the villages visited are sandy loam. The people mostly practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown are maize, gram, *sarso*, *ramtil*, jowar, etc. It appears that due to the propaganda carried on by the Block the villagers have been impressed with the utility of improved agricultural equipments so much so that two comparatively well-to-do people, viz., Nagina Singh of Bajdihwa and Sultan Mia of Ramgarh have purchased Bihar Senior and Junior plough weeders, etc. They loan out their equipments to other villages who are not in a position to purchase them. Though the State Government have begun to supply modern agricultural implements but a man has to incur heavy expenditure in purchasing them. That is why even Raghunandan Chero of village Makrikhoh who has 70 bighas of land, is not inclined to purchase the modern implements.

It is a fact that the Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures to villagers. But on enquiry from the villagers of Makrikhoh and Parari it was ascertained that these are of no use unless there is a trained personnel to train the villagers. The application of the chemical fertilisers, compost and better seeds is useful only when the rainfall is timely and adequate, otherwise they generally go waste. The Block has provided some irrigational-cum-drinking wells in all the villages visited but they are quite inadequate to irrigate the lands. Secondly due to nature of the soil one has to dig about 150 feet in order to get a well that will yield water. Water is an acute problem for the villagers.

In villages Bajdihwa and Ramgarh improved type of crops collected in the households were seen. The rich persons who have their personal wells have utilised the improved seeds and manures in their fields. The villagers, viz., Nagina Singh, Sukhdeo Chero, Motilal Dusadh of Bajdihwa village and Sultan Mia, Karim Mia and Ram Prasad Gupta of Ramgarh village replied that the poor section of villagers take improved seeds not for utilising in their fields but for family consumption.

As regards agricultural paddy seed it may be noted that Welfare Department does not supply good type of seeds. Secondly the Adivasis or Harijans who take agriculture paddy seed from the grain-gola at Bhagwanpur generally sell the seeds to the *Mahajans* of Bhagwanpur village at cheap rate.

It has been discussed earlier that Rs. 100.00 each was given to Materan Chero, Modi Chero and Soman Chero to purchase bulls. But when they were contacted by the investigators, they replied that they had purchased bulls at the rate of Rs. 50.00 per bull and the balance (Rs. 50.00) had been utilised by them in family expenditure.

As regards chemical manures, it may be noted that they are generally sold through the Co-operative Societies. In the villages visited no Co-operative Society has been started except one at village Ramgarh with the result that those who even want to purchase cannot get the manures in time. Raghunandan Chero, Modi Chero, Somaru Chero of village Makrikhoh and Nanahar Chero, Jullu Chero and Ramu Ahir of village Parari were interviewed and it was ascertained from them that they made efforts to get the manures in time but it was useless. They are of the view that even the members of Co-operative Society do not get the manures in time.

Secondly, those who have purchased manures, for instance, Nagina Singh, Ram Tahal Singh, Balrup Mahto of Bajdihwa village and Sultan Mia, Ram Prasad Gupta of Ramgarh village have utilised them in their fields only because they are rich and have personal wells for irrigation.

It may also be noted that previously the members of the Co-operative Society used to purchase the chemical fertilisers without paying any interest but since April, 1963, they have, to pay the interest at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for the total amount of loans taken from the Society.

The villagers appear to have mistaken the Block to be an agency mainly for distributing money or to make available other facilities. One of the basic ideas of Community Development programme was that, spoon feeding will be done at the initial stage and will gradually be diminished when the people will start taking up the work themselves. This objective has not been fulfilled. The villagers think that any scheme either taken or completed by the Block authorities will be eternally looked after by them. For instance, Shri Gopal Narain Singh, Nagina Singh and Sultan Mia who are rich persons and ex-landlords of village Bajdihwa, Ramgarh and Bhagwanpur respectively have also applied for co-operative loan and loan for soil conservation which they could have met from their own resources. Further, there has been a mentality among the people that they should look to the Block always for carrying on even petty works, such as repair of wells, etc. A public drinking well in village Bhagwanpur is in a very deplorable condition, for repairing it Shri Gopal Narain Singh has requested the Block authorities for a loan of so small amount, i.e., Rs. 100.00 which he could have easily met himself. The welfare measures taken by the Block appear to be smothering social consciousness instead of arousing it.

It is an admitted fact that the economic stability of the tribals, Scheduled Castes or Backward people can be assured through agriculture but they are unable to purchase the improved seeds, fertilisers, agricultural implements, etc., because of their poor economic condition.

Animal Husbandry.—The Block has also made attempts to improve the livestock in both the tribal and non-tribal areas by supplying improved bulls. The tribal and backward people are also benefited to some extent along with others in a general way. They have a limited number of cattle and the poultry scheme is too limited in scope to give them much benefits. Before the inception of the Block, the villagers had to go to Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters, for treatment of the animals. But with the development of the Block, one Veterinary Dispensary and Artificial Insemination Centre have been started at Bhagwanpur village, the block headquarters.

It may be noted that the villagers used to be given Rs. 30.00 per month to maintain the *Hariana* bull supplied in Bajdihwa village. But due to financial emergency this scheme has been abolished. When Nagina Singh, *Mukhiya* of Bajdihwa village was contacted, he replied that *Hariana* bull would be returned to Government very soon because they have no money to maintain the bull. The Community Development Block began supplying pedigree birds and eggs. It may be noted that the Cheros rear only cattle. They do not keep pigs or poultry and they consider them unclean. On enquiry it was found that instead of supplying birds, pullets are supplied to the villagers. Pullets, as mentioned before, die quickly.

The birds and eggs supplied by the Block were quite inadequate as compared with the population of the villages. Though the birds and eggs were supplied to some of the villagers, not much improvement was seen. Eggs are generally sold at the village market at higher price and hardly utilised for hatching.

There is a veterinary dispensary at Bhagwanpur which is taken advantage of by both the non-tribals and tribals. Besides, there is one Animal Husbandry Supervisor attached to Bhagwanpur Block to go round the villages and instructing people regarding cattle diseases and distributing medicines. In villages Makrikhoh, Bajdihwa and Ramgarh troughs have been constructed by the Block authorities during 1962-63 which are filled with water and sprinkled with disinfectants to prevent foot and mouth diseases of animals. The example has not been elsewhere.

Education.—Prior to the inception of the Block there was no school either at village Makrikhoh, Ramgarh or Bajdihwa. The Block has constructed primary schools in the said villages which has been discussed earlier. But in the same way it can be concluded

that the Block has not been of much help in starting educational institutions. Within a radius of ten miles no residential school, middle school or high school has been started. Ramgarh and Bajdihwa are both large villages and have a fair school-going population. The people of Makrikhoh are keen for a primary school in their village. There is no library in any of the three villages, Makrikhoh, Parari and Bajdihwa. For higher education the boys have to go either to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua which is not possible for the villagers.

Health and Sanitation.—It is a fact that one health centre has been started in village Ramgarh, i.e., within the radius of ten miles of village Bajdihwa, Makrikhoh and Parari. When villagers of all these villages were contacted it was ascertained that they were not benefited by the health centre. It was reported that since six months no doctor has visited the health centre. The villagers have to go to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua for treatment. When Jalim Chero of village Parari and Mahadeo Mushar of village Makrikhoh were contacted it was ascertained that in 1962-63, due to absence of doctors, their patients died on the way to Bhabua without any treatment.

The Medical Officer of Bhagwanpur lives at Bhabua, i.e., seven miles from Bhagwanpur. He is also in charge of Adhaura dispensary about 30 miles from Bhagwanpur. It is but natural that he cannot pay much attention to the dispensaries. It is just not possible for a medical officer at Bhabua, 38 miles away from Adhaura, to be looking after Bhagwanpur and Adhaura hospitals and the Health Centres.

Co-operative Society.—No Co-operative Society has been started in village Makrikhoh, Parari or Bajdihwa.

Incidence of Indebtedness.—The incidence of indebtedness in both tribal and non-tribal villages visited is high and the majority of the people are not free from it. The Community Development Block has been of no help in liquidating their indebtedness. It has been discussed earlier that the villagers generally take loans from Sultan Mia of village Ramgarh, Nagina Singh of village Bajdihwa and Gopal Narain Singh of Bhagwanpur and others. The villagers take grains also on loan from them. If a villager takes two maunds of grains he will have to pay 3 maunds in the next year. The *Mahajans* mentioned above are big cultivators and forest contractors who will naturally try to exploit the poor labourers. The labourers work in the forest and get Rs. 1-8-0 per day. On enquiry from Raghunandan Chero, Materan Chero, Haricharan Chero, Baltu Chero, Mahadeo Mushar of village Makrikhoh and Janki Bahelia, Fouzdar Chero, Jhullu Chero of village Parari, it was learnt that they had taken loans from Sultan Mia and Nagina Singh and they pay the dues by way of working in their fields and forests. For

instance, Baltu Chero of village Makrikhoh took loan from Sultan Mia (Rs. 100.00) during 1961 on $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest and he paid the dues by way of working as a labourer in his forest for three months.

Industry.—The Block has not been of any help to the villagers in small-scale cottage type of industries in the villages visited.

Communication.—Easy communication is an important factor for development of any areas. The Community Development provides communication facilities by constructing culverts and *katcha* roads. But no such roads or culverts have been constructed in the villages visited.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL PEOPLE OF ADHAURA BLOCK (DISTRICT SHAHABAD).

The aims with which Community Development Blocks have been established are the improvement in the economic, cultural, educational and social condition of the people inhabiting the area covered by the block.

To achieve these aims, it is necessary that such means, facilities and agencies be provided as would create an environment in which the villagers become anxious to improve their lot by utilising improved technical aids in the spheres of better agriculture, better animal husbandry and better health; and to raise the social and economic conditions in the village by self-help and co-operation which would help to stimulate cultural, social and educational activities in the village and by intercourse with the neighbourhood and the outside world so that their outlook may be widened.

The Community Development Programme was started in this district in 1952 with the opening of Development Blocks at Sasaram, Sheosagar, Bhabua and Kudra. The Adhaura Block in Bhabua subdivision was started in 1957 as a Special Multi-purpose Project for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes living in the area. The whole block area of 394 square miles with a population of 16,985 (according to the Census of 1961) lies on Kaimur Plateau and was practically inaccessible. On 21st March, 1959 a fair-weather jeepable road from Bhabua to Adhaura was opened. According to a survey made in 1957 by the block authorities, the block had a population of 14,746 souls of whom 9,038 were tribals. Hence according to that survey the percentage of tribals was 61. The tribals consisted of—

Kharwar	..	..	..	7,463 persons.
Chero	..	..	..	533 "
Oraon	..	..	..	938 "
Korwa	..	..	..	104 "
TOTAL.				9,038 "

Of these, Kharwar and Chero people though calling themselves Adivasis (tribals), refuse to be called as belonging to Scheduled Tribes, rather resent being called as such. They call themselves Kshatriyas.

The details of 1961 Census are not available, hence the present percentage of tribal population cannot be definitely stated, but, as only four years have elapsed between 1957 and 1961 the percentage of tribals may still be taken as 61 in this block.

Prior to the establishment of the block the inhabitants, specially the tribals, took the Government as a foreign body and were under the impression that Government officers used to come to the plateau only for enjoying *shikar* sports. The block authorities had great difficulty in convincing the people of the area that the block had been established not for fun of *shikar* but as a permanent unit for the welfare of the people inhabiting the area.

The terrain is so difficult and uninviting that the Government officials posted there had a great sense of horror for the area and did improved but still scarcity of drinking water and eatables haunt not want to stick there. After the construction of the fair-weather jeepable road and a few buildings at Adhaura conditions have a bit the minds of the officials.

As mentioned above Adhaura Block was established in 1957. It covers an area of 394 square miles with 131 villages (out of which 29 are unpopulated) having in all 3,697 families distributed among 3,223 households. There are 12 *gram panchayats* in the area. The tribal population is about 61 per cent as mentioned earlier.

The impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals was studied in five selected villages, namely, Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag, Sarki and Sorha. The background of these villages is indicated below:—

(a) *Village Dahar*.—This village is situated at a distance of 12 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, and 24 miles to the south from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 2,626 acres, has 107 households and a population of approximately 453 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 15 persons in the village of whom 9 persons were Kharwars, 3 Cheros and 3 *Harijans*. Their names are—

Kharwars.—Bandhu Singh, Geda Singh, Harso Singh, Baran Singh, Hari Prasad Singh (Baiga), Dewal Singh, Jana Singh, Hira Singh and Nazir Singh.

Cheros.—Tahal Chero, Sudhu Chero and Mohan Chero.

Harijans.—Ram Peri Ram, Ram Rachhia Ram and Pachoo Ram. Besides these, he had informal conversation with about 100 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain <i>gola</i> .	Land held.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.		Bighas.	
1	Sri Bandhu Singh	35	Ganesh Singh	Kharwar	5	100	4 mds. paddy.	3	5 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Geda Singh	36	Chaturi Singh	Ditto	4	..	2 „	1½	
3	Sri Harso Singh	25	Ramdhani Singh.	Ditto	13	..	10 „	30	15 including four milch cows.
4	Sri Baran Singh	52	Baldeo Singh	Ditto	7	90	8 „	30	16 including four milch cows.
5	Sri Hari Prasad Singh.	36	Bhailal Singh	Ditto	3	..	..	30	8 including two milch cows.
6	Sri Dewar Singh	50	Gaya Singh	Ditto	6	100	7 mds. paddy.	2	5 including one milch cow.
7	Sri Jana Singh	40	Lori Singh	Ditto	5	..	2 „	8	
8	Sri Hira Singh	29	Kalpo Singh	Ditto	3	100	5 „	8	2
9	Sri Nazir Singh	38	Nanhak Singh	Ditto	6	..	1½ „	1	1
10	Sri Tahal Chero	28	Gharbharan Chero.	Chero	4	Landless labourer.	..	..	..
11	Sri Sadhu Chero	30	Sitahal Chero	Do.	3	..	1 md. paddy	½	Labourer.
12	Sri Mohan Chero	36	Sukhari Chero	Do.	5	..	1 „	½	Ditto.
13	Sri Ram Peri Ram.	30	Deoki Ram	Harijan	8	100	3 „	4	9 including two milch cows.
14	Sri Ram Rachhia Ram.	40	Khedaro Ram	Ditto	3	100	1 „	2	5 including two milch cows.
15	Sri Pachoo Ram	20	Dhora Ram	Ditto	5	..	..	1	2

So far as communication is concerned, it has no proper road. Two miles of *katcha* road have been constructed by the local *gram panchayat* with the aid of block authorities and it connects the village with Bhabua-Adhaura Road. The village has a L. P. School with 20 students. Its building is under construction. It is the headquarters of the *gram panchayat* and of the Village Level Worker. There is a community hall, a co-operative godown, two rural houses for Adivasis and a foot and mouth diseases trough in the village, but these are still under construction. A drinking well existed before the establishment of the block but was in a delapidated condition which has been repaired by the block. Another well for drinking purposes is being excavated.

422 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 51 families and 5 maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 5 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 2,000 from the co-operative society of the village.

(b) *Village Lohra*.—The village is situated at a distance of about six miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, towards the south-east and 42 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. The village is approachable by a *katcha* road constructed by the Forest Department. It has an area of 1,783 acres. It has 61 households and a population of approximately 302 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 15 persons in the village of whom 13 were *Kharwars* and two *Harijans*. They were—*Kharwars*—Ram Naresh Singh, Ujagir Singh, Langa Singh, Basdeo Singh, Bishun Singh, Chaturgun Singh, Phulchand Singh, Ramrup Singh, Phajihat Singh, Kumar Singh, Daroga Singh, Samaru Singh and Jagdeo Singh and *Harijans*—Ganauri Ram and Misri Ram. Besides these, he had informal conversation with about 50 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loan taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Ram Naresh Singh.	30	Chirkut Singh	Kharwar	4	63	4 mds. paddy. 35 srs. wheat.	7	4 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Ujagir Singh	30	Jharis Singh	Ditto	4	40	3 mds. paddy.	11	2 including one milch cow.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Years.				Rs.					
3	Sri Langa Singh	50	Udhaharan Singh.	Kharwar	4	16	16 srs. gram.	11	7 including one milch cow.
4	Sri Basdeo Singh	60	Doka Singh	Ditto	9	78	8 mds. paddy.	13	7 including one milch cow.
5	Sri Bishun Singh	37	Jageshwar Singh.	Ditto	5	54	4 mds. paddy. 20 srs. wheat.	8	7 including one milch cow.
6	Sri Chaturgun Singh.	40	Jethu Singh	Ditto	6	80	4 mds. paddy. 20 srs. wheat.	16	1
7	Sri Phulchand Singh	38	Sukhan Singh	Ditto	7	75	6 mds. paddy. 20 srs. wheat.	2.76	1
8	Sri Ram Rup Singh.	60	Udhaharan Singh.	Ditto	9	40	20 srs. wheat	16	11 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Phajihat Singh.	45	Lallajit Singh	Ditto	5	..	4 mds. paddy.	11	1
10	Sri Kumar Singh	44	Mahajar Singh	Ditto	6	68	4½ mds. paddy. 20 srs. wheat.	4	
11	Sri Daroga Singh	49	Ram Ratan Singh.	Ditto	4	..	..	12	2 including one milch cow.
12	Sri Sameru Singh.	43	Ragho Nandan Singh.	Ditto	5	..	2 mds. paddy.	5	7 including two milch cows.
13	Sri Jagdeo Singh.	39	Bali Singh	Ditto	5	..	2 mds. paddy.	1.25	
14	Sri Ganauri Ram.	42	Bagedu Ram	Harijan	7	64	1 md. paddy. 10 srs. gram.	3	5 including one milch cow.
15	Sri Misri Ram	51	Raghunath Ram.	Ditto	6	..	..	1.22	11 including three milch cows.

It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the local gram panchayat. There is a lower primary school having 25 students. Its building is under construction. A community hall, a co-operative godown and 12 rural houses for Adivasis are under construction in the village. There are one chuan (spring) and one foot and mouth diseases trough in the village.

60½ maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 20 families, and six maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 10 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 1,300 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(c) *Village Sarodag*.—The village is situated at a distance of 14 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters and 50 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 3,409.95 acres, 69 households and a population of approximately 279 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed nine *Kharwars*, two *Harijans*, two *Korwas* and one *Sah* (Backward Class). They were—*Kharwars*—Munshi Singh, Chhapan Singh, Bhutu Singh, Chhatanki Singh, Balchand Singh, Bhuar Singh, Karmu Singh, Khushi Singh and Fancha Singh; *Harijan*—Gobind Chamar and Musa Chamar; *Korwas*—Sarwan Korwa and Sukhlal Korwa; and *Sah*—Chhutu Sah. Besides these, about 50 persons were contacted. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loan taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Munshi Singh	48	Jogdam Singh	Kharwar	7	100	6 mds. paddy.	30	15 including seven milch cows.
2	Sri Chhapan Singh	40	Rupoo Singh	Ditto	12	..	..	65	16 including thirteen milch cows.
3	Sri Bhutu Singh	44	Bhagirath Singh	Ditto	4	100	..	20	13 including four milch cows.
4	Sri Chhatanki Singh.	52	Babulal Singh	Ditto	4	60	..	10	40 including twenty-five milch cows.
5	Sri Balchand Singh	78	Goga Singh	Ditto	4	66	..	8	
6	Sri Bhuar Singh	32	Sabha Singh	Ditto	6	..	..	15	30 including seventeen milch cows.
7	Sri Karmu Singh	27	Khait Singh	Ditto	2	75	..	7	8 including four milch cows.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Years.					Rs.				
8	Sri Chhotu Sah	46	Feku Sah	Bania	5	..	4 mds. paddy.	4	12 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Khushi Singh	29	Chaturi Singh	Kharwar	7	..	..	3	2 including one milch cow.
10	Fencha Singh	45	Mahabir Singh	Ditto	5	..	..	15	20 including fifteen milch cows.
11	Sri Gobind Chamar.	32	Paltan Chamar	Harijan	7	..	..	2	14 including ten milch cows.
12	Sri Musa Chamar	44	Bali Chamar	Ditto	5	..	4 mds. paddy.	1	..
13	Sri Sarwan Korwa	47	Briju Korwa	Korwa	5	..	..	..	..
14	Sri Sukhlal Korwa	56	Parsan Korwa	Do.	2	..	..	..	..

The village is connected with Adhaura by a *hatcha* hilly road constructed by the Forest Department. The village has an Ayurvedic dispensary maintained by the Welfare Department. It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the *gram panchayat*. A *tasar* seed supply sub-centre is located here. There are a primary school, a co-operative godown, an irrigational bundh and seven rural houses for the Adivasis in the village are under construction. There are one *Chuan* and one foot and mouth diseases trough in the village.

189 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 47 families, and eight maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 40 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 1,280 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(d) *Village Sarki*.—The village is situated at a distance of about 20 miles south of Adhaura, the block headquarters and 56 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 388.27 acres having 66 households and a population of approximately 383 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 14 persons of whom nine were Kharwars, two were Oraons and three belonged to the Scheduled Castes. They were—*Kharwars*—Chamaru Singh, Ramji Singh, Sukkan Singh, Phagun Singh, Sipahi Singh, Jhulan Singh, Gendu Singh, Keshari Singh and Ram Prasad Singh; *Oraons*—Gora and Nandlal; *Scheduled Castes*—Jinan Ram, Sumaro Dusadh

and Sumaro Chamar. Besides these, he met about 40 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Chamaru Singh.	42	Mallu Singh	Kharwar	7	..	..	10.59	12 including four milch cows.
2	Sri Ramji Singh	36	Chamaru Singh	Ditto	6	100	1 md. paddy.	10.59	16 including three milch cows.
3	Sri Genda Singh	26	Dhupu Singh	Ditto	7	..	..	2	2 including two milch cows.
4	Sri Keshari Singh	36	Gora Singh	Ditto	6	..	..	9.54	3
5	Sri Sukhan Singh	62	Gopal Singh	Ditto	7	75	..	9.8	5 including three milch cows.
6	Sri Jinan Ram	60	Bithal Ram	Harijan	2	50	..	2	2 including two milch cows.
7	Sri Somaru Dusadh.	26	Purhallad Dusadh.	Ditto	3	..	..	1	2 including two milch cows.
8	Sri Phagun Singh	26	Thagun Singh	Kharwar	6	200	3 mds. paddy.	3	3 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Gora Oraon	36	Jagesar Oraon	Oraon	2	..	..	3	..
10	Sri Nandlal Oraon	40	Fada Oraon	Do.	5	..	..	1	3 including one milch cow.
11	Sri Sipahi Singh	36	Ram Lagan Singh.	Kharwar	10	..	..	10.00	4 including one milch cow.
12	Sri Somaru Chamar.	38	Domar Chamar	Chamar (Harijan).	4	..	..	2	3
13	Sri Jhulan Singh	36	Bucha Singh	Kharwar	6	50	1 md. paddy.	3.45	6 including three milch cows.
14	Sri Ram Prasad Singh.	35	Maharaj Singh	Ditto	4	100	8 mds. paddy.	14.44	3

It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the *gram panchayat*. There is a residential basic school having 29 students. The village has no road. There are a co-operative godown and a community hall in the village, but these are under construction. There are a foot and mouth diseases trough, a *chuan* and a well in the village.

94 maunds and 18 seers of improved seeds were loaned amongst 30 families and $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of chemical manures were purchased by six families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 775 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(e) *Village Sorha*.—The village is situated at a distance of about 15 miles from Adhaura towards south and 51 miles from Bhabua. It has an area of 633.35 acres with 25 households and a population of approximately 130 persons. There is an irrigational bundh in the village. There are four rural houses for the Adivasis and a drinking well in the village.

25 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 15 families, and two maunds of chemical manures were purchased by four families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 350 from the Co-operative Society at Sarodag.

In the course of the investigation nine Kharwars, namely, Autar Singh, Ramdeo Singh, Basodeo Singh, Bhagan Singh, Jhari Singh, Dasain Singh, Palhai Singh, Doman Singh and Duarik Singh were examined. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Autar Singh	64	Jhari Singh	Kharwar	3	25	..	1.50	1 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Ramdeo Singh	34	Sadhu Singh	Ditto	6	50	..	15	8 including one milch cow.
3	Sri Jhari Singh	54	Jehali Singh	Ditto	8	40	..	4	6 including two milch cows.
4	Sri Basodeo Singh	39	Sadhu Singh	Ditto	4	..	..	15	6 including four milch cows.
5	Sri Bhagan Singh	43	Gaju Singh	Ditto	6	30	..	2	4 including two milch cows.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Years.					Rs.				
6	Sri Dasain Singh	34	Thakur Singh	Kharwar	6	20	..	2.50	6 including two milch cows.
7	Sri Palhai Singh	40	— Ditto	Ditto	4	50	..	2.50	2 including one milch cow.
8	Sri Doman Singh	34	Churaman Singh	Ditto	7	40	..	1.50	3
9	Sri Duarik Singh	40	Sarabjit Singh	Ditto	8	50	..	4	4 including two milch cows.

Of these villages only Dahar has got 34 per cent of tribal people and 66 per cent non-tribals. Each of the remaining four villages have nearly cent per cent tribal population, and only a sprinkling of non-tribals.

A study was made of the main trends of the economy of the people. The study discloses that there has been a very slight change in the economic condition of the people, the main occupation of the people of the villages visited still remaining practically the same as it was before the establishment of the block. The main pursuits are still of certain types of unsatisfactory agriculture, rearing of cattle and gathering forest products, such as the different species of myrobalan like *haray*, *baheera*, *amla*, *chirounji*, *mahua*, etc. They also work as labourers employed by contractors for cutting and carrying timber from the forest. The one peculiarity of the Kharwars and Cheros of this area is that they abhor rearing pigs and poultry, for they consider themselves as high caste Hindus who cannot touch pigs or poultry. Only Oraons who were met in Sarki and Adhaura and Kurwas who were found in Sarodag rear pigs and poultry. Their economic condition still continues to be poor. Details regarding the various pursuits followed in the villages visited are indicated below:—

Agriculture.—The lands of all the villages visited by the Research Assistant are hilly and difficult to till. The people of these villages practise terrace agriculture. The main crop grown in the area is paddy; but *marua*, maize, *bajra*, *kodo*, *sawan*, *ramtil*, are also grown. There is no arrangement for irrigation and the villagers have to depend only on rainfall. In years of scanty or ill-distributed rainfall, very little paddy is harvested and the people suffer much specially if other crops also fail. In any case, even if the rainfall is favourable, the produce of the fields suffices for about seven or eight months only. During the remaining period of the year the people subsist on jungle fruit or on loans or by working as labourers in the forest. The Community Development Block has

tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and manures. The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields. The produce due to the use of chemical manures, compost and better seeds yield better results only when the rainfall is timely and adequate, otherwise they go waste.

In 1963 the Community Development Block succeeded in disposing of directly or through grain-golas:—

- (i) Improved seeds as loan—422 maunds amongst 51 families in village Dahar, 60½ maunds amongst 20 families in village Lohra, 189 maunds amongst 47 families in Sarodag, 25 maunds amongst 15 families in Sorha and 94 maunds and 18 seers amongst 30 families in Sarki. Persons who were not able to repay the loan in grain taken previously were not supplied with grain this year.
- (ii) Chemical manures through sales—five maunds amongst five families in village Dahar, six maunds amongst ten families in village Lohra, eight maunds amongst 40 families in Sarodag, two maunds amongst four families in Sorha and 2½ maunds amongst six families in Sarki.

From enquiry it was learnt that in each of the villages visited there were a few loanees of improved seeds who had utilised the grains thus received in satisfying their hunger instead of sowing them in the fields. But none would accept having done so. Those who had avowed that they had actually sown their seeds in the fields said that there was some improvement in the produce, though they could not definitely state the quantity of increase in production. There was a general complaint that the improved seeds supplied by the grain-golas were not pure, but were mixed with indigenous seed.

Chemical manures have to be purchased by the farmers in cash. Hence there is no element of willingness in these purchases on the part of the farmers, rather the manures have to be thrust upon them through the *Mukhiyas* of the *gram panchayats*.

The block has tried to introduce Japanese method of paddy cultivation in the area, but it has not succeeded in introducing it in any part of the area. The Japanese method requires sufficient manuring, sowing in lines at appropriate distances between the lines and between the plants in the line, the number of seedlings to be put at one and the same place in the row, sufficient water, etc. But the conservatism and backwardness of the people, lack of irrigational facilities and vagaries of the monsoon, lack of sufficient manure, rocky nature of the soil, etc., stand in the way of successful introduction of the method and it appears that the amount of money and energy in introducing this system of paddy cultivation has been a sheer waste.

The block tried to excavate a tank in village Dahar but could not be successful in doing it due to the rocky nature of the soil. The block has constructed a bundh in village Sohra for irrigation purposes but it has not yet been utilised for the purpose because the people are not habituated to irrigate their fields and they say it costs them much labour and time. Moreover at the time of the visit there was no water stored by the bundh. Most probably the bundh has been haphazardly constructed and allowed water to slip out through its bottom. In village Sarodag an irrigational bundh is under construction, but with what result the future can only decide. As a result of this dependence on rainfall for irrigating crops, only the old primitive method of cultivation was possible and found in the villages visited. The method usually followed is scratching the land with a plough to a depth of 2 to 3 inches and scattering seed broadcast and then covering the seed by levelling the land with a wooden board. They do not practise weeding out of sheer laziness.

From an observation of the tribals in the five villages visited it was noticed that the tribals are indolent and shirk work; unless they change their habits very little improvement can be expected in their economic condition. People from the plains, who have migrated to these areas, are much better off, for they are hardy, industrious and also take to the profession of *mahajans*. But their example has not been followed by the tribals.

The incidence of indebtedness is extremely high and practically no tribal family is free from it. In order to reduce the burden of indebtedness, co-operative credit societies have been started which give loans on $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent interest. This is extremely low as compared to the interest charged on loans granted by *mahajans* who charge 25 per cent interest. The people of the villages now generally take loans from co-operative societies and this has brought about some improvement in their economic condition. But as the Co-operative Societies grant loans only for agricultural purposes, the tribals have to take loans from the *mahajans* to meet their other needs. Hence the economic condition has not much improved. Of the villages visited, only Sorha has no Co-operative Society of its own and the villagers of this place take loans from the Sarodag Co-operative Society. An enquiry was made as to the loans given by the Co-operative Societies in 1963. The Co-operative Society at Dahar has advanced a loan of Rs. 2,000, the one at Lohra Rs. 1,300 and the one at Sarki Rs. 775 to the villagers concerned, while that at Sarodag has advanced Rs. 1,280 to the villagers of Sarodag and Rs. 350 to those of Sorha. The grain-golas opened by the Government also help the people to free themselves from the clutches of the *mahajans*.

Animal Husbandry.—The Kharwars and the Cheros keep only cows, bullocks and buffaloes. They do not keep pigs or poultry which they consider as unclean. The Oraons, Kurwas and the

members of Scheduled Castes, such as Chamars and Doms, keep poultry. Pigs are kept by Oraon, Karwa and Doms. Goats are also kept by some people. Cows and she-buffaloes kept by the people do not yield much milk; the maintenance expense is practically nil as they are driven to the jungle in the morning for grazing and collected in the evening. The cattle are of indigenous type, but in the four of the villages visited, viz., Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag and Sarki, one Haryana bull has been supplied to each for improving the breed of cows and one improved type of he-buffalo has been supplied to each of the villages Lohra and Sarodag. But this has not been of much help in producing a better breed as the indigenous cows and she-buffaloes are of much shorter stature as compared with the bulls. Much improvement cannot be expected unless there is phased programme for gradually improving the breed by first supplying the villagers with medium sized bulls, and when the breed has improved, the big-sized bulls may be supplied. Steps should be taken to prevent the cows and buffaloes from mating with indigenous bulls. No artificial insemination centre has been started in the villages visited. If they had been started the intermediate step suggested need not have to be taken. If artificial insemination centres are started the produce of milk and milk products would increase and some improvement in the economic condition of the people is expected.

No steps have been taken to improve the breed of poultry in the villages visited. But from the information supplied by the block authority it appears that the block has been supplying pullets and eggs in the area of the block. The pullets supplied by the block are generally one day old. These if supplied to backward areas could not bring about any improvement in the breed for the following reasons:—(i) the tribals will not be in a position to maintain them as they do not know how to do it, i.e., they do not know how to keep them, to feed them, to prevent them from falling a prey to their enemies, to treat them when they fall ill of diseases peculiar to the improved and imported breed, etc., (ii) they do not know how to hatch the eggs produced by them for the hens of the improved breed do not sit on their eggs and they have to learn the use of incubators, otherwise they will have to use indigenous birds for hatching purpose which will lead ultimately to the deterioration of the improved breed.

It has been found that even educated people in the urban areas have not been very successful in improving the breed of their poultry out of one day pullets. So the illiterate and backward tribals cannot be expected to do justice to these pullets. The money and energy spent in distributing these pullets is a sheer waste. Similar is the case with the eggs of improved breeds supplied to the tribals.

One pig of improved type was supplied in 1961 to Lohra village. This resulted in the bringing in pigs of improved type of which only four were found in the village by the Research Assistant. On enquiry it was learnt that some of the pigs of improved type had been disposed off.

Goats were found in these villages but it appears that little attention is paid to them either by the villagers or by the block authorities.

There is a veterinary dispensary at Adhaura which is taken advantage of by the Adivasis along with the other people. Besides the dispensary there is one Animal Husbandry Supervisor attached to the Adhaura Block, to go round the villages instructing people regarding cattle diseases and distributing medicines. At villages Sarodag, Lohra and Sarki, troughs have been constructed by the block authorities which are filled with water and sprinkled with disinfectants for foot and mouth diseases of animals. Animals entering the village are made to pass through these troughs to disinfect them and thus save them from these diseases. The people have become interested in these troughs and are insisting upon construction of such troughs in areas where they do not exist. One such trough is being constructed in village Dahar.

Industries.—The only cottage industries that were seen in the villages visited were rope-making, basket-making and shoe-making and repairing. The Doms and Kurwas manufacture bamboo-baskets, Chamars make and repair shoes and rope is made by males and females of all families of Adivasis. These industries yield very little income and are carried out mainly for local use. These cottage industries are all indigenous and have not been introduced by the Block. There has been no improved technique shown.

Education.—Of the villages visited one lower primary school was found in each of the villages Dahar, Lohra and Sarodag. In village Sarki there is one residential basic school maintained by the Welfare Department which provides free board, lodging and tuition to the students reading in it. There is no educational institution of any type at village Sorha, but 5 students of this village read in Sarki basic school. The Welfare Department granted a total of Rs. 120 in 1962-63 to five *Harijan* students of village Dahar. No other villages visited got any help of this kind. The incidence of literacy in the villages is as follows:—9 persons in Sorha, 16 in Sarki, 36 in Lohra, 28 in Sarodag and 65 in Dahar are literate. None of the villages visited had a middle or high school in them. There is a small library containing 65 books at village Dahar.

Each of these villages except Sorha has a Community Centre and has been provided with instruments for music and *kintan*. They are little used.

Health and Sanitation.—The Adivasis in the villages visited were found to be physically fit and quite healthy. They are not so neat and clean as their counterpart in the Chotanagpur or the Santal Parganas areas. Still they cannot be called dirty in their habits. The houses of the Adivasis were of the old type with little ventilation and light, but the Community Development Block has begun constructing some houses for them with better ventilation.

At village Dahar two such houses are under construction. At village Sarodag four such houses have already been completed and three are under construction. At village Lohra 11 such houses are under construction and one has been completed. At village Sorha two such houses are under construction and two have been completed. These houses are well-ventilated. But they have not been provided with sanitary conveniences. The people are, however, not taking kindly to these houses.

The most difficult problem is the supply of good drinking water in these villages. Attempts have been made to dig wells in the area but they were unsuccessful due to the rocky nature of the soil. Drinking water is generally taken from hollows called *chuans*. These are natural or artificial hollows dug in the ground to collect water from streams and rain. The only step that the Community Development Block could take was to surround these *chuans* with masonry walls to save them from contamination. During the dry season when the *chuans* get nearly dry, people have to take muddy water from them for even drinking purposes. The problem of supply of drinking water remains still unsolved.

Dispensaries are becoming popular. People now go to the Allopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries for treatment. But these visits are made when indigenous medicines and treatment by witchcraft have failed. The tribals have taken kindly to vaccination and inoculation. The only Allopathic dispensary is at Adhaura and one Ayurvedic dispensary is at village Sarodag where people from villages visited go for treatment. Besides these the block had opened health sub-centres staffed by persons who go to the villages to advise people regarding health matters and also to treat the patients. But as mentioned the State dispensary at Adhaura had not been provided with a doctor for months together and the block doctor at Bhabua who had been placed in charge of Adhaura dispensary in addition to his own duties had not visited Adhaura for the last three months. The villagers who went there had to be treated by the compounder who combined in himself the functions of both the doctor and the compounder. On enquiry from the people of the villages visited, it appeared that they have no idea of family planning and that no party has visited them on that subject. When this subject was broached upon by the Research Assistant, the people laughed at it as something unnatural and reprehensible.

Gram Panchayat.—Each of the villages visited except Sorha, has a *gram panchayat*. The main functions of these *gram panchayats* are to collect Government revenue, to levy taxes for village uplift, to look after the sanitation and public health in the area in its charge, to do economic development work, to carry on mass literacy and start libraries, to make improvements in communications, to organise and maintain village volunteer force and to administer justice. The *gram panchayats* are practically useless for judicial matters, for the people settle their disputes in their tribal and caste *panchayats*. The *gram panchayats* perform only non-judicial duty entrusted to them.

The *gram panchayats* have not encouraged litigation as has been seen in many other areas. At village Dahar the *gram panchayats* have been successful with the help of the people and the block authorities to construct a road two miles long connecting the village Dahar with the Bhabua-Adhaura road. The *Mukhiyas* and the *Sarpanches* of the villages are non-tribals and this shows that the non-tribals have a greater hold on the community.

The impact on Adhaura village itself where the Community Development Block has its headquarters was studied. The village has got a series of constructions, houses, water tanks, etc., because of the block headquarters. A high school has recently been started at Adhaura village although there is only one basic middle school throughout Adhaura block which is located at Adhaura village itself. The starting of the high school at this stage appears premature. Among the other institutions at Adhaura itself, mention may be made of the children's park, a State veterinary dispensary, a State dispensary (which has not been visited by a doctor for more than three months), one grain-gola, one Co-operative Society, a nursery and a *gram panchayat*. The block has repaired three wells in the village for drinking purposes and storage tanks have been constructed on the bank of the river Karamnasa at a distance of seven miles from the village. Water is brought in the tankers propelled by tractors and supplied to the villagers and the block staff during the hot weather. Besides this two storage tanks one near the block office and the other in the village, have been constructed, for storage of water for drinking purposes. A big storage tank is being constructed on the bank of the river Karamnasa for storing water and supplying it to village Adhaura through pipes, which are in the process of being laid.

Conclusion.—Out of the 102 populated villages under the Adhaura block a sample survey of the activities and effects of the block on four essentially tribal villages and one village having a mixed population of tribals and non-tribals was made to study the impact of the blocks on the tribals. The impact has been partially successful. The main impediments are the conservatism and lethargy of the tribals which prevent them from easily taking

to new ideas. The other impediments are the difficult terrain and lack of good communication which serve to keep the tribals within the shell of their old traditional hereditary ideas. To improve the lot of the tribals it is essentially necessary that the block authorities should strive at developing the area through a phased programme drawn up in consultation with the people concerned and entrusting them in the programme, so that the tribals might take the initiative wherever possible and see that the programme is successfully completed. This programming should be done to remove the factors that stand in the way of their development. The major factors are—

- (i) lack of communication between the villages and with the outside world,
- (ii) lack of facilities for irrigation and supply of good drinking water,
- (iii) lack of educational facilities, and
- (iv) lack of facilities for the development of cottage industries and training in them.

The block has tried to take steps to remove these impediments but in this it has been only partially successful. To improve communication the only work that it has managed to be carried out is the construction of a two-mile long road connecting village Dahar with Bhabua-Adhaura Road. The only means of carriage of goods are by head loads or on horses or on bullocks. This stands in the way of the economic development of the tribals.

The block has not been able to do anything regarding irrigation except that it has got a bundh constructed in village Sorha and is getting one constructed in village Sarodag for irrigation, but their effect has still to be seen. It has till now been able to do very little regarding the supply of drinking water except that it has repaired old wells and *chuans*.

As for agricultural produce there has been no improvement worth the name except that Japanese system of paddy cultivation has been introduced. But to be successful, the system requires good and regular supply of water which is sadly lacking in this area. The only places where this system can and has been adopted are where rain water collects in hollows, and even there, there has not been much improvement in production. The Adivasis have been able to extend the area of cultivable land by cultivating waste lands to some extent, but they could not succeed in improving production thereby to any appreciable extent due to lack of irrigational facilities.

Facilities in loan of improved seed have been of some help to the Adivasis but a part of the grain is utilised by indigent tribals towards food. The more well-to-do tribals have been able to improve their crop by sowing the seeds.

The block has tried to improve livestock by supplying bulls of good breed to selected areas for improving the breed. But as there is much difference in the heights of the imported bulls and those of the indigenous female-cattle, and also due to the method of sending cattle to forests for grazing purpose where indigenous bulls abound, negligible improvement could be attained in this direction. Absence of artificial insemination centre is another handicap against improvement in breed. Artificial Insemination Centres may with profit be started in the area. No steps appear to have been taken towards the improvement of poultry. The veterinary services run under the block are being utilised by the Adivasis to a great extent and are being benefited by these services.

Very little has been done towards the industrial development of the villages visited and the people have to engage themselves in agricultural pursuits for only a few months of the year. In the remaining part of the year they have either to work as labourers or to run about seeking loans for their subsistence. Thus there has been no improvement in the chances of employment of Adivasis. These factors contribute to the continuance of the economic backwardness of the villagers.

The co-operative societies started on the persuasion of the block authorities have done some good work in freeing the tribals to some extent from the clutches of the *mahajans* who fleece them and charge an exorbitant rate of compound interest of 25 per cent while the Co-operative Societies charge simple interest at the rate of $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent only.

The diet of the Adivasis still consist mainly of rice, pulses and other produce of the fields so long as they last. During the off-season when these articles grow scarce they take to *mahua*, *piar* and other edible fruit produce in the forest. The Kharwar and the Cheros claim that they do not drink wine or toddy but the other Adivasis drink wine prepared from *mahua*. They do not drink *handia* (wine brewed from rice). There has been no appreciable change in the dietary habits of the tribals.

The block has done very little towards providing educational facilities for the Adivasis. It is attempting to construct buildings for lower primary schools already in existence. No steps have so far been taken by the block to upgrade the lower primary schools already existing or to start new ones. The block had started adult literacy centres with some success but the Research Assistant learnt that they are now non-existent. The block has started community centres which have been provided with musical instruments for holding *kirtans* and small dramas. Such centres have become quite popular.

The opening of the dispensaries and health sub-centres have been much appreciated but the villagers complained about the

scarcity of the doctor's visit. Medicine and education had started liquidating the deep belief in witchcraft. There is no opposition now to vaccination and inoculation.

The *gram panchayats* are not very popular and most of the villagers take them to be imposition from above and resent the clash between indigenous caste and tribal *panchayats*.

On an enquiry it was found that the block personnel do not have any tribals. None of the block personnel know any of the tribal languages and the language barrier must be an alien element. In course of investigation when some Oraons were spoken to in Oraon language*, the Oraons were at once at home and burst out with their one hundred and one grievances and ideas. On an analysis of their grievances it was clear that they want to be eternally spoon-fed and they would not do anything on their own. This attitude is all the more clear in the case of the Kharwars and the Cheros who resent being described as tribals, claim themselves as good Rajputs and yet want all the advantages and privileges exclusive to the tribals.

It is also unfortunate that practically no one of the block personnel even if he belongs to Shahabad district likes the area and at the slightest cause rather go away on leave. The beat of the village level workers consisting of 9 villages on the average is rather wide because the villages are few and far between. None of the village level workers knows the tribal languages. The terrain and the jungles do not allow cycling as a normal mode of conveyance and it is not known if the village level workers are regular in visits to the villages.

Briefly the impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals has been appreciable but with limitations. The total expenditure of Adhaura Block since its inception in 1957 to 31st October, 1963 is Rs. 20,97,170.56. The details will be found elsewhere in the coverage on Adhaura Block. Out of this amount the establishment expenditure is Rs. 7,52,283.78. The housing for the staff has cost Rs. 1,34,673.84. Coming to some more details the expenditure on rural arts and crafts—industries is Rs. 2,21,615.15. A sum of Rs. 1,36,442.11 was spent on health and rural sanitation. Rural housing had cost Rs. 98,967.00. From the investigation it was not possible to say that these large sums were well spent and have yielded results. At Adhaura village itself the rural housing of a few Oraons was bitterly criticised by the Oraons as being incomplete. The Training-cum-Production Centres have not yielded proper results and have not improved employment facilities. Most of the centres run because the trainees were given stipends. It was probably not

* The Editor of the Shahabad District Gazetteer did so (P. C. R. C.).

very well advised to start the centres as a matter of routine as blacksmithy, carpentry, etc., as indigenous crafts are already there and the market for the finished goods or the demand for such technical work is extremely limited. The chief markets as mentioned elsewhere are in the plains. It is clear that excepting the *Tasar* seed supply centre at Sarodag, no other centre has done much good to the villagers.

LEVEL OF PRICES.

Price level, wage structure and the scope for employment are the main factors to indicate the economic trends of any place. The level of prices has a bearing both on the real income and the standard of living of the people. Rise in the prices with the income being constant lowers the purchasing power of money and affects the consumers directly. A review of the price level from the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the present time will be important to understand the material condition of the people.

W. W. Hunter in the *Statistical Account of Bengal* had given information regarding the prices of the district. He mentions as follows:—

“The variation in prices for the ten years from 1863 to 1872, in the Sasseram subdivision, may be taken to fairly represent the rates for the whole district. In 1863, common husked rice was selling at 15 seers for the rupee, or 7s. 6d. a hundred weight; wheat at $16\frac{1}{2}$ seers for the rupee, or 6s. 9d. a hundred weight; *marua*, at $17\frac{1}{2}$ seers for the rupee, or 6s. 5d. a hundred weight; barley, at $17\frac{1}{4}$ seers for the rupee, or 6s. 6d. a hundred weight; and *khesari*, at $24\frac{1}{4}$ seers for the rupee, or 4s. $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. a hundred weight. During the next three years prices were high, owing to a succession of bad harvests. Rice and wheat sold at $11\frac{1}{2}$ seers for the rupee, or 9s. 9d. a hundred weight; *marua*, at 13 seers for the rupee, or 8s. 7d. a hundred weight; barley, at 20 seers the rupee, or 5s. 7d. a hundred weight; and *khesari* at 17 seers the rupee, or 6s. 7d. a hundred weight. By 1868 prices had returned to the normal rates. Rice sold at 16 seers the rupee, or 7s. a hundred weight; wheat, at 12 seers the rupee, or 9s. 4d. a hundred weight; *marua* at $20\frac{1}{2}$ seers the rupee, or 5s. 4d. a hundred weight; barley, at 15 seers the rupee, or 7s. 6d. a hundred weight; and *khesari*, at 24 seers the rupee, or 4s. 9d. a hundred weight. Early in 1872 common rice was selling at $17\frac{1}{2}$ seers the rupee, or 6s. 5d. a hundred weight; wheat at 20 seers the rupee, or 5s. 5d. a hundred weight; *marua* at 24 seers

the rupee, or 4s. 9d. a hundred weight; barley, at 23 seers the rupee, or 4s. 11d. a hundred weight; and *khesari*, at $26\frac{1}{4}$ seers the rupee, or 4s. 3d. a hundred weight. During the scarcity of 1874-75, rice sold in June 1874 at $10\frac{3}{4}$ seers the rupee, or 10s. 5d. a hundred weight and wheat at $14\frac{1}{2}$ seers the rupee, or 7s. $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. a hundred weight. These were the highest prices during the year. After this the price fell, till in December 1874 rice was selling at 20 seers, and wheat at 19 seers, for the rupee, or at 5s. 5d. and 5s. 8 d. a hundred weight respectively.”*

From the following account given in the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) it appears that the prices of the agricultural produce showed upward tendency:—

“The following table gives the average price of staple food crops in Shahabad published by authority of the Local Government under section 39 of the Bengal Tenancy Act from 1888 to 1922:—

Year.	Arrah.		Buxar.		Sasaram.		Bhabhua.	
	Wheat.	Rice.	Wheat.	Rice.	Wheat.	Rice.	Wheat.	Rice.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S.	ch.	S.	ch.	S.	ch.	S.	ch.
1888	15	4	16	3	15	8	16	12
1889	14	13	14	7	14	12	15	14
1890	15	12	15	9	15	1	16	8
1891	14	3	15	0	13	15	14	7
1892	13	2	11	14	14	4	12	1
1893	13	2	13	2	13	13	13	10
1894	13	14	13	3	14	10	14	4
1895	13	4	14	10	13	13	14	13
1896	11	4	13	9	11	11	22	13
1897	9	3	9	0	9	10	9	6
1898	13	13	13	10	14	7	15	0
1899	15	14	15	2	15	6	15	7

* *Statistical Account of Bengal, District Shahabad, W. W. Hunter, 1877* (pages 244-245)

Year.	Arrah.	Buxar.	Sasaram.	Bhabhua.
Wheat.	Rice.	Wheat.	Rice.	Wheat.
1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	
1900	11 12	11 9	11 15	12 11
1901	11	11 6	11 14	12 3
1902	12 11	11 4	13 3	11 14
1903	14 5	14 1	14 15	14 13
1904	17 2	14 0	16 13	15 5
1905	13 15	13 4	13 10	14 0
1906	10 15	10 7	11 3	10 14
1907	10 7	9 1	10 7	9 2
1908	7 14	7 15	7 13	7 12
1909	9 9	9 11	9 6	9 11
1910	10 11	12 2	10 10	12 10
1911	12 5	12 12	13 6	12 15
1912	12 4	11 13	12 6	12 1
1913	10 12	9 1	11 0	9 13
1914	10 1	8 5	9 9	8 11
1915	7 9	8 8	7 12	8 4
1916	8 11	8 12	9 9	9 4
1917	9 9	10 12	9 8	11 11
1918	7 4	10 2	7 4	10 3
1919	5 13	5 6	5 13	5 8
1920	6 3	5 12	6 9	6 7
1921	6 5	6 12	6 3	7 3
1922	6 0	6 10	6 5	7 2

"The most striking feature in these lists is the very great rise in prices in the last eight years, during which the normal prices of wheat and rice have been equivalent to what would a few years ago have been regarded as famine prices. It is interesting to compare these

prices with those obtaining 140 years ago;* when the finest kind of rice sold at between 31 and 44 seers and paddy at 95 to 129 seers per rupee, while the price of wheat ranged from 55 to 64 seers and of gram from 72 to 104 seers per rupee. The prices of grain have risen enormously during the last hundred years; but on the other hand there has been a relative growth in the income of all classes, and during the last generation the development of communications has had the effect of levelling prices over larger and larger areas. The loss of one or even two crops of the year has therefore a tendency to become less and less felt, as well as the effect of failures in isolated tracts. Up to the end of last century there was only one line of railway running through the two subdivisions of Arrah and Buxar; but since that time communications have been greatly improved by the construction of the Grand Chord Line in the south of the district, the light railway from Arrah to Sasaram which connects these two lines of the East Indian Railway, and the smaller light railway from Dehri to Rohtas. The variation in prices between different parts of the district is accordingly less marked than formerly, when the railway only tapped the north of the district. High prices of foodgrains should be beneficial to the bulk of the people, who live by cultivation but the middlemen derive the benefit most. The rise in prices has had this effect in the north of the district, where the *guzashtadars* have larger surplus stocks of grain than the cultivators elsewhere; but speaking generally, so large a proportion of the crop which is left, after provision has been made for rent and seed, is required to feed the cultivator's family, that he benefits from the great rise in prices less than would be expected. At the same time, the occupancy raiyat does have a larger surplus from the fact that his rent represents a smaller proportion of his crop because enhancement of rent on the ground of rise in prices does not keep pace with the actual rise. Agricultural labour is ordinarily paid in kind, and so is little affected; but the classes which are unfavourably affected by the rise are the smaller landlords, and all whose incomes are fixed in cash."†

* For a list of the prices current in 1781 and 1782, two average years, see *Early English Administration of Bihar*, by J. R. Hand, pages 61-62 or the *Revenue Chief of Bihar*, pages 168-171.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 101-102.

It may be noted that the price level of most of the essential commodities in common with the other districts of the province had shot up with the declaration of the First World War in 1914 and had a steady rise till the close of the war in 1918. At the beginning of the war the effect was not very perceptible but from 1917 onwards, the prices of imported articles like cloth, salt and kerosene oil began to increase and the position became acute. It is reported that the price of the foodgrains remained at high level till 1929. Generally speaking the observation in the revised Purnea District Gazetteer* may be taken into account which hold good for this area also. Both these districts are rice producing areas. Rice was being sold on the average of 5 to 6 seers per rupee, wheat 6 to 6½ seers and gram and maize 7 to 8 seers per rupee. The agriculturists and the middlemen made good profit. It further mentions that the world-wide slump which ensued from the closing months of 1929 brought in a sharp fall in price of foodgrains. The agriculturists were hard hit though it was a boon for the service holders or people with more or less fixed income. The downward trend of the prices continued more or less till 1938.

The result of this fall in the prices of foodgrains was rather disastrous for cultivators. The district being primarily agricultural suffered as a result of the agricultural depression. Some of the recurring expenditure, namely, land revenue and interest in face of the low prices of foodgrains caused great hardship to the agricultural population. *Zamindars* defaulted in paying up their land revenue as the tenants defaulted in paying up their rentals. Arrears of rent began to accumulate and the landlords filed rent-suits in thousands in order to escape from the laws of limitation. An important effect of this depression was that the agricultural holdings began to pass into the possession of the landlords and the money-lenders in execution of decrees obtained for arrear of rent and default in payment of loans taken by the mortgage of holdings. There was a slump in engagements for casual labourers.

The low economic incidence of the cultivators because of the rapid fall of the agricultural produce had its outburst in a widespread *kisan* agitation. The *kisan* agitation was almost a peasant's revolution and a few leaders like Swami Shahajananda Saraswati, Yadunandan Sharma, Swami Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi toured throughout the district and spearheaded the agitation. There were two prongs of this agitation—one was against the *zamindars* and the middlemen and the other was against the British Government. For sometime the *kisan* agitation ran almost parallel to the Congress movement but ultimately the thunder of the *kisan sabha* movement was stolen by the Congress leaders. Bhawani Dayal, a man of Shahabad district and a long resident of South Africa ultimately became the President of the Shahabad District Congress Committee.

* District Gazetteer of Purnea (1963), page 396.

Most of the *kisan sabha* leaders used to attend the Congress meetings and a Congress leader also participated in the meetings of the *kisan sabha*. In Shahabad district the *kisan sabha* movement had a separate pattern as the cultivators had to pay a lot of bribe to get the canal water. The canal rates were, by themselves not very high although they were one of the targets of agitation but the corruption that was prevalent in the canal office was extremely galling. It may also be recalled that the agitation was particularly canalised against some of the big *zamindars* of the district. It is not that some of the big *zamindars* of the district had not been discharging their social obligations by sponsoring charitable institutions or by helping the tenants in the distress, but it was proclaimed that they should do much more and that their very role as middlemen was bitter and outmoded. The large number of rent suits, mortgage suits, loan suits, evictions from patrimony that the low prices brought in were yoked to the general agitation against the constitutional Government and the yearning for throwing away the British Raj. As a matter of fact, the *kisan* agitation was a very big factor for the ultimate abolition of *zamindari*.

The price level started again spiralling with the declaration of the Second World War in September, 1939. The years immediately followed in were chaotic so far as the prices were concerned and there were hardly any relationship with the produce and the prices. There was no slump in production but both the cultivators and the tradesmen started taking their pound of share. Any big cultivators who could possibly hold back the stock did so with a relish and the common talk with the big agriculturists was "Ek botal galla ek rupaiya," i.e., they wanted the price artificially to shoot up so that one bottle of rice would cost one rupee.* The middlemen, stockists, the tradesmen conspired to hold back the grains after making a purchase from the cultivators. The fair price shops opened in the urban areas did give some relief but various factors stood on the way of bringing in food supply of grains in the open market. The speculators stuck to their hoards in the expectations that the war would be prolonged. It was a job for the Price Control Officers, Subdivisional Magistrates and the District Magistrate to effectively execute the price control measures. The price of cloth also went up and owing to war demands cloth was also controlled. The standard cloth made at the instance of the Government used to sell cheap but was not popular. An ordinary *sari* would be sold in the open market for Rs. 8 or more while the price of a superfine *dhoti* or *sari* in the open market was about Rs. 15.

Various Government measures were adopted to keep down the level of prices. The Paddy Procurement Order was promulgated and paddy used to be seized at the *Khalihan* (threshing floor) if the

* This was an experience gathered by the Editor when he was the Subdivisional Magistrate in Arrah in 1948.

produce was large. The Government stockists were appointed and a buffer bank of grains was sought to be created. The fair price shops sold grains, cloths, kerosene oil, etc., at controlled prices but the supply was practically always intermittent and short. Free movement of the commodities was severely restricted and hoarding out the consumers' house was prohibited. It is, however, a fact that in spite of all these measures prices were not brought down to any appreciable extent.

The *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1951), mentions the ruling wholesale prices of a decade, i.e., from 1941 to 1950. The perusal of the statistics will show that after the close of the Second World War the prices of the foodgrains had increased considerably. The statistics below from the same source will show the prices of the foodgrains in the years 1941 to 1950:—

Ruling wholesale prices during the decade.

Price (per maund).

Year.	Month.	Rice (medium).			Wheat (red).			Gram.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1941	January	..	..	4 13 0	Not available			3 4 0		
	February	..	..	4 10 0	Ditto			3 0 0		
	March	..	..	4 10 0	Ditto			2 8 0		
	April	..	..	5 0 0	Ditto			2 11 0		
	May	..	..	5 10 0	Ditto			2 11 0		
	June	..	..	5 5 0	Ditto			3 4 0		
	July	..	..	6 4 0	Ditto			3 4 0		
	August	..	..	5 3 0	Ditto			3 6 0		
	September	..	..	5 3 0	Ditto			3 6 0		
	October	..	..	5 6 0	Ditto			3 6 0		
	November	..	..	5 6 0	Ditto			3 6 0		
	December	..	..	5 2 0	Ditto			3 11 0		
1942	January	..	..	5 2 0	Not available			3 11 0		
	February	..	..	5 3 0	Ditto			3 9 0		
	March	..	..	5 6 0	Ditto			3 9 0		
	April	..	..	5 6 0	Ditto			3 0 0		
	May	..	..	7 0 0	Ditto			3 2 0		
	June	..	..	7 0 0	Ditto			3 6 0		
	July	..	..	7 4 0	Ditto			4 2 0		
	August	..	..	7 0 0	Ditto			5 0 0		
	September	..	..	7 0 0	Ditto			5 8 0		
	October	..	..	7 0 0	Ditto			5 8 0		
	November	..	..	7 4 0	Ditto			5 8 0		
	December	..	..	7 4 0	Ditto			7 0 0		
1943	January	..	..	7 12 0	Not available			7 0 0		
	February	..	..	9 10 0	Ditto			7 0 0		
	March	..	..	9 10 0	Ditto			6 0 0		
	April	..	..	9 10 0	9	8	0	6 0 0		
	May	..	..	9 10 0	11	8	0	8 8 0		
	June	..	..	25 8 0	18	0	0	15 12 0		
	July	..	..	22 8 0	18	0	0	15 8 0		
	August	..	..	22 12 0	18	0	0	14 8 0		
	September	..	..	18 0 0	18	0	0	12 8 0		
	October	..	..	15 4 0	17	0	0	12 8 0		
	November	..	..	15 8 0	16	0	0	12 0 0		
	December	..	..	11 8 0	15	0	0	10 12 0		

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Price (per maund).

Year.	Month.		Rice (medium).	Wheat (red).	Gram.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1944	January	..	12 0 0	15 0 0	10 0 0
	February	..	12 10 0	15 0 0	10 0 0
	March	..	12 10 0	15 0 0	10 0 0
	April	..	13 0 0	15 0 0	9 0 0
	May	..	11 8 0	10 8 0	7 8 0
	June	..	12 10 0	12 4 0	8 0 0
	July	..	12 10 0	12 8 0	8 8 0
	August	..	12 10 0	12 8 0	9 0 0
	September	..	11 8 0	12 8 0	9 0 0
	October	..	11 0 0	11 0 0	8 0 0
	November	..	10 0 0	11 0 0	8 0 0
	December	..	10 0 0	11 0 0	8 0 0
1945	January	..	10 6 0	11 0 0	8 0 0
	February	..	10 6 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	March	..	10 8 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	April	..	10 14 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	May	..	11 0 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	June	..	11 0 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	July	..	11 0 0	11 8 0	8 0 0
	August	..	13 0 0	11 12 0	9 12 0
	September	..	10 6 0	11 12 0	9 8 0
	October	..	10 6 0	11 12 0	9 8 0
	November	..	10 6 0	11 12 0	9 8 0
	December	..	10 6 0	11 12 0	9 8 0
1946	January	..	10 14 0	12 0 0	9 12 0
	February	..	17 0 0	12 0 0	9 12 0
	March	..	17 0 0	12 0 0	9 12 0
	April	..	10 14 0	12 0 0	9 12 0
	May	..	10 6 0	11 8 0	9 12 0
	June	..	10 6 0	11 8 0	9 12 0
	July	..	10 6 0	11 8 0	9 8 0
	August	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	September	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	October	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	November	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	December	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
1947	January	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	February	..	13 12 0	14 8 0	16 0 0
	March	..	13 12 0	13 8 0	16 0 0
	April	..	13 12 0	12 12 0	14 0 0
	May	..	18 1 0	12 0 0	14 0 0
	June	..	18 1 0	12 0 0	18 1 0
	July	..	25 12 0	14 0 0	19 2 0
	August	..	25 12 0	14 8 0	20 0 0
	September	..	25 0 0	26 0 0	20 0 0
	October	..	24 0 0	27 0 0	18 0 0
	November	..	23 0 0	27 0 0	18 0 0
	December	..	18 0 0	26 0 0	17 0 0

Price (per maund).

Year.	Month.		Rice (medium).			Wheat (red).			Gram.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1948	..	January	..	..	22 0 0	26 10 0	18 13 0	0			
		February	..	..	14 8 0	26 10 0	12 0 0	0			
		March	..	..	17 12 0	20 0 0	11 7 0	0			
		April	..	..	17 12 0	21 5 0	13 5 0	0			
		May	..	..	17 12 0	21 0 0	14 14 0	0			
		June	..	..	23 0 0	23 0 0	15 0 0	0			
		July	..	..	24 10 0	26 0 0	14 0 0	0			
		August	..	..	24 10 0	26 11 0	15 4 0	0			
		September	..	..	23 12 0	27 10 0	15 8 0	0			
		October	..	..	20 0 0	26 10 0	15 8 0	0			
		November	..	..	18 12 0	24 8 0	13 5 0	0			
		December	..	..	17 12 0	22 13 0	14 8 0	0			
1949	..	January	..	..	20 0 0	22 14 0	13 14 0	0			
		February	..	..	20 0 0	26 0 0	16 0 0	0			
		March	..	..	21 0 0	25 0 0	14 9 0	0			
		April	..	..	21 10 0	22 14 0	13 5 0	0			
		May	..	..	21 5 0	25 5 0	13 5 0	0			
		June	..	..	19 0 0	22 14 0	12 13 0	0			
		July	..	..	21 0 0	22 8 0	13 0 0	0			
		August	..	..	19 0 0	22 14 0	14 8 0	0			
		September	..	..	21 5 0	20 8 0	13 5 0	0			
		October	..	..	21 5 0	20 8 0	13 5 0	0			
		November	..	..	20 10 0	21 5 0	13 5 0	0			
		December	..	..	19 6 0	21 4 0	13 8 0	0			
1950		January	..	..	20 0 0	21 0 0	13 0 0	0			
		February	..	..	21 0 0	22 14 0	17 12 0	0			
		March	..	..	22 14 0	24 10 0	16 13 0	0			
		April	..	..	24 8 0	22 8 0	15 0 0	0			
		May	..	..	24 0 0	22 0 0	14 0 0	0			
		June	..	..	24 8 0	23 0 0	15 0 0	0			
		July	..	..	26 0 0	22 0 0	18 0 0	0			
		August	..	..	26 0 0	25 0 0	20 0 0	0			
		September	..	..	26 0 0	25 0 0	20 0 0	0			
		October	..	..	26 11 0	25 0 0	22 0 0	0			
		November	..	..	27 0 0	25 0 0	21 0 0	0			
		December	..	..	27 0 0	25 0 0	20 0 0*	0			

The perusal of the statistics will show that the prices of the foodgrains from January, 1941 to May, 1943 were somewhat stabilised due to stringent measures taken by the Government. From June, 1943 the price of rice and the other commodities showed an abrupt rise. In June, 1943 the price of rice was Rs. 25-8-0 per maund. In December, 1943, during harvest season the price of rice came down to Rs. 11-8-0 per maund. In 1944-46 the price fluctuated between Rs. 10 to Rs. 18 per maund, but from July, 1947 it again shot up to Rs. 25-12-0 per maund and showed a gradual fluctuation and even in the harvest month of December it was sold

* District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, pages 117-120.

at Rs. 18-0-0 per maund. There was a remarkable rise of price in other foodgrains also. The price level remained high throughout 1950 and particularly from July, 1950.

It may be noted that in 1951 the price level shot up all the more but after this year it began to fall. This is evident from the index number of the wholesale prices given below:—*

Base : September, 1939=100.

Year.	Rice.	Wheat.	Gram.
1950	732.0	716.8	506.9
1951	829.0	748.3	612.0
1952	745.6	672.2	584.9
1953	579.3	583.0	529.6
1954	425.9	461.5	329.5

Though the index number of the wholesale prices is for the whole Bihar, it is also applicable to this district with minor variation. From the above table it seems that 1951 was the peak year for the increase in the prices of the commodities.

The rise in the prices of the essential commodities improved the condition of the big and middle class cultivators to some extent. But the landless labourers, small cultivators and people with fixed income suffered acutely.

After 1954 the prices again began to rise. The figures of the prices of the different commodities in the district are not available. Hence the prices per maund prevailing at Patna in September, 1954 and in Bihar in September, 1957 were taken. This holds good for this district also which are shown here:—

Year.	Rice (medium).	Wheat (red).	Gram.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
September, 1954†	16.00	14.00	10.50
September, 1957‡	24.72	17.86	14.15

The prices in 1957 were fairly high in comparison with the prices in 1954 but they are, however, less when compared with the prices prevailing in 1949-50 and 1951.

The District Supply Office at Shahabad had supplied the figures showing the wholesale prices of the foodgrains from 1958 to 1961. The table shows fluctuation of the price level for these years.

* *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book, 1955, published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Bihar, page 264.*

† *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar, October, 1954, published by the Director of Economics and Statistics, Bihar, page 101.*

‡ *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar, October, 1957, page 86.*

The table obtained is as follows*:-

(Price per maund.)

Year.	Paddy (coarse).		Rice (coarse).		Wheat (white).		Wheat (red).	
	Mini-mum.	Maxi-mum.	Mini-mum.	Maxi-mum.	Mini-mum.	Maxi-mum.	Mini-mum.	Maxi-mum.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1958 ..	9 0 0	21 0 0	18 0 0	33 0 0	15 8 0	26 0 0	10 8 0	15 0 0
1959 ..	8 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	28 0 0	17 0 0	26 0 0	11 0 0	18 0 0
1960 ..	10 0 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	26 0 0	19 0 0	28 0 0	13 0 0	20 0 0
1961 ..	12 0 0	26 0 0	24 0 0	30 0 0	21 0 0	28 0 0	16 0 0	22 0 0

The upward movement in the prices since 1958 still continues in the district. After October, 1962 the big merchants and the wholesale and the retail dealers tried to hoard the essential commodities just after the Chinese aggression to make higher profit and as such the price level went up. But efforts were made to stabilise the price level. The working of the fair price shops has been tightened up and control has been imposed upon sugar.

LEVEL OF WAGES.

The study of the wage-level is essential for a proper understanding of the standard of living of the people. Trends in the wages can be studied under two heads—agricultural wages and non-agricultural wages. Wage-level is, of course, intimately associated with the prices of the essential commodities. If the prices rise and there is a proportionate rise in the wage-level, a higher standard of life may be possible but at the cost of more expenditure. If the prices rise very much higher than the proportionate rise in the wages, very little relief will be felt although the cash a man earns may be much more. Let us first discuss the level of wages, agricultural and non-agricultural.

So far as reliable statistics of agricultural wages are concerned, they are not very satisfactory as till recently no such data were collected on any uniform basis. Generally landless people who reside in the rural areas offer themselves for agricultural labour. The cultivators who possess a large area of land require to engage labour and the small cultivators themselves do the agricultural work with

* SOURCE.—District Supply Office, Shahabad.

the help of the members of their families. The agricultural labourers are of two types—one of permanent nature and the other of casual nature. Further, heavy agricultural operations like ploughing, irrigation and threshing, etc., are done by the male labourers, while lighter work such as transplantation and reaping is shared by the women. The variations in the prices of food-crops did not affect them much as long as there were any agricultural operations in progress yielding a crop worth harvesting.

Regarding wages W. W. Hunter in the *Statistical Account of Bengal, district Shahabad*, mentions* :—

“Wages and prices are reported to have risen in Shahabad District but the Collector does not give the details for early years. According to Dr. Buchanan-Hamilton, day labourers were in 1812 allowed from one bundle in twenty to one bundle in thirty-two of what they reaped; but as their bundles were always considerably larger than those which the owner received, the rate of their wages could not be correctly ascertained. By calculating the most usual allowances given today labourers in each division, Dr. Buchanan-Hamilton found that the rate varied from $3\frac{3}{4}$ to $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the gross produce. The quantity of grain reaped daily by one man varied in different parts from $81\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to 349 lbs.; the amount being greatest when the rate of pay was lowest, and *vice versa*. The reaper, therefore, received from $9\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. to 21 lbs. as his share. He had to carry the grain to the threshing floor; and was also required, when the rate of wage for reaping was high, to thresh for nothing what he had reaped. The whole expense of harvesting charged to the landlord varied from 6 to 11 per cent of the gross produce.

“There is now no regular rate of wages common to the whole district. Wherever the Government irrigation scheme has created a demand for labour, the rate has risen to 2 annas or 3d. a day for unskilled labour; but in the more remote parts of the district, the old rates still prevail. The cost of skilled labour has also risen considerably of late years. Before the opening of the canal works, masons, carpenters and blacksmiths received from 3 to 4 annas or from $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6d. for a day's work. Now, masons received from 4 to $4\frac{3}{4}$ annas, or from 6d. to 7d.; carpenters from 4 to 6 annas, or from 6d. to 9d. and blacksmiths from 4 annas 8 pies to 6 annas, or from 7d. to 9d. for the

* *Statistical Account of Bengal, district Shahabad*, 1877, pages 243-244.

same work. Unskilled labourers usually get from 1 anna 6 pies to 2 annas, or from $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 3d. per diem, but those employed on the canal works often receive 2 annas 6 pies or $3\frac{3}{4}$ d. Agricultural labourers are generally paid in grain, at the rate of 5 lbs. per diem. Women and children receive half wages, 1 anna or $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for a day's work—a very low rate, considering the amount of labour that a woman can perform in these districts."

The later picture of the conditions in 1906 will be appreciated from the following observations of O'Malley*:

"There has been a rise in the prices of labour during the last 30 years, which is probably due to a great extent to such special causes as the construction of the Sone Canals and, more recently, of the Mughalsarai-Gaya line of railway. Before the opening of the canal works, mason, carpenters and blacksmiths received from 3 to 4 annas a day; but the demand for labour created by this scheme resulted in a considerable rise of wages. Masons began to earn 4 to $4\frac{3}{4}$ annas, carpenters 4 to 6 annas and blacksmiths from $4\frac{3}{4}$ to 6 annas daily; and similarly, unskilled labourers, who usually got from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas, found that they could command 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas as their daily wage†. The construction of the Mughalsarai-Gaya line created a special temporary demand for labour as a large scale.

"Generally speaking, however, skilled labour commands a somewhat higher value in towns than it did formerly. Among masons, carpenters and blacksmiths the wage shows an upward tendency; the silver-smith charges a higher rate for his workmanship, the shoemaker and the tailor have raised their tariff; and there is a similar tendency among domestic servants. The rise is small and gradual, but is observable all the same; and it appears to be due to a combination of circumstances such as the advance in the standard of comfort among natives of the better class, the increased use of machinery and the growing number of well-to-do residents occupying houses of more or less architectural pretensions along the line of railway.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), page 85.

† Masons now (April, 1964) working on the Sone Barrage construction at Indrapuri get Rs. 3-8-0 to Rs. 5 per day; unskilled labourers about Rs. 2 a day (P. C. R. C.).

"Outside urban areas the wages of labour maintain much the same level from year to year; and in the case of unskilled labour their measure is usually the minimum amount required to afford means of subsistence. Fortunately, however, wages in the villages are usually paid wholly or partially in kind; even the village artisan receives grain for the services he renders; and the field labourer generally gets the whole of his wages—usually 3 seers a day for a man, $2\frac{1}{2}$ for a woman and $1\frac{1}{2}$ for a child—in one or other of the inferior grains such as millets or coarse unhusked rice. This system is particularly suited to an agricultural country like Shahabad as it has the advantage of being unaffected by any rise in the price of foodgrains. Whatever the fluctuations in the price of these in the market, the labourers wage remains the same".

Regarding the later shifts J. P. W. James has observed*:-

• "The great rise in prices of recent years has naturally affected wages of labour in the towns. When the first edition of this Gazetteer was published, blacksmiths and carpenters earned four or five annas, and labourers about $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas daily. At the Wages Census in 1911, it was found that wages of blacksmiths and carpenters had remained stationary, while wages of unskilled labourers and ploughmen had risen to three annas. The collector reports that the wages of blacksmiths and carpenters are now from twelve annas to one rupee, while those of unskilled labourers are from eight to nine annas. Ploughmen in the neighbourhood of the towns, and wherever they are not paid in kind, earn eight annas daily; while the rate for a ploughman who supplies plough and bullocks is two rupees.

"Outside urban areas wages are usually paid wholly or partly in kind; even the village artisan receives grain for the services which he renders; and the field labourer generally gets the whole of his wage—usually three seers for a man, $2\frac{1}{2}$ for a woman and $1\frac{1}{2}$ for a child—in one or other of the inferior grains such as millets or coarse unhusked rice. This system has the advantage of being unaffected by any rise in the price of foodgrains; whatever the fluctuations of the market may be, the labourers' wage remains the same."

The tempo of rise in the wages continued in later years. During and after the Second World War, when the prices of the essential

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 100-101.

commodities had unprecedented rise, the wages were also somewhat raised. In 1951 the wage of a carpenter was Rs. 1-6-8 as against four or five annas in 1924.

The *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1955, published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics has some statistics on the average daily wages paid to the agricultural labourers of Shahabad district during 1953 to 1955. Some of them are as follows*:-

	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.†	1957.†
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Skilled labourers.</i>					
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.
1. Carpenters ..	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1.43
2. Blacksmiths ..	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1.43
3. Cobblers ..	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1.35
<i>Field labourers.</i>					
1. Men ..	1 4 8	0 14 6	0 12 8	0 12 1	1.06
2. Women ..	0 14 1	0 10 0	0 8 3	0 7 10	0.68
3. Children ..	0 11 1	0 7 8	0 7 7	0 8 10	0.68
<i>Other Agricultural labourers.</i>					
1. Men ..	1 1 2	0 12 11	0 11 8	0 12 2	1.06
2. Women ..	0 11 6	0 8 3	0 7 6	0 7 10	0.68
3. Children ..	0 10 6	0 8 3	0 7 6	1 7 10	0.68
4. (Herdsman) men ..	1 2 2	1 1 10	0 12 0	0 12 0	0.75
5. Women ..	Not available			0 12 0	0.75
6. Children ..	Not available			0 12 0	0.75

To ascertain the current rural wages sample surveys were conducted in 1959, 1960 and 1961 and the data are available in the quarterly Bulletins of the Statistical Hand-Book for October, 1959, January, 1960 and June, 1961, Government of Bihar.

* Bihar Statistical Hand-Book, 1955, Table no. 214, pages 256-259.

† Bihar Statistical Hand-Book, 1957, Table no. 280, pages 373-377.

A statement showing the average current daily rate of agricultural wages in a selected village in Shahabad district is given below*:-

Name of jobs.	Year.		
	July to December, 1959.	April to June, 1960.	April to June 1961.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SKILLED LABOURERS.			
Carpenter	1.53	1.65	1.35
2. Blacksmith	1.53	1.65	1.35
3. Cobblers	1.53	1.65	1.35
FIELD LABOURERS.			
1. Men	1.25	1.15	1.05
2. Women	1.25	1.15	1.05
3. Children	Not available	Not available	Not available.
OTHER AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.			
1. Men	1.25	1.15	1.05
2. Women	1.25	1.15	1.05
3. Children	Not available	Not available	Not available.
HERDSMEN.			
1. Men	1.17	Not available	Not available.
2. Women	1.17	Not available	Not available.
3. Children	0.75	Not available	Not available.

The above tables indicate the following conclusions:-

The daily rate of wages of a skilled labourer (carpenters, blacksmiths and cobblers), on the whole, do not show a declining trend in 1957 in comparison with 1956 and started rising from 1959 which continued till 1960 but showed a declining trend in 1961. So far field labourers are concerned, the same conclusion may be

* SOURCE: (1) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, October, 1959, pages 116-118.

(2) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, June, 1960, pages 118-120.

(3) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, June, 1961, page 94.

drawn. The wage level of other agricultural labourers and the wages paid to herdsmen show a fall in 1961. Later official figures are not available. But on investigation it appears that since 1961 the level of wages has gone up more in the urban areas and somewhat less in the villages. A carpenter in the towns will charge at least Rs. 3 per day while a labourer will charge Re. 1 and seventy-five Paise or Rs. 2 per day. The percentage of increase is more in the case of skilled or semi-skilled person. Payment of wages in kind still continues in some villages but not the whole of it. There has been proportionate rise in the quantity of the grains given in kind as wages. More discussion on this subject has been given elsewhere.

Minimum Wages.—The minimum wages for the agricultural labourers were fixed in 1954 under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Schedule II). This led to widespread complaint from the agriculturists on the ground that the wages fixed were very high. Therefore, the Government of Bihar constituted a tripartite committee of agricultural labourers, agriculturists and the Government. This committee made certain investigations, in some villages of the district regarding agricultural wages and reported in 1958. On the recommendation of this committee, the agricultural minimum wages for this district were revised in the month of October, 1958 and fixed as follows:—

Agricultural operations.	Rate of the minimum wages fixed.
1. Ploughing, embanking, harrowing, manuring, sowing, and other ancillary units of operations.	Two seers six chattaks of paddy or one seer eight chattaks of rice or their equivalents in other grains according to their relative prices in the nearest.
2. Harvesting	One bundle out of sixteen bundles of harvested crop.

This rate is for both the casual and attached labourers, but the attached labourers are entitled to get the produce of five *kathas* of paddy land and five *kathas* of *tanr* land in addition to the daily wage. The expression "attached worker" means a worker who is under a contract, written or verbal with his employer, while the expression "casual worker" means a worker other than an attached worker. Daily hours of work consist of 8 hours for the adults, and 6 hours for the adolescents and four hours for the children. These rates are fixed only for those workers who are paid in kinds only.

The Minimum Wages Act of 1948 is in force in the district, no doubt, but the wages according to the fixed rates are not always paid. Complaints have been received from the agricultural labourers and a few cases have been filed against the employers. The ignorance, simplicity, illiteracy and the poverty of the agricultural labourers do not enable them to complain against their employers lest they might not be thrown out of unemployment.

The level of rural wages discussed so far is also applicable to the urban areas to a very great extent. A separate discussion on the level of urban wages is not needed. On the average it may be said that the wage level in the urban areas is about 25 per cent higher.

However, there are some particular professions, more or less meant only for the urban areas. For example, motor transport services are mostly concentrated in the urban areas. The monthly wages of a motor driver vary from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 and above, of a mechanic, Rs. 100 to Rs. 130 and above, of a cleaner, Rs. 20 to Rs. 35 and of a conductor, Rs. 50 to Rs. 65. The men of the last two categories are also given food-charge at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per day in addition to their basic pay.

Rice, flour and oil mills are generally found in the urban areas. The employees of the mills are generally paid monthly wages. The monthly pay of a manager varies from Rs. 80 to Rs. 120, of a clerk Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 and of an engine driver, Rs. 60 to Rs. 100.

A small proportion of the urban population also consists of clerks, teachers, officers, etc., employed in the Government, semi-Government or private offices and other organisations. Though with the rise in the prices of the essential commodities their pay has also been considerably raised but not in proportion to the increase in the prices.

STANDARD OF LIVING.

Standard of living is directly concerned with the livelihood pattern, chances of employment, level of income, consumption preferences, level of prices and other socio-economic factors. In a country like ours it would be by far the best to look into the standard of living for the rural and urban areas separately.

Rural areas.—It may be repeated here that according to the 1961 Census, Shahabad district has an area of 4,392* square miles and a population of 32,18,017 of whom nearly 92.8 per cent resides in the rural areas and is mainly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood and only 7.2 per cent in the urban area. The rural population is spread over 4,757 villages, while the urban population, i.e., 2,31,701 inhabits the nine towns.

* Census of India, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 29.

The cultivators may be classified into different categories according to the size of the holdings they cultivate and the income they derive from the cultivation. All the land which they cultivate may not be owned by them. The ownership of the land is not what is important but the extent of the holding and the income thereof from the economic point of view.

A sample survey of a few families in the following villages of the district was carried out by our investigators in 1963-64 and the data available from the survey have been indicated:—*

Serial no.	Village.	Under Police-station.	Under Community Development Block.	Population according to 1951 Census.
1	Akbarpur ..	.. Rohtas ..	Rohtas ..	2,765
2	Baniari ..	.. Ditto ..	Ditto ..	851
3	Adhaura ..	.. Adhaura ..	Adhaura ..	494
4	Udwantnagar ..	.. Arrah ..	Udwantnagar	3,428
5	Ramdihra ..	.. Rohtas ..	Rohtas ..	1,420
6	Masar ..	.. Arrah ..	Arrah ..	2,782
7	Bhagwanpur ..	.. Bhabhua ..	Bhagwanpur	1,811
8	Ramgarh ..	.. Ditto ..	Ditto	1,265

Farmers.—It was found that the upper level of the village community consists of the big cultivators whose holdings are fairly large; a large number of implements and more than a pair of bullocks would be required to carry on the agricultural operations. In the fifteen samples of the big cultivators selected, the average size of the holding per family came to about 70 acres. The lands cultivated by the farmers were owned by them. The average number of bullocks per family as found by the random sample survey came to about six. In addition to the bullocks, each family had an average of five other animals—cows and buffaloes.

It was calculated that the average size of the family came to about ten in the fifteen samples selected. Usually two full-time servants, a male and a female, were almost attached or "tied" to each family. Such servants, usually the husband and wife, stayed in the huts provided by the big cultivators in their fields. Usually the

* The villages were selected on purpose; some are large villages while others are small. Some are in the plains while some are in the Kaimur Hills, (P. C. R. C.)

servants were given further emoluments and were often indebted. They were not the old "Kamias" or tied or bonded labour type but had a sort of family attachment.

The average income of a family derived from the farm land, came to about Rs. 7,900.00 per year. Out of this amount Rs. 450.00 were spent every year on clothing, about Rs. 350.00 on repairs to house and implements, about Rs. 150 on communications, about Rs. 600 on social and religious customs in connection with birth, death, marriage, sacred thread ceremony, etc., about Rs. 200 on medical treatment and about Rs. 200 on land revenue. Thus, the total annual average expenditure on these major items came to Rs. 1,900.00. The monthly expenditure on the average worked out at Rs. 300.00 on cereals, pulses, milk, *ghee*, vegetable, tea, oil, spices, betel, tobacco, etc. Rs. 35.00 on fuel and lighting, Rs. 45.00 on servants (excluding free meals and free lodge) and Rs. 70.00 on miscellaneous articles like toilet, *dhobi*, barber, education, entertainment, travelling, etc. Hence the total monthly expenditure on the average on major items worked out to Rs. 450.00. This together with the annual expenditure on major items worked out to the total expenditure of Rs. 7,600 per annum leaving a net annual saving of about Rs. 300. It has to be mentioned that this budget is strictly about the income and the expenditure from land. There may be some educated member of the family adding to the family income working elsewhere as a teacher or a clerk or a lawyer.

This type of cultivators is small in number in the villages. Their standard of life is comparatively higher and cannot be taken to be typical of the village as a whole.

Medium Cultivators.—They are the cultivators with holdings of a medium size whether owned by them entirely or partly. They may have lands between 10 to 30 acres. Out of the ten samples of medium class cultivator studied, the average size of the family holdings came to about 20 acres. Each family was found to own two or three bullocks and three other cattle.

Out of the ten random samples selected, five were in debt to the extent of an average of Rs. 500.00 each. The Co-operative Society and the money lenders were the agencies for giving credit. The *mahajan's* hold is still strong and the credit provided by them being quick and without much formality is more popular. The average income of the family derived almost entirely from the farm land, came to Rs. 3,400 per annum. The income earned by the women and children could not be ascertained but it was between Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 for a year. Out of this about Rs. 350.00 was spent on clothing, about Rs. 300.00 on repairs to the house and implements and on hay and fodder, about Rs. 100 on communications, about Rs. 200 on social and religious customs, about Rs. 100 on medical treatment and about Rs. 100 on land revenue. Thus

the total annual average expenditure on these major items came to Rs. 1,150.00. The monthly expenditure on an average worked out at Rs. 175 on cereals, pulses, milk, *ghee*, vegetables, tea, oil, spices, betel, tobacco, etc., Rs. 20 on fuel and lighting. Rs. 30 on servants (excluding free meals and free residence) and Rs. 30 on miscellaneous articles like cosmetics, *dhobi*, barber, worked out to Rs. 255. This together with the annual expenditure on the major items worked out to a total expenditure of Rs. 4,210 leaving a net annual deficit of about Rs. 810. It may be noted that the deficit is met by taking loans from the money-lenders or Co-operative Societies. On an enquiry from Ram Prasad Gupta of village Akbarpur, it was ascertained that he had taken Rs. 800 from the Co-operative Society during 1962-63.

Landless labourers.—A landless labourer has no farms, no agriculture or milch cattle and makes his living by hiring out his labour in return for wages, paid generally not in cash but in kind. It may be added that there may be some labourers, who may technically be described as land-holders because they own land, but the extent of the land they own may be so small and the income they derive from it so meagre that for all practical purposes they may be taken to be as good as landless because the main occupation which gives them a living is the hiring out of their labour for wages.

The family of such a labourer is generally small consisting of about four to five persons. He owns a very poor hutment which is usually in a dilapidated condition. It is generally constructed on the land of some big or medium cultivator under whom he works throughout the year. Such labourers as well as their womenfolk are illiterate. The latter also do hired manual work to add to the family income. The children go to the primary schools only for education.

The agricultural labourers do not possess even the basic agricultural implements required for his physical labour, e.g., a spade, an axe, a pick, or a hoe, etc. He has no means of entertainment. Beyond the bare minimum of religiously or traditionally essential ornaments of the married women made up of brass and in very rare cases of silver, the family has no valuables. Clothing is very scanty. Food for an adult male member is provided by the cultivator if he is working as a permanent labourer at the latter's place. His household equipments consist of a few pots and pans with very little money.

The average annual income from all sources hardly exceeds Rs. 500 per family. It is difficult to ascertain the regular family budget of these people. In most cases, their wage is in kind rather than in cash. They are usually in debt. They are, however, free to sell their labour to any one and they put their hands to any odd job they find. It is recently that the landless labourers are going out of their villages to seek employment in industrial zones.

Their life varies from season to season. The busy agricultural season means more or less enough food for them, as this is mostly supplied in kind by the employer. During the non-harvesting season when agricultural employment is meagre the landless labourers have to take grains and cash, on loan which he has to return to his employer during the harvesting season by giving physical labour. Their food is imbalanced and poor consisting of cheap grains and some vegetables.

Village artisans.—The village artisans used to be treated as servants of the village community. The idea is melting. They form an important element in the villages. They are mainly *Barhi* (carpenter), *lohar* (blacksmith), *mochi* (cobbler), *kumbhat* (potter), *darji* (tailor) and *hajam* (barber). The families of such class are medium sized; the average number of members of the ten families of the artisans surveyed came to seven. Some of these artisans are literate but their women are generally illiterate.

The artisans' hutments are built better and they have a little space to carry on their trade in the house. Some of them may be owning pieces of land also. Out of the ten family surveyed, four had agriculture as a part-time occupation. Some of the families have cattle or bullocks.

The annual average income of such artisan families was Rs. 1,100. Out of this, about Rs. 150 was spent on clothing about Rs. 50 on charity and travelling, about Rs. 60 on social and religious customs, about Rs. 50 on medical care and about Rs. 125 on repairs to house and instruments of respective professions, interest payments, etc. This expenditure comes to about Rs. 435. Every month the family spends on an average Rs. 655 on cereals, pulses and other food articles, Rs. 10 on fuel and lighting and Rs. 25 on miscellaneous things like education, toilet, servants and barber's charges. This monthly expenditure of Rs. 100 together with annual expenditure of Rs. 435 on rather major items works up the total of Rs. 1,635 leaving a gap of Rs. 535. It was met out of income derived from small bits of land owned by them or from pursuit of minor subsidiary occupation. Out of the ten families surveyed, five were found having an average debt of Rs. 200 per family. The village artisans, as a class, unless particularly skilled, have a bare existence and have a poor standard of life but higher than that of a landless labourer. His standard is like that of a small cultivator.

Conclusion.—It is clear that except for the small minority of the big cultivators, the majority of the population lives not much above the margin of subsistence and some below that margin. The landless labourers and the petty cultivators, who have to become a wage-earner most of the time, seem to be in a precarious condition. The medium size cultivators are in a slightly better condition. Even in their case, the line of demarcation between balancing the budget and falling into a deficit is thin. The same is true of artisans. It

may be noted that except in the case of the families of big cultivators the proportion of the expenditure to the total income is very inadequate. Food alone takes up about 60 per cent or even more of the total income.

Urban area.—The proportion of the urban population in the district has been discussed elsewhere. A random sample survey was made in Arrah, Buxar and Jagdishpur towns. The increase in the prices of a various articles of daily consumption including housing accommodation since the Second World War has affected the urban population very hard. The cost of living in a town is much higher than in a village. The prices are high and the demands on expenditure are more. One has to be better clothed and put up with expenditure which will not be necessary at all in the villages. It is, however, true that owing to the development communications, the prices of some essential commodities are almost at the same level in the rural and urban areas.

Housing is a very big item of expenditure. In most of the towns, the number of houses has not increased in proportion to the growth of the population during the last decade. The house rents have, as a result, increased very many times. There is overcrowding and lop-sided urbanisation without much amenities. The prices of land in the urban areas have increased enormously and the student population has a heavy demand on the houses in the urban areas. Housing takes away almost about 30 per cent of a man's monthly income.

Unskilled labour.—The unskilled labourers include various types of labour for which usually the urban centre offers opportunities of employment. Manual labour is their means of livelihood. There is no assured and continuous employment available to this class. They work in the fields of the manufacturing establishments, timber yards or put their hands to cart driving, house construction, rickshaw pulling or miscellaneous domestic work. The income ranges between Rs. 45 to Rs. 75 per month.

Any kind of property, land or house, is ruled out for these families. The size of the families is generally large. The members of the family generally live in small *kutchha* huts. They occasionally shift to unoccupied lands and build their poor hutments. In construction areas they live in small cubicles made out of the stached bricks.

It is very difficult to ascertain the family budget of such families. The head of the family may get food in certain types of occupations like woodcutting or work in restaurants or eating houses. The women of this class generally work and may get cooked food from such families. So the expenditure on food, the most important item in the family budget of the lower income groups, becomes completely misleading. Clothing is also another such item. The members of such families often wear old clothes given to them by

their masters with whom they work. The house rent also is an important item of expenditure in the family budgets. The expenditure on medicine, education and recreation is negligible. This class together with their rural counterpart, viz., landless labourers live in conditions of great poverty.

Skilled labour.—The skilled labour represents the artisans such as barbers, cobblers, *dhobis*, masons, carpenters, tailors, goldsmiths, etc. The income of these classes varies widely from Rs. 90 to Rs. 200 or more a month. This class is much better off than the unskilled workers. They get an almost uninterrupted employment with a few gaps in some particular seasons.

The women of these families except of low income do not seek work outside the house. The size of the family of this class is larger than that of the class of unskilled labour.

In the urban areas, rickshaw pullers, *darwans*, *chowkidars* and office peons come under the low income group with an average income of Rs. 115 or below per month. The family budget of a rickshaw-puller who comes within the low income group was studied. The family has five units consisting of one adult male, two adult females and four children aged about 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. Both the husband and the wife earn. The wife works as a part-time maid servant and gets about Rs. 25 per month. On the average the rickshaw-puller earns Rs. 3 a day. The total income therefore, comes to Rs. 115 out of which the owner of the rickshaw has to be paid Rs. 30 per month. The items of the monthly expenditure on the average are found to be as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Rickshaw-rent	30.00
(2) Rice	23.50
(3) Flour	10.00
(4) Pulse	5.00
(5) Mustard oil	4.50
(6) Vegetables	5.00
(7) Medicine	2.00
(8) Entertainment (mostly in visiting cinema) ..	5.00
(9) Clothing	10.00
(10) Spices	2.00
(11) Fuel	5.00
(12) Kerosene oil	2.00
(13) House rent	5.00
(14) Intoxication including tea, <i>biri</i> , <i>pan</i> , etc. ..	20.00
(15) Miscellaneous	2.00
(16) Fish or meat	3.00
	134.00

The budget shows a deficit of Rs. 17.00. The expenditure of the rickshaw-puller over cinemas, intoxications and entertainment comes to Rs. 25 per month which is a big percentage of the income. Usually the rickshaw-puller gets into debt because of his love for the liquor. His employment chances are quite good. No rickshaw-puller in the urban areas goes without some earning in the course of the day.

The Clerical and the ordinary Professional Class.—The income of this class varies from Rs. 150 to Rs. 500 per month. The size of the family is generally larger in this class than in the others.

The expenditure of the two families of this class having monthly income of Rs. 200 and Rs. 350 is given below.

The first family of a teacher has a monthly income of Rs. 200. It consists of two adult members and five children all of whom are under 12. The average monthly expenditure is Rs. 180. Hence this family has a surplus of Rs. 20 per month. The expenditure on housing is negligible because he lives in his own house and has to pay only holding tax. This is, however, not a typical case of a teacher's family. Most of the teachers live in rented houses and try to supplement their income by private tuitions or writing notes or examining papers. This source of income is not permanent.

The second family which has a monthly income of Rs. 350 is that of a pleader. The members consist of two adult members and three children, two above and one below 8. The monthly average expenditure is Rs. 325. In addition to his own profession he gets Rs. 500 from his landed property and Rs. 600 from house rent per annum. Thus on the average this family has a saving of Rs. 120 per month. The expenditure on the housing is almost negligible because he lives in his paternal house and has to pay only holding tax. The break-up of the family budget is given below:—

Items.	Teacher.			Pleader.		
	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		
1. Food	22	0	0	35	0	0
2. Milk and <i>Ghee</i>	12	0	0	50	0	0
3. Oil	8	0	0	12	0	0
4. Sugar	10	0	0	15	0	0
5. Vegetables, eggs and meat, etc.	17	0	0	35	0	0
6. Fuel and lighting ..	14	0	0	14	0	0

Items.	Teacher.			Pleader.		
	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		
7. Toilet	12	0	0	10	0	0
8. Tea, coffee, etc. ..	6	0	0	20	0	0
9. Clothing	20	0	0	43	0	0
10. Housing	10	0	0	14	0	0
	(owned).			(owned).		
11. Personal Service ..	14	0	0	10	0	0
12. Medical treatment ..	10	0	0	17	0	0
13. Education to children ..	10	0	0	13	0	0
14. Amusement and Recreation	5	0	0	7	0	0
15. Conveyance and travelling ..	Nil			20	0	0
16. Ceremonies and other social • functions.	10	0	0	10	0	0
	180 0 0			325 0 0		

The small traders.—Although traders as a whole can be easily grouped in a class, it is difficult to draw the line between the big and the small traders. The small traders in the district are those who earn a monthly income between Rs. 350 to Rs. 400. These data were collected by personal enquiry in the towns mentioned earlier.

The petty grocer at the street corner may earn Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 per month. Some of them earn much more although their shop is small.

The traders include those who deal in grocery, cloth, stationery, oil, fuel, *pan-bidi*, medical stores and optical goods, etc.

The average number of members in the family of the small trader is five or six, equivalent to about four adult units. This class has the only male earning members, usually one per family, children are schooling. Thus, on the income side, no assistance is forthcoming from either women or children.

The small traders, like the itinerant vegetable-seller or the pedlar or the sweet-meat vendor has one advantage. They do not pay any sales tax or income-tax. The small grocery shops make a good profit and most of them deliberately adulterate the stuff they sell.

The table below will give the family budget of expenditure of a grain merchant of Arrah town. The items of expenditure are as follows:—

No.	Items of expenditure in			Rs. a. p.		
1.	Food	..	..	25	0	0
2.	Milk and Ghee	..	..	10	0	0
3.	Oil	..	..	8	0	0
4.	Sugar	..	..	8	0	0
5.	Vegetables, fruits, meat and fish, etc.	..	..	15	0	0
6.	Fuel and lighting	..	..	8	0	0
7.	Cosmetics	..	..	6	0	0
8.	Tea, coffee and <i>pan-bidi</i> , etc.	..	..	8	0	0
9.	Clothing	..	..	15	0	0
10.	Housing (owned)	..	..	10	0	0
11.	Personal Services	..	..	10	0	0
12.	Medical treatment	..	..	10	0	0
13.	Education to children	..	..	15	0	0
14.	Amusement and Recreation	..	..	5	0	0
15.	Conveyance and Travelling	..	..	10	0	0
16.	Social functions	..	..	10	0	0
17.	Miscellaneous	..	..	20	0	0
				198	0	0

The head of the family with an average income of Rs. 180 per month is a grain (*kirana*) merchant of Arrah town. He has invested only Rs. 1,000 in his shop. The family consists of husband, wife and four children one above and three below 10 years. The family has a house. He gets an income of Rs. 15 per month from the rented portion. The grain merchant also indulges in a little of money lending as a subsidiary income. This class is usually of the type that make savings and plough it back in the business. These merchants after doing business for ten years usually build their own houses worth a few thousands of rupees. Their standard of living, however, is not of a high standard.

The well-to-do and the rich.—Under this category come the highly paid officers and big businessmen and men at the top of their

professions. No upper limit can be fixed for such families but a lower limit of Rs. 500 a month may be assumed to be appropriate in the district. The family budget of a highly placed personnel in the educational institution in Arrah town was studied. His monthly income is near about Rs. 1,000. His family consists of 10 units excluding one adult son who is reading in the Ranchi Medical College, Ranchi.

The items of his monthly expenditure are as follows:--

Items.	Prices (in rupees).
1. Rice	60
2. Wheat	40
3. Pulse	15
4. Spices	10
5. Oil	20
6. Ghee and milk	55
7. Fish and meat	15
8. Vegetables	60
9. Tea and coffee	20
10. Sugar	20
11. Education to children	150
12. Medicine	15
13. Clothing	60
14. House rent	Free.
15. Festivals	25
16. Pan, bidi and cigarette	10
17. Dhobi and barber	15
18. Salary of the servant, driver and tutor	60
19. Miscellaneous	50
20. Life Insurance premium	75
21. Provident Fund	75
22. Entertainment to guests	25
TOTAL	875

The net monthly saving comes to Rs. 125 but the real saving amounts to Rs. 275 including the deposit of Rs. 75 in the provident fund and Rs. 75 in the Life Insurance Corporation.

The urban area presents a picture of all the socially significant sections of the people from the unskilled labourer to the well-to-do and the rich. Though it would be hazardous to generalise on the basis of the data collected, a general trend may be indicated. The increased earning due to implementation of various Government schemes may increase the demand for consumer goods of low consumption groups. It may be added that with the provision of the increasing facilities in a Welfare State for the necessities of life as education, sanitation, medical help and housing, even families of the low income group may be expected to have a slightly better standard of living but at more expenses to the meagre earning. At the time of the investigation (April, 1964) the prices of the essential commodities have been going up. The people have to buy even the essential commodities in the sellers' market. Taxes have gone up and the economic incidence of every group is in a confused state. Unless the price-line is held and there is more stabilisation of the market, the consumers are very much hard hit. If prices go on spiralling as they are now (April, 1964) the economy of the district is bound to be affected very considerably.

LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT.

It has been mentioned that according to 1951 Census about 83 per cent of the total population are engaged in agriculture. This is, however, a broad statement and it does not mean that 83 per cent of the total population are sufficiently employed in agriculture. Agriculture does not give a continuous employment as a factory does to the factory hands. Agriculture still depends on rainfall and various other factors. The pressure of employment in agriculture is seasonal. The vast community of agricultural labourers has to remain idle for quite a few months. Even the land-owning farmer is not continuously engaged in his field. There is, therefore, a backlog of unemployment among the 83 per cent of the population that have the main occupation of agriculture. Quite a large percentage of such people are obliged to find other employment although they depend on agriculture as their main occupations.

There has been no proper census of the employable persons and also what percentage is sufficiently employed for leading a life just above the margin with his family members. In the absence of precise details we have to fall back on the tables given in the District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, which gives the figures relating to persons deriving their livelihood from agriculture to non-agricultural population.

The number of the persons engaged in different non-agricultural pursuits according to 1951 Census is given* :—

	Persons.	Males.	Females.
All industries and services ..	1,16,755	93,173	23,582
(1) Primary Industries not elsewhere specified.	3,538	2,807	731
(2) Mining and Quarrying	47	47	..
(3) Processing and manufacture of food-stuffs, textiles, leather and products thereof.	11,847	9,338	2,509
(4) Processing and manufacture of metals, chemicals and products thereof.	3,219	2,942	277
(5) Processing and manufacture not elsewhere specified.	9,390	7,058	2,332
(6) Construction and utilities ..	2,896	2,358	538
(7) Commerce	32,695	25,077	7,618
(8) Transport, Storage and Communication.	7,601	6,766	835
(9) Health, Education and Public Administration.	10,382	8,621	1,761
(10) Services not elsewhere specified ..	35,140	28,159	6,981

Under the occupational head "Primary Industries", the number of persons engaged in stock raising was 1,430 males and 241 females; rearing of small animals and insects, 97 males and 75 females; plantation industries, 12 males and 23 females; forestry and wood-cutting, 27 males and 2 females; fishing, 30 males and 25 females. The figures for the primary industries appear to be an under-estimate. Hundreds are engaged in them as their sole occupation, particularly in "forestry and wood-cutting" and "fishing".

The break-up statistics of Mining and Quarrying as stated above do not appear to be correct. More people are definitely engaged in mining and quarrying. Shahabad is employing thousands of persons in mining and quarrying.

However, some of the above figures could be accepted as approximately accurate. The statistics indicate that the employment in services not elsewhere specified forms the bulk of the employment in non-agricultural sector in Shahabad district, that it comes to 30.4 per cent of the total non-agricultural employment. Trade and commerce accounted for 28.2 per cent and the processing and manufacture accounted for 10.3 per cent of the total non-agricultural employment.

* District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad (1954), pages 35—52.

A reference may be made as to the changes that are expected in 1961 Census. The expansion of the National Extension Service Blocks and Community Development Project, more of mining and quarrying, starting of more small-scale industries, development of the roadways and more utilisation of the forest resources should raise the figures of persons engaged in some of the non-agricultural occupations. Trade and commerce particularly in forest products and livestock are engaging more attention and give occupation to more people. The execution of the Sone Barrage Project Scheme at Indrapuri located at about five miles from Dehri also provides employment to about 8,000 persons not only to the people of this district but also to a large number of technical and non-technical hands of other districts.

The Employment Exchange Department of Shahabad district has prepared a statement showing the number of employees in industry chances between the 30th September, 1963 and the 31st December, 1963. The figures are as follows:—

Description of the Industry group.	No. of employees as on—		Rise and fall.
	30th September 1963.	31st December 1963.	
1 Field Products and Plantation, Forestry and logging, livestock and hunting.	1,556	1,564	+8
2 Mining and Quarrying	3,148	3,319	+171
3 Processing and manufacture, of food-stuff, textiles, etc., and products thereof.	9,934	11,349	+1,415
4 Construction	5,110	7,205	+2,095
5 Trade and Commerce	647	655	+8
6 Transport, Storage and Communications.	2,438	2,554	+116
7 Health, Education and Public administration.	24,559	24,737	+178
8 Electricity, Gas supply and sanitary services and water.	3,120	3,187	+59
GRAND TOTAL	50,520	54,570	+4,050

From the above table it appears that the level of employment in the district has increased by 4,050 persons (8 per cent) during the quarter ending December, 1963. It clearly indicates that the development of the district is giving more chances for employment.

Secondly taking the 31st March, 1961 as the base, the index of employment, excluding the construction establishment, of the private sector, had moved from 112.12 on the 30th September, 1963 to 113.82 on the 31st December, 1963.

The table below supplied by the District Employment Exchange Office, Arrah, will give the details of the index of employment. It may be noted that the figures given below includes of both the Employment Exchange Offices located at Arrah and Dehri:—

Enquiry relating to.	Index of employment—		Total.
	For public sector.	For private sector.	
31-3-1961	100.00	100.00	100.00
30-6-1961	99.75	93.46	97.01
30-9-1961	100.14	94.36	97.50
31-12-1961	108.01	101.18	104.97
31-3-1962	112.75	103.25	108.52
30-6-1962	113.42	96.92	106.11
30-9-1962	118.90	96.25	108.39
31-12-1962	121.80	103.53	113.39
31-3-1963	121.01	97.38	110.49
30-6-1963	117.69	96.70	108.27
30-9-1963	112.12	91.91	108.96
31-12-1963	113.82	99.88	113.36

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

As mentioned earlier we have to gather the incidence of unemployment from different sources. The registration figures of the unemployed in the two Employment Exchanges at Arrah and Dehri give us some help. The limitation of the Employment Exchanges figures are well known. The registration at an Employment Exchange is not compulsory for the unemployed and it is possible that some of the persons that have registered themselves with the Employment Exchanges may be employed and they are looking for better jobs. They may be unemployed while registering and though they got jobs later on they have not removed their names. Any persons who does not renew his registration within two months, his name is eliminated, from the list. It may be noted that the statistics of Employment Exchanges are generally considered to be indicative of urban unemployment mainly confined to the non-agricultural sector.

The table below supplied by the District Employment Exchange office, Arrah, will show the total number of persons registered, vacancies notified and the persons placed in employment from 1956 to 1963:—

Year.	Total no. of persons registered during the year.	Total no. of vacancies notified.	Total no. of persons placed in employment.
1956	6,637	1,431	937
1957	6,741	1,502	1,041
1958	6,752	1,617	1,210
1959	7,002	2,142	1,430
1960	10,311	2,210	1,631
1961	10,809	2,431	1,710
1962	13,047	4,024	1,842
1963	13,850	3,842	2,019

The above figures include the figures of both the offices at Arrah and Dehri. The table shows that the number of persons registered fluctuates. It will be seen that for the last four years the number has gone up considerably. The probable reason is the development of the district and that has attracted more men to register themselves. It is understood that the number of persons passing secondary or higher secondary and university examinations and thereafter seeking jobs has also been increasing every year. On an enquiry from the Employment Exchange Officers of Dehri and Arrah, it was ascertained that within the jurisdiction of Arrah Employment Exchange, people register themselves generally for clerical jobs whereas in Dehri people generally register themselves for technical and unskilled jobs.

The incidence of the number of registrations for domestic services is negligible because of lack of good remuneration. A man would like to be a rickshaw-puller and will earn Rs. 100 on the average per month than be a domestic servant for Rs. 30 per month and food.

As regards statutory obligation it may be noted that in 1959 the Parliament passed a legislation, namely, the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act which was published in the *India Gazette*, dated 3rd September 1959. It made obligatory on both the private and public sectors to notify their vacancies through the Employment Exchange. But in the case of private sectors there are provisions under which they are not bound to notify their all vacancies. On the private sector the employers employing more than 25 persons are obliged to notify the vacancies but there is very little insistence on the fulfilment of this obligation. This Act has been enforced in Shahabad district from June, 1960. In the public sector it is obligatory for the State Government to notify the vacancies. But it has been found that the obligation is seldom properly discharged.

The District Employment Exchange, Arrah, supplied the following figures of both Arrah and Dehri Employment Exchanges with regard to the persons employed in the public sector from 30th September, 1960 to 31st December, 1963:—

Year.	Total number of persons employed in the public sector.			
31-3-1960	..	..	..	16,809
30-6-1960	..	..	..	16,675
30-9-1960	..	..	..	15,390
31-12-1960	..	..	..	15,697
31-3-1961	..	..	..	18,034
30-6-1961	..	..	..	17,993

Year.	Total number of persons employed in the public sector.		
30-9-1961	..	..	25,037
31-12-1961	..	..	25,012
31-3-1962	..	..	26,717
30-6-1962	..	..	27,861
30-9-1962	..	..	27,772
31-12-1962	..	..	28,585
31-3-1963	..	..	28,463
30-6-1963	..	..	30,116
30-9-1963	..	..	30,813
31-12-1963	..	..	31,390

The persons employed in the public sector include the employees of Central Government, Quasi-Central Government, State Government and Local Bodies.

The statistics quoted show that the figures have been fluctuating. The reasons are—

- (i) Recruitment and retrenchment of workers engaged in the construction of Sone Barrage at Indrapuri and the construction of Sone Bridge.
- (ii) Recruitment and retrenchment of the seasonal workers under Dalmianagar Sugar Factory and Anti-malaria Department, etc.
- (iii) Recruitment and retrenchment in the various industries at Dehri and elsewhere. Seasonal employment is offered at the quarries.

A study of the figures supplied by the two Employment Exchanges at Arrah and Dehri gives the impression that there is a very sizeable unemployed population within the district and the Exchanges have not been able to do much in liquidating unemployment. From 1960 onwards the number of persons registering themselves has gone up very considerably in spite of the fact that a very small percentage is being placed in employment. In 1960, 10,311 persons had registered themselves while only 1,631 persons were placed in employment. In 1961 although 10,809 persons had registered themselves, only 1,710 persons had received employment. In 1962 the number of persons registering themselves was 11,001 as against 1,842 persons placed in employment. The position has remained almost the same in 1963. In 1963 although 11,304 persons had registered themselves, only 2,019 persons had been placed. It is also significant that the total number of vacancies is

very much smaller than the number of registration. In 1963 the total number of vacancies notified was only 3,019. The variation in the figures of the total number of vacancies notified and the total number of persons placed in employment also shows that the persons placed in employment are not confined to only those who had registered themselves.

There is another significant feature which needs mention. There is a great dearth of technical people that had registered themselves and a very large number of men indicated their preference for clerical jobs or for some type of soft jobs. For example there are very few stenographers or skilled electricians or semi-skilled welders who register themselves while a large number of persons indicate that they would like to be clerks and this population is drawn from persons who are from non-matriculantes to those who are graduates or have passed their M.A. degree. It is also a common complaint with the private sector that the right type of men for their jobs seldom come from the Employment Exchanges.

LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT AS IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

In 1954 the Bihar Unemployment Committee had made some investigation in Shahabad district. The table below will show the number of families surveyed, number of families affected, sample population, persons between 16 to 60 years, totally unemployed persons and partially employed persons* in Arrah town:—

Name of city or town.	Number of families surveyed.	Number of families affected.	Sample population.		
			Males.	Females.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Arrah ..	300	176	1,248	1,256	2,504

Persons between 16 to 60.			Wholly unemployed persons.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
7	8	9	10	11	12
649	660	1,039	149	17	166

Partially unemployed persons.			Total affected persons.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
13	14	15	16	17	18
80	6	86	229	23	252

* SOURCE — *Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee, Vol. I, 1959, pages 303-304.*

The table below will show the estimated population and persons affected by unemployment as on the 1st May 1954 for Shahabad district*:-

Town.	Estimated number of families.	Estimated number of affected families.	Raising factor.	Estimated population of families.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah	8,166	4,791	27.22	33,971	34,188	68,159

Estimated population in 16 to 60 age-group.			Estimated unemployed persons.			Estimated partially employed persons.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17,666	17,965	35,631	4,056	463	4,579	2,178	163	2,341

Number of illiterate persons, i.e., totally unemployed persons.

Males.	Females.	Total.
17	18	19
6,234	626	6,860

TABLE 3.*

Town.	No. of families surveyed.	No. of affected families.	Family size.	Percentage of the employable males to the male population.	Percentage of the employable families to the female population.	Percentage of adult group (males and females) to the total population.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah	300	176	8.35	52.00	52.54	52.27

* SOURCE.—Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee, Vol. I, 1959, pages 307—309.

† SOURCE.—Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee, Vol. I, 1954, page 313.

A sample survey of Arrah town was made of 300 families and showed that the average family size was 8.35 persons and the percentage of the employable males to the male population was 52.00 and the percentage of the employable females to the female population was 52.54. The percentage of the adult group, male and female, to the total population was 52.27. This picture must be, more or less, the same now as well. Arrah town has not been industrialised.

In the rural unemployment survey the number of the sampled villages in Shahabad district was 24 while the number of villages covered was 21. Information was collected relating to the general economy of the villages, its location, communication, population, classification of land, productive assets, cottage industries, house crafts, production and acreage under each crop, sale and purchase of food-grains, etc., consumption and other cash expenditure, wage rates, educated unemployed, educational institutions of the village, etc. Details about each individual member of the family were also collected. Data were also collected for the compilation of the Employment Schedules in which the man-days offered by each family as a whole in the village and the extent of its utilisation every week were collected in weekly schedules. In Shahabad district 1,986 rural families were covered and the average number of families per village was 94.6. The concept of the family was different from that of the household adopted in the Census of 1951. The group of persons having a common kitchen was considered to constitute a family irrespective of the relationship among the members. In this way a *Math* or a *Mahanth* was treated as a family.

For the purpose of the collection of these data the entire area of the State had been divided into four zones according to the natural conditions and Shahabad fell in the South Bihar Zone comprising of the portion of Shahabad and Gaya districts north of the Grand Trunk Road, Patna district, Monghyr district (south of the Ganga) excluding Jamui subdivision and Bhagalpur district (south of the Ganga) excluding Banka subdivision. Each zone was divided into sub-zones because somewhat different types of economy were found within each zone.

In Shahabad district the number of the sampled villages from where the village returns were received were 17 and the number of adult population in these villages was found to be 6,964. The number of the educated unemployed in those villages were as follows:—

Matriculates—24; Intermediate—8; Graduate—3; and Post-Graduate—1.*

The survey suggested that even the matriculates of the village are apathetic to remain in the village and seek employment in the

*SOURCE.—Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee, page 887.

towns. On the average not even two unemployed Matriculates were found in the villages. The number of the unemployed intermediates, Graduates and Post-Graduates living in the villages can be ignored.

The Urban-unemployed Survey of Bihar in 1954 had enumerated Arrah, the district headquarters as a class II town (between 50,000 to 1,00,000 population). This survey reveals that educated unemployment in the towns of Bihar was acute; out of 4,716 families surveyed in all the 15 towns 21.2 per cent were in the educated group. The survey further indicated that while 17 per cent of the unemployed and 4.35 per cent of the partially employed were matriculates, the number of persons with higher qualification among the partially employed was less than 1 per cent for each category. But of those wholly unemployed 6.79 per cent were Intermediates, 5.01 per cent Graduates and 0.75 per cent were Post-Graduates. The persons holding degree in commerce and law accounted for 2 per cent of the unemployed.*

Another significant feature was disclosed by the survey. Two families with Intermediate and two with Graduates and some others with Engineering and legal qualification are in the lowest group earning Rs. 50.00 or less per family per month. From this one may conclude that unless the economy as a whole expands and purchasing power and productivity increase, the imparting of the technical and vocational education would not by itself solve the problem of employment. There is a very little possibility of a self-generating economy in the district with agriculture of rather primitive type as the main occupation.

This incidence of high unemployment of the persons in the lowest income group brings out the need of stimulating such occupational activities which may not yield a high income but will mean some relief and the utilisation of labour going to waste. From the point of view of the welfare as well as social contentment, this category of unemployment deserves serious consideration. For the rural areas, the activities of the *Khadi* and *Gramodyog* organisation have been receiving some attention. The vast unemployed population could also emigrate to the industrial areas where the employment chances are better. Personal investigation at Amjhor, Banjari and Pipradih shows that a good percentage of the labour population has come from other districts and other States. The Adivasis of Chotanagpur migrate to the industrial zones even for short terms when the harvesting is over and before sowing starts. There is no reason why the surplus labour population should seek employments elsewhere. The report also shows that the unemployed persons in the urban areas mostly want jobs of a particular type. They would not like to be a domestic servant or a manual labourer if uneducated or illiterate

* SOURCE.—*Draft of the Bihar Unemployment Committee, Vol. I, 1959, pages 291-292.*

but would like to be a peon or a Chaukidar in the office. The dearth of domestic servants has, however, given employment to the wandering vegetable seller, sweet-meat vendor or the hoteliers of cheaper hotel variety. If educated then almost everyone from a matriculate to the M.A. will seek clerical jobs or some kind of white-collared employment. There is a dearth of semi-skilled or skilled technicians and yet the matriculates or non-matriculates will not very willingly take to trade. It is rather difficult to get a mechanic for sanitary fittings, a welder or an electric mistry. The position is now somewhat changing and the polytechnic schools have started refusing admissions. Definitely there is a great scope for opening more and more technical schools. An Industrial Training Institute is already functioning at Dehri-on-Sone and another Industrial Training Institute is going to be started at Buxar during the Third Five-Year Plan. There is also a proposal for starting a similar institute at Arrah during the Fourth Five-Year Plan. A personal opinion may be hazarded that it is a mistake to throw the University open to every student who can get an admission in a college. After the matriculation standard there should be a vigorous screening and rules and those with special aptitudes and background for further studies should be allowed to join the colleges. Others should join the technical schools or get into some other employment. If this is done there will be a lesser incidence of unemployment among the matriculates and above.

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS.

Agriculture, trade, commerce, industry, communications and transport provide the occupation for the bulk of the population in the district. A small percentage of the population is engaged in miscellaneous occupations, namely, public administration, learned professions and domestic services, etc. The middle classes and the lower middle classes follow the miscellaneous occupations.

It has to be mentioned that the present picture of the miscellaneous occupations could be had from the *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* based on 1951 figures.

The District Census Hand-Book for 1961 Census has not yet been published. The detailed figures are not available so far. Owing to the expansion and urbanisation in the district in the Third Five-Year Plan there has been a considerable accretion to the population following the miscellaneous occupations. In some cases the reported figures for 1951 Census Hand-Book appear to be rather an under-estimate.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

The District Census Hand-Book for 1951 has given the statistics for Public Administration under "Health, Education and Public Administration".

The figures are as follows*:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Health Education and Public Administration ..	8,621	1,761	10,382
2. Police (other than village watchmen) ..	1,739	Nil	1,739
3. Village Officers and servants including village watchmen.	367	Nil	367
4. Employees of State Government	2,089	947	3,036
5. Employees of Union Government	811	Nil	811
6. Employees of Municipalities and Local Bodies ..	458	252	710

LEARNED PROFESSIONS.

Persons under this category form the backbone of the society. They are lawyers, educationists, engineers, doctors, skilled professionals, writers, journalists, etc., either in public or private sector.

The figures of the teachers inclusive of the different categories according to 1951 District Census Hand-Book are given below†:-

Males.	Females.	Total.
2,244	214	2,458

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND RESEARCH.

These figures are to be taken with reference to the figures given in the text as "Education and Culture". As mentioned in the text on "Education and Culture", there were 8,075 teachers (7,250 males and 825 females) employed in the schools and colleges. The above figures include the teachers of primary, middle, secondary and professional schools in the district.

So far as doctors are concerned, the District Census Hand-Book of 1951 mentions 1,261‡ persons (913 males and 348 females) engaged in medical and health services of the district. It is obvious that the figure is an under-estimate if it should include not only the qualified doctors, nurses, compounders and midwives but also the unqualified quacks, homoeopaths, *kavirajs* and *hakims*, etc. The difficulty is the want of statutory obligations for barring the unregistered doctors and quacks from practising. The figures in the District Census Hand-Book of 1951 must have undergone a large addition by now. The text on "Medical and Public Health Services" may also be looked into.

The figures of the persons following the legal profession have not been separately given in 1951 District Census Hand-Book but has

* District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad, 1951, pages 50—52.

† Ibid, page 51.

‡ Ibid, page 50.

been clubbed with businessmen and said to be 728 persons. This does not give any indication as to the actual number of persons following the legal profession*. This is unfortunate as lawyers and businessmen cannot be clubbed together from profession point of view.

An investigation was made from the District Judge, Arrah and it was gathered that there were 390 legal practitioners of whom 222 were advocates in the district. This figure does not include the clerks, stamp vendors, deed writers or various other people who make a living out of matters in connection with the legal professions.

Arts, letters and journalism claim a very small number. According to the 1951 Census there were only 339, i.e., 297 males and 42 females. Some of the journalists work on part-time basis. As a matter of fact it is doubtful if the part-time professionals in this branch have not been included as full-time workers.

Religion claims a small number of exclusive adherents such as Hindu priests, Muslim divines and Christian missionaries. Their number is not separately available. Hindu priests or Muslim divines follow other occupations as well. In 1951 Census Hand-Book 2,561 males and 249 females were reported to be engaged in religious, charitable and welfare services†. This figure appears to be an over-estimate but no investigation was possible. The 1961 Census figures are not available.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES.

The figures of persons engaged in domestic and personal services according to 1951 Census are as follows‡:—

			Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Services otherwise unclassified	..	..	10,500	2,644	13,144
2. Domestic services	..	..	7,742	1,722	9,464
3. Barbers and beauty shops	..	..	3,210	621	3,831
4. Laundries and laundry services	..	..	2,525	1,288	3,813
5. Hotels, restaurants, eating hotels	..	..	229	87	316
6. Recreation services	..	..	367	278	645

The number in 1964 under each of the categories must be more.

The persons engaged in domestic services include cook, household servants, water-carriers, etc. The lot of domestic servants has definitely improved although there is dearth for them. They are

*District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad, 1951, page 54.

† District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad, 1951, published in 1954, page 54.

‡ Ibid, pages 52—54.

profited by the expansion of other avenues of occupation and get a better pay and fooding. Many are engaged in part-time job in several families and make out a good living. Many of the previous domestic servants have adopted other occupations as rickshaw-pulling, working in hotels, office peons, Chowkidars, etc. There is a dearth of domestic servants and this has been fully exploited for getting higher wages, lesser work and obligations. There is a constant interchange of occupations among this class of men. It is also possible that the same man is working as barber and a domestic servant or a peon in the office. The same man may be a cook and a peon or a newspaper vendor and a *khunchawalla* selling snacks. There is a craze now for the domestic servants to get into the offices as class IV employees. The son of cook or a *mali* (gardener) now seldom follows his father's profession. He will read a bit and try to be a peon or a chaukidar or a clerk.

In the urban areas the average daily earning of a barber is not less than Rs. 3 to Rs. 4. His charges vary. The roadside barber will charge from 10 paise to 12 paise for a shave and 25 paise for a haircut. There is no fixed charge for the female barber who visit houses and paint the nails of the ladies and do other work.

Laundries of the urban areas are better equipped and the owners of such shops have also to employ hired labourers due to the increase in the volume of business. Washing charges for 100 pieces in the rural areas vary from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 and in urban areas from Rs. 12 to Rs. 20, the time taken for the service ranging from one week to 10 days or even more.

The district does not have any good hotel where a comfortable board and lodge are provided. Mostly there are cheap restaurants and eating houses. These hotels and restaurants are generally situated near the court compounds, cinemas and in the thick of the *bazars*. The standard is rather poor and the amenities provided are not of a high class.

The tailoring professions has not been separately enumerated. Many independent tailors with their sewing machine are found in the district. In many cloth shops a tailor with a sewing machine is found in a corner for carrying on his work. No tailor earns anything less than Rs. 90 a month.

There are also Central and State Government Departments stationed within the Shahabad district and it is not known if the personnel in the Central and State Government Departments have been categorised properly. Many of them are technical men, administrators, doctors and engineers, etc. The services personnel have not always got their own organisations to discuss matters of their common interest. If there were any such organisations it

could have been easier to collect the figures. Some of the doctors are the members of the Shahabad Branch of the Indian Medical Association. The lawyers have their own Bar Association. But the teachers, the subordinates in Government service have not strong and well represented organisations and it is difficult to get definite figures. The persons engaged in the various Local Self-Government bodies have not got their figures correctly enumerated.

It is unfortunate that although the persons who could be grouped under miscellaneous occupations play a very important role in the society and offer leadership, their proper statistics are not available. The 1951 District Census Hand-Book figures are not satisfactory although they give some indication. The 1961 Census figures will definitely show a higher number in each of the categories.