

CHAPTER XV.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC LIFE.

LABOUR WELFARE.

Although the main economy of the district is agricultural, there are some organised industries and mining operations. Industrialism is spreading in the southern part of the district. At Dalmianagar, there is a group of industries under the Rohtas Industries, Ltd. The industries comprise of factories for manufacture of cement, paper, sugar, chemical, *vanaspati*, etc. At Banjari, there is another cement factory, the Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works, Ltd. Mining operations are concentrated in the slopes of the Kaimur Range in the southern part of the district. Lime and stone quarries, etc., are situated at various places over a wide range. Exploitation is being done at Banjari, Rohtas, Murli, Pipradih, Baulia, etc., in Sasaram subdivision. The mining of pyrite is being done at Amjhore by the Pyrite and Chemical Development Corporation of India.

The district grows paddy abundantly and naturally there are a number of rice mills at Nokha, Mohania, Buxar, etc. There is a factory producing lanterns at Dumraon. The labour force is found more organised in these industrial areas. There is a huge unorganised labour force scattered all over the district in small manufacturing units, shops and commercial establishments. There is also a vast unorganised labour force engaged in agriculture.

More attention towards amelioration of the conditions of the labour has been paid after Independence in 1947. Important legislations like the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Factories Act, 1948, Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953, etc., were passed and are in force in the State. With the growing importance of the labour force, the machinery to see to the implementation of these legislations, has also expanded.

A Labour Officer was posted in this district with his headquarters at Arrah in the later part of 1954. Since October, 1963, there is one Superintendent of Labour with jurisdiction over the whole of the district. There are two Labour Officers under him. One has jurisdiction over two subdivisions, viz., Bhabua and Sasaram, and the other over Arrah Sadar and Buxar.

The labourers of the district could be broadly divided into three categories, viz., industrial, agricultural and the labourers employed in shops and commercial establishments.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Agricultural labour force naturally forms the major portion of the total labour force. The agricultural labourers are generally

drawn from the families of the agriculturists and other landless labourers. The agricultural labour force can be broadly divided into two categories, viz., the unattached agricultural labourers and the attached or bonded agricultural labourers. The agricultural labourers of the first category get only their wages but they are free to accept the work of any cultivator or take up jobs other than doing labour in the fields. The attached or bonded labourers are given some cultivable land or a hut to live in addition to the wages but they are under an obligation to work under the particular cultivator as and when required. They are not free to sell their services elsewhere without the permission of their masters. Often a loan taken long before is at the background. There may be attached or bonded labourers from generation to generation. Mobility and freedom to sell their labour anywhere they like are not for the bonded labourers.

The agricultural labour force is unorganised and it has very little of bargaining strength. It could always be exploited by the comparatively richer or better placed cultivators. The main spirit behind the enactment of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, was to safeguard the minimum amount of wages to such unorganised labour force. Minimum rates of wages for the agricultural labourer have been fixed for Patna Division including Shahabad district under this Act. The rates have been fixed in kind with their equivalent in cash. The rates vary according to the different agricultural operations and the rates for a particular agricultural operation again vary between the irrigated and the non-irrigated areas. The rates in the irrigated areas are higher.

For implementation of the provisions of this Act there is an organisation consisting of eight Labour Inspectors posted at different places with a specified jurisdiction. Their work is supervised by the Labour Officers under the control of the Superintendent of Labour. The Labour Officers and the Labour Superintendent have been declared as the Inspectors under the Minimum Wages Act.

There is no trade union movement among this class of labourers. In their present circumstances it is difficult for this movement to strike roots. It is a fact that the agricultural labourers do not always get their wages according to the Act.

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR.

The total number of factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948 in this district is 530 and the number of workers employed therein is very large. Amongst the factories, the Rohtas Industries, Ltd., Dalmianagar is the biggest employer. More than ten thousand workers are employed in the factories under the Rohtas Industries. A considerable number of workers is also employed in the lime, stone quarries, etc., mentioned previously.

The industrial workers have well-organised trade unions. There are about 46 trade unions of workers registered under the Indian Trade Union Act, 1926. This also includes some trade unions for the shops and commercial employees and the units in the unorganised sectors such as *bidi* employees, etc. The industrial workers generally are better off than the agricultural or commercial labour force inasmuch as they get higher wages. They have the advantage of collective bargaining and have often taken collective steps by strikes or lockouts or otherwise to increase their wages. In cases of the cement and sugar factories the wages have been recommended by the Central Cement Wage Board and the Central Sugar Wage Board respectively. The minimum rates of wages in rice, oil, *dal* and flour mills have been fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

SHOPS AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The provisions of the Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953 have been enforced in all the municipal areas of the district. Such places are Arrah, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Dehri, Dalmianagar, Sasaram and Bhabua. There are about 7,000 registered shops in the district and about 4,000 workers are employed. Although the rates of wages have not been fixed under this Act, provisions have been made regarding the hours of work, weekly rest, leave facilities, etc. The Labour Officers and the Superintendent of Labour have been declared as the Inspecting Officers and Additional Inspecting Officers respectively under this Act and they are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the Act.

In the Factories Act, 1948, provisions for the welfare of the workers have been incorporated so far as the working hours are concerned. But the workers need more of amenities for a decent living. Provision of such amenities is generally the responsibility of the employers. But to give a lead the State Government have come forward and set up Labour Welfare Centres at different places of Labour concentration. Two such State Labour Welfare Centres are located in this district, one at Dalmianagar and the other at Banjari. Facilities of library, reading room, in-door and out-door games, training in sewing, etc., medicines, classes for the children of the workers and children corners for games, UNICEF milk distribution for children, pre-natal and post-natal case and advice, health propaganda, cinema, ambulance and training-cum-production centre are provided in the State Labour Welfare Centre at Dalmianagar which is an 'A' type Centre. In the 'B' type State Labour Welfare Centre at Banjari all the facilities except the last three mentioned above, are provided. There is the requisite staff to look after the Centres. There is one Voluntary Labour Welfare Centre at Bank, near Dalmianagar which has been set up with the

mutual efforts of the workers and the employer. The State Government grants a suitable amount for the construction of buildings of 'C' type Centres.

The workers at Dalmianagar and Banjari have been covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme. Under this scheme the registered workers and their families get extensive medical facilities, sickness compensation, etc. A number of doctors including lady doctors have been posted in the dispensaries. Both in-door and out-door treatments are given. The Employees State Insurance medical officers at Dalmianagar have got some beds in the factory hospital. The doctors at Dalmianagar have a very busy time while there is not much work at the Banjari Employees State Insurance Dispensary. The Bihar Maternity Benefit Act, 1947, is applicable to Shahabad district.

Industrial housing is one of the main problems. The managements of big establishments like the Rohtas Industries, Ltd., Dalmianagar, and Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works, Ltd., Banjari, have provided some quarters to their employees. The State Government have given a loan and subsidy to these managements for constructing suitable houses for the workers and many have been constructed at Dalmianagar. The Housing Department of the State Government have built about 500 houses at Dalmianagar for the workers which are being allotted. The housing provided so far either by the employers or the State Government is not adequate. The industrialisation is going apace and it is difficult for the housing problem to catch up.

Prohibition has been mentioned as a State policy in the Constitution but it has not yet been enforced in any part of Bihar. The policy of the State Government is to control the consumption of the intoxicants by raising the prices and imposing other restrictions regarding consumption, etc. There has been a gradual increase in the prices of most of the intoxicants. The price of the country liquor in 1952 and the existing price which came into force with effect from 1st October 1962 are given below*:-

	Area.	Price (per L.P. gallon)** from 1st April 1952.			Present rate (i.e. in 1963) Per L.P. Litre.
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs. P.
50 U.P.—***					
	Urban	18	12	0	5.20
	Rural	18	12	0	5.20
72.5 U.P.—					
	Urban	17	12	0	4.80
	Rural	15	10	0	4.40
80.0 U.P.	Rural	7	13	0	2.70

* Report on the Working of the Excise Department for the year 1952-53, Appendix B. P. XLVIII.

** L. P. = London Proof Gallon.

*** U. P. = Under Proof.

Even after the rise in price there has been an increase in the consumption as well as in the revenue in Shahabad district. This is noticeable from the statement below for 1958-59 to 1962-63 (March, 1963):—

	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
Total revenue derived from distillery liquor in rupees.	18,39,649	22,19,735	25,00,502	27,42,721	3,08,468
Consumption of distillery liquor in L.P. Gallons.	91,097.8	107,245.1	112,680.6	117,817.8	548,428.16 L.P. Litres.

GANJA.

The price of *ganja* has increased from Rs. 75 per seer to Rs. 108.60 per seer or Rs. 116.40 per k.g. with effect from 1st December, 1961. There has been no rise in the prices of *bhang* and opium per *tola* and are 25 P. and Rs. 8 respectively. The following chart indicates the consumption of *ganja*, *bhang* and opium in Shahabad district:—

Year.				..	Ganja.	Bhang.	Opium.
					Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds, Sr.
1940-41	..	..	..	95	37	4	27
1950-51	..	..	..	61	93	3	17½
1960-61	..	..	..	71	49	2	0
1961-62	..	..	..	42	50	0	½
1962-63	..	..	..	1137.850Kg.	1651.164Kg.	Nil.	

As regards opium, restriction has been imposed on the consumption. The Bihar and Orissa Opium Smoking Act, 1928, which came into force with effect from 1st January 1929, requires that only those persons who are twenty-five or above twenty-five years and are in the habit of smoking opium, after getting their names registered in the prescribed manner under the Act, may be granted a fixed quantity of opium. Since 1st April 1959, the sale of opium for oral consumption has been further regulated and now opium can be only procured under medical certificate for health purposes.

Any person other than a registered smoker who prepares opium or has in possession any prepared opium or smokes or otherwise uses prepared opium is liable to be punished for each offence with imprisonment for a term which may be extended to one year or with

fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or with both. The recent restriction is calculated to cut down new recruits to opium consumption.

There are also some restrictions for the consumption of country liquor. For instance, the premises of any country liquor shop cannot be used for consuming liquor and indulging in drunken bouts. The idea is that if people will have to take their liquor home for drinking, there will be lesser consumption. But these measures have had very little effect and the incidence of the consumption of intoxicants has certainly gone up and the premises of country liquor shops in the district of Shahabad are used for consuming liquor. In summer *tari* or fermented palm juice as a beverage is very largely consumed by the poorer section throughout the district. Sasaram brand of *tari* is said to be particularly relished.

In this district two voluntary social organisations, namely, *Bharat Sewak Samaj* and *Harijan Sewak Sangh* are interested in reducing the consumption of intoxicants.

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES.

The population of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes in the district of Shahabad during 1951 census were as follows*:-

		Persons.	Males.	Females.
Scheduled Castes	..	3,67,458	1,79,632	1,87,826
Scheduled Tribes	..	16,993	8,814	8,179
Backward Classes	..	3,15,762	1,52,389	1,63,373

Persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes were and are more or less evenly scattered throughout the district. The Scheduled Tribes are mainly confined to Bhabua and Sasaram subdivisions particularly in Adhaura, Nauhatta and Rohtas Blocks respectively. Their present subdivisionwise distribution is given below**:-

Subdivisions.	Scheduled Castes.			Scheduled Tribes.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sadar ..	147,879	71,934	75,945	216	132	84
Buxar ..	78,798	38,298	40,500	1,015	614	401
Sasaram ..	175,906	87,896	88,010	8,783	4,412	4,371
Bhabua ..	112,484	56,657	55,807	12,160	6,090	6,070
District Total ..	515,047	254,785	260,262	22,174	11,248	10,926
Rural ..	494,089	243,778	250,311	21,792	11,036	10,756
Urban ..	20,958	11,007	9,951	382	212	170

* District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, page 76.

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

After the attainment of independence the State Government took up actively the amelioration of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as a matter of policy. A separate department at Government level known as the Welfare Department was created. This department works through a District Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Arrah. He works under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. The District Welfare Officer has his own staff consisting of one Assistant District Welfare Officer, 18 Welfare Inspectors and 22 *Kalyan Grain-Gola Sewaks*.

The main functions of the District Welfare Officer relate to the removal of the disabilities of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Tribes, spread of education among them by opening schools and making arrangements for stipends, hostels, loans, subsidies, medical aid, grain-golas and sinking wells, etc.

ECONOMIC WELFARE.

The economic incidence of such people is generally very low. The condition of the Backward Classes (Hindus) is, however, better and most of them have lands. The members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are generally landless and are in debt. But, even if lands are available, seeds and cash credit have to be made available to save them from the Mahajans who give loans, at exorbitant rates.*

GRAIN-GOLAS.

Twenty-two grain-golas, i.e., 11 for Scheduled Castes and 11 for Scheduled Tribes have been set up in the district till August, 1963. The object is to give seed on credit and grain in times of scarcity. These grain-golas supply seeds at 10 per cent rate of interest. Previously this facility was for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes only but due to subsequent amendment in the Grain-Golas Rules, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes of Annexure I, may also get the benefit of these *golas*.

The Block Development Officer or Circle Officer has been authorised to sanction the quantity of grain to be given and usually a quantity from 2 to 10 maunds of grain is sanctioned according to the need of the individual and availability of grain in the stock. The list of the 22 grain-golas and other details are given below:—

Name of the place where G.G. is situated.	Name of concerning P. S.	Date on which started.	Loans during 1962-63 (till July, 1963).
<i>Harijan grain-golas—</i>			Maunds.
Shahpur ..	.. Shahpur	.. 28-3-1958	.. 425
Jagdishpur ..	.. Jagdishpur	.. 23-3-1957	.. 503

* The Constitution had laid down who belong to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. Please see the text on the People (P. C. R. C.).

Name of the place where G.G. is situated.	Name of concerning P. S.	Date on which started.	Loans during 1962-63 (till July, 1963).
<i>Harijan grain-golas—concl'd.</i>			Maunds.
Itarhi	Itarhi	15-4-1958 ..	464
Dumraon	Dumraon	Not available ..	335
Bhabua	Bhabua	14-6-1957 ..	722
Hatta	Chainpur	Not available ..	367
Sasaram	Sasaram	29-3-1957 ..	603
Chenari	Chenari	10-6-1957 ..	658
Saraiyan	Rohtas	2-7-1957 ..	300
Bikramganj	Bikramganj	4-3-1960 ..	161
Kargahar	Kargahar	30-3-1960 ..	392

Scheduled Tribes grain-golas—

Karkatgarh	Chainpur	Not available ..	584
Semara	Ditto	22-2-1956 ..	1,381
Dahar	Adhaura	January, 1952 ..	1,185
Adhaura	Ditto	January, 1956 ..	1,331
Bahera	Ditto	February, 1956 ..	1,106
Nagatoli	Rohtas	8-6-1956 ..	949
Pipardiha	Nauhata	10-1-1960 ..	559
Rehal	Ditto	1952 ..	844
Nauhata	Ditto	21-1-1956 ..	644
Bhagwanpur	Bhagwanpur	1961-62 ..	501
Bharkura	Chenari	1961-62 ..	500

AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDY.

The agricultural subsidy granted to the agriculturists belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes from 1960-61 to 1962-63 is given below:—

	Year.		
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Scheduled Castes	18,113	8,300	7,500
Scheduled Tribes	4,000	4,000	4,000
Backward Classes	500	(The scheme was dropped).	

The agricultural subsidy is meant for the purchase of bullocks, manure, seed and agricultural implements. In view of the poor condition of the agriculturists and frequent droughts and occasional floods, the amount of agricultural subsidy may not be sufficient. This is an outright grant-in-aid and is not repayable.

HOUSING SCHEME.

In order to provide the poor and homeless Harijans with houses the housing scheme was introduced. The construction of a house is sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,250 per house, out of which the Government contribution is Rs. 937.50 nP., i.e., 75 per cent per house. Generally, the beneficiary contributes his share in form of labour, raw materials, etc. In Shahabad district 151 houses under

the State and Central Schemes have been constructed and 115 houses are under construction. The number of houses constructed is not adequate. The State and Central Governments have spent Rs. 1,44,562.50, up to the end of the Second Five-Year Plan for the construction of 151 houses. The number of houses and the name of the Blocks under different schemes are given below:—

Name of the Block.					No. of houses.	No. of houses under construction.
Barhara	..	..	..	..	3	Nil.
Bhabua	..	..	..	..	10	Nil.
Bhagwanpur	..	..	..	..	9	24
Bihea	..	..	..	..	24	Nil.
Brahmapur	..	..	..	..	4	4
Buxar	..	..	..	..	Nil	20
Chenari	..	..	..	..	15	2
Dumraon	..	..	..	..	16	16
Itarhi	..	..	..	..	3	16
Jagdishpur	..	..	..	..	15	Nil.
Koilwar	..	..	..	..	6	5
Nasriganj	..	..	..	..	8	Nil.
Rajpur	..	..	..	..	Nil	16
Rohas	..	..	..	..	14	Nil.
Simri	..	..	..	..	16	Nil.
Udwantnagar	..	..	..	..	8	12
TOTAL ..					151	115

The help rendered cannot be said to be adequate but a beginning has been made.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

Both the Central Government and the State Government are interested to spread educational facilities. The Scheduled Castes Scholarship Fund was constituted in 1944 by the Central Government and was thrown open to the Scheduled Tribes after four years and in 1949-50 it was extended to the other Backward Classes also. This scholarship is only for post-graduate study. Under the present arrangement post-matric scholarships are administered by a separate Backward Classes Scholarship Board of the Union Ministry of Education. It was felt that the sanction and disbursement of post-matric scholarships from the Central level added to the delay in sanction and payment and so the Ministry of Education have delegated the powers of sanctioning post-matric scholarships to the State Government and the Union Territories, vide their circular letter no. F. 28-1/59.S-4, dated the 11th July 1959. Stipends and book grants are awarded to the students of Backward Classes on the recommendations of the District Stipend Committee. In Bihar advance allotments are made every year to each district on the basis of the population of Backward Classes and the number of scholarships awarded in previous years.

The District Welfare Officer, Arrah, receives applications and places them before the District Stipend Committee. The awards are sanctioned on the recommendations of this Committee and the amounts are placed at the disposal of the Headmasters in the case of Government schools. In case of non-Governmental schools it is the District Welfare Officer who prepares the bill and sends it to the Block Development Officers for disbursement through the media of *Gram Panchayats* in the primary and middle stages and through the media of headquarters in the higher secondary schools. In the recent orders of the State Government, vide notification no. 6034, dated the 11th May 1962, Block Stipend Committee have been constituted for award of stipends at primary and middle stages. In Higher Secondary stage the District Stipend Committee continues to remain as stated above.

In Shahabad district during the Second Five-Year Plan period, 245 Scheduled Tribes students were awarded stipends and book grants for Rs. 41,460; 1,622 Scheduled Castes students were given Rs. 6,51,995; and 2,550 Backward Muslim students were given Rs. 2,89,961*. The amount of stipends, book grants, etc., from 1960-61 to 1962-63 for the college students is given below:—

Name of the Scheme.	No. of students.			Stipends and	
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1960-61.	
				Allotment.	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
				Rs.	Rs.
1. Stipend to Scheduled Tribes college students.	13	11	22	5,228	5,228
2. Stipend to Scheduled Castes college students.	30	339	507	1,28,058	1,27,888
3. Stipend to Backward Classes college students.	137	98	150	2,91,543	28,623
4. Colleges for the loss of fees.	..	..	..	47,800	47,132

book grants.

1961-62.		1962-63.	
Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
7	8	9	10
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
5,148	5,148	6,225	5,006
2,26,677	2,26,677	2,71,651	2,57,666
37,167	37,005	31,886	25,273
95,800	95,300	97,000	63,079

* Source: District Education Office.

The statement below shows the stipends, book grants, etc., for school students from 1960-61 to 1962-63:—

Name of the Scheme.	No. of students.		
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
1	2	3	4
1. Stipends to Scheduled Tribes.	120	150	169
2. Stipends to Scheduled Castes.	3,786	4,895	6,722
3. Stipends to other Backward Classes.	2,565	2,975	3,692

Stipends and book grants.					
1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
5	6	7	8	9	10
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
7,650	* 7,650	22,300	22,300	23,700	22,382
2,32,669	2,31,194	3,87,681	3,87,681	4,24,981	4,02,369
1,00,656	99,093	1,16,407	1,16,407	1,16,006	1,01,974

The table below shows the number of residential schools for the Harijans and the Adivasis along with the number of students residing therein:—

Name of the schools.		Name of places where located.	No. of students residing therein.
<i>Harijans—</i>			
1. Senior Residential School	..	.. Arrah	.. 100
2. Ditto	..	.. Bhabua	.. 50
3. Ditto	..	.. Buxar	.. 50
4. Ditto	..	.. Sasaram	.. 56
<i>Adivasis—</i>			
1. Senior Residential School	..	.. Deori, P.-S. Adhaura	70
2. Junior Residential School	..	.. Athan, P.-S. Adhaura	28
3. Ditto	..	.. Sarki, P.-S. Adhaura	28
4. Ditto	..	.. Kohuan, P.-S. Adhaura	47
5. Ditto	..	.. Bargaon, P.-S. Adhaura	43
6. Ditto	..	.. Samra, P.-S. Chairpur	51
7. Ditto	..	.. Masani, P.-S. Chainpur	25
8. Ditto	..	.. Nagatoli, P.-S. Rohtas	32
9. Ditto	..	.. Budhana, P.-S. Rohtas	29
10. Ditto	..	.. Dumarian, P.-S. Nauhatta.	30

The students residing in residential schools are provided with free boarding and lodging, clothing, etc. One cook-cum-servant in each school has been appointed. The number of cook-cum-servant depends upon the number of students admitted in the school. There are also medical attendants to look after their health. The entire expenditure is borne by the State Government. The Senior Residential School at Arrah is given Rs. 47,300 every year for meeting these expenses and the schools at Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram receive Rs. 78,282 each annually.

The Senior Residential School at Deori receives Rs. 31,600 yearly and the other nine junior schools receive Rs. 88,300 (about Rs. 9,819 each) yearly.

HOSTELS.

In order to solve the problem of accommodation of the students of these Backward Communities State Government have sanctioned hostels at different places for which the expenditure is borne by the Government. The table below shows the Harijan and Adivasi hostels in the district:—

Name of hostel.	Number of students residing therein.
1. Harijan Hostel, Arrah I	48
2. Harijan Hostel, Arrah II	35
3. Harijan Hostel, Bikramganj for school students	41
4. Harijan Hostel, Bikramganj for college students.	24
5. Harijan Hostel, Surajpura for school students.	33
6. Harijan Hostel, Dehri-on-Sone for school students.	13
7. Harijan Hostel, Sasaram for school and college students.	56
8. Harijan Hostel, Buxar for school and college students.	40
9. Adivasi Hostel, Bhabua for school and college students.	13

The Harijan hostels at Arrah are for the college students only. The hostel buildings in Arrah were constructed at Government cost of Rs. 1,08,000 each. The other hostels in the district are located in rented houses.

Usually every hostel has one Superintendent, one cook and one medical attendant. The house rent and the cost of utensils are borne by the State Government. No seat rent is charged from the students. Every boarder who belongs to the Scheduled Tribes and

Scheduled Castes also gets a grant of Rs. 20 at the school stage. There is no exclusive reservation for the boys of the Backward Classes only. If seats are available, the students of other castes are also admitted.

DRINKING WATER FACILITIES.

The table following shows the number of wells sunk for drinking from 1957-58 to 1962-63:—

Year.	No. of wells taken up.		No. of wells completed.		No. under construction.	
	Adivasis.	Harijans.	Adivasis.	Harijans.	Adivasis.	Harijans.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1957-58 ..	6	Nil	5	Nil	1	Nil.
1958-59 ..	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil	Nil.
1959-60 ..	Nil	12	Nil	10	Nil	2
1960-61 ..	10	18	7	6	3	12
1961-62 ..	4	57	4	26	Nil	31
1962-63 ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.

The Government contributes 75 per cent of the estimated cost and the villagers are required to contribute their share which is usually given in the form of labour. There is, however, no restriction now and any well may be used by the Adivasis or Harijans.

MEDICAL FACILITIES.

For bringing medical facilities within the easy reach to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Welfare Department maintains *Ayurvedic* centres at Rehal in Nauhatta police-station and Sarodag in Adhaura police-station. The estimated cost is Rs. 6,000 at each of these centres. Every dispensary has one *Vaidya* and *Ayurvedic* as well as some patent medicines are kept in the dispensaries.

The table following shows the medical aid granted to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes from 1960-61 to 1962-63:—

	1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Scheduled Tribes	200	200	1,000	1,000	1,000	350
(b) Scheduled Castes	2,250	2,250	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,680
TOTAL ..	2,450	2,450	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,030

LEGAL AID.

In Shahabad district during 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 the sums of Rs. 2,700, Rs. 3,300 and Rs. 2,007 respectively were granted to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Welfare Department generally provides legal aid to the indigent members of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes who may be involved in cases relating to ejectment from land, house, money suits, etc.

COMMUNICATION FACILITIES.

The Welfare Department has also constructed a number of roads for the benefit of the Harijans and Adivasis. The statement following gives the details of the roads constructed and under construction:—

Years.	Name of road.	Length in mile.	Estimated cost in Rupees.	Remarks.
1957-58	Adhaura Sarvodaya Road	12	8,000	Project Executive Officer, Adhaura.
1959-60 ..	Marpaghat Road ..	½	3,200	Ditto.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Harmuta ..	1	920	Project Executive Officer, Nauhatta.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Chunhatta ..	2	1,840	Ditto.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Kuba via Nauhatta	2	1,840	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Deori-Garki Road(Adhaura)	3	5,000	Project Executive Officer, Adhaura.
1960-61 ..	Chainpurghat Road (Adhaura).	½	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Dahar Road (Adhaura) (Incomplete).	2	4,500	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Marpa-Chainpur Road (Incomplete).	7	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Adhaura-Chainpur Road (Incomplete),	4	3,050	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Adhaura-Khoundar Road (Incomplete).	6	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Chandrara-Amhara Road	1	1,000	Project Executive Officer, Sasaram.
1960-61 ..	Amhara-Jhalia Road ..	4½	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Tori-Panari Road ..	9	10,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Sarodag-Lohara Road ..	9	9,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Barajhia Dah-Markauni Road	4½	3,500	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Markauni-Karkatgarh Road	4½	2,500	Ditto.

A limited appraisal has been made as to the impact of the welfare measures and the Community Development Project on the tribals in Rohtas and Adhaura Blocks. The investigation did not show that there has been any appreciable amelioration in the condition of the tribals and it is doubtful if all the money that has been spent has been well utilised. This appraisal appears in the text on "People".

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS.

The Voluntary Social Service Organisations of local importance are the *Bharat Sewak Samaj*, Bharat Scouts and Guides, *Bhoodan* Movement, *Harijan Sewak Sangh*, *Dalit Varga Sangh*, *Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalyaya*, *Arya Samaj*, Theosophical Society, etc.

Bharat Sewak Samaj.

The *Bharat Sewak Samaj* is an all-India institution. A branch of the organisation was established in 1956 at Arrah. There are several committees and sub-committees consisting of some officials and non-officials. The branch has an office at Arrah under a Chairman and a Working Committee consisting of eleven members including the Chairman.

The programme of the *Samaj* is to extend its work to all the blocks, *anchals*, *thanas*, and even in villages as far as possible. There are several wings, namely:—

- (1) Information Centre, (2) Anti-Corruption Centre,
- (3) Mahila Section and (4) Youth and Camp Section.

They also undertake village uplift work consisting of sanitation and public works. Public works schemes cover construction and maintenance of village paths, wells, pynes, etc., with the voluntary labour of its members. In the urban areas the *Samaj* has taken up sanitation, public health, cultural education, children welfare, youth welfare and co-operative works. The *Samaj* has been trying to expose corruption in the services as well.

Bharat Scouts and Guides.

This is an all-India organisation with the State headquarters at Patna. There is a branch in Arrah since 1923. At that time there were several similar institutions in the district. The main institution was then known as the Boys' Scout. In 1950 all the similar institutions were amalgamated and the amalgamated institution came to be known as the Bharat Scouts and Guides. This branch trains its members, both boys and girls in voluntary service. Regular training is given to the boys and girls and they have done a lot of good work on occasions like *melas*, large processions, etc.

Bhoodan Movement.

The *Bhoodan* Movement was started in 1951 by Acharya Vinoba Bhave. It was started in this district on the 14th September, 1952 when Shri Bhave came to Durgawati. Its main aim is to establish a society with no exploitation and to achieve this goal the *Bhoodan* Movement has been adopted as the first step. The idea is to get land from the people who have it and to give it to the landless ones.

The *Zila Bhoodan* Office was set up in the district at Dehri-on-Sone in May, 1953, and during the same year its work was taken up in all the subdivisions and thanas of the district. In the beginning of 1956, the main office was shifted from Dehri-on-Sone to Jamuhar, P. O. Karwandiha in Sasaram subdivision. Prior to this, in 1954, the *Bihar Bhoodan Act* was passed for legalisation, management, distribution, etc., of the lands received in gift. According to this, the *Bihar Bhoodan Yajna Samiti* was replaced by *Bihar Bhoodan Yajna Committee* on the 31st December, 1956, and the powers of the *Samiti* were transferred to the Committee. After the *Zila Samiti* was dissolved in the district, the *Zila Bhoodan Yajna* office was established. The main district office from Jamuhar was shifted to Sasaram where it remained till 15th December, 1958. It was then shifted to Arrah town.

Till September, 1963, from 1,687 villages, through 4,608 *Danpatras* or gifted deeds, 1,96,506 acres of land have been obtained in the district. In 805 villages, 12,147 acres of land have been distributed among 3,669 landless tenants. Out of this 3,669, the number of Harijans and aboriginals who received the lands, till September, 1963, are 981 and 28 respectively and the rest belong to the other castes. Some undistributed lands are still in the possession of the said Committee which would be given to the *Gram Panchayats* through the *Zila Panchayat Parishad*. Among these undistributed lands, there are some forests, hills, etc., not fit for cultivation. There are also lands and forests under dispute that have been donated.

For land reclamation, purchase of bullocks, ploughs, implements, seeds, etc., 75 per cent subsidy and 25 per cent loans are given to the *Bhoodan* tenants. The subsidy and loans are given through the Block Development Officers. The amount given in subsidy and loan to 3,621 *Bhoodan* tenants in 693 villages comes to Rs. 11,765 till September, 1963.

There has been no appraisal of the impact of the *Bhoodan* movement on the landless people or on the people with land. The impact, on the face of it, appears to be small although a beginning has been made. At Adhaura village under Adhaura police-station an investigator in doing other investigations was confronted by *Adivasis* who complained that the *Bhoodan* land gifted to them by the *Bhoodan* Committee are not being possessed by them and the

Forest Department and other people were claiming that the land was theirs. It was also complained that in the Survey and Settlement Operations their names have not been recorded.

Harijan Sewak Sangh.

A branch of the all-India *Harijan Sewak Sangh* was organised at Arrah in 1930. There is a District Committee consisting of nine members out of which two are Harijans and the rest belong to the other castes. The *Harijan Sewak Sangh* has got its own building known as *Harijan Ashram* which was constructed in 1939. In 1940 a *Prarthana Bhawan* was constructed and is attached with the *Harijan Ashram*. The *Sangh* celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1962. The aim is to serve the cause of the Harijans, to ameliorate their condition and to make them useful citizens.

Dalit Varga Sangh.

A branch of the all-India *Dalit Varga Sangh* is also functioning in the district since 1957. At first the office was located at Piro. It was shifted to the present site in Arrah town in 1962. There is a District Committee consisting of 15 members with seven Harijan members. The aims are almost the same as the *Harijan Sewak Sangh*. The *Sangh* has started co-operative societies in the district at Arrah, Piro, Koelwar, etc.

Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalaya.

An institution known as Shri Marut Nandan Shahabad Sangeet Sangh was established at Arrah in 1914, by Shri Ram Kumar Jain of Arrah town. Shri Ram Kumar Jain was a great lover of music and art. In 1929 the late Shri Shatrunjay Prasad Singh popularly known as Shri Lallanjee of village Jamira took charge of this institution. Lallanjee was born with the silver spoon in his mouth and freely spent his own money for the cause of music. He was a great *Pakhawaj*, *mridanga* and *tabla* player and an able exponent of *kathak* dance. Oblivious of social stigma or ridicule, the late Lallanjee dedicated himself to music as a whole-time voluntary artist. His genius soon cut new ways in musical expression. He trained one generation of musicians of Bihar and from outside. His death, in 1961, was a great loss to the institution and to the world of music.

As a mark of respect to late Shri Lallanjee the name of the institution was changed from *Marut Nandan Sangeet Vidyalaya* to *Shri Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalaya*. In the beginning the institution was located at Jamira House, Arrah. It was later shifted to its present site at *mohalla Mahadeva* in 1956. It is affiliated to *Prayag Sangeet Samiti*, Allahabad and registered with the Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi.

In 1963, there were 60 students and seven paid teachers including one Principal and three honorary teachers. There is a Managing Committee consisting of 16 members. It receives recurring grants

from the State Government and during 1961-62 and 1962-63, it received Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 8,000 respectively. It imparts education in dance and music (both vocal and instrumental). Every year it holds examination and courses of study and certificates are given by the *Prayag Sangeet Samiti*, Allahabad. This institution does not run for profit and the fees collected do not cover all the expenses.

Arya Samaj.

The *Arya Samaj* of Arrah was organised 76 years ago and till 1926 its office was held in a rented house. Later it was shifted to its present site at Abarpul. Now it has its own building on the western bank of the famous Dean's tank. The *Arya Samaj Bhawan* at Arrah is known as *Sradhanand Bhawan* after the name of the founder of *Arya Samaj*. This institution has also the State headquarters of the *Arya Samaj* and is known as *Bihar Rajya Arya Pratinidhi Sabha*. There are 38 units of *Arya Samaj* institutions scattered all over the district and the important units are at Bhabua, Buxar, Sasaram, Piro, Jagdishpur, Mohania, Ramgarh, Agiaon, Lasarhi, Koelwar, Dehri-on-Sone, etc.

Attached to the *Sradhanand Bhawan* there is a public library known as *Shrimati Suggadevi Vedic Pustakalaya* established with the donations of Shrimati Suggadevi of Arrah town. Shrimati Suggadevi was a pioneer of female education in Arrah. There is a reading room in this library.

In the *Sradhanand Bhawan* there are one *Vyayamshala* and one *Yajnishala* which are open for the public. About 20 young men attend the *Vyayamshala* every day.

There are Charitable Homoeopathic Dispensaries run by the *Arya Samaj* at Arrah and Bihea.

The annual anniversary is held every year between the months of March to May for four days. A series of conferences are held in connection with the anniversary.

The *Arya Samaj* runs a Middle School which has 300 students and nine teachers. There was one Girls' School also run by the *Arya Samaj* established in 1926 in one of the donated buildings at Abarpul (Arrah town). This is now defunct.

The activities of the *Arya Samaj* at Arrah are manifold. A regular *Nari Raksha* (rescue of women and children) scheme is working out with great success throughout the district and about 20 volunteers are on deputation for this work. They are posted mainly on the railway platforms, main streets and lanes in town and on the outskirt areas within the district. On special festive occasions, fairs, sports, public gatherings, etc., there is special arrangement for the rescue of women and children.

The *Arya Samaj* volunteers regularly visit the hospitals and other places for the unclaimed dead bodies of Hindus and the cremation is done by the *Arya Samaj* workers according to vedic rites. For such cremations the Government pays Rs. 16 per dead body, the Municipality Rs. 4.

Theosophical Society.

The Arrah Lodge of the Theosophical Society was established in 1882. There is a branch of it at Buxar also. The meetings are held regularly in the Lodge premises on every Sunday and different topics are discussed but more emphasis is given on the fundamental unity of all religions and services to mankind. It has got a library. Bulletins are issued from Arrah Lodge after every two months. The Theosophical Society is much interested in social services without any distinction of caste or creed. The meetings and conferences are not confined to the members only.

Broadly it may be observed that the Voluntary Social Service Organisations like *Bharat Sevak Sangh*, *Harijan Sevak Sangh* or *Dalit Varga Sangh* have not been able to do much and probably a re-thinking as to the handicaps is required. It appears that most of them depend on the State Government or the Central Government for their funds and there is an acute want of zealous or selfless workers like those who belong to the Servants of India Society or the Ramkrishna Mission. These organisations have taken a shape after the Government organisations. Some of these organisations are not popular even in the towns where they exist and very little is known to the outsiders as to their activities. Bhoodan Movement has also not done much as it is now being found that many of the donated lands do not actually belong to the donors. Some of the lands donated to the landless are being claimed by others or have been found to be barren, hillside or jungles belonging to the Forest Department. In contrast to this, however, there are some other organisations or some of the branches of the organisations mentioned before that have done excellent services.

NEWSPAPERS.

No daily newspapers are published in the district. The papers now published are noted below:—

Uttar Bihar is a weekly periodical giving news and articles on various subjects. It has a small circulation.

Toofan is also a weekly periodical for news and articles with a small circulation. It is published from Dehri-on-Sone.

Gaonghar is a fortnightly magazine which publishes short stories, etc. The circulation is small.

Bhojpuri is a monthly magazine in Bhojpuri dialect of Hindi language. It is published at Arrah and is said to have a good circulation.

The English daily newspapers in common circulation published outside the district but within the State are the *Indian Nation* and the *Searchlight* of Patna. The other newspapers in common circulation published outside the State are the *Statesman*, *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Times of India*, *National Herald*, *Leader*, etc. Among English weeklies and periodicals that have circulation in the district are *Blitz*, *Illustrated Weekly of India*, *Behar Herald*, etc. The *Modern Review*, *Link*, *Careers and Courses*, *Competition Master*, etc., also have some circulation.

Among the Hindi daily newspapers *Aryavarta*, *Pradeep*, *Vishwa-mitra Navabharat* and *Times* have a good circulation. The first two are published from Patna. Among the Hindi weeklies *Dharmyuga*, *Saptahik Hindusthan*, etc., have some circulation. The two Bengali daily newspapers *Ananda Bazar* and *Yugantar* of Calcutta have a small circulation. Among the Urdu dailies *Sathi* and *Sada-e-Am* published from Patna are popular.

Correct figures of circulation of any of the papers are not available.

GENERAL ELECTION.

After Independence in 1947, the First General Election, on the basis of adult franchise, was held in 1952. In pre-independence days there had been elections to the legislatures both at the Provincial and Imperial Government levels but the franchise for the Local Bodies, Provincial Assembly or Council or the Central Legislatures was based on qualifications of property, incidence of payment of revenue, rent or taxes, educational qualifications, communal representations, etc. All this accounted for a low percentage of voters. Adult franchise from 1952 General Election provides equal opportunities for men and women of all classes, castes and creeds to exercise their right of vote. It was a great experiment.

GENERAL ELECTION OF 1952.

Legislative Assembly.

During the General Election of 1952 there were 19 constituencies for *Vidhan Sabha* or Legislative Assembly out of which three (Bhabua-cum-Mohania, Sasaram-cum-Rohtas and Tarari-cum-Piro) were plural (double) and the other sixteen were single constituencies. The political parties that participated in the election for the 22 seats were the Congress, Forward Bloc (Marxist), Jan Sangh, Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party, Praja Socialist, Ram Rajya Parishad, Socialist and United Kisan Sabha. There were 80 candidates without any party affiliation and all the 22 seats had some independent candidates. None of the independent candidates were elected.

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by the party nominees are shown below*:-

Name of different parties.					No. of candi- dates.	No. of seats won by party nominees.
Congress	..	..	..	..	21	17
Socialist	..	..	..	..	21	4
Ram Rajya Parishad	..	..	..	..	15	1
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	..	13	Nil
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	..	..	..	..	7	Nil
Jan Sangh	..	..	..	..	6	Nil
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	..	..	..	..	1	Nil
United Kisan Sabha	..	..	..	..	1	Nil
GRAND TOTAL					85	22

The total number of voters in 1952 Assembly elections for the district of Shahabad was 12,52,369 (7,08,114 males and 5,44,255 females). The total number of votes cast was 6,47,241. The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and independent candidates is given below*:-

Party and Independent candidates.				Votes gained.
Congress	..	..	..	2,20,090
Independent	..	..	..	1,97,460
Socialist	..	..	..	1,28,616
Ram Rajya Parishad	..	..	..	39,272
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	31,968
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	..	..	..	11,726
Jan Sangh	..	..	..	10,947
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	..	..	..	5,617
United Kisan Sabha	..	..	..	1,545
GRAND TOTAL				6,47,241

Parliamentary Election.

During the General Election in 1952 there were two Parliamentary Constituencies, i.e., Shahabad South and Shahabad North-West. Besides, one constituency, i.e., Patna-cum-Shahabad, was in

* Report on the First General Election under the Constitution of India in Bihar, 1951-52, pages 44-46.

common with some areas of the Patna district. Shahabad South was a plural constituency and Shahabad North-West a single one. The parties which contested the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Forward Bloc (Marxist), Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party, Ram Rajya Parishad and the Socialist. Besides, nine Independent candidates without any party affiliation had also contested the three Parliamentary seats. The two seats, i.e., Shahabad South and Patna-cum-Shahabad, were won by the Congress candidates and one seat, i.e., Shahabad North-West, was captured by an Independent candidate.

The total number of votes cast was 8,72,152. The analysis of the votes cast given below shows the number of the votes that each of the party nominees had received:—

Party and Independent candidates.				Number of votes gained.
Congress	..	..	..	3,36,713
Independent	..	..	..	2,39,377
Socialist	..	..	..	1,82,643
Ram Rajya Parishad	..	..	..	80,161
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	..	..	..	24,552
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	..	..	..	8,706
GRAND TOTAL				8,72,152

The results of the 1952 elections show some trends. As mentioned earlier the total number of votes in 1952 for Assembly constituencies was 12,52,369 (7,08,114 males and 5,44,255 females) or 46.5 per cent (52.1 per cent males and 40.9 per cent females) out of which 6,47,241 or about 51.68 per cent votes were cast. The Congress alone got 2,20,090 or about 34 per cent of the total votes cast and the rest 4,27,151 or 66 per cent of the votes were divided among the other party and Independent candidates.

It is evident from the above facts that the Congress won 17 of the 22 seats but it does not mean that the Congress had a very good hold in the district. In almost all the constituencies the votes were divided which was one of the main reasons for the victory of the Congress candidates.

In plural constituency Tarari-cum-Piro, the Congress had set their only one candidate who was defeated by a Socialist candidate. The Socialist candidate won by a narrow margin (16,340 votes as against 16,315 votes). * In another constituency, Barhara, the Congress candidate who got 3,438 votes was defeated by a candidate of the Ram Rajya Parishad who got 3,938 votes. The Independent candidates together had gained 7,332 votes in Barhara constituency. This

also shows that had the votes not been divided, the victory of the candidate would have been difficult. In Arrah Mofussil constituency the Congress candidate came out successful with 5,538 votes. His nearest rival was an Independent candidate who got 2,741 votes only and together, all the candidates, excluding the Congress candidate, got 10,076 votes. Here also the division of votes was mainly responsible for the success of the party candidate.

As mentioned earlier in almost all the constituencies the division of votes was greatly responsible for the victory of a party candidate.

One of the main reasons of the victory of the Congress candidates was the fact that the Congress party was popular and it was commonly held that the independence of the country came sooner because of the Congress. The ideologies of the Socialist and Praja Socialist parties were rather subtle and it became difficult for the common mass to find the differences between the two. The Congress party had also a larger organisation with roots in the villages and the constituencies were well nursed by them. The Congress party had formed the Cabinet and that was another advantage.

From a report of the District Election Office it appears that during 1952 elections, the general mass was less educated in election matters and also less conscious of the value of their franchise. The report further mentions that a number of illiterate voters held the boxes of the Congress party in great reverence and thought the boxes represented the late Mahatma Gandhi. The results also showed that the Independent candidate without any party affiliation had a great disadvantage.

GENERAL ELECTION OF 1957.

The Second General Election was held on the basis of the electoral rolls made in 1952 subject to the modifications made in the course of the five years. The polling was staggered over a period of 16 days from the 25th February to the 12th March 1957. This Election in comparison with the First Election of 1952 was better planned and more systematically organised. Seats were reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of their population as determined by the Census Commissioner.

Legislative Assembly.

During the General Election in 1957 the number of the constituencies was nineteen, namely, Arrah, Arrah Mofussil, Shahpur, Brahampur, Dumraon, Nawanagar, Buxar, Ramgarh, Mohania, Bhabua, Sasaram, Dehri, Nokha, Bikramganj, Dawath, Piro, Sahar, Sandesh and Dinara. Bhabua, Sasaram and Piro were double member and the rest were single member constituencies. The names of Bhabua-cum-Mohania, Sasaram-cum-Rohtas and Tarari-cum-Piro were changed. Bhabua and Mohania became separate constituencies

in 1957. The Sasaram-cum-Rohtas constituency became Sasaram constituency only and that of Tarari-cum-Piro was known as Piro constituency only. Some new constituencies, namely, Arrah, Brahampur, Nawanagar, Dawath and Ramgarh came into existence during the elections in 1957. There were altogether 22 seats in 1957. The political parties that contested for the 21 seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist, Janta, Socialist and Communist Party of India. There were 30 Independent candidates who contested the election in the 13 constituencies unsuccessfully.

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by party nominees are given below*:-

Name of different parties.					Number of candidates.	Number of seats won by the party nominees.
Congress	..	..	..	..	21	15
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	..	22	7
Janta	..	..	..	..	12	Nil
Socialist	..	..	..	..	11	Nil
Communist Party of India	..	..	..	..	3	Nil
GRAND TOTAL					69	22

During the elections in 1957 there were 13,34,277 votes (7,24,632 males and 6,09,645 females). The total number of votes cast was 7,66,825 and the total number of votes rejected was five (postal ballot papers). The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and Independent candidates is as follows:-

Name of different parties.					Votes gained.
Congress	..	..	..	..	3,14,366
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	..	2,31,870
Independent	..	..	..	..	1,03,211
Socialist	..	..	..	..	46,913
Janta	..	..	..	..	38,717
Communist Party of India	..	..	..	..	31,743
GRAND TOTAL					7,66,820

Parliamentary Election.

In the General Election of 1957 there were three Parliamentary constituencies, i.e., Shahabad, Buxar and Sasaram. Out of the three constituencies, two were single (Shahabad and Buxar) and

* Report on the Second General Election in Bihar, 1956-57, pages 170-173.

one plural (Sasaram). The contesting parties for the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist and Janta. Besides, two Independent candidates without any party affiliation had contested the two seats (Buxar and Sasaram). The plural seats (Sasaram) and the single seat (Shahabad) were won by the Congress candidates and one of the Congress candidates from Sasaram constituency was elected uncontested. The single constituency of Buxar was won by an Independent candidate who defeated his two rival candidates belonging to the Praja Socialist and the Congress parties.

The total number of votes cast was 6,98,690. The analysis of the votes cast given below shows the number of votes of the candidates:—

Name of different parties.				Votes gained.
Congress	..	..	..	3,44,099
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	2,21,446
Janta	..	..	..	14,587
Independent	..	..	..	1,18,458
GRAND TOTAL				6,98,690

The election results of 1957 show some trends. As mentioned earlier there were altogether 21 constituencies out of which 14 were captured by the Congress and seven by the Praja Socialist Party candidates. Altogether 7,66,820 votes were gained by all the parties and Independent candidates out of which the Congress alone bagged 3,14,366 votes. The other party and Independent candidates had together polled 4,52,454 votes. This clearly shows that had the votes not been divided, it would have been difficult for all the Congress candidates to come out successful. Further, if all the party and Independent candidates had been united then also the victory for the Congress candidates would have been difficult.

So far the Parliamentary Elections are concerned it has already been mentioned earlier that there were altogether three constituencies (Shahabad, Buxar and Sasaram) out of which Sasaram was a plural constituency. The Congress had captured the three seats by bagging 3,44,009 votes and one Independent candidate from Sasaram constituency had come out successful. All the other party and Independent candidates had together polled 3,54,591 votes. Elections had by now become very popular and contests were keener. The need of a party backing was increasingly felt. The Congress had clearly a better run and more organised machine to fight the elections.

GENERAL ELECTION OF 1962.

In comparison with the last two General Elections, the Third General Election of 1962 was better planned and more systematic.

It also took much less time in completing the poll and in announcing the results. With the experience of the First and Second General Elections and of the bye-elections in the intervening periods a significant change in the method of casting votes was adopted this time. Previously a voter was required to put the ballot paper in the ballot box of the candidate of his choice and there were as many separate boxes (one for each contesting candidate) as many contesting candidates. In the Third General Election of 1962, there was only one common ballot box for all the contesting candidates of a constituency and the elector was to give the seal against the symbol and in the space in whose favour he wanted to exercise his franchise. The ballot papers contained the symbols of all the contesting candidates of a particular constituency and a space was provided against the symbol of each of the candidates for putting the seal.

The other important change was brought in respect of the plural member constituencies. All the plural constituencies were converted into single constituencies. Generally a plural constituency was divided into two single member constituencies and one such constituency was made reserve for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

Further, the Third General Election was held on the basis of "the revision of the electoral rolls in this State between the period 1957-62..... The electoral rolls of all the Assembly constituencies were revised during the intervening period of the Second and Third General Elections"*.

"It was planned to complete the polling within a period of one week, i.e., from the 19th to the 25th February, 1962, fixing four days as the actual days of poll in the State but on account of *Maghi Purnima* falling on the 19th February, the poll was started on the 18th February. Accordingly, 18th February, 21st February, 23rd February and 25th February were decided to be fixed as the days of actual poll. The poll was completed in the different constituencies of the State only in four days....."***

Legislative Assembly.

During the General Election of 1962, there were 22 constituencies, namely, Arrah, Arrah Mofussil, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Brahampur, Buxar, Chainpur† (S. C.), Chenari (S. C.), Dawath, Dehri, Dinara, Dumraon, Jagdishpur (S. C.), Mohania, Nawanagar, Nokha, Piro, Ramgarh, Sahar, Sandesh, Sasaram and Shahpur. The number of the constituencies had increased to 22 in 1962, as against 19 in 1957. This time three new constituencies, i.e., Chainpur, Chenari and Jagdishpur, were created due to bifurcation of double member

* Report on the Third General Election in Bihar, 1962, page 28.

** Ibid, page 65.

† Scheduled Castes.

constituencies and made reserve for Scheduled Castes candidates. The political parties that participated in the elections for the 22 seats were, the Congress, Communist, Jan Sangh, Jharkhand, Praja Socialist, Ram Rajya Parishad, Socialist and the Swatantra. There were altogether 20 Independent candidates who contested the 12 constituencies out of which only one Independent candidate in Brahampur constituency came out successful.

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by the party nominees are given below*:-

Name of different parties.	Number of the candidates.	Number of the seats won by party nominees.
Congress	22	17
Independent	20	1
Communist	8	1
Jan Sangh	6	Nil.
Jharkhand	5	Nil.
Praja Socialist	21	3
Ram Rajya Parishad	9	..
Socialist	15	Nil.
Swatantra	19	Nil.

According to 1961 census, the total population of the district was 32,18,017 souls (males 16,16,732 and females 16,01,285) out of which the total number of electors was 15,51,159 (males 8,35,291 and females 7,15,868) or 48.20 per cent (males 51.66 per cent and females 44.70 per cent)**. The total number of valid votes was 8,22,721 and the number of votes rejected was 38,377. The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and Independent candidates is given below†:-

Name of different parties.	Votes gained.
Congress	3,49,484
Communist	36,169
Jan Sangh	8,950
Jharkhand	4,913
Praja Socialist	1,64,017
Ram Rajya Parishad	10,161
Socialist	61,556
Swatantra	1,41,781
Independent	45,690
GRAND TOTAL	8,22,721

* Report on the Third General Election in Bihar, 1962, pages 252-258.

** Ibid, page 168.

† Ibid, pages 252-255.

Parliamentary Election.

In 1962 General Election there were four Parliamentary constituencies as against three in 1957. The constituencies were Shahabad, Buxar, Bikramganj and Sasaram and all were plural. Sasaram constituency was reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate. The contesting parties for the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist, Swatantra, Socialist, Communist and the Jan Sangh. Besides, there were altogether three Independent candidates who contested the election unsuccessfully in two constituencies, namely, Buxar and Bikramganj. All the four seats were won by Congress candidates.

The total number of electors was 17,09,083* out of which 9,24,730 valid votes were polled and 31,602 votes were rejected. The analysis of the votes cast is given below:—

Name of different parties.				Votes gained.
Congress	..	..	..	4,66,990
Communist	..	..	..	9,403
Jan Sangh	..	..	..	11,738
Praja Socialist	..	..	..	1,38,268
Socialist	..	..	..	64,085
Swatantra	..	..	..	1,32,111
Independent	..	..	..	1,02,081
GRAND TOTAL				9,24,676

The results of 1962 General Election show some trends. Out of the total valid votes (8,22,721) polled, the Congress party candidates got 3,49,484 votes and won 17 seats in the Legislative Assembly. The total number of Assembly seats was 22 in 1957 as well as in 1962. In the General Election of 1957 the Congress had captured only 14 seats and the other seven seats had gone to the Praja Socialist candidates. In comparison the Congress had made a better headway in 1962 and only three seats could go to the Praja Socialist candidates.

In the General Election of 1962 one Communist and one Independent candidates were also elected to the Assembly. The Communist candidate's success was a particular feature. The success of the solitary Independent candidate really underlines the necessity of a party behind the candidates.

The Congress had won the majority of the seats by securing 3,49,484 votes but the total votes gained by the other party and Independent candidates come to 4,73,237. This clearly shows that the opposition being divided the votes were split and that helped the Congress candidates.

* Report on the Third General Election in Bihar, 1962, page 194.

In Parliamentary elections altogether 9,24,676 votes were polled out of which the Congress party got 4,66,990 votes. The other party and Independent candidates had together polled 4,57,686 votes. All the seats were secured by the Congress candidates. Here also the division of votes was one of the chief factors of victory for the Congress party candidates.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS.

The Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950 (Bihar Act of 1951), came into force from the 15th August, 1951, in the State of Bihar. This Act provides better administration, protection and preservation of properties of Hindu religious trusts. Under section 5(1) the Bihar State Board of Religious Trusts was constituted in August, 1951. The Board consists of 17 members headed by a President who is nominated and appointed by the State Government. The term of the office of members as provided in the Act under sections 7(3) and 8(5) is five years. The office of the Board is at Patna. The source of finance of the Board is the trust fund. For the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred or to be incurred in the administration of this Act; under section 70(1) the trustee of every religious trust is required to pay to the Board five per cent of its net income. Here net income means the total income realised by the trustee from all sources after deducting any amount payable as revenue, rent, taxes, local or other cesses and cost of management at twelve and a half per cent. Some of the main functions of the Board which are mentioned in detail in section 28(2) of the Act are (i) to prepare and maintain a complete record containing full information relating to the origin, nature, extent, income, objects and beneficiaries of the different classes of religious trusts, (ii) to give direction for proper administration of the religious trusts, (iii) to cause inspection to be made of the property and the office of any religious trust including the accounts, and (iv) to remove a trustee from his office if such trustee is convicted of any such offence as implies moral turpitude or who refuses to or wilfully disobeys the directions and orders of the Board. For proper implementation of the provisions of the Act there are four Inspectors, one Auditor, one Superintendent and one Assistant Superintendent all working under the President of the Board. At present, the Board functions under the control of Law Department, Government of Bihar.

All public trusts and endowments made by the Hindus in the district of Shahabad are governed by this Board. Till October, 1963, there were altogether 436 Hindu religious trusts. Some of the important Hindu religious trusts and charitable endowments registered at the Board's office are Hanumanjee Trust, Jagdishpur, Sharda Braj Raj Shree Biharijee Trust, Jagdishpur, Shri Radha Krishna Mandir Trust, Jagdishpur, Koraich Mahabirasthan, Sasaram,

Ram Rekha Math, Buxar, Gupteshwar Dham Trust (P. O. Manrezpur, P.S. Chenari), Chhoti Sangat, Dumraon, Laheri Math, Laheri (P. O. Pupsar, P.S. Kargahar), Basaon Kala Math, Basaon (P. O. Sikraul, P.S. Itarhi), Kawalchhapara Math, Kawalchhapara (P. O. Sinha, P.S. Barhara), Shiva Mandir Trust, Brahampur, Radha Krishna Mandir, Bhabua, Chhoti Dumraon Trust, Bateswar Nath Trust, Sasaram, Darigaon Temple Trust, Darigaon, Shri Jain Bala Vishram Trust, Arrah, D. K. Jain Endowment Trust, Arrah, Bari Mathia Trust, Arrah, etc.

The details of some of the trusts are given below:—

Hanumanjee Trust, Jagdishpur.

This is a religious trust and was established in 1934 by one Shri Nandkumar Upadhyaya of Jagdishpur. There is a temple of Hanumanjee and for the upkeep of the temple there are $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres of cultivable land and the annual income of the temple is about Rs. 1,000. There is a Trust Committee constituted under section 32 of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950. The Committee consists of seven members out of which there are one President, one Secretary and five members.

Sharda Braj Raj Shree Biharijee Trust, Jagdishpur.

This is also a religious trust which was established in 1940 by Shrimati Dulhin Braj Raj Kunwar w/o late Rai Bahadur Sri Sharda Prasad Singh of Jagdishpur. There is a temple of Radha Krishna. The landed property of the trust consists of 49 *bighas* of cultivated land. The annual income of the trust is Rs. 4,500. This trust is also looked after by a Committee of seven members out of which there are one President, one Secretary and five members. The Committee has been formed under the terms laid down in the deed of the trust executed in 1954 by the founder.

Sri Radha Krishna Mandir Trust, Jagdishpur.

A religious trust established in 1921 by Mosamat Jechha Kunwar, wife of the late Pandit Agam Tiwary of Jagdishpur. For the upkeep of the temple and for the expenditure during festivals like Ramnavmi, Krishnasthmi, etc., 32 *bighas* of cultivable lands have been donated to the trust by Shrimati Jechha Kunwar. The annual income of the trust is Rs. 4,000. A trust committee consisting of a chief trustee and four other members under section 32 of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950, has been constituted.

Koraich Mahabirasthan, Sasaram.

This is one of the oldest temples in the district situated at Sasaram. In this temple there is a statue of Hanumanjee known as Koraich Mahabir. The annual income of the temple is about Rs. 6,000 from house rents and offerings. There is a Management Committee to look after the affairs of the temple. The Committee consists of a President, a Secretary and four members.

Ram Rekhaghat Math, Buxar.

This trust was founded by Baba Raghunath Das. The date of its establishment was not available at the office of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Board. The object of this Trust is the worship of the images of Ram, Lakshmana and Janki in the temple and the service of the wandering *sadhus* (sojourners). It is managed by a *Mahanth*. There are 59 *bighas* cultivable land and the annual income and expenditure of the trust is Rs. 6,000.

Gupteshwar Dham (P. O. Mamrezpur, P.-S. Chenari, district Shahabad).

This trust was established by Swami Bachcha Giri and the date of its establishment is not known. Its objects are *puja*, *sadhu seva*, *desh seva*, etc. This is also a purely religious trust and its annual income from offerings is Rs. 1,000. The affairs are managed by a *Mahanth*.

Chhoti Sangat, Dumraon.

This trust was established by one Baba Mangal Dasjee. This is also one of the oldest *Sangats* in the district and it is said that this *Sangat* was established about 300 years back. There is a *Mahanth* to look after the affairs of the *Sangat* and the annual income from offerings and landed property (62 *bighas* of cultivable land) is Rs. 4,500. Its objects are religious discourses, *puja*, *sankirtan*, *sadhu seva*, etc. This is also managed by a *Mahanth*.

Laheer Math, Laheer (P. O. Pupsar, P.-S. Kargahar, district Shahabad).

This trust was founded by Baba Bawanath Giri but the date of its foundation is not available. The main objects of the trust are *puja*, *sadhu seva*, etc. It is under the charge of a *Mahanth* and it has got annual income of Rs. 6,000 from 85 *bighas* of cultivable land and offerings.

Basaon Kala Math, Basaon (P. O. Sikraul, P.-S. Itarhi, district Shahabad).

It was founded by one Sri Bharginath Rai of Basaon in 1911 for worship and food for the students and poor. It has got 500 *bighas* of land and a zamindari of an average income of Rs. 2,000 which has now vested in the State. The annual income of this trust is more than Rs. 10,000. This trust also runs a Sanskrit *Pathshala*, known as Shri Niwas Mukund Ramanuj Sanskrit Vidyalaya. This trust is also managed by a *Mahanth*.

Kawalchhapara Math, Kawalchhapara (P. O. Sinha, P.-S. Barhara, district Shahabad).

This *Math* was donated by Baba Thikar Nathjee and its date of foundation is not known. The aims and objects of the trust are, (i) propagation of the different branches of the *Sanatan* religion as

also of Sanskrit language, (ii) *sadhu seva* and (iii) the upkeep of the temple. It appears from form number I under Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Rules, 1952 (sections 7 and 13) of the year 1961-62 that the total land donated in trust was 349 *bighas* but the river Ganga had been eroding the land since 1952 and till 1961-62 it had eroded 320 *bighas*; hence, the balance is only 29 *bighas*. The annual income and expenditure of the temple is Rs. 2,100. This is also managed by a *Mahanth*.

WAQF.

The Bihar Waqf Act, 1947 (Act VIII of 1948), was passed to have a better administration of *waqfs* in the State of Bihar. According to the provisions of this Act, two separate Boards, namely, *Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf* and *Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf*, one for the Sunni and the other for the Shia sects of the Muslims of Bihar were constituted to discharge the functions assigned to the Boards by the Act. The main duties of the Boards are to ensure that *waqfs* under their superintendence are properly maintained, controlled and administered and the income thereof is duly applied for the purposes for which such *waqfs* (trusts) were created or intended.

Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf, Gulabbagh, Patna-4.

The *Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf* with the State headquarters at Patna, was established on the 3rd March, 1948, with nine nominated members but now (November, 1963) it consists of eleven members including the *Sadar* (President). The general superintendence of the *Waqfs* vests in the *Majlis* which meets once in three months. The head of this office is a *Nazir-e-Awqaf* and under him there are a number of officials.

The office maintains the record of almost all the *waqfs* in the State. From the office records it appears that there are altogether 69 *waqfs* in the district of Shahabad.

Of all the *waqfs* in the district of Shahabad, three are very important. They are the *Madarsa Wahidia*, *Arrah*, *Shahi Mosque*, *Arrah*, *Farukhsiyari* and *Alamshahi*.

Madarsa Wahidia, Arrah.

One Sri S. M. Masood Ali Saheb of Dean's Tank, Arrah, dedicated his properties under a registered deed on the 8th June, 1921, for the upkeep of the mosque and *Madarsa Wahidia*. The immovable properties of the *waqf* are the holding nos. 240 and 243 in circle no. 2, ward no. 4, *mohalla Tari*, Arrah and one mosque building. The movable properties of the same are the six shares in the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway of Rs. 100.00 each and eleven shares in the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway of Rs. 10.00 each.

In 1933, subsequently Mr. S. M. Masood Ali (Shrimati Wahidu Nissa) dedicated the shares of both the railways for the upkeep of the *Madarsa Wahidia*. This *madarsa* is still running.

There is a management committee consisting of 11 members including one Secretary to look after the affairs of the *madarsa*.

Shahi Mosque, Arrah.

One Bibi Hayatunnissa dedicated some shops in this old mosque for its maintenance and executed a registered deed in 1819 and gave instructions for the allocation of the funds of the *katras* as follows:—

- (i) Imam to be paid six annas from the collection of the *katras*;
- (ii) *Moazzin* (one who calls the *Azan*) and *Khadim* (servant) to be given three annas from the collection of the shops;
- (iii) Sweeper, water-supply and other mosque requirements will be met out of three annas of the total collection; and
- (iv) Expense for *Ramzan* and repairs of the mosque to be spent out of four annas of the total collection.

There is a managing committee consisting of 11 members including one Secretary to look after the affairs of the mosque.

The properties of this *waqf* are the mosque building, 34 shops adjoining the mosque (holding nos. 346, 484, 485 and 487) in *Chowk Masjid*, Arrah and holding nos. 196 and 614 in ward 5, *mohalla Tari*, Arrah.

Farukhsiyari and Alamshahi, Sasaram.

There is one *Khankah* at Sasaram which was established by one Shah Kabir *Darvesh* but there is no *waqf* deed or grant (*sanad*) to ascertain who was the *waqif* and what were the properties dedicated. But it appears from the perusal of the records that the *waqfs* were known as Farukhsiyari and Alamshahi. The properties of the *Khankah* consist principally of two imperial grants, one of the year 1717 from the Emperor Farukhsiyar and the other in 1762 from the Emperor Shah Alam. Hence, some of the properties of the *Khankah* are called Farukhsiyari and the other Alamshahi.

Due to the mismanagement of the *waqf* by the *Mutawalli* (one who manages the *waqf*), a scheme of management for better control was framed in the year 1952, by the *Majlis*.

The objects of the *waqfs* are as follows:—

- (i) maintenance of a *madarsa*;
- (ii) aid to local Muslim Girls School and hospital;
- (iii) burial of paupers;

(iv) miscellaneous expenses; and

(v) *waqf* cess; 1|10 of the net income on charities to the poor; 1|5 on the maintenance of a hostel for the *Hafiz* and their fooding.

The properties of the *waqf* are mosque and *madarsa* building, one boarding house, one kitchen and one *musafirkhana*.

Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf, Afzalpur, Patna-6.

The present *Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf* was established on the 7th July 1948, under the Bihar Waqf Act, 1947 (Act VIII of 1948). All the members of the first Board were appointed by the State Government. The term of the office of the first Board was for five years from the date of the publication of their names in the official Gazette and the late Dr. Sir Syed Sultan Ahmad was appointed its first President besides ten other members. At present there is one President and ten other members. The functions of the Board have already been explained.

The following are Shia *Waqfs* in the district of Shahabad:—

Name of <i>Waqf</i> .	Address.
1. Bibi Bataso	Village Chandari, P. O. Aurangabad Saraiya, district Shahabad.
2. Shah Tasaduque Ali ..	Ditto.
3. Sehat Bibi	Ditto.
4. Hakim Mohammad Tahir	Ditto.
5. Altaf Ali	Ditto.
6. Mir Hasan	Phatak Mir Saheb, Arrah.

The details of some of the important *waqfs* are given below:—

Bibi Bataso (115).

This *waqf* was established by late Bibi Bataso w/o late Sheikh Hussain Baksh of Aurangabad Saraiya, Shahabad on the 5th September 1903. The objects of this *waqf* are—*Majlis* during *Ashrai Muharram* and *Chehallum*, *dafan-kafan* (burial) for the poor Shia Muslims and for the primary education (only *Quran*) for poor children. The properties of the *waqf* are *Mouza* Hurka, *touzi* no. 6860 and one *katcha-pucca* building.

Hakim Mohammad Tahir (118).

This *waqf* was established by Mohammad Tahir Chaudhuri in 1941 and the object is for *Majlis-wa-Matam* (*Muharram*). The property of the *waqf* is only *touzi* no. 4741.

Mir Hasan (121).

One late Sri Mir Hasan Askari had established this *waqf* in 1891 and its objects are—

- (i) *Milad-wa-Majlis* (*Ashrai Muharram*—ten days *Majlis* during *Muharram*);
- (ii) to feed the *musafirs* (travellers); and
- (iii) repairing of the *waqf* buildings.

The properties of the *waqf* are—

- (i) five buildings at Arrah town;
- (ii) *Mahal Koath*, *Pargana Namaro*; and
- (iii) *Erazichak*.