

CHAPTER VIII

ECONOMIC TRENDS AND MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS.

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN.

The district of Patna is predominantly agricultural, though a little less than Bihar on the whole.

The 1961 Census distinguishes nine major industrial categories or occupational groups as follows :—

- (i) agriculturists, (ii) agricultural labourers, (iii) mining, quarrying, animal husbandry, forestry, hunting, etc., (iv) cottage industry, (v) manufacturing other than cottage industry, (vi) construction, (vii) trade and commerce, (viii) transport, storage and communication and (ix) other occupations (miscellaneous).

1951 Census data

The number of categories in this classification is four in excess of the 1951 classification, where the categories were as follows :—

- (i) agriculturists, (ii) production other than cultivation, (iii) commerce, (iv) transport and communication, (v) other professions and services.

The first broad group of agriculturists was subdivided in the 1951 Census into the following four groups : (a) cultivators of land, wholly or mainly owned, (b) cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned, (c) cultivating labourers, (d) non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers, etc. Each class and sub-class is further split up into (1) self-supporting persons, (2) non-earning dependents and (3) earning dependents. This gives a useful direct classification of dependency, occupationwise, which is not available in the 1961 figures.

Further break-ups of 'production other than cultivation' are, however, not available in the 1951 Census. ✓

The 1951 Census gave the total population of the Patna district at 25,28,272*. The broad occupational distribution of this population was as follows † :—

All agricultural classes—18,72,567.

All non-agricultural classes—6,55,705.

*Patna District Census Handbook (1951), p. 3.

† Ibid, pp. 12 and 14.

This gives a percentage dependency on agriculture of roughly 74. The detailed breakdown of this into sub-classes and into dependents and earners is as follows :—

I. *Agricultural classes—*

(i) *Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly owned and their dependents—*

Self-supporting persons—	Males	— 2,50,280	Non-earning dependents—	Males	— 3,00,299	Earning dependents—	Males	— 24,678
	Females	— 85,342		Females	— 4,50,078		Females	— 22,684
				11,33,361				

(ii) *Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly uncultivated and their dependents—*

Self-supporting persons—	Males	— 28,465	Non-earning dependents—	Males	— 44,158	Earning dependents—	Males	— 5,524
	Females	— 11,553		Females	— 61,124		Females	— 5,141
				}				1,55,955

(iii) *Cultivating labourers and their dependents—*

Self-supporting persons—	Males	— 1,11,949
	Females	— 70,686
Non-earning dependents—	Males	— 1,53,320
	Females	— 2,00,987
Earning dependents—	Males	— 10,999
	Females	— 9,630
}		
5,57,571		

(iv) *Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents—*

25,680	Self-supporting persons—	Males —	4,608
		Females —	2,167
	Non-earning dependents—	Males —	6,786
		Females —	9,922
	Earning dependents—	Males —	1,044
		Females —	1,163

II. *Non-agricultural classes—*

(i) *Production other than cultivation—*

1,08,401	Self-supporting persons—	Males —	27,723
		Females —	4,811
	Non-earning dependents—	Males —	27,079
		Females —	42,607
	Earning dependents—	Males —	3,322
		Females —	2,859

(ii) *Commerce**—

Self-supporting persons—

Males	—	40,242
Females	—	6,918

Non-earning dependents—

Males	—	51,223
Females	—	72,797

Earning dependents—

Males	—	3,758
Females	—	4,853

1,70,791

(iii) *Transport*—

Self-supporting persons—

Males	—	10,787
Females	—	521

Non-earning dependents—

Males	—	9,593
Females	—	14,831

Earning dependents—

Males	—	1,237
Females	—	652

37,621

(iv) *Other services and Miscellaneous groups*—

Self-supporting persons—

Males	—	93,533
Females	—	18,098

Non-earning dependents—

Males	—	80,125
Females	—	1,16,470

3,29,892

Earning dependents—

Males	—	6,544
Females	—	15,122

*Patna District Census Handbook, 1951, pp. 14 to 15.

Cultivation of land, mainly or wholly owned, accounted for about 60 per cent of the agricultural classes. Cultivators owning other people's land accounted for about 8 per cent of the agricultural classes. According to the 1961 Census, the total population of the district is 29,49,746*. The lumping together of all earners in 1961 under the description workers did not mean merely putting 'self-supporting persons' and 'earning dependents' together; it also meant avoiding the concept of 'income' earning as a necessary characteristic of economic activity, as this had resulted in the past in the non-enumeration of many numbers of the household doing productive work for the family but without earning personal incomes. Workers accounted for 11,08,905, i.e., a little over 34 per cent, giving a dependency ratio of over 65 per cent, as against the 1951 ratio of about the same magnitude.

The distribution of this economically active population is as follows†:—

I. Cultivators ..	4,50,970	} 67.3 per cent	} 68.8 per cent.
II. Agricultural labourers	2,96,363		
III. Mining, Quarrying, Live- stock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and allied activi- ties.	14,393		
IV. Household industry ..	60,655	} nearly 10.1 per cent.	
V. Manufacturing other than household industry.	41,194		
VI. Construction ..	13,281	} 8.7 per cent.	
VII. Trade and Commerce..	54,600		
VIII. Transport, Storage and Communications	28,955		
IX. Miscellaneous ..	1,48,494	13.3 per cent.	

The district of Patna, thus, is a little less ruralised than the whole State of Bihar, where in 1961, agricultural labourers and cultivators accounted for 76.84 per cent of the total workers, and the primary occupations together, i.e., agriculture, livestock, forestry, fishing, etc., 80.23 per cent as against 68.8 per cent in the district of Patna in 1961 (for all

*Census of India, 1961, Vol. IV, Bihar, Part II-A. General Population Tables, p. 21.

†Ibid, pp. 376 to 379.

primary occupations) and 67.3 per cent in agriculture alone.* Compared to the 1951 Census, according to which about 74 per cent of the population was dependent on agriculture, the importance of agriculture in the district has slightly gone down to 67 per cent. In 1921 the dependency on agriculture was 72 per cent.

The household industry and manufacturing, other than household, the proportion of workers engaged in the Patna district is over 10 per cent as against a little less than 8 per cent in the entire State. Similarly trade, transport, storage and communications accounted for over 8.7 per cent of the workers as against 3.9 per cent in the whole State, and miscellaneous occupations 13.7 per cent as against 7.5 per cent in the State.

This relative urbanisation of the district of Patna is no doubt the reflection of the capital city of Patna, accounting for 3,64,594 out of a total population of a little over 29 lakhs.

One drawback of the 1961 Census economic classification of occupations is that, unlike the 1951 occupational classification, there is no break-ups of the cultivator class into those owning their holdings and those wholly or mainly cultivating other people's lands. According to the 1951 Census the great bulk of cultivators belonged to the land owning category accounting for about 60 per cent of all agricultural classes, and outnumbering all the other three agricultural classes put together (*i.e.* the non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents). Cultivating labourers totalled in 1951 together with their dependents a little over 5.5 lakhs out of a total agricultural population of 18.7 lakhs, *i.e.*, nearly 30 per cent. It appears from the figures of 1961 occupational classification that the proportion of cultivators among the workers engaged as agriculture labourers has gone up to nearly 40 per cent, cultivators and labourers being the only two classes recorded among those engaged in agriculture. This may mean conversion of the non-owning cultivators into labourers—a process encouraged by the land reforms measures, aiming to make the actual cultivator as owner of the land and thus scaring the absentee owner to oust the actual cultivator and resume cultivation himself or sell away the land to some actually cultivating person. The two sets of figure are, of course, not strictly comparable, as the 1951 Census counted the dependents earning and non-earning, in the occupational groups, while the 1961 Census figures refer to workers alone.

So far as the non-agricultural classes are concerned, comparability is rendered even more difficult by the change in the categories distinguished, while the 1951 Census lumped all non-agricultural production under one category. The 1961 Census distinguishes between household industry and other forms of manufacture on the one hand and on the

other lumps together mining, quarrying, forestry, etc., as a group separate from industry. The number of actual workers in the sector, mining, quarrying, etc., is quite small, as is only natural, because the district of Patna has hardly any mines or even forests worth mentioning*. The separate enumeration of household industry is a great advantage in understanding the progress of industrialisation. The figures relating to trade, commerce, etc., are of course comparable, though the figure for miscellaneous occupations appears to be unusually large.

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS.

Detailed break-ups are available for the miscellaneous occupations as follows :—

1. Services	..	..	..	1,34,162
2. Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	..			3,597
3. Activities not adequately described	..	..		10,735
			Total	1,48,494

Thus service-holders predominate. Electricity, gas, water and sanitary service holders are also holders of service, the two sub-categories together accounting for the largest number of workers next to agriculture, even exceeding the total number of workers in industry (household plus manufacturing).

The 1951 Census gave a total of 3,29,892 dependents including 1,33,297 workers in "services and other miscellaneous groups", the miscellaneous groups, presumably, including construction, which finds separate mention in the 1961 Census. Hence for comparing the 1961 Census returns with the returns for the 1951 Census, we should add the workers in construction work also. Hence the total comes to 1,61,775 in 1961 as against 1,33,297 workers in 1951.

DETAILS OF HOUSEHOLD INDUSTRY.

A large number of household industry types are located in the district as per 1961 Census operations, mainly based on the type of the product or the raw material used. The following types are included : (i) Field

*From the details given according to the Indian Standard Industrial classification it appears that only 218 persons were engaged in mining and quarrying and 14,175 are engaged in livestock, forestry, fishing and hunting distributed as follows : Livestock and hunting—11,505; fishing—377; plantations—1,119; forestry and logging—174.

produce and plantation crops ; (ii) Forestry and logging ; (iii) Fishing ; (iv) Livestock and hunting ; (v) Mining and quarrying ; (vi) Foodstuffs and beverages ; (vii) Tobacco ; (viii) Cotton and Jute Textiles ; (ix) Wool ; (x) Silk and miscellaneous textiles ; (xi) Wood products ; (xii) Paper, Paper products, printing and publishing ; (xiii) Leather and leather products ; (xiv) Rubber, petroleum and coal products ; (xv) Chemicals ; (xvi) Non-metallic minerals other than fuel ; (xvii) Basic metal products ; (xviii) Machinery, transport and electrical equipment ; (xix) Miscellaneous manufacturing industry.

Of these the important ones, employing over a thousand workers are the household industries based on : (i) Livestock and hunting ; (ii) Foodstuffs ; (iii) Tobacco ; (iv) Cotton textiles ; (v) Miscellaneous textiles ; (vi) Wood products ; (vii) Leather and leather products ; (viii) Metals ; (ix) Minerals other than metals, and (x) Miscellaneous industries.

DETAILED BREAK-UPS OF MAJOR INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

The 1961 Census gives data about not only broad industrial groups, as referred to already, but, following the standard industrial classification, gives details of each broad group. These are of particular interest in the fields of household and non-household industry, trade, business, profession or service. For example in the field of household and other industries, details, based generally on the nature of the raw material used or finished product made, give a total of 24 types. The data about persons employed in each of these are given in a separate table.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN OCCUPATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION.

The 1961 Census distinguishes between 'occupational' and 'industrial' groups. As against the eight broad industrial groups, besides the miscellaneous industries, the occupational classification distinguishes nine broad categories or divisions, and a tenth one referring to those workers whose occupations are not classifiable. These broad categories are as follows :—

- (i) Professional, technical and allied workers.
- (ii) Administrative, executive and managerial workers.
- (iii) Clerical and allied workers.
- (iv) Sales workers.
- (v) Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and allied workers.
- (vi) Miners, quarrymen and allied workers.
- (vii) Transport and communications occupations.
- (viii) Craftsmen, production process workers and labourers, not classified elsewhere.
- (ix) Service, sports and recreation workers.
- (x) Workers not classifiable by occupation.

This 'occupational' division is made for industrial groups other than for 'cultivators' and 'agricultural labourers'.

Each occupational division is made up of a number of broad 'groups' and each 'group' is subdivided into 'families'. The gross total of these gives the complete pattern of the occupations in the district, the total number of which comes to 336.

AGE COMPOSITION AND THE WORKING POPULATION.

Information is available from the Economic Tables of the 1961 Census about the occupational distribution of the different age-groups of the population. Four broad age-groups have been distinguished : (i) 0—14 ; (ii) 15—34 ; (iii) 35—59 ; and (iv) 60. There is, a fifth group of persons whose age has not been stated.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION.

The distribution of the total population between the different age-groups is as follows* :—

Age-group.	Total population.	Working population.
0—14	12,15,927	53,691
15—34	9,33,745	5,28,956
35—59	6,08,300	4,30,853
60	1,90,743	94,951
Age not stated ..	1,031	454
TOTAL POPULATION	29,49,746	11,08,905

Of this, 11,08,905 were workers, distributed between the different age-groups as detailed above.

* *Patna District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 27.*

Each age-group was distributed among the various occupations as follows* :—

Age-Group.	Culti- vators.	Agriculture labourers.	Mining, quarry- ing, live- stock, etc.	House- hold indus- try.	Non- house- hold manu- factu- rers.	Constru- ction.	Trade and Commer- ce.	Trans- port, Storage, Communi- cation.
0—14	15,723	21,737	4,333	3,315	1,408	354	1,105	164
15—34	1,93,104	1,50,745	5,606	30,414	22,908	5,596	24,486	15,556
35—59	1,86,195	1,04,491	3,567	22,297	14,849	5,905	24,109	12,512
60	52,733	19,279	880	4,612	2,014	1,044	4,874	702

The following facts emerge from these data :—

Only 37.5 per cent of the population is employed in productive work though 52.2 per cent of the total population belongs to the working age-group.

Nearly 4.5 per cent of the children below 14 are engaged in productive work of whom nearly half is in agriculture either as labourers or as cultivators. The other primary occupations like mining, quarrying, etc., follow next in respect of employment of children, with household industry running as a close third of the population in the working age-group (15—59), 62.2 per cent are actually working.

SEX COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION IN THE WORKING AGE-GROUPS AND AMONGST WORKERS.

Nearly 7.5 lakh women belong to the working age-groups, i.e., 15—59. Of these 4.8 lakhs are non-workers. Amongst males in the working age-groups (15—59) numbering nearly 8 lakhs, a little over a lakh were counted as non-workers.

Thus working women constitute only 36 per cent of the total number of women in the working age-group and 21.7 per cent of the total female population. Working males constitute 7.98 lakh persons while males

* Patna District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 27.

in the working age-group (15—59) constitute 7.92 lakh persons only, thus implying that quite a large number of males outside the normal working age (15—59) are engaged in productive work. As a matter of fact as many as 1.07 lakh males are part of the working force, while workers belonging to the normal working age-group (15—59) number less than the male population in this age-group of 1.02 lakhs. This means that 1.02 lakh males of the working age-group are not working.

Similarly, working women in the 15—59 age-group number 2.59 lakhs as against 7.49 lakh women in this age-group, i.e., 5 lakhs women of this age-group are not working.

ACTIVITIES ENGAGED IN BY THE NON-WORKING POPULATION.

The 1961 Census collected data about the activities in which the non-working population classified by broad age-groups and sex is engaged. The activities are grouped under eight heads as follows : (1) full-time students ; (2) household duties ; (3) dependents, infants and disabled ; (4) retired, rentier or of independent means ; (5) beggars, vagrants, etc. ; (6) inmates of penal, mental or charitable institutions ; (7) persons seeking employment for the first time ; (8) persons employed before, but now out of employment and seeking job.

Full-time students numbered 2.65 lakh males (out of a total non-working population of 7.24 lakhs) and 63.8 thousand females (out of a total non-working female population of 11.16 lakhs), i.e., a total of 3.29 lakhs of all age-groups. It is interesting to note that there were 187 full-time students even in the age-group 35—39, though, of course, the bulk of the students population came from the first two age-groups, i.e., below 35 years.

Household duties occupied about 5.15 lakhs women and even nearly 1,400 men. A little over 4.31 lakh women of the working age-group (15—59) were engaged in household work out of over 4.8 lakhs women. Over 72,000 women outside the working age were engaged in household work.

Dependents, infants and disabled.—Over 9.7 lakhs persons of all age together are classified in this category, of whom nearly 4.4 lakhs were males and 5.33 lakhs females. Of this number over 8.5 lakhs were children below 14, but nearly 40,000 women and nearly 20,000 men of the working age-group are also found in this category.

Retired, rentier or of independent means.—9,458 persons are classified in this category, including 2,031 men and 708 women of working age.

Beggars and vagrants numbered 4,506 persons including nearly 3,000 persons of working age, of whom over 1,800 were males.

Inmates of penal, mental or charitable institutions numbered 645 persons.

The following table gives the agewise-cum-activitywise classification of those not working* :—

Age-group	Total.	Full-time students.	Household duties.		Dependents, infants and invalids.	Retired, or of independent means.	Beggars. or vagrants.	Inmates of penal, or charitable institutions.	Seeking employment for the first time.	Seeking employment after being at work.
			Males.	Females.						
0—14	11,62,236	2,52,099	149	52,435	8,54,776	2,049	455	15	207	51
15—34	4,04,789	77,087	745	2,81,424	36,439	959	1,203	485	5,005	1,462
35—59	1,77,447	187	355	1,50,317	22,504	1,780	1,587	68	205	443
60	95,792	..	127	30,713	58,849	4,666	1,252	76	41	68
Age not stated ..	577	67	13	108	377	4	9	..	1	..
Grand Total ..	18,40,841	3,29,420	1,389	5,14,995	9,72,945	9,458	4,506	645	5,459	2,024

* Patna District Census Handbook, 1961, pp. 52 and 53.

COST OF LIVING.

Rising prices have an obvious impact on the cost of living. Systematic cost of living indices for the working class alone are available and that too for the Patna urban centre only. With the year ending July, 1939 as the base, the latest index (for September, 1965) starts at 832. The fifteen years of planning, i.e., since 1951 have witnessed about a doubling of the cost of living index. The rate of rise till 1958 was negligible. Actually in the period 1954—56, there was a slight fall initiated, as in the rest of the country, by the fall in agricultural prices during this period. Since 1956 the average has steadily risen, though with seasonal variations largely in consonance with food prices; but since 1960 seasonal dips are becoming less important and the continuous rise has been sustained.

While the cost of living indices is directly relevant to the working classes, the impact of price rises during the last one decade and a half has fallen to the same extent, if not more on other economic classes in society as well. The money income of the working classes, however, also rises at least to a substantial extent with the price rise due to their collective strength as manifested through their trade unions.

The following table shows the changes in the cost of living indices (Consumer Price Index, Patna Centre), base July, 1939 for working class* :—

Year.		Average amount.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1953	..	474	450	448	454	450	460	590	511	517	411	486	485	436
1954	..	449	436	427	425	412	417	403	381	381	380	379	387	362
1955	..	366	344	350	363	361	357	346	371	370	381	384	390	381
1956	..	415	372	291	407	417	411	412	404	436	445	432	436	424
1957	..	432	431	455	461	466	481	491	500	501	477	505	503	495
1958	..	486	449	456	453	464	471	474	501	518	534	538	499	496
1959	..	486	472	476	471	478	488	496	495	495	489	491	503	479
1960	..	501	486	497	496	489	496	510	516	508	507	513	503	500
1961	..	504	504	495	495	499	494	505	505	497	497	515	519	518
1962	..	525	511	520	512	505	510	522	536	543	542	539	533	531
1963	..	569	533	533	538	550	553	580	584	586	586	598	595	597
1964	..	640	506	597	606	598	613	621	641	679	686	708	726	702
1965	..	744	716	692	669	695	711	759	790	830	832	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

* The rise in cost of living started from 1957 after a period of falling prices between 1953 and 1956, the rise being particularly rapid since 1964, and most rapid in 1965. The months of June—October are generally the peak months, due mainly to the peak reached usually in foodgrain prices. It is the rise in foodgrains prices that has been the main force behind the rise in cost of living since 1957, though of late, prices of manufactured goods have been rising equally fast.

WAGES.

The money wage rates have followed the rise in the price level since beginning of the present century. About 1907, the wage rates in Bihar were far lower than in Bengal, though they were several times the rates prevailing formerly in Bihar. Coolies or labourers were paid at the rate of two annas per day, either in cash or equivalent in kind or both, the latter including about 3 seers of paddy or *khesari* worth an anna *plus* an anna in cash. Blacksmiths got from one to four annas and carpenters from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 annas daily. These were the rates prevailing round about 1871. By 1907, the rates were (i) for unskilled labour $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas (adult male) to 3 annas (women) or $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas for a boy, (ii) for skilled labour 5 to 6 annas for a carpenter or mason and 6 to 8 annas for a blacksmith*.

By 1924, the wages in urban areas were (a) for unskilled labour 6 to 8 annas a day, (b) for carpenter and masons 10 to 12 annas a day and for blacksmith 12 annas to a rupee a day. Outside urban areas remuneration for labour used to be largely given in kind. Most of the agricultural labour was still performed by *Kamiyas* who were maintained by their employers for cultivating, threshing and cutting crops. The labourers were paid a certain proportion of the grains with which they dealt, the rate for harvesting being commonly one bundle in fifteen. While money wages have risen enormously, the real wages in the beginning of the century probably did not change much, as would be indicated by the minimum wage rates laid down by the Government under the Minimum Wages Act.

Wage Rates.

The agricultural wages are fixed by the Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. To revise the wage rates in accordance with the provisions of the Act, a Committee was appointed in 1957, on the basis of whose recommendations the following revised rates of minimum wages have been rectified with effect from 25th July, 1959 :—

Name of agricultural operation.	Daily wage rate in areas irrigated by canals, tube-wells or electrically operated pumps.	Wage rates in other places.
1. Tilling, bundling, harrowing, manuring, sowing, weeding, watering, thrashing, parboiling, etc.	<i>Rice or wheat</i> : 1 sr. 14 ch. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>safuo</i> OR •	<i>Rice or wheat</i> : 1 sr. 12 ch. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>safuo</i> OR •

**Patna District Gazetteer*, 1924, p. 117.

Name of agricultural operation.	Daily wage rate in areas irrigated by canals, tube-wells or electrically operated pumps.	Wage rates in other places.
	<i>Paddy</i> : 2 srs. 13 chs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i>	<i>Paddy</i> : 2 srs. 10 chs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i>
	OR	OR
	<i>Gram, peas, maize</i> : 2 srs. 8 chs. or $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Gram, peas, maize</i> : 2 srs. 4 chs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i>
	OR	OR
	<i>Masoor</i> : 2 srs. 6 chs. $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Masoor</i> : 2 srs. 3 chs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i>
	OR	OR
	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 3 srs. 4 chs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>chhanti</i> .	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 3 srs. 1 ch. and $\frac{1}{2}$ sr. <i>satoo</i> .
2. Transplantation ..	<i>Rice/wheat</i> : 3 srs. 12 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Rice/wheat</i> : 3 srs. 8 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Paddy</i> : 5 srs. 10 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Paddy</i> : 5 srs. 4 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Masoor</i> : 4 srs. 12 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Masoor</i> : 4 srs. 6 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Gram, peas or maize</i> : 5 srs. and 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Gram, peas, maize</i> : 4 srs. 8 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 6 srs. 8 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 6 srs. 6 chs. plus 1 sr. <i>satoo</i> .
3. Sowing ..	<i>Rice or wheat</i> : 2 srs. 6 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Rice or wheat</i> : 2 srs. 3 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Paddy</i> : 3 srs. 8 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Paddy</i> : 3 srs. 5 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Gram, peas, maize</i> : 3 srs. 2 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Gram, peas, maize</i> : 2 srs. 13 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Masoor</i> : 3 srs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Masoor</i> : 2 srs. 12 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .
	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 5 srs. 1 ch. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .	<i>Khesari or other grains</i> : 3 srs. 13 chs. plus 10 chs. <i>satoo</i> .
4. Harvesting and carrying the sheafs to the <i>khalihan</i> .	<i>Paddy</i> : 1 bundle per 16 bundles. <i>Rabi</i> : 1 bundle in 14 bundles plus local customary levies <i>Lorha, Muthia, Athia</i> , etc. •	<i>Paddy</i> : 1 bundle in 16 bundles. <i>Rabi</i> : 1 bundle in 14 bundles. Same.

While the above are the minimum wages in kinds, attached labourers are to be given 11 *kathas* of personal land for cultivation, or in the alternative 7 mds. of paddy *plus* 3 mds. of wheat or 10 mds. of *rabi* per year.

The maximum working hours per day laid down is 9 hours for adults, 6½ hours for young persons and 4½ hours for boys. The notification also provides for payment of wages in kind by converting the kind rates into cash at conversion rates as per Government rules. The actual money rates of wages as prevalent in a village in the Patna district in 1956—1963 were found as follows :—

Daily current wage rates (agricultural) in rupees in a selected village in the Patna district.

Months.				Fieldmen.			Agricultural labour.			Herdsman.		
	Carpenter	Black-smith.	Mochies	Men.	Women.	Child-ren.	Men.	Women.	Child-ren.	Men.	Women.	Child-ren.
January, 1963	..	2.50	2.50	..	1.75	1.75	..	..	..	..	..	..
February, 1963	..	2.50	2.50	..	1.25	1.25	..	..	..	..	..	..
March, 1963 ..	..	2.50	2.50	..	1.25	1.25	..	1.25	..	..	..	..
April, 1963 ..	..	2.50	2.50	..	1.47	1.30	0.81	1.37	1.37	0.69	0.94	0.94

N.B.—In 1965 daily wages of skilled labourers like carpenters and masons were between Rs. 4 and Rs. 5, particularly in urban areas, where even unskilled labourers command a daily wage rate of Rs. 2.50.

There appears to be a sharp rise in all money wages during 1963—65, following the sharp rise in the price level and consequent rise in cost of living, so much so that the wages for unskilled labour rose up to Rs. 2.50, and for skilled carpenters or masons up to Rs. 4.50 or Rs. 5.

Non-agricultural Wage Fixation.

The minimum wages have been fixed in the State of Bihar in non-agricultural occupations such as (i) dam construction and irrigation works, (ii) printing presses, (iii) automobile engineering shops, (iv) tea plantations, (v) public motor transport, (vi) rice, flour, *dal* and oil mills, (vii) woollen carpet making and shawl weaving, (viii) local authorities, (ix) lac manufactories, (x) road construction and building, (xi) *bidi* making, (xii) brick laying, (xiii) tanneries and leather. These are laid down for the whole State without districtwise variations. For each employment there is a Tripartite Committee which is entrusted with the work of recommending a revision of the wage. A State Tripartite Committee was set up to advise Government on the general problem of workers covered by the Act.

The Act provides for provisional fixation of tentative wages by Government, while inviting comments on the same, but in practice minimum wages in the State have been fixed by Government in consultation with Committees set up for the employment concerned. Revisions, have been undertaken upwards in the course of last several years. The district, of course, does not possess all the occupations mentioned above, e.g., tea plantations.

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS AMONGST WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS.

Of the total population of over 29 lakhs in the district, a little over 21 lakhs were recorded as illiterate. These 21 lakh illiterates were distributed amongst workers and non-workers as follows : 13.76 lakhs were non-workers and 7.23 lakhs were workers. The literates numbered 5.66 lakhs in the whole district of whom 2.68 lakhs were workers and 2.97 lakhs were non-workers*. Primary or Junior Basic level educated numbered nearly 2 lakhs of whom 1.26 lakhs were non-workers and a little over 71,000 were workers†. The Matriculates and higher qualified persons numbering were 68,073 distributed about equally amongst workers and non-workers, but amongst workers the largest numbers were concentrated in the miscellaneous occupations.

* *Patna District Census Handbook*, 1961, pp. 28 and 30.

† *Ibid*, pp. 28 to 31.

Of the 4.5 lakh cultivators in the district over 2.7 lakhs were completely illiterate, 1.38 lakhs were just literate, a little over 34,000 had read up to the Primary or Junior Basic standard and nearly 5½ thousands had crossed Matriculation level.

Out of nearly 3 lakhs agricultural labourers 2.75 lakhs were illiterate though 52 persons with Matriculation or higher degrees were engaged as agricultural labourers. About 20,000 agricultural labourers were either literate or had read up to the Primary level*.

Illiterates dominate all occupations except manufacture other than household industry and trade and commerce where literates or persons with some formal education outnumbered the illiterates.

The following table gives the educational classification of unemployed persons about 15 years of age in rural and urban areas†:—

Rural	Illiterate	..	..	502	} 3,624
	Literate	..	..	675	
	Primary or Junior Basic	..	..	1,073	
	Matriculation and above			1,374	

				Seeking employment for the first time.	Employed before but now out of employment and seeking work.
Urban‡	Illiterate	..	..	630	210
	Literate	..	..	919	300
	Primary or Junior Basic	..	..	839	203
	Matriculation or Higher Secondary			865	172
	Technical Diploma not equal to a Degree			26	1
	1st Degree (General) or Post-Graduate			304	47

Technical Degrees—

Engineering	..	..	..	10	2
Medicine	..	..	..	7	1
Technology	..	..	..	1	..

Total	..			3,601	936
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* Patna District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 28.

† Ibid, p. 50.

‡ Ibid, pp. 48-49.

SECONDARY MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD.

The 1951 Census collected data about the secondary means of livelihood also. Apart from the main sources, these served as sources of supplementary income. For each principal livelihood group, the 1951 Census gave figures of persons engaged in the subsidiary occupation over and above their main livelihood. Thus out of the agricultural classes numbering over 18.7* lakhs and of whom actual workers, *i.e.*, self-supporting persons and earning dependents numbered 6,45,893, about 1,37,482 had subsidiary occupations. Of these 1,37,482, 80,510 were engaged outside agriculture and the rest numbering nearly 56,972 had secondary occupations in agriculture itself. Of the non-agricultural classes numbering over 6.5 lakhs in 1951, a little over 33,661 were engaged in subsidiary occupations in agriculture and the rest outside agriculture. Taking the agricultural and non-agricultural classes together, a little over 2 lakhs out of a working population of 8.86 lakhs had subsidiary occupations†.

It is interesting to note that even amongst the cultivators of owned land 17,479 persons were working, for secondary means of livelihood, as cultivating labourers, and that of the active agricultural labourers numbering over 2 lakhs, a little less than 8,000 also cultivated owned lands, while a little over 4,000 cultivated lands owned by others. Of the little over 50,000 persons in the district deriving their main source of livelihood from cultivating unowned lands, nearly 6,000 worked as cultivating labourers to supplement their earning, a little over 3,000 also possessed and cultivated their own lands and only about 300 persons derived incomes in the nature of rent from land and about 8,806†† derived subsidiary income from outside agriculture, principally from other services and miscellaneous sources.

Of the workers in the non-agricultural classes numbering over 2.4 lakhs** over 16,000 also cultivated self-owned lands, over 12,000 worked as cultivating labourers, about 2,000 cultivated other people's land and nearly 3,000 derived income as land rent. Thus, about 33,000 persons of the non-agricultural classes derived supplementary income from agriculture. And of the people mainly dependent on agriculture over 80,000 had supplementary income sources outside agriculture and 57,000 from agriculture itself.

BASIS FOR DISTINCTION BETWEEN PRINCIPAL AND SECONDARY OCCUPATION.

The 1951 Census accepted the income criterion for classifying a person's principal means of livelihood, *i.e.*, the occupation from which

* *Patna District Census Handbook*, 1951, pp. 13—14.

† *Ibid.*, pp. 12 to 17.

†† *Ibid.*, pp. 16—17.

** *Ibid.*, p. 14.

he derived the major part of his income was regarded as his principal occupation.

The 1961 Census, however, accepted the time spent on an occupation as the criterion for determining the main occupation. Further, it is to be remembered that the information about 1961 relates to workers alone and excludes their dependents. The information collected is as follows :—

Out of the 4.5 lakh* cultivators over 48,000 were also engaged as agricultural labourers and over 12,000 were engaged in household industry. Of about 3 lakh agricultural labourers over 3,600 were engaged in household industry and nearly 36,000 were engaged in cultivation as secondary occupations. Out of the 60,655 workers in household industry, a little below 7,000 were engaged in cultivation and over 3,500 as agricultural labourers.

While (i) cultivation, (ii) agricultural labour and (iii) household industry are the main principal occupations in the district, accounting for over 77 per cent of the working population, and while secondary occupations are significant mainly for these occupational groups, workers engaged in other industrial groups also have alternative occupations though their numerical strength appears to be negligible. It appears that out of all the workers in the non-agricultural occupations excluding household industry, numbering a little over 3 lakhs, only 1,518 were engaged in household industry as a secondary occupation, distributed as follows† :—

Principal occupation.	No. of workers engaged in household industry as additional work.
Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, etc.	239
Mining and quarrying	1
Manufacturing	331
Construction	106
Electricity, Gas, Water and Sanitary Services (Category IX-Miscellaneous of the Census Industrial Classification).	5
Trade and Commerce	329
Transport, Storage and Communications	76
Services	410
Activities not adequately described	21
Total	1,518

*Census of India, 1961, Vol. IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Table, p. 376.

†Information supplied by the District Employment Officer, Patna.

Thus taking all the occupations together out of the total of 11,08,905* workers in the district, 1,11,618, i. e., roughly 10 per cent had secondary occupations.

EMPLOYMENT LEVELS AND POPULATION SHIFTS.

Information available from the census data about livelihood categories have already been noticed. We may now take note of the employment levels in the different occupations as recorded in the latest census, i.e., of 1961.

The census records the total number of workers at 11,08,905 of which over 7.47 lakhs were engaged in agriculture (as cultivators and cultivating labourers) and 14,393 were engaged in other primary occupations like mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, etc.

Manufacturing engaged 1,01,849 persons of whom over 60,655 were in household industry.

The tertiary sectors like transport, trade, storage and commerce employed over 83,000 persons.

Miscellaneous occupations and construction employed over 1.61 lakh people. As already noted, the 1961 Census recorded only the number of workers without giving as in 1951 their breakdown into self-supporting or earning dependents. In 1951, the total number of such workers (i.e., self-supporting persons *plus* earning dependents) was over 8.86 lakhs† as against the total of over 11.08 lakhs in 1961. This gives a rate of growth in employment of a little over 20 per cent as against a population growth rate of 16.6 per cent. Thus in a way, the employment situation has improved in the decade 1951-61.

The 1961 Census took a direct count of the number of persons without employment, though its definition of employment was a little too wide, viz., any person employed even for one day within a period of a fortnight before the date of the census count was taken to have been employed. Hence, the census found only a little over 70,000 people unemployed throughout the State. Separate figures for the Patna district are as follows : 3,624 persons in rural and 3,601 persons in urban areas. In view of the very much larger population in rural areas, it is obvious that rural unemployment is negligible as compared to urban unemployment.

Activities engaged in by the unemployed and their educational qualifications are given separately in the section on livelihood categories, etc.

Population shifts between the different occupational groups have been noted already in the section on livelihood categories. In 1951, the proportion of the population dependent on agriculture (workers and

*Census of India, 1961, Volume IV, Part II-A, p. 376.

†Patna District Census Handbook, 1951, p. 15.

non-earning dependents) was 74. In 1961, workers in agriculture accounted for 67.3 per cent of the total number of workers.

In 1951, production other than cultivation accounted for 4.32 per cent of the total population. In 1961 'Manufacturing' alone accounted for 10.1 per cent of the workers, besides about 1.5 per cent of the workers engaged in mining, quarrying, forestry, fishing, etc. Thus, though because of the change in classification, the two figures are not very strictly comparable, the relative importance of manufacturing or production other than cultivation (in the terminology of the 1951 Census has tremendously gone up from 4.32 per cent to 11.6 per cent). The absolute total of workers (1951 self-supporting persons *plus* earning dependents) has changed from 38,715 (1951) to 1,01,849 (1961) in industry (household *plus* other manufacturing industry), i.e., at a growth rate of over 226 per cent against a population growth rate of 16.6 per cent and a growth rate in the number of workers of 20 per cent. In transport, storage and communications the growth in absolute numbers has been from 13,197 (in 1951) to 28,955 (in 1961). Trade and commerce, surprisingly, show a decline in the numbers engaged from 55,771 (1951) to 54,600 (1961)* may be, because in 1951 those engaged in storage were counted as being engaged in commerce. The increase in the decade (1951-61) in the miscellaneous occupations had been of the order of 16,207 only, presumably, because, at least one 'construction' has received an independent count in 1961 and was obviously included in the miscellaneous occupations in 1951.

The following table shows the magnitude of the occupational shifts and the economically active population during 1951 and 1961 :—

	Agriculture.	Production other than cultivation.		Transport, storage and communications.	Trade and commerce.	Miscellaneous.
		Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and allied activities.	Industry (household and other manufactures).			
1961 (workers)	7,47,333†	14,393	1,01,849	28,955	54,600	1,48,494
1951 (Self-supporting persons and earning dependents).	6,45,893††		38,715	13,197	55,771	1,32,287
Growth or decrease (—)	1,01,440		77,527	15,758	(—)1,171	16,207

* *Census of India*, Vol. VI, Bihar, Part II-A, pp. 378 to 379.

† *Ibid.*, pp. 378 to 379.

†† *Panna District Census Handbook*, 1951, pp. 12 to 13.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE DATA.

The district is served by the Regional Employment Exchange at Patna. The Employment data collected by the Employment Market Information Service-records changes in the level of employment in specified centres from 1961 as follows :—

Index of Volume of Employment—Base period ending March, 1961.

Period ending				Public sector.	Private sector.	Total.
March, 1962	..	..	..	109.4	97.8	105.1
March, 1963	..	..	..	109.95	100.55	108.18
March, 1964	..	..	..	120.31	99.29	113.91
March, 1965	..	..	..	118.11	90.28	108.18

From the above table it appears that while there was a fairly steady increase in overall employment in the three years since 1961, the level of employment in the year 1964-65 has gone down, particularly in the private sector. Except for the year 1962-63, employment levels remained generally lower than in 1961. The decline in 1964-65 was particularly sharp in the private sector by 10 per cent*.

Registrations and Placements through the Employment Exchange.

In the period January, 1961 to 31st August, 1965, 95,966 persons registered themselves with the Employment Exchange, of whom 5,590 got placed by the organisation, i.e., only 5.8 per cent, though nearly 17,000 vacancies were notified by the various private and public sector establishments.

Vacancies existing as in August, 1965 and as recorded with the Employment Exchange are given in table as in Appendix II to this Chapter.

Registration and placements with and through the Employment Exchange since 1961 are given in the following table :—

Registrations with the Employment Exchange from 31st January, 1961 to 31st August, 1965.	Persons placed by the Employment Exchange from 31st January, 1961 to 31st August, 1965.	No. of vacancies notified through the Employment Exchange between 31st January, 1961 and 31st August, 1965.	Percentage of cols. 1 to 2.
95,966	5,590	16,969	5.8

*See Table in Appendix I to this Chapter, giving details of employment in various industrial undertakings as on 30th June, 1965.

It is clear that the contribution of the Employment Exchanges to job finding has not been considerable, and has been just about one-third of the vacancies notified to the Exchange.

STANDARD OF LIVING AND FAMILY BUDGETS.

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.

Rural Areas.

According to 1961 Census, Patna district has an area of 5,594 sq. Km.* and a population of 29,49,746 of whom nearly 90 per cent resides in the rural areas and is mainly dependent on agriculture of their livelihood and only about 10 per cent in the urban areas. The rural population is spread over 2,335 villages, while the urban population inhabits the 10 towns.

A sample survey of few families in Bairia-Karanpura, Fatehpur, Khusropur, Athmalgola villages of the district was carried out by the investigators in 1965.

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 ten 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 six in the ten 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 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 annual income of a family derived from the farm land came to about Rs. 8,000. Out of this amount about

*C.S.O. Circular no. CSO/1/11/66, dated 25th October, 1966.

Rs. 500 were spent on clothing, about Rs. 350 on repairs to house and implements, about Rs. 150 on transport, 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 about Rs. 2,000. The monthly expenditure on the average worked out at Rs. 300 on cereals, pulses, milk, *ghee*, vegetables, tea, oil, spices, betel, tobacco, etc., 35 on fuel and lighting, Rs. 45 on servants (excluding free meals and free lodge) and Rs. 70 on miscellaneous articles like toilet, *dhobi*, barber, education, entertainment, travelling, etc. Hence the total monthly expenditure on average on major items worked out to Rs. 450. 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 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 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 15 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 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 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 was spent on clothing, about Rs. 300 on repairs to the house and implements and on hay and fodder, about Rs. 100 on transport, about Rs. 200 on social and religious obligations, 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. The total monthly expenditure on an average worked out at Rs. 255, i.e., 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. 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.

Landless labourers.—A landless labourer has no farm, no cultivation and no milch cattle and makes his living by hiring out his labour for consideration of wages, paid generally not in cash but in kind. 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 class cultivator under whom he works throughout the year. Such labourers as well as their womenfolk are usually illiterate. The latter also do hired manual work to add to the family income. The children may go up to the primary schools only for education.

The average annual income of such a family from all sources hardly exceeds Rs. 500. It is difficult to ascertain the regular family budget of these people. In most cases, their wages are in kind rather than in cash. They are usually in debt. They are, however, free to sell their labour to any one and put their hands to any unskilled job they find. Till recently they were deeply rooted in the soil of their villages, but are going out of their villages now to seek employment in industrial areas.

Their life varies according 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 they leave to repay to their employer during the harvesting season by giving physical labour. Their food is unbalanced and poor consisting of cheap grains and some vegetables.

It is clear that except for the small minority of the big cultivators, the majority of the population in rural areas lives not much above the margin of subsistence and some below it.

The landless labourers and the petty cultivators, who have to be wage-earners most of the time, seem to be in a precarious condition. The medium class cultivators are in a slightly better position, though the line between balancing the budget and falling into a deficit may be thin. The same is true of artisans. Except in the case of the

families of big cultivators the expenditure usually exceeds the total income of the family, food alone accounting for about 60 per cent or sometimes even more of the total expenditure.

Urban Areas.

The proportion of the urban population in the district has been discussed elsewhere. A random sample survey was made in Patna, Barh and Danapur towns. The increase in the prices of various articles of daily consumption including housing accommodation since the Second World War has hit 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 the limited means are numerous. One has to be better clothed in towns and incur this expenditure which will not be necessary in the villages. It is, however, true that owing to developed communications, the prices of the essential commodities are almost at the same level both in rural as well urban areas.

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

Unskilled labour.—The urban centres provide opportunities for employment of unskilled labourers. There is no assured and continuous employment available to them. 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. Their average income ranges between Rs. 70 to Rs. 100 per month*.

Obviously these families cannot own any kind of property, land or house as they have no saving. The size of their families is generally large. The members of the family generally live in small *kutcha* huts. They occasionally shift to unoccupied lands and build their poor hutments. In construction area they live in small cubicles made out of the stacked 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 wood cutting or work in restaurants or eating houses. The women of this class generally work and those employed on domestic work may also get cooked food in addition to monthly salaries.

* Based on prevailing rates in the urban areas of Patna in February, 1967.

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.

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. 35 per month. On average the rickshaw-puller earns Rs. 3 a day. Thus the total income of his family comes to about Rs. 125 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	40.00
3. Flour	10.00
4. Pulse	5.00
5. Mustard oil	4.00
6. Vegetables	5.00
7. Medicine	2.00

*This study was made in 1965. Since then the prices have recorded an upward rise.

8. Entertainment (mostly in visiting cinema)	..	Rs. 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>bidi</i> , <i>pan</i> , etc...	..	20.00
15. Miscellaneous		2.00
16. Fish or meat		3.00
Total		150.00

The budget shows a deficit of Rs. 25.00. 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 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. 220. It consists of two adult members and five children all of whom are under 12. The average monthly expenditure is Rs. 200. Hence this family has a surplus of Rs. 20 per month. The expenditure on housing is negligible because it lives in its 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, however, casual. 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 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 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.

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 being in school. 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 sweetmeat 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 adulterate the stuff they sell.

The table below gives the family budget of expenditure of a grain merchant of Patna town. The items of expenditure are as follows :—

Sl. no.	Item of consumption.	Expenditure.
		Rs.
1	Cereals	35
2	Milk and <i>ghee</i>	10
3	Oil	8
4	Sugar	8

Sl. no.	Items of consumption	Expenditure. Rs.
5	Vegetables, fruits, meat, fish, etc.	15
6	Fuel and lighting	8
7	Cosmetics	6
8	Tea, coffee, <i>pan-bidi</i> , etc.	8
9	Clothing	15
10	Housing (owned)	10
11	Personal services	10
12	Medical treatment.. ..	10
13	Education to children	15
14	Amusement and recreation	5
15	Conveyance and travelling	10
16	Social functions	10
17	Miscellaneous	20
Total ..		203

The head of the family with an average income of Rs. 200 per month is a grain merchant of Patna town. He has invested only Rs. 1,000 in his shop. The family consists of husband, wife and four children, one above 16 and three below 10 years. The family has a house. He gets an income of Rs. 15 per month from the rented portion of his house. He also indulges in a little of money-lending as a subsidiary income. This class is usually of the type that makes savings and invests it back into 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 person in the educational institution in Patna town was studied. His monthly income is near about Rs. 1,110. His family consists of 10 units excluding one adult son who is reading in the Ranchi Medical College, Ranchi.

Sl. no.	Items.	Expenditure (in Rs.).
1	Rice	70
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 of 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 ..		885

The net monthly saving comes to Rs. 225, but the real saving amounts to Rs. 300 including the deposit of Rs. 75 in the Provident Fund.

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. 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*, the economy of the district is bound to be affected very considerably.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR†.

A survey of socio-economic condition of the agricultural labour was made in 1962 at village Ranabigha, police-station Biharsharif of the Patna district. This village is about 4 miles towards north-west from Patna-Gaya Road *via* Biharsharif. Sociologically the village is a multi-caste one. The locality is well advanced educationally, there being several colleges and schools in this area.

Sohsarai is the nearest important market. The main commercial crop is potato. A fairly large number of cold storage have come up recently in this area and they are well utilised.

The area is well served by roads and railways. Trucks call at Biharsharif, Sohsarai, etc. and load potatoes for distant places such as Dhanbad, Jharia, Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Calcutta, etc. Hundreds of trucks visit the area daily in potato season. Money economy prevails. The soil being *kewal*, it retains moisture and is well suited for *rabi* crops also. Progressive cultivators have been able to raise even three crops a year on the same land.

At the time of the investigation, employment opportunities for the labourers of the area were ample because of the laying of broad-gauge

*In 1967 the prices have risen still higher.

†Source. - Agro-Economic Research Centre, Santiniketan.

railway tracks, brick-kilns, collection of sand for the trucks and various activities by the Gram Panchayat.

The block authorities started a multi-purpose co-operative society in the village. The co-operative was supplying fertilisers and potato seeds along with cash loan to the villagers. Recently the village society has been merged with a large-sized co-operative society covering a large number of villages.

Another feature of the socio-economic complex of Ranabigha is its comparatively liberal caste relationship. There is a lack of economic disparity along caste-lines except in case of a few Brahman households.

Supply of Labour.

The district population of Patna registered 16.99 per cent increase in the decade intervening the last two censuses of 1951 and 1961. The rural population in the district for the same period increased by 13.78 per cent. While the number of cultivators (workers) increased by 18.43 per cent, the agricultural labourers (workers) according to census definition increased by more than 49 per cent. The agricultural labourers constituted more than 31 per cent of the total working force of the district. So there was a distinct shift to agricultural labour occupation in the district of Patna to which the village Ranabigha belongs.

The re-survey suggests that during the five years the number of households in the village and population therein has increased by 5.41 and 5.96 per cent respectively.

TABLE 1.
Village Statistics.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.		Percentage of increase or decrease.
		1956-57	1962-63	
1	Total no. of households	111	117	+5.41
2	No. of agricultural labour households ..	7	23	+228.57
3	Village population	688	729	+5.96
4	Agricultural labour household population ..	34	146	+329.41
5	Labour force	362	358	-1.10
6	Working force	318	322	+1.26
7	No. of participants in agricultural labour works	24	63	+162.50

Due to the demographic factors the village labour force actually decreased by 1.10 per cent, while the actual working force increased by 1.26 per cent in the village.

TABLE 2.
Labour force in Agricultural Labour Households in the villages.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.		Percentage of increase or decrease.
		1956-57.	1961-62.	
1	Percentage of labour force to the total population	58.82	52.05	-6.77
2	Percentage of males in the labour force	45.00	46.94	-1.94
3	Percentage of females in the labour force	55.00	53.06	-1.94

From the above table it appears that change in labour and working force in agricultural labour households has marked a phenomenal increase. The total number of households primarily depending on wage income from agriculture were seven at the first and 23 at the second point and thus registered a more than 200 per cent increase (Table 1). The population in these households increased more. The population at first point was 34, while at the second point it became 146 in number (Table 1). The potential labour force, i.e., adults arising from agricultural labour households only increased from 20 to 76. The total number of persons in the village engaged in agricultural labour work increased from 24 to 63 in these five years (Table 1). The number of workers from agricultural labour households participating in non-agricultural wage work at the first point was 46 during the re-survey. Thus there was considerable increase in the working force both in agriculture and non-agricultural wage work.

Employment.

TABLE 3.
Agricultural Labour Working Force—Nature of work and employment days.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.	
		1956-57.	1961-62.
1	Per worker average mandays	113	216
2	Per worker mandays in agriculture	118	188
3	Number of casual workers in agriculture	18	34
4	Number of attached workers in agriculture	Nil	7
5	Number of contract workers in agriculture	Nil	1

Sl. no.	Items	Year.	
		1956-57	1961-62.
6	Average mandays in casual work (agriculture) ..	118	154
7	Average mandays in attached work ..	..	347
8	Average mandays in contract work (agriculture) ..	..	240
9	Number of participators in non-agriculture work ..	..	46
10	Per participant mandays in non-agriculture work ..	..	143

The above table shows that not only increase was limited to the number of workers but the number of mandays too had increased considerably. The per worker average mandays at the first point was 118, while at the second it rose to 188 thus registering a more than 50 per cent increase. A part of this increase was due to the presence of seven attached workers at the second point whose mandays were always much higher than casual ones. But the total increase cannot be ascribed to that feature only. Mandays per casual worker made an increase of more than 30 per cent. The appearance of attached workers at the second point was due to increased intensification of cropping.

Income.

The increased income due to the increased volume of employment and increased returns from owned and share cropped lands led to about 45 per cent increase in per household and about 11 per cent increase in *per capita* income. The fall in agricultural labour's share in the total income is not indicative of any absolute fall from that source.

TABLE 4.

Income of Agricultural Labour Household and Individual.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.	
		1956-57.	1961-62.
1	Average yearly household income (in Rs.) ..	1,160.29	1,691.41
2	<i>Per capita</i> per day income (in Rs.) ..	0.66	0.74
3	Percentage of income from land ..	26.25	42.41
4	Per worker per day income in attached work (in Rs.) ..	..	1.30
5	Per worker per day income in casual work (in Rs.) ..	1.73	1.63
6	Per worker per day income in contract work ..	..	0.67

The increased share of land and the non-agricultural wage works sources caused this relative fall. The wage rate of casual workers registered a slight fall. The wage rate of attached workers cannot be compared overtime but it was considerably lower than casual wage rate even at the second point. Thus the interesting aspect revealed appears to the investigator to be wage rate's failure to register increase even when there is demand and the price level is rising. The rise in income has to be earned through more employment days rather than increase in wage rate. This is probably due to a very large supply of labour because of which the employers could dictate the wages at the old level.

TABLE 5.

The consumption expenditure—level and pattern.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.	
		1956-57.	1961-62.
(a) 1	Per household monthly consumption expenditure (in Rs.) ..	49.85	100.55
2	<i>Per capita</i> per day expenditure (in Rs.)	0.34	0.53
3	Expenditure on food as percentage of total consumption expenditure.	88.59	67.44
4	Expenditure on cereals as percentage of total food expenditure	78.17	62.34
5	Expenditure on protein as percentage of total food expenditure	11.24	4.32
6	<i>Per capita</i> clothing expenditure (yearly in Rs.)	12.60	16.64
7	<i>Per capita</i> medical expenditure (yearly in Rs.)	..	11.76
(b) 1	<i>Per capita</i> of household having land	71.42	86.96
2	<i>Per capita</i> of household having a unit of cattle	..	8.75
3	<i>Per capita</i> of household having a unit of milch animal ..	28.57	8.75
4	<i>Per capita</i> of household having any lantern	100.00	47.85
5	<i>Per capita</i> of household having wooden cots	28.57	95.65
6	<i>Per capita</i> of household having brass utensils	57.10	77.50

Level of Living.

The table on consumption expenditure level and pattern of living in this category shows that increase in total consumption expenditure increased more than proportionately to rise in income.

The expenditure was due to increase in the size of family but *per capita* expenditure too increased by 57.31 per cent. It may be

pointed out that there was 25 to 30 per cent increase in the price level of millets and cereals chiefly used by the consumers in the village. The clothing and medical expenditure had increased by 4.24 and 11.76 per cent respectively, while food as percentage of total consumption and cereals as percentage of total food had decreased in spite of the rising prices of foodgrains.

The effect of increase in employment and total income is also reflected in the table above. The number of agricultural labour households owning land was high in the village during 1956-57. During 1961-62 the percentage of such households had increased by about 15 per cent. The bullock ownership too indicates the same trend. The increased use of wooden cots and brass utensils shows some improvement in the living standard.

TABLE 6.
Agricultural Labour Household Indebtedness.

Sl. no.	Items.	Year.	
		1956-57.	1961-62.
1	Average outstanding debts per household	16.43	155.87
2	Percentage of debts by different sources—		
	(a) Money-lenders	100.00	1.12
	(b) Cultivators	..	48.67
	(c) Others	..	50.21
3	Percentage of debts by different purpose—		
	(a) Consumption	..	5.58
	(b) Others	100.00	94.42

Indebtedness.

From the above table it appears that the gap in the rise in income and expenditure of the households is due to the increased debt burden. Indebtedness was almost absent during 1956-57, but rose to the level of Rs. 155.87 per household during 1961-62. This may be due to easier availability of credit from Community Development Block sources and others. The above statement is partially corroborated by latter figures on sources and purpose in the same table. The money-lenders are on decline in the village and they lend only small amounts to the villagers. About 50 per cent of the loans during 1962-63 came from different other sources.

TABLE 7.

Changes in household occupation.

Sl. no.	Head of the household.	Occupations.				Land under operation in acres.	Income in rupees.	Agriculture labour.	Others.	
		1st point*.	2nd point*.	Primary. Secondary.	Season-dary.				1st point. 2nd point.	1st point. 2nd point.

The table above furnishes the data relating to the occupational change in agricultural labourers' households. Two sets of households accounts have been shown in the table. The sets are : (1) households which were mainly dependent on wage income from agriculture at the first point but by the time of resurvey were found to have a different occupation as the main source of income, (2) households which were agricultural labourer and this was their main source of income.

It was found that only two households were agricultural labourer at the first point. There was no change in the occupational combination of these households as they were found to have been combining the share-cropping with wage labour even at the first point. At the second point one became a wholly share-cropper.

There had been a very large swelling of the rank of agricultural labourers. The number of households in the village coming fresh into the category of the agricultural labourers at the second point was thirteen. Of these thirteen households, seven had come from small owner cultivators. A look into the table will show that their land income had not depleted at the second point but they had been able to considerably augment the total income by large participation in wage labour. There were three other households who came from the category of share-cropping occupation. In these cases too wage income at the second point outstripped income from share-cropping without much reduction in the latter. The remaining three households came from the category of miscellaneous labour.

Thus it can be seen that the occupational movement was mainly one way, poor peasants, share-cropper and miscellaneous labourers finding more employment in agricultural enterprise at the second point.

Conclusion.

The advantage of location, climatic condition, Community Development Block and Panchayat efforts in providing irrigation and better communication combined with storage and marketing facilities and enterprise of the local farmer have brought about a climate of prosperity. The surplus and unemployed labour force is finding more employment in agriculture without much increase in the wage rate which has remained more or less unchanged. But increased employment has led to substantial increase in total family income. The change brought about by higher total income is mainly reflected in its urban orientation in the pattern of living.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

The pattern of planning is the same as in the rest of the State, and indeed in the country as a whole, at least in respect of broad

principles and approach. The bulk of planning effort undertaken by the State Government has been in the fields of agriculture, irrigation, electricity, cottage and small-scale industries, transport—particularly road transport, medical facilities and education.

The Patna district has not seen any major schemes of irrigation, electricity or industrial project, as have some other areas of Bihar, *e.g.*, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Dhanbad, etc. The district has, however, fully shared in the schemes of minor irrigation, cottage industries, electricity etc. As separate accounts are not maintained for development expenditure districtwise, plan outlay in the district cannot be computed, except in respect of expenditure on Community Development Blocks which have a standard budget. An industrial estate has been started at Patna for small industries and another at Biharsharif.

DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS.

As in the rest of the State, the whole district has been fully covered with Development Blocks. The number of Blocks opened till 1966 was 28, covering 2,335 villages with a total rural population of 23,55,850*. This gives a better average of villages per Block than the standard of 100 villages but a slightly lower average in respect of population than the standard 70,000 per Block.

As per standard pattern, each Block has had a Block Advisory Committee composed of the *Mukhiyas* of the Gram Panchayats, legislators, etc. and the district has a District Development Committee composed in a similar manner, with legislators and parliamentarians. This pattern is shortly going to be changed with the implementation of the Panchayati Raj Scheme, under which the Panchayat Samiti will take charge of developmental work at the Block level, and the Zila Panchayat Parishad, which will replace the District Board, at the district level. The non-official and popular element in the formulation and administration of developmental programmes will get greater importance, in so far as the non-official Chairman of the Panchayat Samiti and the Zila Parishad will be in overall charge of developmental work. The Block Development Officer at the Block level will act as the executive officer of the Block under the Panchayat Samiti, and similarly the District Development Officer will act as the Secretary to the Zila Panchayat Parishad. As a precursor, the post of the Block Development Officer has been separated from that of the Revenue Officer, known as the Circle Officer or *Anchal Adhikary*.

*Census of India, 1961, Vol. IV (Bihar), Part II-A, General Population Tables, p. 21.

Under the scheme of Community Development, the Block will cease to have an independent budget, after a ten-year phase of development has been over. The Block staff, representing the various developmental departments of the State Government will, however, be the field agency for implementing the various programmes of the different departments in the rural field like Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Minor Irrigation, Public Health, Education, etc., under the general superintendence of the Block Administrative head. The Panchayati Raj institutions will be the machinery through which the principle of planning from below will be given effect to. The Block Advisory Committees and the District Development Council at present perform to a certain extent similar advisory functions without, however, executive responsibility.

Responsibility for execution of development programmes assigned to the Blocks, except those administered directly by the various departments concerned, rests with the Block Development Officer at the Block level, assisted by the Block technical staff under the general supervision of the Subdivisional Officer and the District Magistrate who is assisted by a District Development Officer of the rank of an Additional District Magistrate. Most of the developmental departments have their independent organisations at the district, and usually at the subdivisional level also, and are also responsible for execution of programmes pertaining to their departments within the Block budget. To a certain extent, thus, there exists dual control over the developmental staff in the rural areas, the general administration being in overall charge of all governmental works including developmental work, and the special departments in charge of different aspects of development being responsible at the technical level for the efficiency of the schemes and their execution. These specialist functions, however, are co-ordinated at the State level by the Development Commissioner.

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 profession and domestic services, etc. The middle classes and the lower middle classes mostly follow the miscellaneous occupations*.

*See, *Patna District Census Handbook*, 1951, pp. 50 to 53.

Public Administration.

The District Census Handbook of 1951 has given the statistics for public administration under "Health, Education and Public Administration", as follows* :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Health, Education and Public Administration ..	13,887	2,762	16,649
2. Police (other than village watchmen) ..	2,117	..	2,117
3. Village offices and servants including village watchmen ..	1,332	..	1,332
4. Employees of the State Government ..	4,589	409	4,998
5. Employees of the Union Government ..	47	..	47
6. Employees of the Municipalities and local bodies ..	417	174	591

The District Census Handbook of Patna, 1961 has given the following figures† :—

	Total
1. Total strength of the police ..	5,462
2. Employees of Life Insurance Corporation—	
(*) Number of field staff ..	44
(**) Agents ..	946

Educational Services and Research.

The 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 are about 8,031 teachers employed in schools. The above figures include the teachers of Primary, Middle, Secondary and professional schools in the district.

The table given below shows the number of persons engaged in medical and public health services** ;—

Descriptions.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1. Allopathic doctors ..	733	672	61
2. Ayurvedic doctors ..	487	478	9
3. Homeopathic doctors ..	779	771	8
4. Physicians, others ..	240	234	6
5. Dentists ..	2	2	..
6. Nurses ..	563	335	228
7. Midwives and Health Visitors ..	374	59	315
8. Vaccinators' ..	147	147	..

*Patna District Census Handbook, 1951, pp. 50 to 53. *

†Ibid, 1961, pp. 161 to 163.

**Ibid, p. LVII.

The figures of the persons following the legal professions have not been separately given in 1951 District Census Handbook and has clubbed with business and said to be 2,372 males and 34 females*. The District Census Handbook of 1961 also has not given separately figures of legal profession.

Arts, letters and journalism claim a very small number. According to the 1951 Census there were only 256 persons in these professions. Some of the journalists work on part-time basis. It is doubtful if the part-time professionals in this branch have not been included as full-time workers.

Domestic and Personal Services.

The number of persons engaged in domestic and personal services according to 1951 Census is as follows† :—

			Total.	Males.	Females.
1. Services otherwise unclassified	..	..	35,510	33,453	1,943
2. Domestic services *	..	..	24,196	20,849	3,347
3. Barbers and beauty shops	..	..	3,334	2,997	337
4. Laundries and laundry services	..	..	2,431	1,203	1,228
5. Hotels, restaurants and eating houses	..	..	1,756	755	1,001
6. Recreation services ..	..	..	433	205	228

The persons engaged in domestic services include cook, household servants, water carriers, etc. The lot of the domestic servants has definitely improved though there is dearth of them. They are better-paid in other occupations and also get fooding and tips if employed in catering establishments.

In the urban areas the average daily earning of a barber is not less than Rs. 5 to 6. His charges vary. The roadside barber will charge from 10 paise to 12 paise for a shave and 36 paise for a hair-cut. There is no fixed charge for the female barber who visits houses and paints the nails of the ladies and do other work. Laundries in the urban areas are better equipped and the owners of such shops have also to employ barbers on weekly or monthly wages 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.

*Patna District Census Handbook, 1951, p. 55.

†*Ibid.*, pp. 54-55.

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

There are also Central and State Government Departments stationed in the Patna 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.

ECONOMIC PROSPECTS.

The Patna district like the rest of Bihar is predominantly rural, though the degree of its dependence on agriculture is slightly less than for the State of Bihar as a whole. It may, however, be mentioned that before 1940, the only industrial plant worth mention in this district was the South Bihar Sugar Mills, Ltd., situated at Bihta in Danapur subdivision, its location being due to its proximity to sugarcane-growing areas and easy communications through the main line of the Eastern Railway, Bihta itself being a station.

In 1942, the Bata Tannery was founded at Hathidah, Mokamehghat to meet the requirement of the army. Its location was due to its proximity to raw materials in North Bihar which produces some of the best raw hides in the world and good communication both by river Ganga and the Eastern Railway and abundant supply of water.

The Britannia Wagon Manufacturing Company came into existence before 1947 to meet the demands of the railways in respect of goods wagons.

The post-independence period has seen some considerable activity in the field of small and medium size industries. The development of electrical energy has not only enabled many small industries to grow up in areas supplied with power, but has also given a fillip to industries associated with electricity itself, viz., manufacture of cables, industrial motors, bulbs and other accessories. It is expected that in the coming years there will be further development in this direction. The district is mainly fed with electricity from the Damodar Valley Corporation, but the thermal plant of the State Electricity Board at Barauni opposite Mokamehghat has improved the prospects of larger power supply to meet the growing requirement.

An industry that has grown fairly impressively, and reflects the growth in trade and commerce in the district is the cold storage industry. Almost all the cold storage plants have come into existence after 1950

and out of the 37 such plants in the district, 15 are located in the Patna town itself, three in Danapur and 17 in the Biharsharif area. As yet the bulk of the storage work relates to potatoes. The storage and preservation industry may, in future, take over other produce also, particularly in the field of fruit preservation.

An extension and improvement of roads together with increasing supplies of electricity is a potent factor behind the growth of industries, processing or otherwise dealing with agricultural produce. Thus, with improvement in transport in rural areas, the cold storage industry itself may grow in new centres. Data are not available about small flour mills, oil mills, etc., run with electricity or oil that have according to common experience, sprung up in almost every important trade centre in rural areas situated advantageously. This probably explains why the number of big units processing wheat or oil has remained almost stationary. However, this does not preclude the growth of such units in future.

The establishment of a factory to manufacture butter near Patna is the beginning of a new industry.

Power improved communications have helped to promote the growth of some small engineering establishments, particularly in the field of manufacture of agricultural implements and implements for processing industries. This tendency will no doubt further develop in future.

Urbanisation and general economic development promote the construction of housing and building both by Government and public in general. This in turn gives a fillip to brick manufacturing and associated activities, e.g., timber, cement, sanitary fittings, etc. The areas lying along the river Ganga both to the west and east of Patna, as also other urban areas in the district have, therefore, in recent years witnessed a substantial increase in the brick manufacturing trade. Such activity is likely to expand in future as new areas are urbanised.

To the north of the Ganga, Barauni is fast growing up into an industrial area round the nucleus of the oil refinery and the thermal plant. The proposed creamery and the chemical industries will further add to its growth. Mokameh is situated on the southern bank of the Ganga with two important industries, viz., the tanneries of the Bata Shoe Co. (P.), Ltd., and the Wagon Manufacturing of M/s. Britannia Engineering. The area has already developed into an important centre of industrial activity. A State-sponsored Co-operative Spinning Mill at Mokameh will further transform this area into a modern industrial belt in no distant future. Barauni and Mokameh are now linked by a rail-cum-road highway on the Ganga. This adds to the economy of not only this locality but also of North Bihar.

Phulwarisharif near Patna has since the pre-independence days been the seat of two factories, *viz.*, a cotton textile mill and a cycle manufacturing company and possesses potentialities of further growth, possessing the advantage of its situation on the main line of the Eastern Railway and vicinity of local market at Patna.

The Bata Shoe Co. (P.), Ltd., Digha is a fairly big shoe manufacturing concern, specialising in *chappals*. It provides employment to the local people.

In the field of small industries, the Industrial Estate at Digha, near Patna has been steadily growing. A rolling flour mill has also come up.

As yet, however, the impact of big industries on the livelihood pattern of the district is negligible, though not so their contribution to the income flow of the district. For quite some time the economic future of the people of the district will continue to depend on the prosperity of agriculture. In view of the uncertainty of rains the productivity in agriculture depends on irrigation*. The Patna district has not been given any major irrigation scheme up to the Third Plan period, but a number of medium and minor irrigation projects have been undertaken. The drought of 1966-67 has caused the installation of many tube-wells and pumping sets in the district which will prove to be of permanent value to the cultivators.

The high agricultural prices rising progressively since the Independence have given a permanent incentive towards increase of agricultural production. Waste land, even pasture, is being brought under the plough. The acreage under almost all the major crops in the district has gone up in the last few years. While this has undoubtedly diminished the acreage under the pasture land and consequently aggravated the fodder problem, it is an index of the growing population pressure as also of the growing utilisation of land resources. The problem of cattle feeding will have to be tackled in more modern ways.

The organisational aspects of agricultural production are sought to be tackled through land reforms. While the State has assumed charge of Zamindaries, rationalisation of rents and stabilisation of the rights of crop-sharers as also implementation of the land ceiling legislation are being awaited. No satisfactory improvement in agricultural productivity will probably be possible on a permanent basis unless the present uncertainty governing the relationship between the land-owning tenant and the *bataidar* is removed. There is little doubt that agriculture is burdened with surplus population; the answer to this can be provided only by rural industrialisation and a better integration between urban and rural economy.

*Both summer and winter rains in 1966 have failed, causing widespread scarcity, irrigational facilities still being far behind the requirement.

The expansion of towns and growth of industries not only imply conversion of rural into urban and semi-urban areas with rising land values, growth in population density, etc., but a change in the socio-economic structure of the rural society. The cropping pattern, the livelihood pattern, the trade pattern, besides the mode of living and the cultural complex—all undergo a process of change. These phenomena are in evidence in the growing semi-urban areas around Patna, along the Patna-Danapur Road, the Patna Bypass Road and the Biharsharif region.

APPENDIX I.

Statement showing by industry (at 2 digit level) changes in the total estimated employment in the public and private sector between 31st March, 1965 and 30th June, 1965.

Number of employees under different industrial undertakings.					
Description of Industry.	No. of Estts.	No. of total estimated employees as on			Rise or Fall per cent.
		31st March, 1965.	Private, Public.	Total	
00 Field Product Plantation	8	490	..	525	35
03 Fishing ..	1	10	..	10	..
04 Livestock and Hunting	4	252	..	209	43
Sub-total	13	752	..	744	8
10 Mining and Quarrying	3	68	110	110	42
20 Food-stuffs	22	1,078	1,012	144	58
21 Beverages	1	11	12	..	1
22 Tobacco products	58	971	986	..	15
23 Textile Cotton	7	2,405	756	1,654	5
27 Textile misc.	8	149	153	4	8
28 Mfg. of wood and wooden products.	11	112	83	28	1
30 Printing and publishing	37	2,166	1,388	780	2
31 Leather and leather product.	4	1,685	1,613	63	19
32 Rubber, Petroleum and Coal product.	2	3,818	..	3,666	152
33 Chemical and chemical products.	6	371	361	23	13
34 Non-metallic minerals product.	5	302	299	..	3
36 Basic metals and their product.	21	745	745	..	9
37 Machinery Elec. equip-ment.	11	605	603	35	32
38 Transport equipment	24	2,271	1,601	826	256
39 Miso. Mfg. Industry ..	7	171	34	134	3
Sub-total	224	17,152	9,954	7,316	119

APPENDIX I—contd.

Description of Industry.	No. of Estts.	No. of total estimated employees as on				Rise or fall per cent.
		31st March, 1965.		30th June, 1965.		
		Private.	Public.	Total.		
40 Construction ..	74	8,230	450	7,793	8,243	
5 Electricity and Gas ..	5	3,467	820	2,697	3,517	
61 Sanitary water-supply	2	2,783	..	2,897	2,897	
Sub-total ..	7	6,260	820	5,594	6,324	
60-64 Wholesale Trade ..	48	1,281	1,107	202	1,309	
65-68 Retail Trade ..	38	1,311	658	645	1,303	
69 Communications ..	38	2,232	689	1,548	2,237	
Sub-total ..	124	4,824	2,454	2,395	4,849	
70 Transport ..	17	40,583	242	39,655	39,897	
71 Loading and unloading	1	26	26	..	26	
72 Storage and warehousing	28	2,060	422	1,118	1,540	
73 Communications ..	12	4,628	..	4,711	4,711	
Sub-total ..	58	47,297	690	45,484	46,174	
80 Public Services ..	168	26,846	..	27,110	27,110	
81 Education and Scientific Research.	256	17,911	4,642	12,243	16,883	
82 Medical and Health Services.	39	4,272	240	4,147	4,387	
83 Religious and Welfare Services.	5	737	33	687	720	
86 Community Services and Labour Association.	34	3,484	74	3,215	3,289	
87 Recreation Services ..	17	306	285	22	397	
88 Personnel Services ..	34	592	557	57	614	
Sub-total ..	553	54,148	5,831	47,481	53,312	
Grand Total ..	1,056	1,38,721	20,499	1,16,718	1,37,127	
					1,694	

APPENDIX II.

An analysis of employment exchanges available at Regional Employment Exchange, Patna.

Occupation.	No. of vacancies.
1. Sheet metal	1
2. Foreman	1
3. Civil Overseer	4
4. Civil Draftsman	3
5. Blue Printer	1
6. Tracer	1
7. Foreman	1
8. Assistant Foreman	1
9. Production Engineer	1
10. Switch Board Attendant	1
11. Lower Division Clerk.. .. .	30
12. Senior Computer	2
13. Typist	4
14. Language Officer	1
15. Establishment	3
16. Farm Sardar	1
17. Upper Division Clerk.. .. .	2
18. Steno-typist	3
19. Statistical Assistant	1
20. Stenographer	1
21. Field Supervisor	2
22. Cashier	3
23. Accounts Clerk	2
24. Steno Clerk	1
25. Head Clerk-cum-Accountant	1
26. Cartographer	1
27. Salesman	2
28. Hospital Attendant	1
29. Laboratory Attendant	5
30. Marking Dandy	1

APPENDIX II—*concl'd.*

Occupation.	No. of vacancies.				
31. Peon	15				
32. Orderly Peon	7				
33. Chowkidar	7				
34. Sweeper	3				
35. Mazdoor	2				
36. Cook	18				
37. Secretary	4				
38. Chairman	1				
39. Treasury Guard	2				
40. Store Chowkidar	2				
41. Sectional Chowkidar	12				
42. Dafadar	1				