

CHAPTER XIV

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

The labourers of the district may broadly be divided into three categories, namely, industrial, agricultural and commercial. The labourers in this district as in other parts of the State are not absolutely categorised excepting the technical labour employed in industrial zones. Thus an agricultural labourer may change his occupation into that of a cartman or even take up a job in oil mill when he has no employment in the field. In this condition of fluidity, there cannot be any definite category or any precise population of the labourers under different categories. But the broad categories of industrial, agricultural and commercial may be accepted for general purposes.

The main industries of the district have been described elsewhere. The industries and the factories of silk, printing press, flour mills, dairy farm, etc., absorb about 4,000 labourers. The mills and factories are mostly located at Bhagalpur, Nathnagar, Sultanganj, Colgong and Naugachia. The silk industries in Nathnagar and Bhagalpur require particular mention as Bhagalpur silk has held its own for centuries and recently there has been a spurt of export of Bhagalpur silk to the States and other parts of the world. Although mostly still in the stage of cottage industry, there are some silk factories with power-looms where the later processes of preparing the silk are carried out according to the modern technical methods. The production is mostly confined to certain families that have been in this work for generations and hence there has been a pool of efficiency and tradition.

Monthly and piece rate systems are usually prevalent in these mills. A common worker's wages is approximate to near about Rs. 2 per day which cannot be called to be satisfactory in proportion to the work that is realised.

The other industries employing labourers are rice, oil, flour and pulse mills. These mills are located at Bhagalpur Sadar, Nathnagar, Sultanganj, Colgong and Pirpainty. The three main mills of Sultanganj are namely Shree Shiva Parvati Dal and Rice Mill Sultanganj Oil Mill and Suraj Oil Mill. The average wages of a mill worker are from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per day. Among the main mills, there are three at Sultanganj, about ten in Bhagalpur and one at Barahat.

Welfare measures for the labour employed in silk industries or in these mills cannot be said to be very satisfactory. The labourers

have the misfortune of seasonal unemployment which is not paid for. The number of employees of the individual units being small, there are hardly any housing or other social amenities. Medical relief provided for is very nominal. It is unfortunate that even the Labour Department has not yet started any Employment State Insurance Hospitals or Dispensaries in any of the towns in Bhagalpur district.

The Bihar State Road Transport Corporation, Bhagalpur Division, employs about 500 workmen within the district. Many of the employees have frequently to move out almost every day. The welfare measures provided are meagre and consist of a canteen at Tilkamanjhi and the bare necessity of a rest room or drinking water arrangements. Housing, medical and social amenities provided are practically nil or extremely poor.

So far as agricultural labourers are concerned, the population of landless labourers in the district is roughly calculated to be about 12,000. Out of this category about 3,000 are attached labourers and the rest are what may be described as casual labourers. There is no statutory obligation on the agricultural labourers to be static and extreme mobility is the main characteristic. The five Labour Inspectors in the district posted at Bhagalpur Sadar, Banka, Colgong, Naugachia and Belhar have been able to do very little to see to the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, for the agricultural labourers. The adult labourers have to work for 9 hours and the children also for almost the same time. The wages are not fixed and it varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0 per day. At the time of the harvest, the labourer is also given one bundle of paddy out of 16 bundles of paddy made ready by the labourer. At the time of harvest of maize and paddy, about 2,000 agricultural labourers migrate to Naugachia, Bihpur and Sultanganj from other places of South Bihar.

Recently, an Union of the agricultural labourers known as the Bhagalpur *Zila Khet Mazdoor Sabha* has been registered with about 500 membership and affiliated to All India Trade Union Congress. The registration was done only on 1st March 1961 with the objective to see to the welfare of the agricultural labourers. There are hardly any welfare measures taken by the State or by the employer for the agricultural labourers. As a matter of fact, not much of welfare measures are necessary as most of the agricultural labourers are drawn from the villages in the neighbourhood and they go back to their residences after the day's work. It is only the migrating labour that have to face certain difficulties so far as housing is concerned but usually their employers are large scale cultivators and they give a roofing to the migratory labourers employed.

So far as the labourers under the category of commercial is concerned, it is roughly calculated to be about 600. They are

engaged in commercial sector such as grain-gola, *pan*, *biri*, cloth shops, hotels, tea and sweetmeat shops and other shops that sell consumers' goods etc. According to the Bihar Shop Establishment Act, 1953, the shops have to be registered. The commercial sector labourers are mostly at Bhagalpur Sadar, Sultanganj, Banka, Nathnagar, Colgong and Naugachia. They have a weekly Sunday and work for a fixed period of time. At the State Level the Labour Department under a Secretary and Commissioner look after the Welfare measures and the problems of the labour population. At Bhagalpur there is an Assistant Labour Commissioner for the Bhagalpur Division. He is assisted by a Superintendent of Labour and a Labour Officer who are also conciliation officers under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953 is enforced in the following places in the district of Bhagalpur :—

- (a) Bhagalpur.
- (b) Colgong Notified Area.
- (c) Naugachia.
- (d) Banka Notified Area
- (e) Sultanganj Notified Area.

For the enforcement of this Act, two Labour Officers have been posted with headquarters at Bhagalpur. They have been vested with the powers of Inspecting Officers under the Act. The employers are required to maintain registers prescribed under the Act and submit annual reports and returns in respect of wages, employment and other matters to the Chief Inspecting Officer, Bihar. The Act provides for working hours, weekly rest, annual leave with wages, protection of employees against illegal fines and deduction, discharge and dismissal, etc.

At the District level there is a gazetted Labour Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Bhagalpur since 1955. The functions of the Labour Welfare Officer are multifarious. He is the Conciliation Officer for the district under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, in which capacity he tries to bring about an amicable settlement of any dispute between the employers and the employees of industrial establishment. As the Inspecting Officer, he has to see that the various Acts like the Bihar Shops and Establishment Act, 1953, etc., are implemented. He is responsible for seeing to the registration of all the shops covered by the Act. He has to enforce the provisions of the Act regarding the hours (8 hours), weekly rest (one day), annual leave with wages (one day for 20 days), payment of wages in time according to the terms of the employment, protection of the employees against illegal fines and deductions, discharge and dismissal, etc. The employers have to maintain a number of prescribed registers and submit reports regarding the workings of their establishments to the Labour Officer.

Some of the industrial establishments are registered under the Factories Acts and are liable to be regularly inspected by the Inspectorate under the Chief Inspector of Factories in Bihar. The establishments registered under the Factories Act have also to maintain a number of registers and submit reports and returns from time to time regarding their workings. The Factory Inspectors have also responsibility so far as the disputes are concerned. There is an Industrial Tribunal for the State where major disputes are taken.

The Conciliation Officers intervene in the disputes as and when it is raised by the workers. They try to bring about mutual settlements through their conciliatory efforts. When no settlement is reached and the parties do not show any inclination to mutually settle the disputes, a report is submitted to Government for reference to the Labour Court or the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

There is a Labour Welfare Centre at Khanjharpur in Bhagalpur town maintained by the Labour Department, since November, 1960. The Labour Welfare Officer is in charge of the centre. The centre provides certain social, cultural and physical amenities for the workers. The daily attendance at the centre is about 100 which cannot be said to be a good response.

There is a library, a recreation centre with arrangements for indoor games and various kinds of outdoor sports. There is a handicraft centre through which training in handicraft is given to the female workers. There is an Assistant Lady Welfare Officer in charge of its section. About 30 girls were found to be taking training in this section. The number is definitely poor. There are no Employees State Insurance Hospitals or Dispensaries as mentioned before. There is a small dispensary at the centre in Bhagalpur where a Lady Health Visitor distributes certain patent medicines to the labourers. This is an extremely inadequate arrangement for the workers.

It cannot, however, be said that the District Labour Officer and the Inspectorate under the Factories Act have been able to do much for the amelioration of the physical or social conditions of the labourers.

The State Government have since the beginning of the First Five-Year Plan sanctioned grants to the employers as well as to the workers' organisations for establishing Voluntary Welfare Centres. A sum of Rs. 4,000 is given as subsidy towards the construction of building. The workers and employers are also expected to contribute for purchase of equipments and for meeting the remaining expenditure towards the construction of the buildings. Their response has not been as expected. The State Government have also evolved a scheme for constituting a Voluntary Labour Welfare

Fund. According to this scheme, the management is expected to contribute rupee one per worker in the first year of the scheme. In subsequent years besides the employers, the workers are also expected to contribute. This scheme has also not evoked the response as was expected.

The overall picture of the welfare measures for the labourers of the district under the three broad categories, namely, industrial, agricultural and commercial shows that while on the one hand, the labourers are not well organised and are even carping in the demands and not always fully alive to their obligations, the employers are also not very keen to provide social amenities to them unless forced by the Government. The Labour Welfare Department is comparatively a new institution so far as the Government is concerned and so far not much strictness has been shown in enforcing the welfare measures. The problem is much too vast than what one Labour Officer or a Factory Inspector can do. Luckily most of the industrial projects are comparatively small in their scope and do not employ a large labour. Their workers are mostly drawn from the towns where the industries are located or from the villages in the neighbourhood. The commercial labourers are almost all residents of the urban areas where such concerns are located. As mentioned before the agricultural population both mobile and non-mobile are not seriously confronted with housing question. The other amenities for their education, medical, etc., are rather meagre as already pointed out.

Some of the features of the labour force in the Bhagalpur district may be indicated and are common to other parts of the State as well. The labour force is made up of persons between the ages of 16 and 60. As much as 95 per cent of the labour force is rural and the agricultural labour families contribute to a substantial part of the rural labour force. These include a class of "attached labourers" with remarkably little inclination to seek wage employment and do not possess much freedom to move to economic opportunities.

The recent Techno-Economic Survey of Bihar conducted by the National Council of Applied Research has given in their report (1955) the conclusion that "Agricultural employment is available to male workers for only 167 days in a year and female workers on an average of 181 days. Non-agricultural employment is available to male workers for 33 days and it is mostly found in rice pounding, flour grinding, fuel splitting, building trade, railway stations, mines and factories". Regarding urban employment this report mentions that "a part of the urban labour force, specially in the industrial sector, is made of migrants from other States, their proportion rises with the more specialised skills". In Bhagalpur district this part of the urban labour force from migrants from other States is extremely small.

The report particularly mentions about the incidence of absenteeism in Bihar labour because workers tend to return to villages during the agricultural seasons. This affects adversely the productive efficiency of industrial units. Further, because industrialism is relatively new to the State, labour "pools" with concentration of industrial workers have not come into existence. Hence despite the vast resources of employable labour, there is a scarcity of skilled and semi-skilled workers. On the other hand, the Survey report mentions about the hard working nature of even the under-skilled Bihari worker. Regarding trade unionism the Survey mentions that the Labour Department of the Government of Bihar and the tripartite Labour Advisory Board have contributed appreciably to the industrial relations. Trade unionism has been growing steadily, but as in every other fronts in the country, it is upset with political degenerated rivalries. It was mentioned that "Bihar's Trade Unionism shares with the country the need for basic reorganisation aimed at serving the economic interest of the workers more constructively".

Regarding wages the Survey came to the conclusion that the annual average earnings in agriculture in Bihar are estimated to be at Rs. 210 and for the lowest paid in the industries at Rs. 445. Thus the difference in wages is an inducement for labour to move from agriculture to industries. The average level of annual earnings of agricultural workers in agricultural and non-agricultural operations together is lower in Bihar (Rs. 247) than in U. P. (Rs. 393) and West Bengal (Rs. 412).

TRADE UNIONS

The following table supplied by the Labour Department shows that 34 registered Unions up to 31st March, 1961, are functioning in the district for the welfare of the labourers :—

Serial no.	Name of the Union.	Reg. no.	Date of registration.	Affiliated.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bhagalpur Electric Supply Workers' Union, Patal Babu Road, Mundichak, Bhagalpur.	74	1st February 1946 ..	..
2	Bhagalpur Waterworks Workers' Union, P.O. Barari, Bhagalpur.	194	8th November 1947 ..	All India Trade Union Congress (Communist). Ditto.
3	Bhagalpur Municipal Employees' Union, Bhagalpur, House no. 4, Surya Prasad Road, Khanjharpur, Bhagalpur.	517	23rd July 1951 ..	Ditto.

Serial no.	Name of the Union.	Reg. no.	Date of registration.	Affiliated.
1	2	3	4	5
4	<i>Zila Biri Mazdoor</i> Union, Jogsar, Bhagalpur.	623	5th August 1953	.. Hind Mazdoor Sabha.
5	Bhagalpur Mill Workers' Union, Bhagalpur, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	662	28th March 1954	.. All-India Trade Union Congress.
6	Gandhi Katra Traders' Stalls Owners Association, Patal Babu Road, Bhagalpur City.	668	29th April 1954	.. Ditto.
7	Sultanganj Distillery Labour Union, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	670	12th May 1954	.. Ditto.
8	Bhagalpur Silk Mills Workers' Union, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	676	7th June 1954	.. Ditto.
9	Sultanganj Mill Workers' Union, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	705	7th January 1954	.. Ditto.
10	<i>Nagar Safai Mazdoor Sangh</i> , Gangadhar Banerjee Lane, Mundichak, Bhagalpur.	712	22nd February 1955	Indian National Trade Union Congress (Congress).
11	<i>Motor Karamchari Sangh</i> , Bhagalpur, C/o District Congress Committee Office, Bhagalpur.	723	31st March 1955	.. Ditto.
12	Cinema Workers' Union, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, P.O. Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	732	4th June 1955	.. Ditto.
13	Bhagalpur Rickshaw Drivers Union, Bhagalpur, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	733	24th June 1955	.. Ditto.
14	Bhagalpur <i>Zila Karamchari Sangh</i> , Sultanganj, Bhagalpur.	735	4th January 1955	.. Ditto.
15	Bhagalpur Press Employees Union, Sakhawat Hussain Lane, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	736	6th July 1955	.. All-India Trade Union Congress (Communist).
16	<i>Khadya Utpadan Mill Karamchari Sangh</i> , D.C.C. Office, Bhagalpur.	739	25th July 1955	.. Indian National Trade Union (Communist).

Serial no.	Name of the Union.	Reg. no.	Date of registration.	Affiliated.
1	2	3	4	5
17	<i>Kiryadar Sangh</i> , Bhagalpur, C/o Tej Narain Ram, Jagnoti, Bhagalpur-2.	750	3rd November 1955..	..
18	Nathnagar <i>Karamchari Sangh</i> , Nathnagar, Bhagalpur.	758	12th December 1955	Indian National Trade Union (Communist).
19	Silk Mill <i>Karamchari Sangh</i> , C/o District Congress Office, Bhagalpur.	759	12th December 1955	Ditto.
20	Bhagalpur <i>Zila Gramin Mazdoor Sangh</i> , D.C.C. District Office, Bhagalpur.	766	14th January 1955 ..	..
21	Bhagalpur District <i>Kandi Mazdoor Sangh</i> , P.O. Nathnagar, Bhagalpur.	806	23rd October 1956 ..	..
22	<i>Biri Mazdoor Sangh</i> , Sultanganj, P. O. Sultanganj, Bhagalpur.	816	20th December 1956	..
23	Sultanganj Thana <i>Karamchari Mandal</i> , Sultanganj, Bhagalpur.	818	4th January 1957 ..	..
24	<i>Karamchari Sangh</i> , Nau-gachia, Bhagalpur.	846	3rd February 1958..	..
25	All Bihar <i>Navik Sangh</i> , P.O. Kahaigaon, Bhagalpur.	858	6th June 1958 ..	..
26	Bhagalpur Zila <i>Rikshaw Mazdoor Sangh</i> , Zila Congress Bhawan, Bhagalpur.	876	12th December 1958..	..
27	Mill <i>Mazdoor Sangh</i> , P. O. Sultanganj, Bhagalpur.	895	24th March 1959 ..	..
28	Zila Weavers' Union, Champanagar, Bhagalpur.	928	14th December 1959 ..	..
29	Bhagalpur Gariwan <i>Sangh</i> , P. O. Mirjanhat, district Bhagalpur.	951	27th April 1960 ..	..
30	Bhagalpur District Board <i>Karamchari Sangh</i> , Bhagalpur.	957	23rd May 1960 ..	..
31	Bhagalpur Motia <i>Mazdoor Sangh</i> , P. O. Mirjanhat, district Bhagalpur.	963	5th June 1960 ..	..
32	Bhagalpur <i>Nagar Dugdha Sahyog Karamchari Sangh</i> , Sakhawat Hussain Road, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur-1.	999	1st March 1961 ..	..
33	Bhagalpur Zila Khet <i>Mazdoor Sabha</i> , Bhikhanpur, Naya-tola, Bhagalpur.	1000	1st March 1961 ..	..
34	Colgong Mill <i>Mazdoor Union</i> , Sakhawat Hussain Road, Khalifabagh, Bhagalpur.	1001	1st March 1961 ..	..

Trade Unionism is still in a fluid state and parochial interests often based on narrow vision of the local leaders mar the larger interest of the workers. Most of these Unions are more of paper work and of very recent formation with a view to get a foot-hold for some clever men who are anxious to catch leadership.

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES

The population of the Adivasis, Harijans and other Backward classes in the entire district based on the reports of 1951 census (pages 88 to 94 of District Census Handbook, Bhagalpur, published in 1956) are as follows :—

	Population.
Scheduled Castes	1,72,096
Scheduled Tribes	96,126
Other Backward Classes	5,35,144

They are distributed all over the district. The distribution in the district revenue thanawise according to the Census Report of 1951 was as follows :—

	Scheduled Castes.	Scheduled Tribes.	Other Backward classes.
1	2	3	4
1. Sultanganj revenue thana	17,011	266	48,364
2. Bhagalpur Revenue thana (excluding Bhagalpur town).	23,775	35	60,886
3. Colgong Revenue thana (excluding Colgong town).	34,072	25,224	98,860
4. Bihpur Revenue thana	15,305	76	66,237
5. Amarpur Revenue thana	29,372	6,295	78,531
6. Katoria Revenue thana	21,423	34,244	52,510
7. Banka Revenue thana	21,392	29,496	82,862
TOTAL	1,62,350	95,636	4,88,250
Bhagalpur city	9,264	365	43,954
Colgong city	482	125	2,940
TOTAL URBAN	9,746	490	46,894
DISTRICT TOTAL	1,72,096	96,126	5,35,144

For the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward communities, the State Government maintains one District Welfare Officer, one Assistant Welfare Officer and 16 Welfare Inspectors.

ECONOMIC WELFARE

The Backward Classes being very poor had to procure seeds and money on credit at exorbitant rates of compound interest from village *Mahajans*. These debts were realised at the time of harvesting, leaving very little margin for the poor people for future use. To help them grain *golas* have been established which supply seeds at 25 per cent rate of interest for the first year and thereafter 6½ per cent compound interest for each succeeding year. There are 14 such grain *golas* distributed all over the district. Previously this facility existed for the Scheduled Tribes only but due to subsequent amendment in the grain *gola* rules, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes of Annexure I can also get the benefit of these grain *golas*.

The list of the 14 grain *golas* is mentioned below, and the number of persons who have been supplied with grain:—

Serial no.	Name of the grain <i>gola</i> and the year of opening.	Name of the Block or Anchal.	Persons benefited during 1960-61.
1	2	3	4
1	Harijan grain <i>gola</i> , Kajraihi, 1957-58 ..	Nathnagar	77 (including Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes.)
2	Harijan grain <i>gola</i> , Sonhaua, 1956-57..	Sonhaua..	49 (including Scheduled Tribes & Backward Classes).
3	Harijan grain <i>gola</i> , Amarpur, 1956-57..	Amarpur..	428 (including Scheduled Tribes & Backward Classes).
4	Harijan grain <i>gola</i> , Jagdishpur, 1957-58	Jagdishpur	188 (including Scheduled Tribes & Backward Classes).
5	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Baunsi, 1953 ..	Baunsi ..	Not available.
6	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Shovapathan, 1954..	Baunsi ..	146 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
7	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Banka	.. Banka ..	235 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).

Serial no.	Name of the grain <i>gola</i> and the year of opening.	Name of the Block or Anchal.	Persons benefited during 1960-61.
1	2	3	4
8	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Katoria, 1956	.. Banka	.. 284 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
9	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Suriya, 1956-57	.. Chandan	350 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
10	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Jamdaha, 1956-57..	Katoria	.. 249 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
11	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Jaipur, 1956-57	.. Katoria	.. 277 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
12	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Pirpainty, 1958-59	Pirpainti	104 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
13	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Chandan, 1959-60	.. Chandan	275 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).
14	Adivasi grain <i>gola</i> , Belhar, 1959-60	.. Belhar	.. 281 (including Scheduled Castes & Backward Classes).

The number of persons benefited cannot be said to be large.

AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDY

During 1957-58 Agricultural subsidy of Rs. 6,500 were granted to Scheduled Castes, Rs. 4,500 to Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 11,219 to other Backward Classes.

During 1958-59 Agricultural subsidy of Rs. 5,000 were granted to Scheduled Tribes, Rs. 10,000 to Scheduled Castes and Rs. 11,219 to other Backward Classes.

Agricultural subsidy during 1959-60 granted to Scheduled Tribes was Rs. 5,000, Rs. 5,000 was also granted to Scheduled Castes and Rs. 17,000 to Backward Classes.

During the year 1960-61 Agricultural subsidy of Rs. 7,000 was granted to Scheduled Castes, Rs. 6,000 to Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 8,900 to other Backward Classes. These subsidies were meant for purchase of bullocks, manures and seeds. In consideration of the population and their marked economic weakness, the help is very useful although the degree of help may not be adequate.

HOUSING SCHEME

Construction of houses has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,250 per house, out of which Government contribution is Rs. 937.50 per house.

During the years 1956-57 to 1960-61 the number of houses taken up for construction for Scheduled Castes is 242 of which 38 are under the State Plan and 204 are under the Central Plan. Seventy houses are being built for Scheduled Tribes under the Centrally sponsored scheme.

During the years 1955-56 to 1960-61 the Central Government spent Rs. 83,320 and the State Government Rs. 34,012 for the construction of the houses of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The chart below shows the location of the schemes which have been completed:—

UNDER CENTRAL PLAN FOR SCHEDULED CASTES.

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Police Station.	No. of houses.
1	2	3	4
1956-57	.. Marardih	.. Naugachia	.. 11
	.. Udhadih	.. Sultanganj	.. 10
	.. Akbarnagar	.. Sultanganj	.. 2
	.. Kajhia	.. Banka	.. 6
	.. Hario	.. Sultanganj	.. 2
	.. Englishchickroan	.. Sultanganj	.. 2
	.. Parghari	.. Rajaun	.. 6
1958-59	.. Pakra	.. Naugachia	.. 6
	.. Gaoripur	.. Bihpur	.. 4
	.. Noonuchak Makadpur	.. Nathnagar	.. 3
	.. Bhor Bahiya	.. * Belhar	.. 8
	.. Jagaria	.. Shahkund	.. 3
1959-60	.. Makdumma	.. Amarapur	.. 1
	.. Birajpur	.. Chandan	.. 7
	.. Maksasapur	.. Sadar	.. 100
	.. Chakulia	.. Rajaun	.. 6
	.. Mehrana	.. Rajaun	.. 3
	.. Telgama	.. Katoria	.. 6
	.. Muriari	.. Katoria	.. 4
	.. Bhormara	.. Katoria	.. 7
	.. Katoria	.. Katoria	.. 4
.. Jagaria	.. Shahkund	.. 3	

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UNDER THE STATE SPONSORED SCHEME FOR SCHEDULED CASTES

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Police Station.	No. of houses.
1	2	3	4
1959-60	Naugachia	Naugachia	2
	Sunderpur	Pirpainti	7 (under execution).
	Mohamdabad	Sabour	8 (under execution).
	Pildouri	Sultanganj	5
	Jhitia	Shahkand	6 (under execution).
	Mehrana	Rajaun	3 (under execution).
	Lausfa	Amarpur	7

CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Police Station.	No. of houses.
1	2	3	4
1957-58	Lakshmipur	Katoria	8
1958-59	Lalmahia	Bounsi	6
	Chumka	Belhar	5
1959-60	Tetaria	Katoria	7
	Chehatjoore	Katoria	6
	Tola Bengal Kala Paprewa.	Katoria	6
	Gangh	Baunsi	10
	Labrahia	Baunsi	4 (under execution).
	Domsari	Katoria	6
1960-61	Kaghar	Katoria	12

These houses are occupied by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But these houses are not adequate for the population of about two and half lakhs.

EDUCATIONAL WELFARE

Arrangements have been made to encourage education among the boys of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward communities by giving them stipends, exemptions from school fees and distribution of book grants. Free hostel accommodation has been provided to some extent.

14 Harijan Lower Primary Schools have been opened by the Welfare Department in the district. These are located at Dukkaranpurawar, P.-S. Rajaun, Supaha, P.-S. Katoria, Chandan Nawadih, P.-S. Katoria, Bhiti Sultanpur, P.-S. Sabour, Raghunathpur Katam, P.-S. Rajaun, Kusahi, P.-S. Sultanganj, Mohanpur, P.-S. Rajaun, Gauripur, P.-S. Katofia, Tetri, P.-S. Naugachia, Shyampur, P.-S. Rajatn, Bahrapur, P.-S. Bihpur, Ekchhari, P.-S. Pirpainti and Belhar, P.-S. Belhar. The main function of these schools is to provide education to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students. No fees are charged from the students. The special schools admit other boys of different communities as well.

Stipends and book grants are awarded to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes through the District Stipend Committee, constituted by the State Government for the same purpose for the students reading in Middle and Secondary Schools. Boys reading in Colleges are awarded stipend and book grants through the State and Central Stipend Committee.

The Welfare Department has been giving stipends and book grants to boys of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. An amount of Rs. 33,360, Rs. 31,431, Rs. 21,636, Rs. 39,442, Rs. 55,520 had been given as stipends to the boys of the Scheduled Castes for the years 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60 and 1960-61, respectively.

The amounts as such to the boys of the Scheduled Tribes for the same years were Rs. 12,264, Rs. 2,234, Rs. 14,581, Rs. 24,461, and Rs. 40,951, respectively. Stipends to the boys of Backward Classes for the same years were Rs. 49,440, Rs. 52,899, Rs. 52,899, Rs. 33,663, Rs. 73,344 and Rs. 74,756, respectively. The number of students benefited by such stipends in 1960-61 were 580 belonging to the Scheduled Castes, 485 belonging to Scheduled Tribes and 763 belonging to the Backward Classes.

HOSTELS

In order to solve the problems of accommodation of the students of these Backward communities, State Government have sanctioned the construction of some hostels for them.

The following Harijans and Adivasi hostels are now running in the district:—

	Seat allowed.
1. Harijan Hostel (for school students)	40
2. Welfare Hostel No. I (for college students) now T.N.B. College. ..	100
3. Welfare Hostel No. II (for College students) now T.N.B. College ..	100
4. Adivasi Hostel, Chandan	25
5. Adivasi Hostel, Khessau	25
6. Adivasi Hostel, Katoria	25
7. Adivasi Hostel, Baunsi	25

These are hostels for boys and managed by the Welfare Department. Usually one Superintendent and one cook are provided to every hostel in addition to the house rent and cost of utensils borne by the State Government. Every boarder at the hostel gets a grant of Rs. 15 only as well. No seat rent is charged from the students. If seats are available, students of other castes are also admitted. The problem of untouchability can be solved by offering opportunities to the so-called high caste students by living together with these students of the Backward Classes.

MISCELLANEOUS RELIEF

Medical aid for treatment of incurable diseases are occasionally given.

The Welfare Department has constructed 61 wells in Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes area since 1953-54 to 1960-61.

Reservation for representatives of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been made in the appointments to III and IV grade services. The Welfare section has been trying to improve the condition of the Backward Classes and Tribes but it cannot be said that much success has yet been achieved. In a recent investigation on the claim of the thousands of the Rai Ghatwars of Banka subdivision who wanted to be included in the Scheduled list of tribes it was found out that the Welfare section had very little statistics of this community and had very poor information of them.

PROHIBITION

Prohibition has not been enforced in the district of Bhagalpur by any statute. An attempt is, however, made to bring in prohibition by measures such as raising of prices of the intoxicants and the restriction of the sale of liquor, etc. But those measures have not had any appreciable result. In 1959 the price of ganja

was Rs. 1.50 per tola and the receipt was Rs. 49,509. The price was raised in 1961 to Re 1.92 per tola and the receipt showed a decrease of only Rs. 2,246. The sale of opium has been restricted since 1st April 1959 and opium is now sold for oral consumption only to people on medical certificate granted by the Civil Surgeon.

The Excise Department has been treated in the chapter under General Administration and it will be seen there that Excise is one of the main sources of revenue for the State exchequer. Prohibition can only be introduced with the full knowledge that there will be a big fall in revenue of the State. The incidence of consumption of intoxicants, particularly liquor has definitely been going up and has spread even to the class of students who were free from it before.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

Public Trusts and Endowments made by the Hindus in Bhagalpur district are governed by the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Act of 1950. The State Government have formed a Board known as Bihar State Board of Religious Trust, constituted under the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Act of 1950, which is headed by a Special Officer with his headquarters at Patna. There are 207 Trusts registered under this Act.

The Act imposes a duty on the trustees of a Public Trust to make an application for the registration of the Trust giving specific particulars. The trustees should mention in the application the approximate value of movable and immovable properties belonging to the Trust, and the actual annual income and expenditure. No registration is, however, essential for Trusts owned privately. From the registered Trust the Board realises a fee at the rate of 5 per cent on the net income of the Trust property.

According to the Act, proper preservation and protection of endowed properties is offered. A trustee cannot sell or transfer any endowed property without the previous sanction of the Board. If a trustee does so the property will be recovered by the Board under the orders of the District Judge.

If a trustee mismanages or acts in a manner prejudicial to the interest of the Trust, he is liable to removal.

Public Trusts and Endowments made by the Muslims in Bhagalpur district are governed by the Bihar Waqf Act, 1947. According to the Act 161 such Trusts of Bhagalpur district have been registered. The headquarters of the administration of Muslim Trusts is also at Patna with a President, a *Nazir*, an Accountant, a law Agent and 8 assistants. The Waqfs are controlled by the President with his headquarters at Patna.

Charitable Endowments may be classed under two categories, viz. (1) those created for public purposes and placed under the

management of Government officials, and (2) religious and public trusts placed in charge of trustees such as *Mutwallis* in *waqf* estate of Muslims and *Sevayats* in religious trust of Hindus and other communities. Besides this, there are three charitable funds in Bhagalpur district for the welfare of the meritorious students.

It may be observed here that the abolition of zamindari and the present trend of bringing in a socialistic pattern of society and the commitments and demands of the Welfare State will have a general freezing effect on the monied classes to make fresh charitable trusts and foundations. The trusts so far had been mostly created by the zamindars and middle classes of higher income group.

Some of the Trusts in the district are as follows:—

Lila Deep Narayan Trust.—This Trust was created on 28th May 1930 by the late Mr. Deep Narayan Singh of Bhagalpur. He gave away his entire zamindari to the trust. The annual income of his zamindari was Rs. 1,76,601. After the abolition of zamindari the estate was taken by the Government. The Government grants Rs. 42,577 per year which is distributed to the schools and colleges of Bhagalpur.

The Government grants Rs. 2,640 per year to T.N.B. College, Bhagalpur, Rs. 1,800 per year to T.N.B. Collegiate School, Bhagalpur, Rs. 27,937 per year to the Lila Deep Narayan Technical School, Barari and Rs. 3,000 to Ramanand Anathalaya, Bhagalpur.

The main aim of the Trust is to help the schools and colleges. The Lila Deep Narayan Technical School at Barari was opened in 1955 after the name of Mr. Deep Narayan Singh and his wife.

Burha Nath Temple Trust.—This Trust was registered in 1960 and is under the Bihar State Board of Religious Trust. It is located at Jogsar Mohalla of Bhagalpur. The administrative head of the Trust is the *Mahant* and there is a committee of five members.

A Sanskrit *Pathshala* is functioning in the temple. The annual expenditure on the *Pathshala* is about Rs. 500 per year. The net income of the Burha Nath Temple Trust is Rs. 6,323 per year. The whole income of the temple is spent on the management of the temple.

Syed Shah Enayat Hussain Waqf Estate.—Syed Shah Enayat Hussain dedicated his property into *waqf* Alaludad and executed a registered deed on 26th February, 1872 and appointed his grandson Shah Amir Alam as *Mutawalli*.

After meeting the necessary expenses of the management of the estate, the *mutawalli* was directed to meet the necessary expenses in mosques, *Dargah*, *Urs* and *Neyaz*, etc.

The income of the waqf during 1957 was Rs. 16,424, Rs. 15,286 in 1958, Rs. 19,134.94 in 1959 and Rs. 24,621.77 in 1960.

Mojahidpur Trust Board, Waqf no. 772.—A registered document was executed by the members of the Board of Trust on 17th March, 1939 (the deed of declaration of Trust) with a Secretary and 13 members. The assets of the Trust are some properties in Bhagalpur town.

The income of the Trust during 1955-56 was Rs. 7,001.97, Rs. 74,228.87 in 1956-57, Rs. 7,884.05 in 1957-58, Rs. 7,144.47 in 1958-59, Rs. 9,699.35 in 1959-60 and Rs. 7,899.50 in 1960-61.

The Trust makes the payment of the taxes and spends the income in the repairing of the mosques and houses which are under the Trust.

The invested capital of the fund is Rs. 1,000 only.

Harballabh Narayan Scholarship fund.—This fund was created in 1869 by the late Maharaj Harballabh Narayan Singh of Sonbarsa in the district of Bhagalpur. It is administered by the Collector and the Principal of Tej Narayan Banaili College. The Collector draws the interest and spends it on the annual award of three scholarships to students.

The invested capital of the fund is Rs. 22,800.

Wood Memorial Fund.—This fund has been named after the late Principal of Sabour Agricultural College, Mr. E. J. Woodhouse who was killed in France.

The Fund represents a permanent endowment and securities pertaining to its case which are not to be sold or given up without the order of the local Government. The interest obtained from them is donated to the writer of the best thesis on some botanical or horticultural subject.

Government have appointed two trustees one of whom is the Director of Agriculture and the other the Collector of Bhagalpur.