

CHAPTER XVI

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE.

Agricultural Labour.

The Patna district is mainly agricultural. Naturally, therefore, the agricultural labour forms the major portion of its total labour force. They are drawn mainly from amongst the petty agriculturists as also the landless classes. They can broadly be classified into—(a) unattached and (b) attached or bonded. The unattached labourers get their wages in lieu of their services, but are otherwise free to accept job under any cultivator or even jobs other than in the fields. The attached or bonded labourers are given some cultivable land and sometimes a hut to live in, besides the usual wages and they are under obligation to work under the particular cultivator who provides them these facilities, as and when required. They are not free to accept employment elsewhere without the permission of their masters. Usually an old, unredeemed loan is responsible for this kind of contract. As a matter of tradition, families of labourers in a rural economy are linked from generation to generation to serve particular families of masters. In this district they have been known as *Kamias** who are, however, now getting extinct on account of the operation of progressive laws against this kind of labour and also due to the impact of developing industrial economy which tends to draw away labour force from the rural scene.

The agricultural labour force is unorganised, mostly on account of illiteracy, conservatism and lack of desire to improve its lot. Naturally it has very little bargaining power. It has been exploited by comparatively better placed cultivators. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, was intended to safeguard the minimum wages to such labour force. The minimum rates of wages for the agricultural labour had been fixed under this Act. The rates have been fixed in kind with their money equivalent. These rates vary according to different agricultural operations and again between irrigated and non-irrigated areas, those for the irrigated being higher on account of greater productivity soil and corresponding higher yield.

*See, Chapter on 'Banking, Trade and Commerce.'

For implementation of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, there is an organisation consisting of Labour Inspectors posted at different places with specified jurisdiction. In 1967, there were nine Labour Inspectors posted one each at Patna City, Patna Sadar, Danapur, Bikram, Bakhtiarpur, Barh, Hilsa, Masaurhi and Biharsharif. Their work is supervised by the Labour Officers who are under the control of a Superintendent of Labour. The Labour Officers and the Labour Superintendent have been declared as Inspectors under the aforesaid Act.

There is no trade union movement among the agricultural labourers in this district. In spite of the local machinery to safeguard their interest, they do not always get their wages as fixed under the Act.

Factory Labour.

The total number of factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, in Patna district was 328 in 1966. Of these, 26 factories were of large and medium size while the rest were small-scale units*. There were 125 units of organised Trade Unions on April 30, 1966, registered under the Trade Unions Act, 1926†. The modern industries are of recent origin in this district and are yet in early stage of development. The labour force employed by them is also not large. Thus the factory labour as such is still in a formative state.

The most important labour legislation is the Factories Act, 1948 (LXIII of 1948), which *inter alia* provides for licensing and registration of all factories employing ten or more workers where power is used and twenty or more in all other cases and prescribes standard of working conditions in respect of ventilation, lighting, prevention of overcrowding, dust, nuisance, etc., and higher standard of safety provisions, based on modern industrial practices and makes managers of factories responsible for compliance. It gives special protection to young persons and women workers. The amendments in this Act aim at introduction of further welfare measures for factory labour particularly in respect of leave and wages.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (XI of 1948) provides for statutory fixation of minimum wages in a number of industries including rice, flour, *dal* and oil mills; stone breaking, public transport, tanneries and leather manufactures, etc.

Transport Workers.

The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, which is a Central Act, applies to every motor transport undertaking employing five or more

* See, Chapter on 'Industries' for the details of these factories.

† They also included some Trade Unions of Shops and Commercial employees.

motor transport workers. It aims to secure welfare measures for the employees in respect of security of jobs, overnight halting accommodation, proper uniforms, medical facilities, hours of work and wages including overtime, rest and holidays.

Shops and Establishments.

The Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953, aims to provide for the regulation of working conditions and employment in shops and other establishments. It came into force on the 15th February, 1955*. It prescribes hours of work in establishments and lays down that no establishment shall on any day open earlier than 7 A.M. and close later than 9 P.M. and limits the maximum hours of work to 9 on any day and 48 hours in a week exclusive of intervals allowed for rest or meals. It has been enforced within the limits of the Patna Municipal Corporation, comprising of the urban areas of Patna, Patna City and also within the municipal limits of Biharsharif, Barh and Mokameh. It applies to all shops, hotels and commercial establishments. In 1966, there were 17,164 registered shops in the whole district of Patna, but they employed only about 7,300 persons†.

THE EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME.

An office to administer the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme was established in Bihar with headquarters at Patna in November, 1952. It is controlled by the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner of Central Government with headquarters at Patna. There are six Inspectors under him to look after the working of the Fund with their respective headquarters at Patna, Jamshedpur, Gaya, Dhanbad, Muzaffarpur and Hazaribagh.

Scope and application.—The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The scheme framed thereunder came into force in November, 1952 and applied initially to factories employing 50 or more‡ persons and engaged in the manufacture or production of (i) cement, (ii) cigarettes, (iii) electrical, mechanical or general engineering products, (iv) iron and steel,

* See, notification no. 1794-L., dated the 5th February, 1955.

† This low figure is explained by the fact that most of the shops did not employ any worker but they were run by their proprietors and members of their families.

‡ Since 1st January, 1961, 20 or more, see, Employees' guide issued by the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.

(v) paper and (vi) textiles*. If an establishment consists of different departments or has branches situated in the same place or elsewhere, all such departments or branches are to be treated as parts of the same establishment.

Salient features of the Fund Scheme.—When the Fund Scheme becomes applicable to any establishment, every employee employed in connection with the work of the establishment is required to become member of the fund from the first of the subsequent month, if he has completed one year's continuous service or has worked for not less than 240 days during a period of 12 months. It is not necessary that the service should be in the same factory or establishment. It is enough if he works under the same employer. In the case of a seasonal establishment an employee is entitled to membership of the Fund if he has worked for 2/3rd of the period of the seasonal establishment was in operation during the 12 months. The Act will not apply to any factory belonging to the Government or to local authority or to any other factory unless three years have elapsed from its establishment.

Continuity of membership.—A member of the Fund continues to be a member until he withdraws the amount standing to his credit in the Fund or is covered by a notification of exemption. Every member, employed as an employee other than an excluded employee, in a factory or other establishment to which the scheme applies, is required to contribute to the Fund and contribution in equal measure is payable by the employer. A member of a private Provident Fund maintained by an exempted establishment becomes a member of the Fund immediately on joining a factory or establishment covered under the Scheme.

Rate of contribution.—The contribution payable by an employee under the scheme is calculated at 6½ per cent of the total basic wages, dearness allowance and retaining allowance if any actually drawn during the whole month whether paid on daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis by an employee to whom the scheme applies. If an employee desires to contribute at a higher rate than 6½ per cent, he may do so to the maximum of 8½ per cent with the approval of the Commissioner.

* See, Ministry of Labour notification no. S.R.O. 1566, dated the 4th July, 1956 adding matches, edible oils and fats, sugar, rubber products, tea, printing, glass, stone, wire pipes, sanitary wires, refractories and tiles.

Administrative charges.—To finance the administration of the Fund, an employer is required to pay to the Fund administrative charges at the rate of 0.37 per cent of pay in respect of which Fund contributions are payable.

The statement given below will show the number of establishments and subscribers to the Fund in the whole of Bihar from 1964-65 to 1966-67* :—

Year		Number of establishments.	Number of employees.	Number of subscribers.
1964-65	..	915	2,54,376	2,14,074
1965-66	..	1,105	2,73,247	2,23,592
1966-67	..	1,239	3,20,766	2,49,063

From the above statement it appears that the number of establishments and employees is increasing gradually. There were 915 establishments with 2,54,376 employees and 2,14,074 subscribers to the Fund in 1964-65 which rose to 1,239 number of establishments, 3,20,766 employees and 2,49,063 subscribers in 1966-67.

EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE SCHEME.

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has been created with a view to provide social security in terms of cash and medical benefit to industrial employees. The Scheme covers all the factories where 20 or more persons are employed and manufacturing process is done with power.

The Scheme is controlled by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation with headquarters in New Delhi. There are Regional Directors posted in each State to look after the working of the Scheme.

The Scheme was introduced in the Patna district in 1957 with a Regional Director and an Assistant Regional Director with their headquarters at Patna to supervise the working of the Scheme in the whole of Bihar.

There are two Inspectors and a Manager posted at Patna for investigation and inspection of the factories. Out of the 18,000 industrial workers in the district of Patna, 16,000 persons of all categories had been insured by December, 1966.

* Separate figures for the Patna district are not available.

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The workers derive the following benefits from the Scheme :—

- (a) Cash benefit consisting of (i) Sickness benefit, (ii) Maternity benefit, (iii) Disablement benefit and (iv) Dependent benefit.
- (b) Benefit in kind consisting of medical benefit.

Sickness Benefit.—Sickness benefit is paid at half the daily average wage of the person concerned for the period of certified sickness. The total period of such benefit is 56 days during any continuous period of 365 days.

The insured employees suffering from T. B. will get extended cash and medical benefit. The payment of cash benefit has been enhanced from 126 days in a year to 309 days in a year in cases insured persons suffer from T.B., leprosy and mental diseases.

Maternity Benefit.—Maternity benefit is paid to an insured woman worker. It is paid at the sickness benefit rate or at 75 paise a day whichever is higher. It is payable for 12 weeks of which not more than six weeks should precede the expected day of confinement. In addition to this, an insured woman worker is entitled to sickness benefit as well in case of other sickness. But sickness and maternity benefits cannot be enjoyed concurrently.

Disablement Benefit.—In case of temporary disablement, benefit is given roughly at half the average daily wage. It commences from the first day of incapacity provided the disablement exceeds seven days.

In case of permanent partial disablement, benefit will be given in the form of life pension at a rate depending on the degree of disablement as determined by an independent Medical Board. In case of permanent total disablement, the benefit will be given as life pension at the rate of temporary disablement.

Dependent Benefit.—If an employment injury results in the death of an insured person, his dependents, *i. e.*, the widow of the deceased insured person and his children and in their absence the parents of the insured deceased person or other dependents will receive the dependent benefit. The benefit for the widow will be payable for the life or till she remarries and the sons and unmarried daughters will be entitled to it up to the age of 15 years or, if they are receiving education to the satisfaction of the Corporation, up to the age of 18 years. The widow will receive $\frac{3}{5}$ th and the children $\frac{2}{5}$ th of the full rate of temporary disablement benefit. In the absence of these, the parents or other dependents of the deceased insured persons will be paid at a rate to be decided by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

Medical Benefit.—The medical benefit includes general medical service, hospitalisation of deserving cases, supply of necessary drugs and dressing, specialist services, domiciliary visit when required, maternity services and emergency treatment in cases of accident, preventive treatment as vaccination and inoculation, provision of certificates free of cost in respect of sickness, maternity, employment, injury and death.

There are five Employees' State Insurance dispensaries in this district located at Jamal Road, Patna; Patna City, Digha, Phulwarisharif and Mokameh. Each dispensary is looked after by a Medical Officer. The average daily attendance of outdoor patients of these dispensaries is about 225. The emergency cases are sent to Patna Medical College Hospital. There are five beds reserved for the patients under this Scheme.

In order to obtain the medical benefits enumerated above, a declaration form has to be filled in respect of each insured employee and identity cards are issued for establishing identity at the time of claiming benefit from this Scheme.

The statement given below will show the benefit given to the workers during the year 1965-66 :—

Nature of benefit.	Number of persons benefited.	Amount paid (in rupees).
1. Sickness benefit	8,648	2,11,153.42
2. Temporary disablement benefit ..	199	10,640.56
3. Permanent disablement benefit ..	63	5,834.31
4. Dependent benefit	143	10,593.04

PROHIBITION.

In the State of Bihar there is no prohibition by law of sale of intoxicants for common consumption. Nor is there prohibition in the adjacent States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa. The northern boundary line of this State is the international boundary line between India and Nepal. In Nepal also there is no prohibition of the consumption of intoxicants.

The State of Bihar has attempted to control the consumption of intoxicants indirectly, i.e., by raising the prices of intoxicants; restricting the grant of licences for the sale of intoxicants; curtailing the hours of

the working of liquor shops and stopping sale of liquor on certain occasions, e.g., Mohurram, Holi festival, etc*.

In comparison with the prices which were prevailing two decades ago there has been enormous rise in the prices of all intoxicants, but the incidence of consumption of intoxicants, particularly toddy and country liquor, has been increasing as would be borne out by rising excise revenue of the State†. Certain voluntary organisations like Arya Samaj discourage consumption of intoxicants and as a part of their programme they attempt to educate the masses regarding the evils of drink and write out slogans, e.g., "*Nasha Chhoro*" on prominent places, but apparently they also have no significant achievement to their credit. Picketing of liquor shops used to be part of Non-Co-operation Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi against the British Government in 1921, 1930 and 1932 when wholesale closure of toddy shops by Pasis indicated the depth of popular response. But the effect was rather short-lived. A large section of the population in the Patna district is now addict to toddy. There are countless numbers of palm trees, particularly in the Bihar subdivision which is proverbially described as one abounding in *turuk*, *tari* and *tehi*. The summer evenings usually draw huge crowds to toddy shops where people, high and low, sit together in fraternising moods to enjoy this drink. *Mahua* trees are quite common in villages in this district and the Harijans and some backward castes extract an alcoholic decoction out of *mahua* fruits. In urban areas liquor shops run throughout the year and rickshaw pullers, *bidi* makers and common folks usually spend quite a good part of their earning over liquor. Recently some efforts have been made by Gram Udyog Sangh to open shops to sell *nira* (i.e., unfermented palm juice). Palm juice is also converted to some extent into *tal gur*. These experiments, however, have done little to divert palm juice into innocent channels and the incidence of toddy taking goes unabated. Another popular drink is tea, but it is no rival to liquor. There is a remote possibility that sugarcane juice may neutralise the incidence of liquor to some extent in future. In urban areas, particularly in Patna, sugarcane juice is becoming a popular beverage.

Consequent on the partition of the country, people from up-country have settled in this district, particularly at Patna for business and they have popularised drinks of foreign brands in high societies. Tourists from abroad have also been coming to Patna to visit the places of historical importance, many of them using it as transit station on way to Nepal. By and large they are accustomed to liquor and their demand is reflected in so many bars attached to modern hotels which

* This is done primarily in context of maintaining Law and Order.

† See, Chapter on 'General Administration'.

have opened recently at Patna. The high prices of foreign liquor are perhaps no deterrent to these classes of consumers.

Government have monopoly of opium. This is, however, no longer cultivated in this district. It is imported from outside the State and sold through Government treasuries to authorised agents who in turn sell to persons who possess valid medical certificates granted by Civil Surgeon. But there are reasons to believe that the number of addicts to opium is not diminishing.

Ganja is not a native of the Patna district. It is sold through licensed shops. The Nagas, a sect of religious mendicants, openly patronise it. The price of indigenous *ganja* is very high and this explains the clandestine consumption of much cheaper Nepali *ganja* which is usually smuggled from Nepal by gangs of smugglers for local sale as well as export to foreign countries. The detection of such cases are common occurrence and smugglers are also prosecuted in court, but they have not been deterred in their trade. Perhaps the high fortunes they make and patronage they receive from people in high positions more than compensates the risk involved.

Tobacco is taken in some form or other by bulk of the people. Cigarettes and *bidi* are very common forms of smoke and their consumption is progressively increasing in spite of their rising prices. People in young age groups are also becoming addicts to smoking.

A disturbing factor in context of consumption of liquor is that a large section of student community is also being drawn towards it and this is leading to various types of crimes. The State holds monopoly over the sale of intoxicants of all kinds and its regulation through licences. The excise revenue contributes a substantial amount to the State Exchequer*. However, this has to be balanced against the social problems outlined above. Some of the States in India particularly Maharashtra have introduced prohibition and have taken effective steps to control the incidence of intoxications. There are other States who have lifted prohibition. No definite opinion can at present (1967) be formed about the desirability of prohibition or otherwise.

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES.

The 'Backward Classes' include Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, denotified tribes and other Backward Classes. The Constitution of India has not defined the term "Backward". It is rather vague, but relative to the socially advanced communities.

* See, Excise Revenue in Chapter 'General Administration'.

In India, besides the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there are certain other communities also which give a definite impression of social and educational backwardness and inferiority when set against the traditional upper castes in Hindu society. There are also non-Hindu communities who are backward in the same sense. They are at the stage of social evolution and unless given special attention for a certain period and raised to what may be called the normal level of socio-economic development, they will not be capable of taking advantage of the general facilities available to the nation. It is in this sense the term "Backward Class" may be understood.

Under Articles 34(1) and 342(1) of the Constitution of India, the President is empowered to specify by public notification the castes or tribes which will be deemed to be Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in any particular State.

According to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs' notification no. S. R. D. 2444-A, dated the 20th October, 1956, issued under the aforesaid provisions the following Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are recognised in the State of Bihar and also in the Patna district* :—

Scheduled Castes.—(1) Bantar, (2) Bauri, (3) Bhogta, (4) Chamar or Mochi, (5) Chaupal, (6) Dabgar, (7) Dhobi, (8) Dom or Dhangad, (9) Dusadh including Dhari or Dharhi, (10) Ghasi, (11) Halalkhor, (12) Hari, Mehtar or Bhangi, (13) Kanjar, (14) Kurariar, (15) Lalbegi, (16) Musahar, (17) Nat, (18) Pan or Sawasi, (19) Pasi, (20) Rojwar, (21) Turi, (22) Bhumij, and (23) Bhuiya.

Scheduled Tribes.—(1) Asur, (2) Baiga, (3) Banjara, (4) Bathudi, (5) Bedia, (6) Binjhia, (7) Birhor, (8) Birjia, (9) Chero, (10) Chik-Baraik, (11) Gond, (12) Gorait, (13) Ho, (14) Karmali, (15) Kharia, (16) Kharwar, (17) Khond, (18) Kisan, (19) Kora, (20) Korwa, (21) Lohara or Lohra, (22) Mahli, (23) Mal Paharia, (24) Munda, (25) Oraon, (26) Parhaiya, (27) Santal, (28) Sauria Paharia, and (29) Savar.

The population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Patna district is as follows† :—

			Persons	Males	Females
Scheduled Castes	..	..	4,74,501	2,40,335	2,34,166
Scheduled Tribes	..	..	1,511	872	639

*Patna District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 100.

†Census of India, 1961, Vol. IV, Bihar, Part V-A. Special Tables for Backward Castes and Tribes, pp. 192-93, 212-13 and 237.

They are scattered all over the district. One District Welfare Officer, one Assistant Welfare Officer and a number of Welfare Inspectors look after their welfare. They have a special duty to spread education amongst them.

In order to encourage education among the members of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward communities the State Government have decided on a policy of liberal stipends, exemption from school fees and distribution of book-grants to the students of these communities. The stipends and book-grants for the students reading in middle and secondary schools are allowed on the recommendation of the District Stipend Committee constituted by the State Government for the purpose. College students are also awarded stipends and book-grants through the State and Central Stipend Committees.

There is a Welfare Department at Government level to look after the welfare measures for these classes. A District Welfare Officer is reported with his headquarters at Patna to execute the details of the welfare schemes. He is assisted by Welfare Inspectors in his work. His main functions relate to the removal of disabilities of Backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, spread of education, provision of hostels for them, arrangements for loan and subsidies, medical aid, legal aid, running of grain-golas, sinking of wells, etc. The entire expenditure is borne by State Exchequer.

Economic Welfare.

The Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are usually very poor. They are mostly landless and very much indebted. Even if some of them have land they have to procure seeds and money on credit from the village *mahajans* at exorbitant rates of interest. These debts are realised at the time of harvesting, leaving very little margin to them. In order to save them from such exploitation, Government have sponsored the schemes of *grain-golas* and agricultural subsidy.

Grain-golas.—*Grain-golas* have been established exclusively to give seed on credit and also grain for food in times of scarcity to the members of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Tribal communities. These *grain-golas* supply seeds at 25 per cent rate of interest for the first year and thereafter 6½ per cent compound interest for each succeeding year. Previously, this facility was for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes only but due to subsequent amendment in the *grain-golas* rules, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes also get the benefit of

these *golas*. The Block Development or Circle Officers have been authorised to sanction loan of grain to petitioners and usually two to ten maunds of grain are sanctioned according to the need of the individual petitioner and availability of grain in the stock. The following grain-*golas* have been functioning in this district:—

Serial no.	Location of grain- <i>gola</i> .	Name of the Block where situated.
1	Paliganj	.. Paliganj.
2	Phulwarisharif	.. Phulwarisharif.
3	Masaurhi	.. Masaurhi.
4	Punpun	.. Punpun.
5	Ekangarsarai	.. Ekangarsarai.
6	Rajgir	.. Rajgir.
7	Sarmera	.. Sarmera.
8	Fatwa	.. Fatwa
*9	Barh ..	.. Barh.
*10	Khagaul	.. Danapur.

These grain-*golas* are popular and are rendering useful service.

Agricultural subsidy.—The agricultural subsidy granted to the agriculturists belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes since 1961-62 is as follows:—

Year.	Amount. (In rupees)
1961-62	7,700.00
1962-63	1,500.00
1963-64	3,499.67
1964-65	1,500.00
1965-66	6,992.00

The subsidy is meant for purchase of bullocks, manure and seed. In view of the impecunious conditions of the agriculturists and frequent drought causing immense loss to them, the amount of the subsidy is rather modest to meet their requirements.

Housing Scheme.

In order to provide shelter to the poor among them, a housing scheme has been introduced. The construction of a house is sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,250 per house, out of which the Government's contribution is Rs. 937.50, i.e., 75 per cent per house. Generally, the beneficiary contributes the remaining portion in shape of labour, raw materials, etc. In the district of Patna 168 houses under State and

*Abolished in 1965.

Central-sponsored schemes have been constructed and 113 houses are under construction*.

Educational Facilities.

The Central Government has a fund for giving stipends for Post-graduate study to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. Post-matric stipends from the Central Government are awarded to them by the State Government under the authority delegated to them. The State Government also gives stipends, awards and book-grants to students from the school to the college stage.

The table below shows the amount disbursed among the students from 1961-62 to 1965-66 :—

Year.	Examination fees. (Rs.)	Stipends. (Rs.)	Book-grants. (Rs.)
<i>Scheduled Castes.</i>			
1961-62	.. Not available	4,200.00	185.00
1962-63	.. 35,000.00	4,044.62	Nil
1963-64	.. 30,000.00	3,330.00	Nil
1964-65	.. 75,680.00	4,244.80	300.00
1965-66	.. 45,000.00	3,580.00	Not available.
<i>Harijans.</i>			
1961-62	.. 80,000.00	1,65,670.00	5,200.00
1962-63	.. 50,000.00	1,65,993.36	4,500.00 (Surrendered.)
1963-64	.. 91,855.00	16,614.28	4,500.00
1964-65	.. 75,000.00	1,47,751.57	Not available.
1965-66	.. 95,000.00	1,47,463.70	Ditto.
<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>			
1961-62	.. 40,000.00	36,231.00	18,711.00
1962-63	.. 40,000.00	38,969.83	24,748.94
1963-64	.. 40,000.00	30,304.77	17,108.09
1964-65	.. 40,000.00	37,389.59	21,000.00
1965-66	.. 40,000.00	23,447.00	20,947.00

* The Appendix I at the end of this Chapter shows the location of the houses which have been constructed or are under construction.

The majority of Harijans, Adivasis and Backward Classes belong to the class of landless labourers. They have no means to meet the expenses of education of their children. Therefore, the State Government decided to bear practically all their expenses on education*.

Hostel.

The following hostels for Harijans and Scheduled Castes are running in the district :—

	Seats.
(1) State Welfare Hostel, Ranighat, Patna	50
(2) State Welfare Hostel, Mahendru, Patna	55
(3) State Welfare Hostel, Bhattacharya Road (rented building), Patna.	25
(4) State Welfare Hostel, Masaurhi	25
(5) State Welfare Hostel, Punpun	25
(6) State Welfare Hostel, Bikram	51
(7) State Welfare Hostel, Biharsharif	25

The house rent and the cost of utensils are borne by the State Government. No seat rent is charged from the students. Every boarder belonging to the Backward Classes also gets a grant of Rs. 20. If seats are available after providing the boys for whom the hostels are meant, other students are also admitted, but they are required to pay some fees. As a matter of fact the hostels should cater for students of other classes as well so that the Harijans and Scheduled Caste boys may not suffer from a feeling of segregation and inferiority complex.

Drinking Water.

The Welfare Department has constructed wells to provide drinking water to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Harijans. Such wells are usually sunk in their colonies which do not have good wells. But untouchability being a punishable crime, they can now use other wells of the village as well.

The statement below shows the number of wells constructed for Harijans and the amount spent on them :—

Year.	Number of wells.	Amount. (Rs.)
1961-62 ..	22	1,700.00
1962-63 ..	20	5,750.00
1963-64 ..	28	9,999.90
1964-65 ..	48	12,854.62
1965-66 ..	33	0,128.00

*SOURCE.—District Education Office, Patna. Also see, the Chapter "Education and Culture".

The Government contributes 75 per cent of the estimated cost and the villagers are required to contribute the remaining portion in shape of labour.

Medical Facilities.

The Welfare Department do not maintain any hospital, Allopathic, Ayurvedic or Homoeopathic, exclusively for the Scheduled Castes or Tribes. But medical aid is provided to them on the basis of recommendation made by the doctors and the cost of treatment is reimbursed to them by the office of the District Welfare Officer.

The table below shows the medical aid granted to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 1963-64 to 1966-67 (up to November, 1966):—

Medical Aid.

Year.	Amount allotted.	Subdivisional Officer					
		Bihar.	Barh.	Sadar.	Patna City.	Danapur.	Reserve.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1963-64	2,800†	..	..	..	..	..	..
1964-65	2,800*	700	600	..	..	..	..
1965-66	2,500**	700	500	500	300	500	..
		100† By Bank Draft no .G-527094, dated the 14th Decemcer, 1965.					
		100†† By Bank Draft no. G-533013, dated, the 21st March, 1966.					
1966-67	2,500††	500	500	500	500	500	..

Legal Aid.

In the Patna district indigent persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were provided legal aid in cases relating to ejection from land and house, money-suits, etc.

†	Welfare Department letter no. 4676, dated the 3rd April, 1962.
*	.. .. 4284, dated the 30th April, 1964.
**	.. .. 3376, dated the 15th April, 1965.
†	.. .. 9276, dated the 28th September, 1965.
††	.. .. 1757, dated the 22nd February, 1966.
††	.. .. 3331, dated the 6th April, 1966.

The table below shows the extent of this aid :—

Year.	Amount allotted.	Subdivisional Officer.					
		Bihar.	Barh.	Danapur.	Sadar.	Patna City.	Reserve.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1962-63	.. 2,800*	600	600	700	700	200	..
1963-64	.. { 2,100**	400	400	400	400	200	..
				230		70	
1964-65	.. 1,750***	400	400	400	400	150	..
1965-66	.. 1,750†	400	400	400	400	150	..
1966-67	.. 1,660‡	300	300	300	300	300	160

CHARITABLE TRUSTS AND ENDOWMENTS.

Hindu Trusts.

Charitable Trusts and Endowments of the Hindus are governed by the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950.

Charitable Endowments may be classed under two categories, *viz.*, (a) those created for public purposes and placed under the management of Government officials and (b) religious and public trusts placed in charge of trustees such as *Mahanths* and *Sevants*.

The Trust Board realises a fee at the rate of 5 per cent on the net income of a trust property for its administration, proper preservation and protection. A trustee cannot dispose of any endowed property

* Welfare Department letter no. 4059, dated the 2nd April, 1962.

** " " " " 7323, dated the 17th July, 1963.

*** " " " " 4376, dated the 2nd May, 1964.

† " " " " 3374, dated the 15th April, 1965.

‡ " " " " 3431, dated the 12th April, 1966.

either by sale or transfer without the previous sanction of the Board. If a trustee disposes of some property, it will be recovered by the Board under the orders of the District Judge.

In 1966, there were in all 144 trusts registered under this Act in the Patna district. The following are some of the popular religious trusts in this district :—

Mahabir Sthan, Patna.—It is situated near the outer gate of Patna Junction Railway Station. The temple of Shri Mahabirji has been in existence since long. In July, 1939, on the death of Shri Mahabir Das, *Sevait* of the temple, a Managing Committee of 15 persons was constituted to manage the affairs of this shrine. The *Mahant* belongs to *Sanatan Vedic Panth*. The annual income of the temple is about Rs. 3,000 of which about 2,700 comes from the rent of small shop buildings in front of the temple and the rest from offerings.

Lakshmi Narayan Mandir and Birla Dharmashala, Patna.—This temple is situated in mohalla Sabjibagh near Pirbahore police-station, Off Ashok Raj Path and the Birla *Dharmashala* is attached to it. It is administered by Hindu Mahasabha Trust, Patna, consisting of nine members under overall control by Arya Seva Sangh, New Delhi. It started functioning since 1940. Visitors can stay in the *Dharmashala* on payment of small charges for a period of seven days. It has a good common room and provides facilities for performance of Hindu marriages and holding of religious functions on small payment. In the temple the deities of Lakshmi Narayan, Shiva and Buddha are installed. *Kirtan* and religious discourse are regular features. The Hindu festivals such as *Janmastami*, *Gita Jayanti*, *Buddha Jayanti*, *Deepavali*, etc., are well celebrated. The income of the trust (1962-63 to 1964-65) are noted below :—

			Rs.
1962-63	..	..	12,211.37
1963-64	..	..	12,477.89
1964-65	..	..	13,491.10

The trust receives grant from the Arya Seva Sangh, Delhi.

Gokulpur Math.—This is situated in Bakhtiarpur police-station. It has been in existence since ancient times and belongs to Shankar

Sampradaya. Late Mahant Bisheshwaranandji by a trust deed, dated 30th March, 1948 endowed properties fetching an annual income of about Rs. 400 for the purpose of religious worship, propagation of learning particularly of the poor and treatment of the sick. The trust is managed by a committee with an Executive Manager to attend to routine details of administration.

Rajapur Math.—It is situated at Patna and is also known as Mahant Shri Hanuman Saranji by a trust deed, dated 14th May, 1944 endowed about 230 bighas of land fetching an annual income of about Rs. 6,000 for the observance of worship at the *Math*, maintenance of Hanumant Sanskrit Vidyalaya, expenses of religious discourse and entertainment of *Sadhus* at *Harihar Kshetra Mela* and *Prayag Kumbha Mela*.

Khusruapur Math.—It is situated in Fatwa police-station. The trust created by one Ram Charan Das, a local Ayurvedic practitioner, consists of land yielding an annual income of Rs. 300 which is devoted to educational and religious purposes.

Shri Sarva Mangala Devi Trust, Gulzarbagh—This shrine has been in existence since ancient times and centres round the temple of Shri Sarva Mangala Devi which was built in 1906. There is a *Dharmashala* attached to it which was constructed in 1907. The annual income of the trust is about Rs. 300 which is derived from rent accruing from shops let out and offerings. It is devoted to the maintenance of temple and *Dharmashala* and also for religious observance.

Agamkuan, Gulzarbagh.—Religious sanctity attaches to the well known as Agamkuan. It is visited by a large number of people mainly women. It is said to be very deep. Pilgrims still throw coins into it as they have done through centuries. Nearby there is also a deity of Shitala to whom she-goats are offered for appeasement.

Kabirbagh Math, Patna City—This trust was founded by Mahant Giridhar Goswami, a disciple of Shri Kabir Shah of Danapur. Its annual income is Rs. 250 which is devoted to religious discourse every year during the months of *Jyesth* and *Kartik* when *Sadhus* assemble to participate in the discussions.

Radhakrishna Mandir, Sohsarai—One Prasad Sao created this trust on 23rd January, 1929, and installed the deity of Radhakrishna in the temple. The annual income of the trust is Rs. 159 which is devoted to the maintenance of the temple and a school for children as well as for observance of religious festivals.

Waqfs.

Public Trusts and Endowments of the Muslims are governed by the Bihar Waqf Act, 1947. In 1966, there were 161 such Trust registered in the Patna district.

Some of the important *waqfs* are :—

Zian Waqf Estate.—This was constituted in September, 1892 by Musomat Bibi Zian Shaikh Akbar Ali, deceased wife of Maulvi Fazal Karim and consists of property worth more than a lakh of rupees, the objects of the Trust being maintenance of a mosque at Faridpur, Nirmo, distribution of *aftari* during the month of *Ramzan* and certain educational and religious purposes.

Moradpur Waqf Estate.—One Musomat Manu Khanam dedicated her properties worth more than a lakh of rupees in September, 1867 for maintenance of a mosque, distribution of *aftari* and alms to the poor.

Bibi Sugra Waqf Estate.—Musomat Bibi Sugra, wife of Maulvi Aziz Saheb of Biharsharif, by a trust deed, dated the 23rd September, 1896, dedicated her entire properties to charities. A scheme was devised in 1922 by the District Judge, Patna*, whereby the objects of the Trusts were specified, *viz.*, maintenance of Madrasa Azizia, helping people going on *Haj*, distribution of *aftari* maintenance of mosques and *Shafa Khana*. The Grunning† Sugra High School at Biharsharif is also a beneficiary under this Trust. This trust is administered since 1942 by a Committee consisting of 21 persons.

A *Khanqah* is a shrine by the tomb (*i.e.*, *Mazar*) of a Muslim saint where religious teaching is imparted regularly and also free meals are given to the poor on the occasion of the *Urs* (*i.e.*, death anniversary) of the saint entombed. They are charitable trusts created by pious people and endowed with properties from time to time. A *Mutawali* is the head of a *Khanqah*.

*See, Title Suit no. 12 of 1919.

†Mr. Grunning was the District Magistrate of Patna at that time.

The following is a list of *Khanqahs* in the Patna district :—

- (1) *Khanqah Mojibia, Phulwarisharif*.—Registered on 30th September, 1948.
- (2) *Mangal Talab Khanqah*.—Registered on 30th September, 1948.
- (3) *Khanqah Biharsharif*.—Registered on 4th October, 1948. Total annual income—Rs. 7,114-9-annas-3 paise. Object—To arrange *Niaz* in the *Dargah* during the month *Id* (5th of the *Id*). Also to meet the expenditure on Warid, *Urs*, *Fateha*, feeding beggars.
- (4) *Khanqah Mitanghat, Takiasharif, Patna City*.
- (5) *Khanqah Manersharif*.—Registered on 3rd December, 1948.
- (6) *Khanqah Amana, Mitanghat, Patna City*.—Registered on 7th December, 1950.
- (7) *Datta Murad Saheb Khanqah, Patna*.—It is within the compound of Patna Medical Hospital. The patients who come there for their treatment offer *Nazar* to the *Mazar*.

APPENDIX I.

(a) *Centrally-sponsored Scheme for Scheduled Castes.*

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Name of the Block.	Number of the houses constructed.	Estimated cost.
				Rs.
1957-58 ..	(1) Nadawan ..	.. Masaurhi ..	7	5,775.00
	(2) Chipura ..	.. Phulwarisharif ..	8	6,600.00
	(3) Pundarakh ..	.. Pundarakh ..	11	9,075.00
	(4) Dariyapur ..	.. Paliganj ..	6	4,950.00
	(5) Satwa Beldari ..	.. Giriak ..	10	8,250.00
1958-59 ..	(1) Pundarakh ..	.. Pundarakh ..	7	6,562.50
	(2) Pareh ..	.. Bihta ..	17	10,312.50
	(3) Mayar (Silao) ..	.. Rajgir ..	10	5,875.00
	(4) Meyar ..	.. Ditto ..	10	3,500.00
1959-60 ..	(1) Jamunipur ..	.. Maner ..	12	18,750.00
	(2) Halchichhapara ..	.. Do. ..	5	4,687.50
	(3) Gangahara ..	.. Do. ..	5	4,687.50
	(4) Dayalchak ..	.. Do. ..	7	6,562.50
1960-61 ..	(1) Kochara ..	.. Chandi ..	10	4,687.50
	(2) Mekara ..	.. Mokameh ..	6	7,500.00
	(3) Kumhrar ..	.. Patna Sadar ..	5	4,687.50
	(4) Painalghat (Punpun) ..	.. Punpun ..	12	9,375.00
	(5) Jalalpur ..	.. Dhanarua ..	2	1,875.00
	(6) Saharu ..	.. Ditto ..	2	937.50
	(7) Bagdiha ..	.. Ditto ..	1	Not available.
	(8) Dumra ..	.. Ditto ..	1	"
	(9) Maghanpura ..	.. Ditto ..	2	"
	(10) Taruan ..	.. Ditto ..	1	"
	(11) Barni ..	.. Ditto ..	1	"

APPENDIX I.—*contd.*

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Name of the Block.	Number of the houses constructed.	Estimated cost.
				Rs.
	(12) (a) Dhanarua ..	Dhanarua	12	Not available.
	(b) Masaurhi ..	Masaurhi	2	..
	(13) Lakhanpur ..	Ditto	1	..
	(14) Harbaurpur ..	Ditto	1	..
	(15) Abdulapur ..	Di to	1	..
	(16) Dhanauti ..	Ditto	1	..
	(17) Yogiya Tola ..	Patna Sadar ..	1	..
	(18) Manas ..	Dinapur ..	2	1,875.00
	(19) Husena (Bartiya) ..	Sarmera ..	5	2,812.50
1961-62 ..	(1) Barh, S.D.O. ..	Barh ..	6	5,625.00
	(2) Phulwarisharif ..	Phulwarisharif ..	3	2,812.50
1962-63 ..	(1) Jamunipur ..	Maner ..	7	6,562.50
1963-64 ..	(1) Jogiya Tola ..	Patna (for completion of one house in Jogiya Tola, Patna, taken up in 1960-61).	1	337.50
	(2) Masaurhi ..	Masaurhi (for completion of six houses in Masaurhi Block taken up in 1960-61).	6	3,637.50
	(3) Dhanarua ..	Dhanarua (for completion of ten houses taken up in 1960-61).	10	5,775.00
	(4) Bakhtiarpur ..	Bakhtiarpur ..	2	1,875.00
	(5) Jethuli ..	Fatwa ..	2	1,875.00

APPENDIX I—contd.

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Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Name of the Block.	Number of the houses constructed.	Estimated cost.
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1964-65	(1) S. D. O., Danapur	3,000.00
	(2) S. D. O., Barh	1,900.00
	(3) B. D. O., Masaurhi	3,000.00
	(4) B. D. O., Dhanarua	2,809.00
1965-66	(1) Nawadah Ghat	..	..	3,883.00
	(2) Masurganj	..	..	..
	(3) Kajichak	..	..	1,800.00
1966-67	..	..	..	..
	Nil.	..	..	..

.. Allotment has been given for completion of old pending schemes only.

N.B.—Allotment for 1966-67 has already been sub-allotted.

APPENDIX I.—*concl'd*(b) *State Plan—Scheduled Castes.*

Year of construction.	Name of the village.	Name of the Block.	Number of the houses constructed.	Estimated cost.
1	2	3	4	5
				Rs.
1957-58 ..	(1) Adampur ..	.. Naubatpur ..	8	6,600.00
	(2) Piplawan ..	.. ..	..	..
1958-59 ..	(1) Jakanpur (Dasralha) ..	.. Patna ..	1	938.00
	(2) Rupas ..	.. Barh ..	4	3,750.00
	(3) Paliganj Dom Toli ..	.. Paliganj ..	6	5,625.00
	(4) Bihta Musahar Toli ..	.. Bihta ..	3	2,812.00
	(5) Rukempura ..	.. Danapur ..	3	2,812.50
	(6) Lohanipur ..	.. Patna ..	1	937.50
	(7) Panditpur ..	.. Rajgir ..	72	67,500.00

The houses constructed are in occupation *.

*SOURCE.—Welfare Office, Patna Collectorate.