

CHAPTER XII.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Roads and Buildings.

The Chapra Division of the Public Works Department coincides with the revenue area of the district. An Executive Engineer with headquarters at Chapra is in charge of the Division. He is under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, North Bihar, who has his headquarters at Muzaffarpur. The Chief Engineer, Bihar, with headquarters at Patna, is the administrative head of the department.

For proper management and execution of works, the Chapra Division is subdivided into three subdivisions—namely, Sadar, Siwan and Gopalganj, each under the administrative control of a Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department. There are two Subdivisional Officers at Chapra. The Subdivisional Officers are responsible to the Executive Engineer of the Division for the management and execution of works within their subdivisions.

There are ten sections in the Division each under the charge of an Overseer or Sectional Officer. These Sectional Officers are under their respective Subdivisional Officers. These sections are at Chapra, Maharajganj, Siwan, Mairwa, Mirganj, Sonepur, Masrakh, Marhowrah, Garkha and Guthni.

Although the Executive Engineer is responsible to the Superintending Engineer, North Bihar, Muzaffarpur, he has to work in close contact with the District Magistrate. He has to see that proper measures are taken to maintain the public buildings and roads in his Division and to prevent encroachment on Government lands in his charge. He is responsible to see that the surveying and mathematical instruments in his Division are properly cared for and to report on their condition to the Superintending Engineer at the end of each working season. He inspects the work and managements of the Subdivisional Officers and Sectional Officers. He invites tenders for the execution of the development projects of roads and buildings. The Subdivisional Officers and Overseers are responsible for the management and execution of works within their respective jurisdictions.

Before the commencement of the First Five-Year Plan, there was hardly any well-surfaced P. W. D. road in the district of Saran. A few roads were taken over under the Post-War Development Scheme and improvement work started in 1949 which gained momentum when the First Five-Year Plan was started in 1951. At the end of the First Five-Year Plan, 206 miles of roads were under the Public Works Department out of which 180 miles were surfaced during

the Plan period. The Second Five-Year Plan provides for taking over 146 miles of new roads (including metalling 16 miles of existing P. W. D. road which was hitherto maintained as *kutchra* road) and completing the roads taken over under the First Five-Year Plan. There would, thus, be 336 miles of Public Works Department roads at the end of the Second Five-Year Plan out of which a length of 250 miles has been metalled till 1957.

As to bridges under the P. W. D., the pontoon bridge over the river Gandak between Sonepur and Hajipur in Muzaffarpur district was completed in 1956 at a total cost of about ten lakhs of rupees. It is 2,000 feet long and operates in the fair weather seasons. The other important bridge is the Andar Bridge (screw pile bridge) on the Siwan-Andar road measuring 260 feet long and was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,40,000.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

The Saran Irrigation Division was created in 1949 with its headquarters at Chapra. The area of the Division corresponds with the area of the district. The Saran Irrigation Division is placed under the administrative control of an Executive Engineer with headquarters at Chapra. The Division is under the administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Gandak Circle, who has his headquarters at Muzaffarpur. The Chief Engineer, North Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna, is the head of the department.

The Saran Irrigation Division is divided into three subdivisions, namely, the Chapra Waterways Subdivision, the Siwan Irrigation Subdivision and the Gopalganj Irrigation Subdivision, each under the charge of a Subdivisional Officer. The subdivisions have sections and each section is under an Overseer or a Sectional Officer. There are altogether eleven Overseers in the Division out of which five are in the Chapra Waterways Subdivision, one in each of the three sections, namely, Chapra, Tajpur and Dighwarah and other two are kept reserved at the divisional headquarters, Chapra. The Gopalganj Irrigation Subdivision has three sections, namely, Gopalganj, Basantpur and Saraya while Siwan has also three, namely, Siwan, Mirganj and Darauli. These Overseers are under the administrative control of their respective Subdivisional Officers.

The Executive Engineer is responsible for the administration and general control of the Division. The Subdivisional Officers and Overseers are responsible to the Executive Engineer for irrigation in their respective jurisdictions. The Overseers are under the immediate control of the Subdivisional Officers.

In 1951-52 the old Saran canal was renovated at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,99,700 and consequently the canal attained the capacity to irrigate 12,000 acres of land. There is a proposal to get the old bed of the *Bansinala* desilted and thereby increase the capacity of the canals to irrigate up to about 25,000 acres of land.

The Saran Irrigation Division has constructed 97 tube-wells at the total cost of Rs. 18,97,038 till 1956. These tube-wells have the capacity to irrigate 38,800 acres of land.

There are two major embankments, namely, the Gandak and the Gogra embankments, details of which have been given separately. There are eight other embankments which were constructed in 1955-56 under the Major Irrigation Scheme. (For details please see the chapter on Agriculture and Irrigation.)

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING.

For the purpose of administration of Public Health Engineering, Saran is a subdivision and is under the direct control of an Assistant Engineer with his headquarters at Chapra. This subdivision is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Executive Engineer, Muzaffarpur Division. The Superintending Engineer, Muzaffarpur Circle, who has his headquarters at Muzaffarpur controls four divisions, namely, Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Darbhanga and Purnea, while the Chief Engineer of the Public Health Engineering Department with his headquarters at Patna is the administrative head of the department.

The Saran subdivision is subdivided into three Civil Sections, namely, Chapra, Siwan and Gopalganj, each under the charge of an Overseer or a Sectional Officer. The Overseers are responsible to the Assistant Engineer for the management and execution of works within their sections.

The Public Health Engineering Department deals with the problems of public health from engineering point of view, viz., water-supply, drainage and sewerage. The main functions of the department are the execution of Government and municipal public health schemes executed by local bodies through their own agencies. So far as the Saran subdivision is concerned it has not shown much progress. The drains and the sewerage of the towns which are in a bad condition are not maintained by this department. Its activities are restricted to the sewerage and drainage in the public buildings. For drinking purposes it has constructed 528 tube-wells and hand pumps till 1957-58 in the rural areas at the cost of Rs. 15 lakhs. For the supply of water in Chapra it maintains two water towers, each having a capacity of one lakh gallons. It also maintains a water tower at Sonepur to supply drinking water during Sonepur fair.

ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT.

The Electrical Executive Engineer, Electric Supply Division, Chapra, is in charge of the division and is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Muzaffarpur Circle, with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur. The Chief Engineer, Electricity, Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna, is the head of the department.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by three Assistant Electrical Engineers with their headquarters at Chapra, Mirganj and Siwan.

They are in charge of the transmission and distribution in their respective jurisdiction. There are two power houses, one at Chapra and the other at Mirganj, each under the charge of a Superintendent of the power house.

The following towns and villages have been electrified till the end of 1958 : Chapra, Siwan, Gopalganj, Mirganj, Hathua, Maharajganj, Ziradai, Mairwa, Daronda, Sundari, Muraru, Barauli, Goriakothi, Pachrukhi, Machagu, Angaila, Bangra, Dhanwah, Jagouli. Considering that the Electricity Division was started very recently the progress has been very good.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

The District Agriculture Officer, Saran, with his headquarters at Chapra, is in charge of the department. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Tirhut Division, whose headquarters are at Muzaffarpur. The Director of Agriculture is the administrative head of the Agricultural Department at the State level.

There are three Subdivisional Agricultural Officers, one in each of the three subdivisions of the district. They are under the administrative control of the District Agricultural Officer. Below the Subdivisional Agricultural Officers are the Agricultural Inspectors whose strength in the district was 27 in 1957-58, one in each thana of the district. Each Agricultural Inspector is assisted by one *Kamdar* or a fieldman.

The areas under National Extension Service and Community Development Blocks are known as intensive area. For agricultural purpose the intensive area is administered by the Agricultural Extension Supervisor whose number in the district was 19 in 1957-58. There is one village level worker for every ten villages in the intensive area who has to assist the Agricultural Extension Supervisor. The non-intensive areas are administered by the Agricultural Inspectors and the *kamdars*. But so far as Subdivisional Agricultural Officer is concerned he is responsible.

For working out the sugarcane improvement schemes the district is divided into two circles, i.e., Hathua and Siwan circles, each under the charge of an Assistant Director of Agriculture. The activities of the Assistant Director of Agriculture are confined to the reserved areas of the sugar factories. Each Assistant Director of Agriculture is assisted by five Agricultural Inspectors and each Agricultural Inspector has six *kamdars*. From July, 1958, the sugarcane improvement scheme has vested in general agriculture and has come under the administrative control of the District Agricultural Officer and since then the Assistant Director of Agriculture is simply a technical personnel.

As mentioned under the chapter Agriculture and Irrigation there has not been much headway in agricultural education and

research. There are several specialists who are to advise the District Agricultural Officer in technical matters. They are for (i) Agronomy, (ii) Botany, (iii) Chemistry, (iv) Mechanics, (v) Engineering, (vi) Marketing, (vii) Plant Protection, (viii) Horticulture, (ix) Well-boring, and (x) Fishery. The specialists are required to make extensive tour to tackle the problems at the field.

Demonstrations are frequently held in the Block areas. The owner-cultivator adopts the agricultural improvements advocated by the department under the supervision of the District Agricultural Officer. Field demonstration of standing crops are held during every season. In Sonapur there is an exhibition ground where improved method of cultivation is shown by actual demonstration during the *mela* period.

The Central Farm at Sepaya has an area of 324 acres where experiments and trials are frequently done. There is a proposal under the Second Five-Year Plan to start a farm of 25 acres in every *anchal* of the district for the multiplication of seed and till 1958, 18 such farms have been acquired.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT.

The District Animal Husbandry Officer, Saran, with his headquarters at Chapra, is in charge of the Animal Husbandry Department in the district. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, North Bihar Range, with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur, and the Director of Animal Husbandry, Bihar, with headquarters at Patna.

The District Animal Husbandry Officer is assisted by the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Supervisor whose strength in the district was 19 in 1957-58. There were 19 Blocks in the district in 1957-58 and each Block for the purpose of animal husbandry is under the charge of the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Supervisor. Apart from them a Livestock Inspector and a Fodder Officer are working under the guidance of the District Animal Husbandry Officer at the district headquarters, Chapra. The objects of the department are—

- (i) to improve the local livestock by grading up with suitable breeds;
- (ii) to improve cattle nutrition by promoting cultivation of fodder crops, grasses and preparation of hay and silos;
- (iii) improvement of existing *goshalas* by bringing them to the level of dairy farm and the organisation of milk production and distribution; and
- (iv) to increase the number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries.

Cattle breeding.—In course of two years, i.e., from 1956–1958, the department has distributed 112 *hariana* bulls and 28 *murrah*

buffaloes for upgrading the breeds through natural services. For artificial insemination services there were six artificial insemination centres in 1957-58 located at Chapra, Ekma, Mairwa, Siwan, Gopalganj and Hathua with 19 sub-centres located at Sonapur, Garkha, Khaira, Manjhi, Andar, Raghunathpur, Darauli, Mirganj, Kuchaikot, Pachrukhi, Maharajganj, Masrakh, Barauli, Goraikothi, Marhowrah, Chainwa, Guthni, Jalalpur and Sasamusa. *Jamunapuri* bucks have been kept for the improvement of goats. A key village centre sponsored by the Government of India is working at Hathua for the production of permium bulls to meet the requirements of the countryside. The working of a key village centre has been explained in the chapter under Agriculture and Irrigation.

Fodder.—For fodder the grass of perennial nature like napier, para, guinea and *berseem* have been introduced in the fodder demonstration plots. In 1957-58 there were 91 acres of land under such fodder crops. One hundred and fifty-five *pucca* silo pits were constructed in the district to enable the livestock owner to procure grain and succulent fodder in the summer.

Goshalas.—Out of the 14 *goshalas*, the *goshalas* of Chapra and Siwan were taken by the Government to bring them to the level of dairy farm. The total production of milk in 1956 was as follows: Cow-milk—16,51,104 maunds, buffalo-milk—14,86,430 maunds and goat-milk—11,403 maunds. The quantity of milk per cow or buffalo is small. The figures of livestock population are given in the chapter on Agriculture and Irrigation.

Veterinary hospitals and dispensaries.—There are 22 veterinary institutions in the district, out of which ten are managed by the Government and the rest are managed by the District Board. Details have been given in the chapter under Agriculture and Irrigation.

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT.

The District Industries Officer, Saran, with headquarters at Chapra, works under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Industries and the Director of Industries, Bihar, with headquarters at Patna.

The District Industries Officer has three Inspectors of Industries, one in each of the three subdivisions of the district. Each Inspector of Industries is assisted by one Industrial Extension Supervisor. There is a provision under the Second Five-Year Plan to have an Industrial Extension Supervisor in each of the Block of the district.

As mentioned before Saran is not industrialised in the proper sense of the term. About 90 per cent of the population depends on agriculture. There are only 7 sugar mills. So far as small-scale industries are concerned there were 52 rice, oil and *dal* mills in 1957-58. The small-scale and cottage industries have been discussed at length under the chapter on Industries. So far as technical schools are concerned,

the Mahila Silpa Vidyalyaya, Chapra, deserves mention. In this school training in weaving, tailoring, knitting and embroidery is given. At Marhowrah there is a technical school.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

There are two circles, namely, Chapra and Siwan, for the purpose of Co-operative Department each under an Assistant Registrar of the Co-operative Societies. The Chapra Circle corresponds with the revenue areas of the Sadar subdivision while Siwan Circle stands both for the revenue areas of Siwan and Gopalganj subdivisions. The Deputy Registrar of the Co-operative Societies of the Tirhut Division with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur controls the work of the Assistant Registrars of Chapra and Siwan Circles. The Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bihar, with his headquarters at Patna, is the administrative head of the Co-operative Department.

The Assistant Registrar has a staff of three Inspectors, one for each subdivision, 19 Supervisors and 56* Auditors. The Inspectors of the Co-operative Societies have to manage loans for the societies within their jurisdictions. In case of malpractices they have also to make inquiry and suggest remedy to remove them. Collection of loans and day-to-day administration of the Co-operative Banks and the Co-operative Societies are carried on by the Inspectors. In their work they are assisted by the Supervisors. The Bihar and Orissa Co-operative Societies Act provides for statutory audit of every society once in a year either by the Registrar or by persons authorised by him. The audit staff are engaged in auditing the account of the Co-operative Bank and the account of the different Co-operative Societies. Apart from them, there are one General Manager with his headquarters at Siwan; two Managers for *Vyapar Mandal*, one at Ekma and the other at Baniyapur and ten Managers for Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies. These Managers have to make arrangement for purchase and sale of the commodities of the societies of the district.

The District Co-operative Federation works for the expansion of the Co-operative Societies in the district. All the Co-operative Societies are affiliated to the District Co-operative Federation. It imparts training to members of the societies and thereby works for the expansion of the Co-operative Societies.

There are three Central Co-operative Banks, one at each three subdivisional headquarters of the district. They are functioning as the agents of the State Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Patna. The Banks are managed by a Management Committee selected by the members of the Co-operative Societies affiliated to the Banks. The main functions of the Banks are to raise funds for loans and to make arrangement for the sale of fertilizers and the finished goods. The

* These figures are of 30th June 1958. (P. C. R. C.)

loans are advanced for the purchase of bullocks, improved agricultural implements, raw materials and fertilizers. The number of Co-operative Societies and others maintained by the control of Co-operative Bank on the 30th June 1957 was as follows :—

	Chapra Central Co-operative Bank.	Siwan Central Co-operative Bank.	Gopalganj Central Co-operative Bank.
(1) Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies.	230	228	321
(2) Large-size Co-operative Societies.	3	2	..
(3) Credit societies ..	62	62	50
(4) Vyapar Mandal ..	1	2	2
(5) Godowns (Fertilizers).	5	3	2
(6) Centres for sale of fertilizers.	18	6	9

The progress achieved by the Co-operative Societies will be apparent from the statistics for 30th June 1957 given below :—

Name.	No.	No. of members.	Share capital.	Reserve fund.	Own capital.	Deposit.	Working capital.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Central Co-operative Banks.	3	1,193	2,52,943	1,82,789	4,35,032	9,33,605	21,57,559
2 Multipurpose Co-operative, Agriculture.	1,092	39,427	4,06,806	3,08,840	7,85,653	66,195	22,41,023
3. Co-operative Farming.	1	15	28,905	..	28,975	..	79,683
4. Credit Societies for Government servants.	1	586	16,040	10,260	26,307	27,285	53,682
5. Consumers' Co-operative Societies.	27	1,045	23,074	427	28,501	1,007	48,374
6. Weavers' Co-operative Societies.	72	6,774	79,410	52	80,262	1,60,803	2,90,658

Name.	No.	No. of members.	Share capital.	Reserve fund.	Own capital.	Deposit.	Working capital.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
7. Industrial Co-operative Societies.	24	383	5,865	182	6,047	3,701	27,188
8. Cane Marketing Unions.	25	2,191	82,277	8,53,684	9,35,961	8,08,578	20,79,111
9. Multipurpose Co-operative Union.	1	147	2,050	3,006	11,056	..	11,056
10. Canegrowers' Co-operative Societies.	2,161	1,05,866	3,01,948	2,63,185	5,65,141	66,659	13,01,192
11. Fishermen's Co-operative Society.	1	253	1,798	239	2,037	..	2,037
12. Social Service Co-operative Societies.	4	566	3,905	3,614	7,519	280	7,799
13. Harijan Co-operative Societies.	2	54	..	12	12	9	21
14. Marketing Co-operative Society.	5	155	25,816	4,811	30,623	4,326	34,949

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

The District Education Officer with his headquarters at Chapra is the administrative head of the district, for purposes of primary and secondary education. The District Education Officer belongs to Class I of the Bihar Educational Service. The post of the District Education Officer was created in 1958. Before the creation of the post the District Inspector of Schools was the administrative head of the district and had to work under the Divisional Inspector of Schools of the Tirhut Division with his headquarters at Muzaffarpur. The post of the District Inspector of Schools as such has been abolished with the creation of the post of the District Education Officer. The District Education Officer works under the administrative control of the Divisional Inspector of Schools who also belongs to Class I cadre of the Bihar Education Service. The Divisional Inspector of Schools is in over-all charge for the Division. The administrative head of the Department is the Director of Public Instruction with his headquarters at Patna.

For each of the three subdivisions there is a Subdivisional Education Officer who looks after all types of schools within his subdivision. There are three Deputy Inspectors of Schools in each of the three subdivisions of the district who have to work under the administrative control of their respective Subdivisional Education Officer. The Deputy Inspector of Schools has power to visit up to the schools of the middle standard. Apart from them there are 41 Sub-Inspectors of Schools in each of the circles of the district who look after the schools of the Upper Primary Standard within their respective circle.

For the administration of the girls' institutions there is a Deputy Inspectress of Schools with her headquarters at Gopalganj who inspects the schools up to the middle standard. The District Inspectress of Schools with her headquarters at Muzaffarpur has jurisdiction on the girls' schools of Saran district as well.

In 1949-50 when there was an expansion in the field of basic education, one Superintendent of Basic and Social Education was attached with the office of the Divisional Inspector of Schools at Muzaffarpur. In April, 1954, by an extraordinary gazette notification the Government sanctioned the post of the District Superintendent of Education in each district of the State. The District Superintendent of Education controls the educational purse of the District Board and is responsible for the payment of teachers up to the middle schools. There are five Deputy Superintendents of Education, two for the general education, two for the Basic education and one for the physical education. There is an inspecting *Maulvi* who controls the Urdu *maktabs* of the district.

Primary Education.—It is the declared policy of the Government to make primary education free and compulsory between the age-group 6—10. This scheme is expected to be implemented from 1961. In the municipal area of Chapra the compulsory primary education scheme has been enforced from 1939 for the boys between the age-group 5—10. The number of primary institutions in 1956-57 was 1,889 out of which 1,658 were for boys and 231 for girls, while the strength of scholars was 1,24,922 with 1,10,720 boy scholars and 14,202 girl scholars. The primary institutions are managed by the District Board, Municipalities and the Notified Area Committee.

Middle Schools.—The middle schools are managed by the District Board, Municipality and the Managing Committees. The number of middle schools in 1956-57 was 166 (160 for boys and 6 for girls) with 25,606 scholars consisting of 24,779 boy scholars and 829 girl scholars.

Secondary Education.—The secondary education is now under the general control of the Secondary School Examination Board, Bihar. An examination is conducted by it annually and the students who pass the examination are awarded the Secondary School Certificate. The head office of the Board is in Patna. The Secondary

Schools are mainly managed by the private agencies (Managing Committees) aided by the Government. The Zila School, Chapra and the Chapra High School for girls are managed by the Government. The total number of high schools in 1956-57 was 78 (77 for boys and 1 for girls) with 28,453 scholars (27,913 boys and 540 girls).

Basic Education.—The Basic Education Scheme was introduced in the district in 1949 and is managed by the Government. It has received rapid progress and is becoming popular. There are three types of Basic schools—Post-Basic, Senior Basic and Junior Basic and their number in 1956-57 was 1, 42 and 155 respectively. The strength of scholars in 1956-57 in all types of Basic schools was 16,216 (14,997 boys and 1,219 girls).

Higher Education.—There are six colleges in the district which impart teaching up to Bachelor Standard in the faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce. These colleges are affiliated to the Bihar University. All the colleges are managed by the private agencies but receive grant from the University. The Bihar University which has its office in Patna controls the higher education and conducts university examinations.