

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

152. Labour Welfare

A number of labourers are employed by the Talcher Thermal Scheme, the coal mines at Talcher and by the Bamboo Forest Organisation of Titaghur Paper Mills Co. Ltd. in the Angul subdivision. Small industries like saw mills, rice and flour mills and Bidi manufactories of the district also employ labourers. The shops and commercial establishments within the town areas of Angul, Talcher, and Dhenkanal also engage labourers. For these workers there are nine registered Trade Unions functioning in the district. But they are not affiliated to any Central Organisation.

Large numbers of labourers are employed by the Kendu leaf Agents and by contractors of Engineering and Forest Departments of Government. They are unorganised and chances of their exploitation are abundant. The Government have recently taken steps for fixing minimum rates of wages in respect of employment in Kendu leaf collection and timber trading, felling and sawing.

There is a District Labour Officer with his headquarters at Angul. He has been appointed as Inspector under the Minimum Wages Act, payment of Wages Act, Employment of Children Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Orissa Shops and Commercial Establishments Act and Additional Inspector under the Factories Act. He is also the Welfare Officer under the Fair Wages Clause and P. W. D. Contractor's Regulations. Thus, the Labour Officer in the capacity of an Inspector under various labour laws is to see proper enforcement of the laws.

One of the important functions of the Labour Officer is to remain alert over the labour situation and to take timely action for prevention of strike and other forms of labour outbursts and for settlement of industrial disputes. This he does in the capacity of a Conciliation Officer appointed under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. In this district, labour unrest is not, however, significant. Out of 13 disputes raised in the year 1969, 7 were settled, 5 failed and were referred to the Government and one has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal.

There were 192 prosecutions under various labour laws in 1969, 90 cases were disposed of in conviction in the said year. Besides, 19 claim cases (claiming unpaid wages payable to workers) were pending and 6 were disposed of directing payment of delayed wages amounting to Rs. 2,077.42 and compensation amounting to Rs. 435 payable to workers along with a penalty of Rs. 65 payable to the State Government.

There is a Multi-purpose Labour Welfare Centre at Talcher Thermal Plant functioning since 1966. The expenses of the centre is borne by the Government. Work is in progress to open a reading room-cum-recreation centre at Angul to provide reading and recreational facilities to the working class people.

153. Prohibition

No prohibition laws have yet been enforced in the district on the excisable articles except opium on which gradual restriction was introduced from 1949 on an all-Orissa basis. Medicinal opium is now being sold only to registered addicts on the basis of certificate-cum-permits granted by Medical Officers. Opium shops have been abolished since 1st April, 1959. It is now sold by the Sub-Inspectors of Excise to registered addicts. Though the quota of addicts and supply through departmental agencies have been restricted, the scheme has not achieved the desired success as illicit opium being smuggled from outside. Besides, smuggling of capsules of poppy, which are used as a substitute for opium have also proved a great hindrance in achieving the desired result.

In 1948-49, the district had consumed 20 quintals 71 kg. of opium valuing Rs. 8,36,567. In 1958-59, i. e., a decade after the sale of opium was gradually restricted, consumption had come down to one quintal which valued Rs. 76,226.

The sale figures of opium including the number of addicts from 1965-66 to 1969-70 is furnished below.

Year	Quantity consumed. (In Kg.)	Value (In Rs.)	Number of addicts.
1965-66	88·870	53,322	2,400
1966-67	96·000	76,800	2,400
1967-68	98·000	78,400	2,156
1968-69	132·000	1,05,600	2,084
1969-70	133·000	1,06,400	2,084

The monthly quota fixed for medicinal opium in the district is 12Kg. But due to non-availability of stock in the processing centre at Cuttack, full quota could not be supplied to the registered addicts during 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68. During this period on an average 8 kilograms of opium were consumed. From 1968-69 onwards, the district is getting its share in full. So there has been an increase in consumption of medicinal opium from 1968-69.

Besides medicinal opium, the other excisable commodities include the sale of Ganja, Bhang and liquor (both country and foreign). During five years ending 1969-70, on an average 765 Kg. of Ganja and 19 Kg. of Bhang were consumed in the district. In 1969-70, the district had 84 liquor shops of which three were selling foreign liquor and the rest country liquor.

The year-wise revenue collected from country spirit and foreign liquor (along with consumption figures of foreign liquor) from 1967-68 to 1969-70 is given below.

Year	Revenue collected			Consumption of foreign liquor.	
	Out still (Rs.)	Tari (Rs.)	Foreign liquor. (Rs.)	Spirit in L. P. Litres.	Beer in Bulk litres
1967-68 ..	11,70,454	62,990	33,452	1,726	11,420
1968-69 ..	10,84,225	..	24,536	1,097	4,090
1969-70 ..	11,09,695	..	30,881	1,223	6,821

Total detection of excise cases during 1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70 were 133, 158, 220, 454 and 505 respectively.

154. Welfare of the Backward Classes and Tribes

The activities of the Tribal & Rural Welfare Department in the district commenced from 1949 and increased considerably during the Plan periods. Now there is a District Welfare Officer for the purpose who works under the control and supervision of the Collector and the entire programme of welfare work is being executed through Subdivisional Officers and Block Development Officers of their respective areas. The major construction works of the Department are executed through

the Rural Engineering Organisation. There are six Assistant District Welfare Officers, one Senior Welfare Extension Officer and six Junior Welfare Extension Officers working in the field for execution of tribal and rural welfare works.

The measures taken so far for the upliftment of backward classes of the District may be classified as (a) educational and cultural advancement, (b) economic upliftment and (c) health and sanitation.

(i) Educational and Cultural Advancement

For the educational advancement of backward classes in the district Government have undertaken schemes like opening of Ashram schools, Sevashrams, training centres, grant of stipends up to secondary education.

Ashram schools are residential institutions of Middle standard with provision for training in crafts like agriculture, spinning, weaving, carpentry, tailoring, etc. All expenses of students reading in these institutions are borne by Government. There are five Ashram schools including one Kanyashram in the District. The Kanyashram is located at Kapilas in Dhenkanal subdivision. The Ashram schools are at Phulamba in Athmallik subdivision, Malyagiri in Pal Lahara subdivision, Damsal in Kamakhyanagar subdivision and Derang in Talcher subdivision. Two Ashram schools at Kapilas and Malyagiri were opened in First Plan period (April 1951 to March 1956) the Ashram school at Phulamba and Kanyashram at Kapilas opened during Second Plan period (April 1956 to March 1961) and the Ashram school at Derang opened during Third Plan period (April 1961 to March 1966). The Ashram school originally started at Kapilas has been shifted to Damsal during 3rd Plan period (April 1961 to March 1966). There were 566 students including 106 girls reading in the Ashram schools of the district during the school session (June—May) 1969-70. The Kanyashram at Kapilas has been upgraded to a high school from 1970-71.

Sevashram are primary schools of a special type meant for rapid spread of primary education among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in backward areas. Besides general education, some elementary crafts are taught in these institutions. 70 Sevashrams were functioning in the District during the year 1969-70. The distribution of Sevashrams subdivisionwise are (a) Dhenkanal—15, (b) Kamakhyanagar—14, (c) Angul—19, (d) Pal Lahara—9, (e) Talcher—5, (f) Athmallik—6 and (g) Hindol—2.

A training centre was opened at Kapilas during Third Plan period (April 1961 to March 1966) for giving elementary training to women candidates to work as teachers in Sevashram schools. Altogether 29 candidates passed elementary training from the training centre during

1967-68 and 1968-69. The training centre has been abolished since June 1969 consequently on withdrawal of elementary training programme by the Government.

No information could be obtained either from the Tribal & Rural Welfare Department or from the Education Department about any Juang students in school or college.

WOMEN'S WELFARE TRAINING CENTRE AT ANGUL

The training centre was opened to train women in welfare work including training in crafts and maternity. It is managed by the Utkal Navajeeban Mandal with grants received from the Tribal & Rural Welfare Department and Central Board of Women's Welfare.

State Government award stipends and lump grants to students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and economically backward students to continue their higher studies. In 1969-70, a sum of Rs. 3,18,327 was sanctioned for this district for the purpose as detailed below:

(a) Scheduled Tribes	..	Rs. 98,382
(b) Scheduled Castes	..	Rs. 1,87,405
(c) Economically Backward students	..	Rs. 32,540

The Government also spend a good amount for the purchase of study materials for distribution in primary schools. Hostels have been constructed at different educational institutions of the district (vide Appendix) to accommodate backward class students.

There were six village welfare centres in the district located at Mathakargola and Damsal in Kamakhyanager subdivision, Kosala and Gotamara in Angul subdivision and Gurusulei and Jamardihi in Pal Lahara subdivision. The guides posted at these centres were propagating among the villagers about the usefulness of various development schemes taken up by Government from time to time and also helping the people in executing schemes for their development. The scheme has been abolished after covering of the entire district by Community Development Blocks which are meant to do similar nature of works in an extensive way.

(ii) Economic Uplift

Great attention has been paid during the plan periods to remove the economic backwardness of the Adivasis and Harijans.

To dissuade the Adivasis from indulging in shifting cultivation which is considered uneconomic and harmful and to settle them under regular cultivation, 7 colonies with provisions of 223 families in Pal Lahara,

one colony with provision for 40 families in Dhenkanal and one colony with provision for 40 families in Kamakhyanagar, subdivision have been started so far. At present 300 families are residing in these colonies. Each family of these colonies is given cultivable waste land, subsidies for construction of houses for their rehabilitation and for reclamation purposes. Bullocks, agricultural implements and seeds are given free of cost to them, besides providing facilities of communication, drinking water, irrigation and shopping.

So far 186 houses for Scheduled Castes and 455 houses for Scheduled Tribes have been constructed, land has been provided to the beneficiaries under the scheme where possible and bullocks, seeds and agricultural implements have also been given in deserving cases.

Grants have been given to deserving Scheduled Tribes to establish themselves in crafts like carpentry, tailoring, weaving, etc. Similar grants have also been given to Scheduled Castes persons for specific works like mat making, rope making, basket work, cane work, horn work, etc.

Besides, funds have been provided for construction of 47 grain golla buildings in different parts of the district to provide credit facilities to the backward class people at reasonable rate of interest through co-operative societies.

For facilitating transport of raw materials from the tribal areas and for the improvement of communication in those areas, 260 miles (416 km.) of roads have been constructed in the district. Bridges, culverts and causeways are also being constructed to make the important roads motorable in all-weather.

The Community Development Block at Kankadahad in Kamakhyanagar subdivision has been converted to a Tribal Development Block during Third Plan period (April 1961 to March 1966) with special provision for the upliftment of backward class people in the block area.

(iii) Health and Sanitation

To supply drinking water in tribal areas and areas predominantly inhabited by the people belonging to Scheduled Castes, 166 wells have been sunk either through Subdivisional Officers, Block Development Officers or field staff of the Department.

Health and sanitary conditions among backward population are very bad. The State Government have opened allopathic dispensary at Kankadahad and one six-bedded hospital at Mahabirod. Both are situated in Kamakhyanagar subdivision. One Ayurvedic dispensary has been opened at Jharbeda in Pal Lahara subdivision. There is also

one Mobile Health Unit located at Tainsi in Angul subdivision for serving the Scheduled Tribes population and provision have been made for treatment of venereal diseases among them.

155. Non-official Organisations doing Social-Economic Welfare Work

(i) Utkal Navajiban Mandal*

This non-official organisation mainly works for the welfare of Adibasis. Its headquarters is at Angul where also it has a women's welfare training centre and a maternity centre. Besides, the organisation has also opened five centres in different places of the district.

The organisation is financed by the State Government, Akhila Bharat Seva Sangh and by public donation as well.

(ii) Pahadi Chasimandal

Started in 1951, this organisation had Seva Kendras in different tribal villages of Kamakhyanagar subdivision. The main achievements of this organisation include the opening of two co-operative societies (Sarbangina Sahajoga Samitee and Banabanijya Samabaya Samitee), one library-cum-reading room (Bajirout Pathagar) and the establishment of an ideal *Durbar* for the social upliftment of tribal people. The organisation was being financed by donation from local people and by grants from Government and help from Nabajiban Mandal.

156. Charitable Endowments

This district has the following two charitable funds, the property and security for which have been vested with Treasurer, Charitable Endowments, Orissa under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890. The principal object of these endowments is encouragement of education and the income derived from the funds is disbursed to the deserving students selected according to the principle laid down by the Government with regards to the wishes of the donors.

(i) The Smith Scholarship Fund

This fund was created in 1935 with the subscriptions raised from the tenants of the Angul Government Estate in honour of Mr. A. Smith a former Commissioner of the Orissa Division. The corpus of the fund is Rs. 3,100 and the District Magistrate, Dhenkanal, acts as its administrator. The income is utilised for the annual award of two scholarships of Rs. 4 each a month tenable for one year to two indigent students of Angul subdivision reading in the first four classes of the Angul High School.

* For more about this organisation, see the Chapter XVIII (Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations).

(ii) Tripathy Education Fund

This fund was created in 1956 by a donation made by Shri Ra Kishore Tripathy, former Superintendent of Dhenkanal. The corpus of the fund is Rs. 1,800 and its administrator is the Inspector of Schools Central Circle, Cuttack. The income derived from this fund is utilised in giving help in equal shares to three poor and deserving students of Class XI of the B. B. High School, Dhenkanal, who are sent up for the Matriculation Examination and are required to pay examination fees to the Board of Secondary Education.

There is also another fund called 'Laha Charitable Fund' in the district. This fund, which includes Rs. 500 and 40 acres of landed property is under the direct management of Debottor Department. It was created in 1905 out of the gift received from the grand-mother of ex-Ruling Chief of Dhenkanal in memory of one Jagabandhu Laha, a private tutor of that family. The income of the fund, which comes to about Rs. 300 per annum is distributed among helpless widows and poor students.

APPENDIX

Educational institutions where hostels for backward class students have been constructed

Sl. No.	Name of the institution	Name of the subdivision
1	2	3
1	Rasol High School	.. Hindol
2	Khajuriakata High School	.. Do.
3	Ranjagol Middle School	.. Do.
4	Thakurgarh Middle School	.. Athmallik
5	Angapara Middle School	.. Do.
6	Kishoreganja Special Hostel (R. D. High School)	Do.
7	Kishore High School	.. Do.
8	B. D. High School, Bhapur	.. Dhenkanal
9	Pingua High School	.. Do.
10	Government Girls' High School, Dhenkanal..	Do.
11	Kharagprasad High School	.. Do.
12	Gondia Middle School	.. Do.
13	Rainarasinghpur High School	.. Kamakhyanagar
14	Kamakhyanagar High School	.. Do.
15	Aluajharan U. P. School	.. Do.
16	Mathakargola Middle School	.. Do.
17	Marthapur High School	.. Do.
18	Parjang High School	.. Do.
19	Sanda High School	.. Do.

Sl. No.	Name of the institution	Name of the subdivision
1	2	3
20	Bentapur Middle School	.. Angul
21	Angul Girls' High School	.. Do.
22	Post-Basic School, Champatimunda	.. Do.
23	P. B. K. High School, Banarpal	.. Do.
24	Kosala Middle School	.. Do.
25	Kaniha Middle School	.. Talcher
26	Seling O. B. C. Hostel	.. Do.
27	Kaniha Middle School (O. B. C.)	.. Do.
28	O. B. C. Hostel at Bajrakot	.. Do.
29	Pabitr Nagar High School (S. T.)	.. Do.
30	Poipal U. P. School (O. B. C.)	.. Do.
31	Mahatab High School, Pal Lahara	.. Pal Lahara
32	Khamar High School	.. Do.
33	Khamar Middle School	.. Do.