

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The relations between the British Government and the ex-State of Kendujhar were regulated by the terms of the Sanad of 1908. The ex-State paid a tribute of Rs. 1,710—1—3(Rs I,710.08)to the British Government. In criminal matters the Chief exercised the powers of a first class Magistrate, viz., imprisonment up to two years, fine upto one thousand rupees and whipping up to thirty stripes; certain classes of offences, such as heinous crimes, were excluded from the jurisdiction of the Chief. These excepted cases were committed to the Court of a British Officer for trial. Gopinath Narayan Bhanja, who succeeded to the *gadi* in 1905, had a religious bent of mind. He abdicated the *gadi* in 1907 and the affairs of the ex-State of Kendujhar were kept under the management of the Government from 1907 to 1928 till Balabhadra Narayan Bhanja, the son of Gopinath Narayan Bhanja, succeeded to the *gadi*. During this period a Superintendent had been placed in direct charge of the ex-State under the overall control of the Political Agent.

For administrative purpose the ex-State was divided into three subdivisions, viz., Anandapur, Kendujhar proper and Nayagarh, with Subdivisional Officers in charge. There existed a regular judiciary and executive staff and all branches and departments necessary for proper and careful administration of the ex-State had been organised.

With merger of the ex-State with Orissa on the 1st January, 1948 the district was formed with three subdivisions, viz., Kendujhar, Champua and Anandapur.

General administration of the district vests with the Collector and District Magistrate. In the new set up, the Collector and the District Magistrate is in overall charge of the general, revenue and development administration of the district. He is assisted by one or more than one Additional District Magistrate and a team of other district level officers. He occupies the pivotal position in district administration. He is the guardian of law and order, and the promoter, helper and adviser of the social welfare institutions. He also supplies adequate technical support and facilities to the district level officers. He being the co-ordinating and guiding functionary at the district level, co-ordinates and guides the activities of different departmental officers in the district for the smooth and efficient implementation of different programmes of the Government. He is the Chairman of the District Development Committee of which the officers of different

Administrati-
on at district
level

departments of the Government posted in the district are members. He, as the Chairman of the District Development Board, advises the Government of the programmes to be implemented for the overall development of the district.

In the changed set up, collection of revenue is no longer the primary function of the Collector. The emphasis has been shifted to co-ordination and implementation of developmental activities in the district. Still in addition to his primary responsibility of collecting land revenue (where leviable) and cess and miscellaneous dues of Revenue Department, Government dues of other Departments are also collected by him by virtue of his powers as the Certificate Officer of the district under the Orissa Public Demand Recovery Act and the Central Revenue Recovery Act. Being the Chief Revenue Officer of the district he is responsible for the management of Government land and estates including lease and prevention of encroachments and for maintenance of land records. He, as the District Magistrate under the Criminal Procedure Code, is also responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. Besides, a lot of other miscellaneous business relating to almost every sphere of administration keeps him constantly pre-occupied. He presides over not less than 54 meetings (monthly, bi-monthly and quarterly, etc.) of various Departments of Government represented by both officials and non-officials (particularly elected representatives) in the district. He is also responsible for relief, rehabilitation and restoration works in case of all kinds of natural calamities like flood, drought, cyclone and tornado etc., which visit quite frequently not only this district but also many other parts of the State. Immediately after Independence and during the first two plan periods (1951-61) he was responsible for almost all development works implemented in the district, besides being the supervising and statutory authority over Grama Panchayats established under the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1948 since the year 1950. As 'Captain' of the development team, as he was called, he had to co-ordinate and supervise all development and welfare works in the district. But with the constitution of Zilla Parishads with effect from 26th January, 1961 under the Orissa Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act 1959 his role was limited to supervision and guidance as the representative of Government interest in the district and his role became subordinate to that of the elected Chairman of the Zilla Parishad in planning of different programmes in the district, though as Chairman of District Development Committee consisting of only officials connected with execution of development works he was responsible for guidance and supervision. But with the abolition of Zilla Parishad with effect from 1st November, 1968 his pre-eminence as Captain of the team of

all development officers of the district was revived and he became Chairman of both the District Development Advisory Board (later renamed as District Development Board) consisting of both officials and non-officials and District Development Committee consisting of only officials.

The Collector is assisted by officers of various other departments like the Superintendent of Excise, the Civil Supplies Officer, the District Public Relations Officer, the District Panchayat Officer, the District Welfare Officer, etc.

The Collector of Kendujhar district is under the Revenue Divisional Commissioner, Northern Division, with headquarters at Sambalpur. In revenue matters the Collector is under the control of the Revenue Divisional Commissioner who has powers to revise some of his orders, to supervise his work and to give him general direction. Above the Revenue Divisional Commissioner is the Member, Board of Revenue, who is responsible for the efficient running of revenue administration throughout the State.

After separation of the judiciary from the executive, the District Magistrate no longer tries criminal cases. Separate Judicial Magistrates have been posted to the district and they are functioning under the supervision of the District and Sessions Judge. The Subdivisional Judicial Magistrates of the subdivisions also function as Munsifs in their respective areas. Besides, three Executive Magistrates for these subdivisions have been appointed as Special Magistrates to act in the absence of the Subdivisional Judicial Magistrates. They, however, do not try cases. They remain in charge of the routine business and dispose of urgent criminal matters of a routine nature. They are also required to record confessional statements and to hold T. I. parades and to record dying declarations according to law. The Subdivisional Officers and the Subdivisional Magistrates have also been vested with powers to try offences under the Orissa Money Lenders Act and Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act, 1976. From the 6th December, 1978 an Additional District and Sessions Judge was posted to the district with headquarters at Kendujhar. Since the 28th February, 1982 the District and Sessions Judge Court has been functioning here.

As mentioned earlier the district has been divided into three subdivisions, namely, Kendujhar, Champua and Anandapur. Each subdivision is in charge of a Subdivisional Officer. He is mainly responsible for the general and revenue administration and for the maintenance of law and order in his area. He is also responsible for smooth execution of all development works undertaken through Block

Administra-
tion at the
Subdivisional
level)

agency and also for relief and rehabilitation works in his subdivision during the time and immediately after natural calamities. The Executive Magistrate posted under him is entrusted with the disposal of criminal cases under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure and maintenance of law and order. Trial of criminal cases are left to the Judicial Magistrate of the subdivision.

The Subdivisional Officer has general control over the sub-divisional staff of Revenue Department as well as of the Panchayat Samitis and Grama Panchayats in his subdivision. He is directly responsible for the smooth implementation of the programmes of the Panchayat Samitis. As Chief Revenue Officer of the subdivision, he is responsible for proper administration of the Tahsils. He has also powers of control and supervision over the police administration. The Subdivisional Officer also acts as the Estate Officer for all Government properties. Besides, the Subdivisional Officers are also notified as Subdivisional Magistrates under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

Each Subdivisional Office has sections like (1) General and Miscellaneous, (2) Development, (3) Revenue, (4) Establishment, (5) Nizarat, (6) Record Room, (7) Election, (8) Judicial, (9) Welfare, (10) Grama Panchayat, (11) Civil Supplies, (12) Public Relations, etc. These sections are managed by gazetted officers subject to the overall control of the Subdivisional Officer.

The district has seven Tahsils, each in charge of a Tahsildar for efficient revenue administration. There are two Tahsils under each of the two subdivisions of Anandapur and Champua and three Tahsils under the Kendujhar subdivision. The Tahsil offices are located at Kendujhar, Ghatagan and Telkoi in Kendujhar subdivision; Champua and Barbil in Champua subdivision; and Anandapur and Hatadihi in Anandapur subdivision. Of these seven Tahsils, the Tahsildars of Kendujhar and Anandapur are assisted by Additional Tahsildars. A Tahsil is further divided into some Revenue Inspector Circles which are the lowest units for the land and revenue administration. Each circle is in charge of a Revenue Inspector. He has to do multifarious revenue duties like maintenance of land records, detection and booking of encroachments on Government lands, assessment and collection of water rates, maintenance of boundary marks, collection of data for damage to life and property in case of natural calamities, and enquiries on various other miscellaneous items like income certificates, solvency certificate, legal heir certificate, caste certificate, allotment of land to landless etc. He is assisted by one or two Amins and Moharirs according to workload. At present there are 50 Revenue Inspector Circles functioning under these seven Tahsils in the district.

Except Kendujhar Sadar, the other two subdivisions have three Sub-Treasuries of which two are in Champua subdivision located at Barbil and Champua and the other is at Anandapur in Anandapur subdivision. The Sub-Treasuries of Barbil and Anandapur are in charge of junior officers of the State Finance Service. They are designated as Sub-Treasury Officers. The Champua Sub-Treasury is in charge of the Revenue Officer, Champua. Kendujhar, being the headquarters of the district, has got a treasury which is manned by a senior officer of the Orissa Finance Service who is designated as Treasury Officer.

To implement the Community Development Programme the district has been divided into 13 Blocks, each in charge of a Block Development Officer. The Blocks are located at Kendujhar, Banspal, Telkoi, Saharapada, Patana, Ghatagan, and Harichandanpur (in Kendujhar Sadar subdivision), Anandapur, Ghasipura and Hatadihi (in Anandapur subdivision) and Champua, Joda and Jhumpura (in Champua subdivision).

Community
Development
Blocks and
other offices

A list of the various sections of the district office at Kendujhar is given in Appendix I. These sections are in charge of district level officers subject to the overall control of the Collector.

State Government offices and offices of the Government of India located in the district are shown in Appendix II.

APPENDIX I

Different Sections of Kendujhar Collectorate

1. Revenue
2. Touzi
3. General and Miscellaneous
4. Judicial
5. Bill, Budget and Establishment
6. Emergency
7. Land Acquisition
8. Compensation
9. Development
10. Election
11. Nizarat
12. Land Records and Record Room
13. Welfare
14. Mining
15. Public Relations
16. Civil Supplies
17. Grama Panchayat
18. Library
19. Forest Settlement
20. CARE Feeding
21. District Development Board

APPENDIX II

Offices of the State Government

KENDUJHAR

1. The Collector and District Magistrate
2. The Subdivisional Officer
3. The Divisional Forest Officer
4. The Divisional Forest Officer (Kendu leaf)
5. The Chief District Medical Officer
6. The Chief District Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Officer
7. The Inspector of Schools
8. The Deputy Director of Agriculture
9. The Deputy Director of Mines
10. The Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies
11. The District and Sessions Judge
12. The Superintendent of Police
13. The Assistant Director, Sericulture
14. The Superintending Engineer, P. W. D. (R & B)
15. The Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (R & B)
16. The Executive Engineer, National Highways Division
17. The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division
18. The Executive Engineer, Electrical Investigation Division
19. The Executive Engineer, Public Health Division
20. The Executive Engineer, Orissa State Electricity Board
21. The District Agriculture Officer
22. The District Inspector of Schools
23. The District Labour Officer
24. The District Employment Officer
25. The District Panchayat Officer
26. The District Welfare Officer
27. The Soil Conservation Officer
28. The Treasury Officer

29. The Regional Transport Officer
30. The Civil Supplies Officer
31. The District Transport Manager
32. The District Statistical Officer
33. The Superintendent of Excise
34. The Assistant Director of Fisheries
35. The District Information and Public Relations Officer
36. The Charge Officer, Settlement
37. The Assistant Engineer, Lift Irrigation
38. The Subdivisional Officer, Electrical
39. The Assistant District Medical Officer, Family Welfare
40. The Assistant District Medical Officer, Public Health
41. The Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies
42. The Piggery Development Officer
43. The Fruit Development Officer
44. The Horticulturist
45. The Superintendent, District Jail
46. The Commercial Tax Officer
47. The District Social Welfare Officer
48. The Inspector of Ayurvedic Dispensary
49. The Project Administrator, Integrated Tribal Development Agency
50. The Special Officer, Juang Development Agency
51. The Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency
52. The General Manager, District Industries Centre
53. The Branch Manager, Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation
54. The Divisional Manager, Central Division, T. D. C. C.
55. The Subdivisional Officer, Public Health
56. The Executive Engineer, Eastern Intensive Investigation Division
57. The Assistant Commandant, Home Guard

58. The Principal, Orissa School of Mining Engineering
59. The Principal, Dharanidhar College
60. The Principal, Women's College
61. The Headmaster, D. N. High School
62. The Headmaster, Government Secondary Training School
63. The Headmistress, Government Girls' High School
64. The District Sub-Registrar
65. The Assistant Soil Conservation Officer
66. The District Probation Officer
67. The District Audit Officer, Local Fund Audit
68. The Executive Officer, Endowments
69. The Superintending Engineer, Electrical Investigation Circle
70. The Assistant Engineer, Agriculture

ANANDAPUR

71. The Subdivisional Officer
72. The District Inspector of Schools, Anandapur
73. The Subdivisional Officer, Public Health
74. The Subdivisional Officer, P. W. D. (R & B)
75. The Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (R & B)
76. The Superintending Engineer, Minor Irrigation Circle, Salapada
77. The Executive Engineer, Baitarani Irrigation Division, Salapada
78. The Sub-Registrar
79. The Sub-Treasury Officer
80. The Subdivisional Police Officer
81. The District Agriculture Officer
82. The Horticulturist
83. The Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies
84. The Subdivisional Medical Officer
85. The Subdivisional Officer, Minor Irrigation
86. The Subdivisional Veterinary Officer

CHAMPUA

87. The Subdivisional Officer
88. The District Inspector of Schools
89. The Subdivisional Officer, Minor Irrigation
90. The Sub-Registrar
91. The Sub-Treasury Officer
92. The Principal, Nicolson Forest Training School
93. The Subdivisional Medical Officer
94. The Subdivisional Veterinary Officer
95. The Sub-judge
96. The Project Administrator, Integrated Tribal Development Agency
97. The Assistant Commercial Tax Officer

OTHER PLACES

98. The Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, Joda
99. The Senior Mining Officer, Joda
100. The Executive Engineer, Project (P. H.) Division, Joda
101. The Subdivisional Police Officer, Barbil
102. The Principal, Industrial Training Institute, Barbil
103. The Sub-Treasury Officer, Barbil
104. The Subdivisional Officer, P. W. D. (R & B), Barbil
105. The Assistant Commercial Tax Officer, Barbil

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

1. The Superintendent of Post Offices, Kendujhar
2. The Field Publicity Officer, Kendujhar
3. The District Small Savings Officer, Kendujhar
4. The Income-tax Officer, Kendujhar
5. The Subdivisional Officer, Telegraphs, Kendujhar
6. The Sales Tax Officer, Barbil
7. The Welfare Administrator, Iron-Ore Mines & Cess, Barbil