

## **CHAPTER VIII.**

### **ECONOMIC TRENDS**

#### **LIVELIHOOD PATTERN.**

For a correct appraisal of the economic trends of this district we have to draw largely from what has been mentioned in other chapters of the book, particularly People Agriculture Industries, Tread and Commerce. As mentioned before, the economic importance of this district is due to large reserves of coal distributed in the three fields, the Jharia and Chandrapura Coal fields and the Barakar series, which extend into the Raniganj coalfields in West Bengal. The total output of coal in this area accounts for about fifty five percent of the total coal output of India. The total reserve of coal in the Jharia Coalfields is estimated at 5,000 million tons. Chandrapura coalfields contain nine coal seams and the total coal reserve is estimated 50 million tons only. Refractory clays are also found in beds associated with the coal seams and the best clays occur in Barakar series. They are converted into refractories in several factories of this district and these refractories products can compete favorably with the best products from other countries. The fireclays are also used for the manufacture of potteries. Coal and the allied industries are the most important basics determining the economic trends of the district.

#### **GROTH OF POPULATION**

Dhanbad district has the smallest area as compared to other district of Bihar. But the population has been rising rapidly since 1881 due to industrial expansion encouraging large-scale immigration of this area. The 1891 Census disclosed an increase of 12.6 percent over the population as censured in 1881. In the next decade (1891-1901) there was rapid development of the mining industries in Jharia coalfields, and the population of Jharia *thana* increased by 75 percent and that of Topchanchi by 30 per cent. In the total area as a whole, the population increased by 25.1 percent the increase was due chiefly to influx of immigrants from Hazaribagh and other places in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. During 1901-1910 there was virulent epidemic of cholera in the coalfields in 1908, but otherwise the decade was healthy. Meanwhile the development of coal mining continued apace, and the number the immigrants increased by about eight thousands. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the 1911 Census registered a further increase in population by 38.8 percent. In 1911-20 decade there were epidemic of cholera almost every year from 1913 to 1919 and large mortality from the influenza epidemic in 1918 and 1919, but with further development of the coalfields the volume of immigration had increased greatly. The Census in 1921 showed an increase of 18.2 percent. In the following decade (1921-30) population Dhanbad.

increased by 14.8 percent only, though as in other districts, there was remarkable improvement in public health in this decade, and mortality from cholera and smallpox

## DHANBAD.

had diminished greatly. The fall in the rate of population growth during this period as compared with the unhealthy 1921-1930 decade was due to the slowing down of the flow of immigrants as a result of the serious tread depression, which started in 1929 and caused a big slump in the coal industry.

In the next decade (1931- 40) the incidence of public health was even better than during 1921-30. The slump in the coal industry, however, continued till the very close of decade The 1941 Census showed an increase in population of only 11.9 per cent. The lowest increase ever recorded in Dhanbad sub-district since 1872. The relatively modest increase in population during this decade was due no doubt to the virtual stoppage of further immigration.

In the decade 1941-50, the population increased by 25.6 percent which indirectly testifies to the tremendous industrial development that has taken place in this area during the last decade. The coal industry developed rapidly under the stimulus of increased demand for coal due to war and rise in prices. The Damodar Valley Corporation built a large powerhouse near Maithon in 1949. A huge fertilizer factory was setup at Sindri Which developed into a town of moderate size in less than a year. A large number of minor industries have also been setup in or near Dhanbad and in the vicinity of coalfields. The large increase is mostly due to immigration. Out of a total population 7,31,700 in 1951 (of preorganised Dhanbad) 2,33,652 were immigrants.

The following figures show the percentage of verification in different revenue *thanas* during last two decades.

District and Revenue thana.	Population, 1951.	Percentage variation		Densit 1951 (per sq. mil)
		1931- 1941.	1941- 1951.	
Dhanbad (sub district)	7,31,,00	11.9	25.6	924
Govindpur	64,648	18.0	7.8	544
Jharia	3, 34,771	10.1	43.5	1, 924
Topchanchi	1,60,065	8	15.0	925
Nirsa	1,21,897	18.1	22.3	704
Tundi	50,319	12.8	0.7	330

### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

From the perusal of above figure it become clear that during the decade 1941-50 the largest incidence of increase in population has taken place in jharia. This is as expected, as in jharia are located most of the important coalfields as also the Sindri Fertilizer factory. Govindpur which is mainly an agriculture tract has actually suffered a small decrease in population due probably to temporary movement of labourers to the coalfields and other places.

### URBANISATION.

Industrialization brings in urbanization. The population of Dhanbad town Including both the municipal area and the railway colony increased from 12, 951 in 1921, when it was treated as a town for the first time to 34,077 in 1951 the net increase 30, years bring 21,126 or 163,7 percent. The present population of Dhanbad town is 57,473, which means an increase of 68, percent during the last decade. Jharia which is only a few miles from Dhanbad was raised to urban status in 1941. Its population has increased from 8,037 in 194 to 26,481 in 1951 and to 33,805 in 1961. Sindri which was first time included in the list of town in 1951 census had a population of 13,045 in 1951 which has increased to 41,349 in 1961. Starting with decade 1921-31 Variation in urban and rural population of Dhanbad district has been of the following order:-

#### Percentage variation and Density of population

-----		Rural.	Density of population	Urban.	Density of population
-----		percent.		Percent.	
1921-31	.. ..	+14.2	. .	36.6	. .
1931-41	.. ..	+7.7	. .	141.2	. .
1941-51	.. ..	+21.1	849	86.6	4,904

SOURCE.- Census of India, Vol. V, Bihar 1951, part I.

There figure show that rate of increase in population has been faster in urban areas than in the rural areas. This is due to the development of mining and manufacturing industries in some parts of this district. Has been essentially a town ward migration especially of the male population.

Prior to the reorganisation of boundaries of this district in 1956, the rural urban ratio of population of this district was 9:1. Out of the total population of 7,31,700 the rural population was 6,58,098 as against the urban population of 73,602. After reorganisation of boundaries of this 1956, the rural-urban ratio of population shifted to 10:1. as out of a total population of

### Dhanbad.

9,05,783 of reorganised Dhanbad 8,22,693 is the rural population as against 83,090, as the urban population. The reason for the shift is in the inclusion of village oriented than as of Chas and Chandankiary in this district. According to the Handbook of Statistics of Reorganisation Bihar, 1956, this district has 1,627 village and for towns, namely, Dhanbad, Sindri, Jharia and Chas. Seven non-agricultural places with a population of more than 5,000 each were treated villages. These Places are Sijua, Loyabad, Chaitudih, Dumurkunda, Jorapokhar, Bhowrah, Jamadoba- having a preponderance of non-agricultural occupations. In 1961 Census these places were treated as towns. The provisional population figure of 1961 published by the ministry of home affairs show that number of town in this district is nineteen. Due to this there has again been a shift in the rural urban ratio and at present out of a total population of 11,58,363 rural population is estimated to be 8,68,022 and urban population 2,90,341 This brings the rural urban population to 3: 1: Even though a portion of this shift is attributable to the change in the definition of the town which has resulted in increased in the number of towns, the growing trends of urbanisation in the district is marked. This growing and marked towards urbanisation is mainly due to increased non-agriculture openings and immigration of rural people to urban centers in search of faithful employment. It seems that in course of subsequent years, with the emphasis on industrialization, the rate of urbanisation would be further speeded up. Therefore a planned programmer of urbanization, which would concentrate, on the development of suburbs and on the construction of towns and cities in newly developed areas is of vital importance.

### DENSITY OF POPULATION

So far as density population is concerned this district can be divided in to two zones –(1) industrial zone and (2) agriculture zone. The industrial consists of the jharia, kendudih and chirkunda police stations and contains 20 percent of total population the average density of population of this zone is 1,915 persons per square mile (According to 1951 Census) which goes up to 5,500 per sq. mile in Jogta and jharia police-stations. The agriculture zone which consists of Govindpur Revenue *thana*, Balliapur, Topchanchi, Bhagmara, Tundi and Nirsa accounts for about 80 per cent of the area and 60 percent of the total population In this agriculture zone, the average density of population is 573 persons in Tundi though it rises up to 900 persons per sq mile and Bhagmara and Balliapur which are closer to the industrial belt. This shows that industrial regions are supporting larger population per sq. Mile as avenues for fruitful employment are available. Further agriculture region

### Economic Trends.

which consists of 80 percent of the total area of the district support only 60 percent of total population and this makes the burden on agriculture lesser in comparison to that of the other district of Bihar particularly Saran Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Monghyr and Patna. Apart from this, as 1961 Census has revealed, the growth of population in industrial region within this district has been much more than that in agriculture district in the decade 1951-60. For example while the population has recorded 250 percent increase in Jharia police station, 350 percent increase in Dhanbad police station it has recorded only 6 percent to 10, percent increase in Govindpur, Balliapur and Tundi police station.

Prior to the reorganization of boundaries in 1956, Dhanbad was only district unit where non-agriculture population outnumbered the agriculture population. Roughly 52 percent of the total population derived their livelihood from non-agriculture population. After reorganization of boundaries in 1956, two agriculture regions, Chas and Chandankiary have been added to the population of this district and the percentage of population dependent on non agriculture occupations has decreased 44 percent. This occupational pattern varies from one region to another within the district. As mentioned before in the central zone, which is an industrial zone non agriculture occupation account for 82.1 percent of the total population in the zone whereas in remaining agriculture regions of Govindpur, Bhagmara, Topchanchi, Balliapur, Tundi and Nirsa 84.5 per cent of the population derive sustenance from agricultural pursuits. Tundi revenue *thana* is a purely agriculture tract where 98.2 percent of the residents are agriculture. On the hand 99.4 percent of the population of Jharia police station are profitably employed in agriculture pursuits.

According to the Handbook statistics of Reorganised Bihar 1956 the distribution of population into different livelihood classes is of the following pattern:-

### *Economic status.*

principal livelihood classes	self supporting persons.	Depends including both earning and non earning dependents.	Total of columns 2 and 3.	percentage of total population.
Agriculture classes .. ..	175,411	335,227	510,638	56.27
1. Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependence	153,169	295,146	448,315	49.49
2 Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned	5,538	12,232	17,590	1.54
3 Cultivating labours and	15,054	24,231	39,285	4.33

## DHANBAD.

their dependents .				
4. Non cultivating Owners of land agriculture rent receivers.	1,830	3,618	5,448	0,91
Non Agriculture classes ..	188,843	206,302	395,145	43.75
5. Production other than Cultivation ..	127,640	120,216	247,856	27.37
6. Commerce .. ..	18,137	22,997	41,134	4.54
7. Transport .. ..	10,141	18,433	28,574	3.15
8. Other service and miscel Leneous .. ..	32,925	44,656	77,581	8.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>364,254</b>	<b>541,529</b>	<b>905,783</b>	<b>100</b>

From the perusal of the above figure it is apparent that 3.64 lakh persons are self supporting persons i, e, who are in receipt of some income in cash or kind, which is sufficient at least for their own maintenance. This constitutes roughly 40 percent of the total population. The balance of 60 percent of the total population is dependent consisting of earning dependents and non- earning dependence. The proportion of self-supporting persons of higher here than elsewhere on account of the presence of large number of ablebodied colliery labourers all of whom earn their own living but in many cases their family members and dependents are not living with them. As might be expected, the proportion of self-supporting persons is much higher among the non-agriculture population. The figures given below show the distribution of 100, persons of the general agriculture and non agriculture classes by their economic status:-

	Self supporting	Dependents (earning and non Earning)
General .. ..	40	60 -- 100
Agriculture .. ..	34.3	65.7-- 100
Non Agriculture .. ..	47.7	53.3 -- 100

Again the following figure give the distribution of 100 of the general , the self supporting and the dependents persons in to different livelihood categories :-

	Agriculture	Non Agriculture.
General .. ..	56.27	43.73
Self-supporting .. ..	46	54
Dependents .. ..	60	40

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

An analysis of the distribution of population into different livelihood classes according to economic status based on these tables indicates that the proportion of self-supporting persons is higher in non-agriculture occupation and comes to 54 percent of the total self-supporting population. So far as the dependents are concerned again, it is non agriculture population that has to support less since non agriculture population has to support only 40 percent of the total dependent population. Inevitably agriculture in this district has lesser avenues for substantive employment and which is at the same time hard pressed with dependents. The result is that the per capita income and standard of living is worse among the agriculture population as compared to the non- agriculture or industrial sectors.

So far as agriculture is concerned, Dhanbad is mainly a rice-producing tract and 30 percent of the total geographical area is under paddy cultivation. About 12 percent of the land is put to non-agriculture uses. Only 3 percent of the area is sown more than once. In agriculture the main source of livelihood is paddy cultivation as except a few thousand acres that is put under production of maize, *arhar* and sugarcane, rice is the principal crop of this district. The very name of this district owes its origin to the cultivation of *dhan* (paddy).

Industry is another main source of livelihood. According to Dhanbad District census Handbook of 1951, there are 138 factories in Dhanbad registered under the Factories Act. There are 69 rice, flour oil and *dal* mills, five ice-cream, ice candy and cold storage factories eight saw milling factories, eight ceramic and pottery factories seven glass and glassware factories, three bricks lime and *surkhi* factories, one iron and steel works, eight automobile and coach building factories one radio engineering factories, 10 printing and binding factories, four cock plants, 14 foundry and general electrical engineering works and one each, lead coal-tar, aluminum and shop factories. The numbers of persons employed in these factories were 14,391 persons of which 47 per cent accounted for ceramic and pottery factories. So far we have not considered mining and quarrying industry which alone is responsible for the employment of 1,39,246 persons in its 429 working mines at present (Ref: Goal bulletin April, 1961). Apart from this there are village and small – scale industrial establishments numbering 745 (in 1951) which provide employment to 1,935 persons. These include weaving, milling of cereals bicycle-repairing, carpentry, soap making, biri-making, pottery making industries, etc. cotton textile establishments employ 1,126 persons. Amongst those employed in these small-scale and cottage industries, 1,340 persons are whole timers and 595, persons are part timers. The recent figures are not

## DHANBAD.

available and those mentioned are sub district figures as mentioned in District census Handbook of 1951. There may also have been some omission.

It is however, important to note that most of the handlooms in textile establishment occur in agriculture in agriculture regions of the district. Govindpur has 279 handlooms, which employ 568 whole timers and seven part timers. Thus in Topchacnchi, cottage industries provide part time occupation to local agriculturists whereas in Govindpur there is a class of persons employed whole time in cottage industries. Nirsa has 114 handlooms and here again whole timers are only six whereas part timers are 299 persons. Chirkunda has 19 handloom where 68 part timers only are employed and Jorapokhar has 11 handlooms where 18 whole timers and three part timers employed. Apart from this textile establishment, milling of cereals in this district employs 204 whole timers and 45 part timers; motor and cycle repairing industries employ 131 whole timers and seven part timers; manufacturing of electrical appliances employ 68 whole timers and two part timers: soap factory 58 whole timers and two part timers and carpentry industry employs 79 whole timers.

From the above discussion it is apparent that the existing industries are absorbing a large portion of the working population and hence the burden on agriculture is much less in other district of Bihar. There is a heavy weight age for industrial potentiality of this district will bring in more people deriving their livelihood from industries. Not only that, those engaged in industries are economically active self-supporting persons with a higher standard of living. Further due to availability of opportunities in industries particularly in coalmines, the class of peripatetic labors is not as prominent as in other districts of Bihar.

The total number of persons dependent on commerce is 41,134 out of which 18,137 are self-supporting persons and 22,997 are dependents-earning and non-earning. Thus on the whole 4.54 per cent of the total population is dependent on commerce. The chief commodities of import are foodstuffs, textile and leather goods, fuel, machinery and equipments. Mineral products refractories, pottery and ceramics, glass products, machineries and others. Recently cool trade has received a setback due to shortage of wagons and bottleneck in matter of transport.

Twenty-eight thousand five hundred and forty-seven persons or 3.15 per cent of total population is dependent on transport of which 10,141 persons are self-supporting and 18,433 persons are dependents. In other services and miscellaneous sources 32,925 persons are self-supporting and 44,656 persons are dependents. Domestic servants, barbers, launderers, hotel-keepers, religious services, lawyers, persons employed in education, health and medical services and all employees of the Central and State Governments and of local bodies



#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

come under this group. Beggars and vagrants are also included in this category. Taken as a whole, 47.7 percent of non-agricultural population is economically active and 53.3 percent dependents.

#### LEVEL OF WAGES.

Trend in wages can be studied under two heads-agricultural wages and industrial wages.

The statistics of agricultural wages are very unsatisfactory in our country and till recently no such data were collected on uniform basis. Generally Landless people who reside in villages offer themselves for agricultural labour. The cultivators who possess a large area of land require to engage labour for agricultural operations. Small cultivators who own little land do not engage labour and they themselves do the agricultural work with the help of family members in their field. There are two types of laborers engaged for agricultural operations-one is of permanent nature; the other is of casual nature. Further, heavy agricultural operations like ploughing are done by the male labourers, while lighter work, such as women share transplanting and reaping. In agricultural regions of Dhanbad out of every 10,000 persons of all agricultural classes, 8,868 persons are cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and they have their dependents. Thus about 90 per cent of agricultural population are owners of land though the size of most of agricultural holdings (70 per cent) are of less than 2 acres. Landless laborers constitute only 6 per cent of agricultural population and 3 per cent of total population in this district. Hence, neither the demand nor the supply of agricultural labour is great. Employment is mostly of seasonal nature and with alternative means of occupation open in industries and coal mines and construction works, agricultural labourers prefer to work in cultivation work temporarily during the sowing and harvesting season only.

In past, agricultural wages were mostly paid in kind; not only that, agricultural wages were very cheap. Manbhum District Gazetteer of 1911 gives statistics of daily wages in 1911 (in which year a wage census was held in the month of April). Though wages were actually paid in kind, for the purpose of convenience those were calculated in rupees and annas. A ploughman was generally paid in grains worth 2½ annas to 4 annas per day. A carpenter was paid 5 to 5½ annas per day. A gharami was paid 4 to 4½ annas per day and a blacksmith 6 to 7 annas per day. Agricultural labourers were hardly appointed on permanent basis.

To ascertain the current rural wages a sample survey was done in 1958 and the data collected are available in the Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics published by the Government of Bihar. Following are the figures showing daily agricultural

## DHANBAD.

wages in rupees and naiya paisa in a selected village in Dhanbad district during October, 1958, November, 1958 and during December, 1958:-

**Rural wages in Dhanbad in 1958**

Nature of job.		October, 1958 Rs.	November, 1958. Rs	December. 1958 Rs
Skilled labourers..	Carpenter	3.25	3.25	2.87
	Blacksmith	2.75	2.75	2.75
Unskilled labourers,	Ploughman, Men	1.50	1.50	1.50
And field labourers.	Sower, woman	1.25	1.25	1.25
	Transplanter, children,	0.75	0.75	0.75
	Weeder and Reaper.			
Other Agricultural labourers,	Men	1.50	1.50	1.50
Coolies, load carriers, will-diggers, women		1.25	1.25	1.25
etc	Children	0.75	0.75	0.75

If we compare the increase in level of wages with increase in level of prices, we shall find that wages have increased to commensurate with increase in price level. Up to the year 1939 wages remained cheap due to the fact that the price especially of consumers goods were not high. But with the start of the decade 1941-50 consumers, prices began to rise and cost of living increased. Wages started increasing- both of the skilled and field labourers. If consumers, price have increased sixfold. However, in this increase, carpenters have been immensely benefited. Their wages have increased tenfold in between 1941 and 1958 which is presumably due to increased demand for carpenters in furniture and allied industries.

**Industrial Wages**

Dhanbad is a rich industrial region and hence the trend in industrial wages, particularly in coal mines should receive our particular attention. The Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines give data on the wages of labourers in coal mines. Following are the average weekly cash earnings of labourers in coal mines of Jharia in Dhanbad:-

Average weekly cash earning of colliery workers: July, 1961.

Nature of work.	Name of coalfield	
	Jharia. Rs.	Indian Union Rs.
Below ground-		
Overmen and sirdars ..	41.47	41.21
Miners and loaders ..	22.74	23.31
Others .. ..	23.47	22.90

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Open cast Workings-			
Overmen and sirdars ...	34.15	34.20	
Miners and loaders ...	21.68	21.91	
Others { Men ...	19.17	19.77	
{ Women ...	18.81	18.93	
Above ground-			
Clerical and supervisory staff	45.47	42.56	
Men ... ..	21.84	21.46	
Women ... ..	19.07	19.15	
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Overall ... ..	23.86	23.39	
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Source--- Monthly Coal Bulletin, July, 1961 issued by the chief Inspector of Mine, Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

These weekly cash earnings consist of three components, I.e., basic wages, dearness allowance and other cash payments. Following are the components of weekly earnings in Jharia and Raniganj coal mines:-

**Average weekly cash earnings of workers by components.**

	Basic wages.	Dearness Allowance.	Other cash Payments.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<b>Bihar--- jharia---Below ground---</b>			
Overmen and sirdars	20.72	16.64	4.11
Miners and loaders	8.62	11.56	2.56
Others	8.94	12.25	2.28
<b>Open cast working---</b>			
Overmen and sirdars	15.94	15.31	2.90
Miners and loaders	8.33	11.81	1.42
Others { Men	6.93	10.82	1.42
{ Women	6.70	10.87	1.44
<b>Above ground---</b>			
Clerical and supervisory staff	24.47	17.70	3.30
Men	8.47	11.86	1.51
Women	7.10	10.53	1.44
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Overall	9.22	11.97	2.14
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**DHANBAD.**

	<b>Basic wages.</b>	<b>Dearness allowance.</b>	<b>Other cash payments</b>
	<b>Rs.</b>	<b>Rs.</b>	<b>Rs.</b>
<b>Bihar—Raniganj—Below ground--</b>			
<b>Overmen and sirdars</b>	<b>19.49</b>	<b>14.97</b>	<b>4.10</b>
<b>Miners and loaders</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>11.31</b>	<b>3.71</b>
<b>Others ..</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>10.70</b>	<b>2.62</b>
<b>Open cast workings---</b>			
<b>Overmen and sirdars</b>	<b>15.30</b>	<b>13.20</b>	<b>2.02</b>
<b>Miners and loaders</b>	<b>7.97</b>	<b>12.16</b>	<b>4.41</b>
<b>Others { Men</b>	<b>8.28</b>	<b>11.28</b>	<b>1.28</b>
<b>{ Women</b>	<b>7.17</b>	<b>13.48</b>	<b>1.26</b>
<b>Above ground---</b>			
<b>Clerical and supervisory staff</b>	<b>17.56</b>	<b>13.92</b>	<b>1.91</b>
<b>Men</b>	<b>7.93</b>	<b>10.53</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>7.12</b>	<b>10.32</b>	<b>1.75</b>
<b>overall . .</b>	<b>8.64</b>	<b>11.30</b>	<b>2.92</b>

Form the perusal of above figures it will be seen that a large portion of the earnings of the colliery workers consists of Dearness Allowance which increases with the increases in consumer 's price and working class cost of living indices. At present (1962) Dearness Allowance forms than 50 per cent of total emoluments in coal industry. Thus Dearness Allowance is often larger than basic wage. The total emoluments of labourers in coal industry have recorded 217per cent increase in between 1951 and 1960. According to the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines for 1960, the indices of increase in labour earnings are as follows:---

**Index of labour earning.**

<b>Index—Jharia.</b>	<b>Base—December 1951=100.</b>
<b>1951 December</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>1952 „</b>	<b>107.5</b>
<b>1953 „</b>	<b>107.8</b>
<b>1954 „</b>	<b>112.4</b>
<b>1955 „</b>	<b>113.2</b>
<b>1956 „</b>	<b>159.9</b>
<b>1957 „</b>	<b>173.7</b>
<b>1958 „</b>	<b>195.8</b>
<b>1959 „</b>	<b>213.7</b>
<b>1960 „</b>	<b>217.0</b>

#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

It is interesting to note that the index of labour earnings has shown marked upward trend only after 1955. During the First five year plan period (i.e., up to 1955) price level was relatively stable and labour earnings also remained stable but after 1955 commensurate with marked upward trend in price level, labour earnings increased as Dearness Allowance to workers in coal industry is positively linked up with price level.

#### LEVEL OF WAGES IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

Level of wages in manufacturing industries has shown marked upward trend in between 1947-1960. Basic wages in lead industry have doubled during the past minimum or the maximum of the basic wages. Up to 1959 no Dearness Allowance Was paid to unskilled labourers in lead industry. They were paid only annas 2 per attendance as an allowance. But after 1959, Dearness Allowance started to be paid to unskilled workers at the rate of Rs. 7.50 per month, which increased to Rs. 10 per month during last year. Other allowance at the rate of 12½ per cent to the operators to be paid from 1960.

In Ekra Engineering Works at Bansjora, basic wages increased threefold in between 1947 -1959. In this Engineering works Dearness. Allowance is paid at the rate of 151 per cent of basic salary and this rate has not shown any change in between 1947—1959. Other Allowance which were paid to the workers were discontinued during the years 1955 and 1956 such cash allowance continued to be paid at the rate of annas 3 per worker per day.

In ceramic and refractory industry basic wages recorded an increase. In kumardhubi Refractory and Ceramic Works neither Dearness Allowance nor cash allowance are paid. In firebricks and potteries industry also basic wages have recorded an increase. In Bihar firebricks and Potteries, Ltd. Located in Mugma in Dhanbad district males are paid higher basic wages than the females. In this factory Dearness Allowance to unskilled workers have recorded in crease in the year 1949, 1950 and in the year 1958. In Reliance Firebricks and Potteries Co., Ltd., unskilled workers were paid Dearness Allowance at the rate of Rs. 23 per month in 1947 which increased to Rs. 25 per month in 1950 and to Rs.35 per month in 1959. In this firebricks factory, wages are lower than in other such factories particularly in comparison with the level of wages at Mugma. In Orient Potteries, Ltd., workers are not paid any allowance whatsoever. On the whole basic wages have remained stable in the pottery and firebrick industries presumably due to abundant and cheap supply of labour and due to lack of properly organized bargaining for higher wages. It is also due to the fact that Minimum Wages act of

## DHANBAD.

1948 does not cover these important industries of Dhanbad where 'sweated' labour is prevalent. In Shalimar Tar products, a factory at Jharia, concerned with the manufacture of bye-products of coal, basic wages remained stable up to 1955 but in June basic wages were revised and enhanced as cash attendance allowance which was paid to workers up to May 1956, was consolidated to enhanced basic wages. The rate of Dearness Allowance has remained stable after 1947. In this tar manufacturing factory the lowest paid workers are paid Dearness Allowance at the rate of 150 per cent whereas those with basic pay in between Rs. 100 and Rs.300 are paid Dearness Allowance at the rate of 40 per cent per month or a minimum of Rs.67 Those with a basic pay of Rs. 300 are paid Dearness Allowance at the rate of 35 per cent or a minimum of Rs. 120 per month. In this factory, again, from 1958 onwards workers are being paid a variable extra Dearness Allowance @ Rs. 4.87 per month to workers drawing up to Rs.300 per month.

In Sindri Cement Works, the only cement producing unit in Dhanbad district minimum basic wages remained stable in between 1955-1957 but Dearness Allowance which was paid @ Re. 1 per workier per day up to 1956 increased @ Rs. 9.6 with the movement of every four points in the cost of living index with 1944 as base.

In Sindri Super phosphate Factory which employs about 8,000 workers per day, minimum basic wages which was Rs. 2 per day in 1959. Maximum wages doubled in between 1953-1959.

Data showing the trend of minimum wages of unskilled workers in various. Factories of this district mentioned above is shown below. The source of such data is the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Government of Bihar, Patna.

***Trend of minimum of unskilled workers of various factories in Dhanbad district from 1947 to 1959.***

**(1) Shalimar Tar products.**

Year.		Basic wages.	
		Minimum.	Maximum.
		Rs.	Rs
1947	Male	0.50	0.75
	Female	0.31	0.34
1948	Male	0.50	0.75
	Female	0.31	0.34
1949	Male	0.50	0.47
	Female	0.31	0.34
1950	Male	0.50	1.00
	Female	0.31	0.34
1951	Male	0.50	1.00

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Year.		Basic wages.	
		Minimum.	Maximum
1952	Female	0.31	0.34
	Male	0.50	1.00
1953	Female	0.31	0.34
	Male	0.50	1.00
1954	Female	0.31	0.34
	Male	0.51	1.00
1955	Female	0.31	0.34
	Male	0.51	1.00
1956	Female	0.31	0.34
	Male	1.06	1.41
1957	Female	1.06	1.06
	Male	1.06	1.41
1958	Female	1.06	1.06
	Male	1.06	1.44
1959	Female	1.06	1.06
	Male	1.06	1.44

## Dearness Allowance.

1947 onward.

Basic pay up to Rs.30 per month –150 per cent.

Basic pay over Rs.30 up to Rs.50 per month—100 per Cent, minimum Rs. 45

Basic pay over Rs.50 up to Rs.100 per month—66 per Cent, minimum Rs. 50.

Basic pay over Rs.100 up to Rs.300 per month—40 per Cent, minimum Rs. 67.

Basic pay over Rs.300 per month-35 per cent, minimum Rs. 120

*Other Allowance 1947 to May 1956.***Cash attendance allowance—**

	Heavy workers.	Light workers.
Single .. ..	0.19 np.	0.12 np.per day.
With one dependant ..	0.28 np	0.19 np.per day.
With more than one .. dependant.	0.40 np.	0.31 np. Per day.

## DHANBAD.

Free rice 1/4 sr.per attendance to heavy workers.

Extra allowance of Rs. 1 per week to lightworkers in lien of free rice.

Form June 1956 onward – The above cash attendance allowance,etc consolidated to enhanced basic wages.

Form 1958 to 1959—Variable dearness allowance of Rs.4.87

Per month to workers dearwing up to Rs.300 per month.

**(2) Bihar State Super phosphate Factory, Sindri.**

Year.	Basic Wages.	
	Minimum.	Miximum
	Rs.	Rs.
1953 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	2.75 (per day).
1954 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	2.75 (per day)
1955 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	3.00 (per day).
1956 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	4.00 (per day)
1957 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	4.50 (per day).
1958 .. ..	1.50 (per day)	4.50 (per day)
1959 .. ..	2.00 (per day)	5.50 (per day)

**(3) Sindri Cement Works, Sindr**

Year.	Basic wages.			Dearness Allowance. Other Allowances.
	Minimum.	Minimum		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1955	1.00(per day)	1.12 (per day)	1.00 (per day)..	F.G.A * at Rs. 3 Per head (per month)
1956	1.00 (per day)	1.12 (per day)	1.00 (per day)..	Ditto.
1957	1.00 (per day)	1.50 (per day)	Linked with Jharia cost of Living Index no.(base- 1944) at 100 to 126 at Rs 9.6 with the move- ment of every four points.	This F. G. A. was discontinued after the D. A. was linked with the settlement referred to in the Index col. (ii) As per the same agreement a house rent allowance of Rs. 2 per month was being given to every unhoused worker.



## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

## (4) Ekra Engineering Works, p.o. Banjora, Dhanbad.

	Basic wage			Dearness Allowance.			Per cent	Other Allowances				
	Minimum. R A p	Maximum R A P			Per cent			Re.		Re.		
1947	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-3-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1948	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-6-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1949	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-3-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1950	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-6-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1951	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-3-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1952	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-6-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1953	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-3-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1954	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-6-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1955	0	5	0	0	9	0	150	Re.	0-3-6	Re.	0-4-6	and
1956	0	15	0	0	3	0	150	Re.	Stopped	Re.		and
1957	0	15	0	0	3	0	150	Re.	Ditoo.	Re.		and
1958	1	1	0	0	5	0	150	Re.	0-3-0	Re.		and
1959	1	1	0	0	5	0	150	Re.	0-3-0	Re.		and

## (5) Tundoo Lead Smelter.

## (Metal Corporation Of India, Ltd.).

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Year	Basic wages			Dearness Allowances.			Other Allowances				
	Minimum. Rs. a. p.	Maximum. Rs. a. p.			Per cent						
1947	1	0	0	(per day) 2	0	0	(per day) Nil	Re.	2-2-0	per attendance.	
1948	1	2	0	ditto	2	8	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1949	1	4	0	ditto	2	8	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto	
1950	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1951	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto	
1952	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1953	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto	
1954	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1955	1	8	0	ditto	3	0	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto	
1956	2	0	0	ditto	3	8	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1957	2	0	0	ditto	3	8	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1958	2	0	0	ditto	3	8	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1959	2	0	0	ditto	3	12	0	ditto	Nil	Ditto.	
1960	Rs.2.25	ditto			Rs. 5.00	Rs.7.00 per 12½ per cent to operators			month.		
1961	Rs.2.25	..			Rs. 5.00	Rs.10.00			10per cent only.		
						Per month.			Ditto.		

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## DHANBAD.

Year	Basic wages			Dearness Allowances.	Other Allowances									
	Minimum.		Maximum.											
	Rs.	a. p.	Rs. a. p.											
<b>(1) Nirsa Refractory and Ceramic Werks.</b>														
1955	0	14	0	1	12	0	Nil	..	Nil.					
1956	0	14	0	1	12	0	..	..	..					
1957	1	0	0	2	8	0	..	..	..					
1958	1	0	0	2	8	0	..	..	..					
1959	1	0	0	2	8	0	..	..	..					
1960	1	0	0	2	8	0	..	..	..					
<b>(2) Orient Potteries (p.), Ltd</b>														
1959{	Male	1	1	0	1	1	0	Nil	..	..				
	Female	0	15	0	0	15	0	Nil	..	..				
1960{	Male	1	1	0	1	2	0	Nil	..	..				
	Female	0	15	0	1	0	0	Nil	..	..				
<b>(3) Bharat Firebricks and potteries Private, Ltd. Jharia</b>														
1947 to	0	13	0	1	1	6	0	4	6	..				
30-11-1956														
1956 to 1959	Information incomplete													
<b>(4) Bihar Firebricks and Potteries, Ltd. Mugma .</b>														
								(Up to 31 March 1947)		(Form 1 <sup>st</sup> April 1947)				
1947{	male	0	12	0	2	0	0	0	11	3	0	14	0	
	Female	0	11	0	2	0	0	0	11	3	0	14	0	
1948{	male	0	11	0	2	0	0				0	14	0	
	Female	0	11	0	2	0	0				0	14	0	
1949{	male	0	12	0	2	12	0	0	14	0	to1	1	5	3
	Female	0	11	0	2	12	0	0	14	0	to1	1	5	3
1950{	male	0	0	0	2	14	0	0	15	3	and1	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	2	14	0	0	15	3	and1	1	5	6
1951{	male	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	15	3	and1	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	2	0	0	0	15	3	and1	1	5	6

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Year		Basic wage			Dearnes Allowance.			Other Allowances.						
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.				
		Minimum.			Maximum.									
1952{	male	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	1	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1953{	male	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	3	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1954{	male	1	0	0	3	5	0	0		3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	5	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1955{	male	1	0	0	3	7	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	7	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1956{	male	1	0	0	3	9	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	9	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1957{	male	1	0	0	3	9	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
	Female	0	13	0	3	9	0	0	15	3	and	1	5	6
1958{	male	Re	1.03	Re	3.84	Re	1.34nP.				and	Re.1.73np.	from 1 <sup>st</sup>	
		nP.		nP.								august 1958.		
	Female	Re	0.84	Re	3.84	Re	1.34nP.				Ditto.			
		nP.		nP.										
1959{	male	Re	1.03	Re	3.84	Re	1.34nP.				and	Re. 1.73 np.		
		nP.		nP.										
	Female	Re	0.84	Re	3.84	Re	1.34nP.				Ditto.			
		nP.		nP.										

**(5) Reliance Firebricks and Pottery Co. Ltd.**

1947	0	10	0	0	12	0	23	0	0	Per month	Nil
1948	0	10	0	0	12	0	23	0	0	Per month	„
1949	0	10	0	0	12	0	23	0	0	Per month	„
1950	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1951	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1952	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1953	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1954	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1955	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1956	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1957	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1958	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„
1959	0	13	0	1	0	0	25	0	0	Per month	„

**DHANBAD.**  
**LEVEL OF PRICES.**

Another indicator of economic trends is the level of prices. Level of prices affects the purchasing power of money and thus affects the economic condition of the people. The level of price has a bearing both on the real income and the standard of living of the people.

The level of price particular that of food articles has increased tremendously during the past decades. The *Mandhum* District Gazetteer of 1911 gives the level of price of rice, wheat, and gram during the first decade of 20<sup>th</sup> century. On the average during the first decade of 20<sup>th</sup> century, wheat was sold at 10 seers 8 chataks a rupee, rice (common) was sold at 10 seers and gram was sold at 13 seers a rupee.

The rice in the wholesale price of rice, wheat and gram for the decade 1941-50 as given in the District Census Handbook of Dhanbad Published in 1954 is given below :-

Ruling wholesale price of rice, wheat and gram in Dhanbad.

Year	Month	Rice (medium)			Wheat(red)			Gram.			
		Rs.	a.	p.	Re.	a.	p.	Re.	a.	p.	
1941	January	..	4	14	6	..	..	..	4	0	0
	April	..	5	0	0	..	..	..	3	8	0
	July	..	5	11	0	..	..	..			0
	October	..	5	4	0	..	..	..		2	0
	December	..	5	11	0	..	..	..			0
1942	January	..	5	3	0	..	..	..	4	6	0
	April	..	5	10	0	..	..	..	4	6	0
	July	..	7	4	0	..	..	..	5	2	0
	October	..	9	8	0	..	..	..	7	0	0
	December	..	9	4	0	..	..	..	7	0	0
1943	January	..	9	4	0	..	..	..	7	0	0
	April	..	11	6	0	..	..	..	9		0
	July	..	22	0	0	..	..	..	15	12	0
	August	..	25	0	0	..	..	..	15	12	0
	October	..	20	6	0	19	4	0	16	0	0
	December	..	15	0	0	16	0	0	13	0	
1944	January	..	14	0	0	16	0	0	12	8	0
	April	..	15	8	0	16	8	0	11	4	0
	July	..	14	0	0	15	0	0	9	12	0
	October	..	14	0	0	15	0	0	9	0	0

**ECONOMIC TRENDS.**

	December	..	13	0	0	13	0	0	8	8	0
1945	January	..	12	0	0	13	0	0	8	8	0
	April	..	12	0	0	13	0	0	8	4	0
	July	..	12	0	0	13	0	0	8	4	0
	October	..	12	0	0	13	0	0	8	4	0
	December	..	14	0	0	14	0	0	11	8	0
1946	January	..	12	0	0	..	..	..	10	8	0
	April	..	18	0	0	..	..	..	20	0	0
	July	..	26	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
	October	..	22	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
	December	..	18	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
1947	January	..	18	0	0	12	8	0	18	0	0
	April	..	18	0	0	13	0	0	16	0	0
	July	..	23	0	0	13	0	0	16	0	0
	October	..	25	0	0	13	0	0	10	8	0
	December	..	23	0	0	13	0	0	18	8	0
1948	January	..	22	0	0	30	0	0	10	8	0
	April	..	21	0	0	26	0	0	17	0	0
	July	..	24	0	0	26	0	0	15	0	0
	October	..	25	0	0	26	0	0	12	0	0
	December	..	19	0	0	28	0	0	15	12	0
1949	January	..	26	0	0	28	0	0	12	0	0
	April	..	24	0	0	30	0	0	13	8	0
	July	..	24	0	0	24	0	0	18	0	0
	October	..	24	0	0	27	0	0	17	0	0
	December	..	22	0	0	20	0	0	19	0	0
1950	January	..	22	0	0	20	0	0	19	0	0
	April	..	22	0	0	23	0	0	18	0	0
	July	..	35	0	0	24	0	0	22	0	0
	October	..	38	0	0	30	0	0	22	0	0
	December	..	30	0	0	39	0	0	20	0	0

Form the perusal of finger it will be seen that price have increased 5to 6 fold during the 1941-50.

During the 1920's there had not been much fluctuation in the level of price but form 1929 onward and downward trend in the price was noticeable. This was presumably the effect of word wide depression in 1929, which followed the crash of Wall Street the biggest financial canter of the world. This depressing level of price continued till 1938-39 when the Second World War broke out. Immediately on the outbreak of the Second World War in September, 1939 the prices of the

## DHANBAD.

essential commodities took an upward turn mainly as a result of Speculation. With the disappearance of this initial brief spurt the prices again down, and In 1940, there was only a 'latent' inflation under which some amount of excess demand Was neutralized mostly by gradual dehorning or decumulation of stock. Thus inflationary effects were substantially neutralized by the gradual dehoarding policy of the Dealers and the wholesalers who had accumulated huge stocks on the eve of the war.

With Japan's entry into the war in December, 1941 the inflationary spiral gained further momentum. It was in 1941-42 that the 'latent' inflation was converted into a real type of inflation, and people felt the impact of the rising trend in prices. The Indian Government on behalf of U.K. made huge purchases of all types of goods in the Indian market. Naturally the availability of goods and services for the civilian consumption was much lesser than before and thus scarcity of consumers' goods accompanied by a terrible food Shortage made the situation extremely gloomy. The working class cost of living index for Jharia prepared by the Commissioner of Labour, Government of Bihar with 1914 as base to 100, increased to 150 in 1941-42 and to 226 in 1942-43. Up to 1943, there was open type inflation, as Government did not introduce any anti-inflationary measures for checking the price rise.

It was during the last quarter of 1943, that Government introduced price control and rationing of food, cloth sugar and other necessities of life. These measures converted and 'open' inflation into suppressed type inflation and black-marketing unfortunately become rampant. The working class cost of living index rose to 410 in 1943-44 and thereafter started declining during the following two years. The partially suppressed inflation of the war period made a jerky outburst in the immediate post-war period under the impact of pent up demand. The voluntary abstinence of war period ended and people. Were eager to consume more goods. Thus propensity to consume increased without sizeable increase in the volume of goods supplied because of heavy wartime depreciation of plants. Machinery and labour unrest. The working class cost of living index mentioned before reached 657 in 1950-51 with 1914 as base.

The Korean War (1950) was regarded as a prelude to the Third World War and therefore it greatly increased the propensity for hoarding goods. The level of Prices went up and in April 1951 the level of price reached its peak. In 1952 the first Year of the First plan, prices declined and ushered in a recession which its lowest marks in 1955. During the First plan period, due to favourable monsoons and other climatic factors agricultural production exceeded the target. As supply outstripped the demand, prices of food articles and other agricultural declined. After 1955, there was a series of crop failures due to irregular monsoon.

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Along with that the expenditure on the plans greatly exceeded the available ingestible resources Inflationary rise in prices continued. This upward move in prices gathered momentum during the second Five-year plan period. Prices went up unchecked and made deep cuts in the living standards of the people and thus dampened people's enthusiasm for the Five-year plans. Deficit financing is factor that was largely responsible for this untoward rise in prices. Too much money was chasing too few goods. Dhanbad district experienced this pattern more than anywhere. The year 1958 recorded peak rise in prices and to arrest further increase in the level of prices Government started fair shops once again.

Recently, we have embarked on the Third Five plan. It is important to remember that on the eve of heavy investment programmers undertaken in this industrial belt of India absolute constancy in price level cannot be expected. In a developing district like Dhanbad where additional income is being generated by deliberately stepped up investments, price can be held only by matching additional production to additional income. However, additional production will not take place without incentive of price. Thus price may be allowed to rise slowly and steadily. But in case of goods, which fulfill the basic necessities of life, prescription of ceiling and floor prices with a flexible control over production will be very much appreciated.

The trend in the consumers' prices which consist of retail prices may be known from the *consumers' price cost of Living Index Numbers for Jharia* published by the Government of Bihar and by Labour Bureau Government of India. While Government of Bihar calculates the index with 1939 as base. (100), the Labour Bureau, Government of India calculates the same with 1949 as base (100).The index for the years 1951-58 is given below. –

Published by Government of Bihar.

Published by Labour Bureau.

Period.		Index, Jharia.	Period.		Index, Jharia.
1939	..	100	1949	..	100
1953	..	543	1953	..	166
1954	..	436	1954	..	131
1955	..	409	1955	..	77
1956	..	457	1956	..	87
1957	..	525	1957	..	99
1958	..	574	1958	..	108

The working class cost of living index number compiled by the Commissioner of Labour, Bihar gives the consumers' price of working class with base 5 years ending 1914-100.

## DHANBAD.

The index for Jharia is given below:-

Year.	Index.	Year.	Index.
1914.. ..	100	1945-46 .. ..	379
1938-39 .. ..	103	1946-47 .. ..	406
1939-40 .. ..	116	1947-48 .. ..	459
1940-42 .. ..	126	1948-49 .. ..	553
1942-43 .. ..	226	1949-50 .. ..	568
1943-44 .. ..	410	.. ..	..
1944-45 .. ..	368	.. ..	..

**STANDARD OF LIVING**

The material condition of the people could be gathered from a study of the standard of living of the people. Standard of living, in its turn, is directly allied to the livelihood pattern, the level of income, propensity to consume, consumption pattern, number of dependants and level of prices and the current socio-economic changes. Two persons of somewhat same income and with about equal number of dependants would have different expenditure pattern and different consumption if their livelihood pattern is different. An agriculturist in a rural area and an office-hand in an urban area, would have different standard of living although their income may be the same groups. It is necessary to consider the standard of living of rural people and urban people separately.

During the past, cadastral surveys were done to appraise the material condition of the people engaged in agriculture. No such survey has been done in recent years and the technique. Of appraisal has also become different. In 1951 a sample survey of the size of the agricultural holdings was done to ascertain the survey could be shown in the chart below :-

**Distribution of 1,000 Agricultural holding by size of holding.**

(Based on sample survey of size of holdings, 1951)

Upto.50 acres	Exceeding.50acres and up to 1 acre	Exceeding 1 acre and up to 2 acres.	Exceeding 2 acre and up to 3 acres.	Exceeding 3 acre and up to 4 acres.	Exceeding 4 acre and up to 5 acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6
423	121	158	84	55	7
Exceeding acres and to 10 acres	5 up to 15 acres	10 up to 30 acres	Exceeding 15acres and up to 30 acres	Exceeding 30acres and up to 50 acres	Exceeding acres
7	8	9	10	11	50
86	31	26	Nil	9	



#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

From the perusal of the figures, it is apparent that 42 per cent of agricultural holding in this district are of less than .50 acre ( $\frac{1}{2}$  acre) and 70 per cent of agricultural holdings fall below 2 acres. Agricultural holding with a size of 5 acres or more, constitute only 15 per cent of the total agricultural holding. This shows that the number of big cultivators in this district is a few only. Most of the cultivators cultivate the same ancestral plot and have a low level of income. The number of dependants outnumber the number the number of earning members in the family. The method of cultivation is almost the same as before. The additions to the family ultimately start working in the same ancestral plot with the other members of the family. The family members, who work on the family plot, are all self-employed and it is very difficult Job to misemploy a self-employed worker. The law of diminishing return operates more vigorously because the additional workers are poor substitutes for land and capital. Thus the average output per member of family is alarmingly low not only because of scarcity of the fact that there is much of "disguised " unemployment in agriculture. The consequence has been that the material condition of most of these agriculturists is the same as before if not worse. As much as 70 per cent of their income is spent on food items and even then their diet is neither balanced nor sufficient. They live in thatched huts with in sanitary condition and most of the families are in debt in one form or other.

Compared to this, the position of big landlords or cultivators is far superior. They live in brick-built or in well-built thatched houses. Their diet is more or less balanced and apart from fulfillment of daily necessities of life some of them possess luxury goods like radio sets, etc. A big portion of their income goes fore the education of their children. These families spend a large portion of their income for the display of their social status.

The material condition of the landless labourers in the villages is deplorable. Agriculture provides them only with seasonal employment during the sowing or harvesting season. During the rest period of the year they search for jobs in urban and non-agricultural occupation. However, compared to the position of landless laborers in other parts of Bihar, the position of such laborers in this district is much superior due to the availability of opportunities of employment during off seasons. Sometimes they take up the job of rickshaw pulling or the job of laborer in construction or other manufacturing industries of this district. The standard of living of the upper class people with higher income, in the urban and non-agricultural areas, is considerably high. Industrialists, business magnets, engineers, mine-managers, advocates specialized doctors and high-ranking officials in Government, semi-government and other private concerns constitute

## DHANBAD.

this class. The standard of living of the middle class people in urban areas, particularly those living in the vicinity of Dhanbad and Jharia is worse than those in rural areas. Two independent surveys\* conducted by private persons have shown that middle class cost of living in Dhanbad region is higher than that in Calcutta. There is acute dearth of inhabitable rented houses in coalfield and those available are available only on exorbitant rent, which is beyond the means of a middle class family. According to the ideal budget theory suggested by Engel's only 10 per cent of our income should rent but in Dhanbad this percentage is between 16 to 22 for the middle class families. Again, in absence of proper water-supply in most of the places, cost on water mostly drawn by "bhariwallas" from the neighboring wells is sometimes exorbitant in proportion to the earning of the family. On the average a middle class family has to spend from Rs. 15 to 20 per month for getting water, which generally goes up to Rs. 25 per month during summer months.

People in the urban urban areas of coalfield have to do a lot of traveling everyday because most of them from the market, the railway station, the schools, colleges and the hospitals. The cost of transport is high in Dhanbad area. Most of the people in higher in-come-group own car and as such are not victim of rush and costly transport. Compared to the cost of transport cost comes out to be 280 in coalfield (taking Calcutta as 100).

Due to transport cost, education, medical facility and entertainment are very costly. Usually the cost of transport to the cinema house and back is more than the value of the cinema ticket. All other services are relatively costlier in coalfield. The upward movement of the prices of the essential commodities does not show any decline. The cumulative consequence of all this has been that the material condition of the middle of class people has deteriorated considerable.

The standard of living of the low income-group people in nonagricultural areas is again, very low. Industrial workers and mine workers constitute the major portion of this group. The Royal commission of Labour in India, 1931, inter alia reported that among the causes responsible for the low living of the industrial workers, indebtedness occupied a high place. The commission further stated that in most of the industrial centers, the proportion of the families or individuals who were in debts was not less than two-third of the whole. They contended that a debt was a principal obstacle to efficiency for the reason that it destroyed the incentive to effort.

The problem amongst the colliery workers is much more serious. A survey conducted under the auspices of the Col mines Labour Welfare Organisation in

\* "Middle Class cost of living in Dhanbad Area, "Eastern Economist, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1961 by A.B. Chakravarty.

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

1959\* into the family budgets of the coal mines workers residing at Bhuli township alone showed that about 50 per cent of the workers' were in debts. The incidence of debt will no doubt be much higher if a comprehensive survey of all colliery workers in the country is conducted. The average debt per family is estimated at about Rs. 250 which is equivalent to 2 ½ month' earnings of a worker. The rate of interest on these debts is a matter entirely for the lender to decide and the same is found to vary between the astounding figures of 300 to 600 per cent annum.

Housing presents an equally acute problem. Another Sample Survey in regard to the housing conditions in the coalfields of Jharia and Raniganj conducted by the organization brought out the startling data that only 20 per cent of total workers population were housed and that even out of the 20 per cent as much as 84 per cent lived in one-room tenements. It also spotlighted overcrowding as, on the average, 508 persons lived in one-room tenements. The survey also revealed that not only housing accommodation was inadequate, but also that basic requirements like water supply, drainage, latrines, etc., were not available. Considering the gravity and seriousness of the problem of the coalmines Welfare Organization has. From its very inception, embarked upon a number of schemes beginning from one of constructing its own houses in townships, followed by schemes of granting subsidy to colliery managements and subsidy-cum-loan to encourage them to take up construction of houses in adequate number for their workers Low-cost housing scheme, envisaging construction of one lakh houses at a cost of Rs. 13 crores (each costing Rs.1.300) during the Third plan period has also been introduced recently.

As regards housing. Scheme for service holders in the town to may be mentioned that they enjoy certain amenities and privileges, which are shared by their compatriots in other districts of the State as, well. In addition to their basic pay all Government servants are given Dearness allowance and house rent allowance. Housing is an acute problem in Dhanbad town and the other urban areas of the district and the vast majority of public employees have to spend a considerable portion of their emoluments on house rent. Considering the difficulty experienced on the public servants in getting suitable residential accommodation at reasonable rates of rent the government have taken steps either to provide them with living quarters or loans to build their own houses.

The vast majority of the workers in the coal industry of Dhanbad district are unskilled and generally belong to illiterate, ignorant and socially backward classes of the community who often migrate to coalfields because

\*Source—Articles by Brig. K. Bag Singh Commissioner, Coal Mines Welfare Fund in Republic Day, 1962, number of "Coalfield Times" and "new Sketch"

#### DHANBAD.

of economic pressure. Because of the very nature of their illiteracy and ignorance they are easily susceptible to exploitation and no time fall prey into the hands of unsocial elements who, taking advantage of their innocence, rob away a major portion of their hard-earned income by encouraging them to indulge in several kinds of vices, of which drinking and gambling occupy the first place. Such vices lower their moral and economic standard with the result that they are forced to borrow and purchase goods on credit from the avaricious moneylenders and shopkeepers on whatever terms dictated by them.

To bring about changes in socio-economic conditions of colliery workers, the coal mines welfare organization has most currently addressed itself and amongst its many programmes calculated to promote the welfare of colliery including educating them, a vigorous drive to organize a net work of co-operative societies throughout the coalfield has been accorded very high priority. Though the task involved is really stupendous, the necessary foundation in this regard has already been laid firmly and through the organization's efforts not less than 245 societies have so far been registered and opened at different collieries during the past three years. The societies are provided not only with the necessary technical guidance with regard to their formation and successful management, but are also assisted with non-recurring grants to wards preliminary expense incidental to the formation of such societies. In order to enable the newly organized co-operatives to pull successfully through the initial period and to stabilize themselves financially. The organization has also formulated a very generous scheme of advancing loans to the co-operative societies on easy terms, through the central co-operative Banks, where such banks are agreeable to so and otherwise direct to the societies. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs is expected to be advanced to the various co-operative societies during the current Five-year plan of the organization for the period 1961-66.

#### **ARTICLES OF CONSUMPTION AND FAMILY BUDGETS.**

Articles of consumption and family budgets are important indicators of economic trends. Since detail and comprehensive survey on the pattern of consumption and family budgets are lacking, it would be hazardous to draw any definite conclusion. Practically there has been no survey on the pattern of family budgets in rural areas. What are taken as social obligations still play a big role in determining family expenditure. Marriage, other ceremonies and funeral expense, litigation, etc., take away a major portion of family income and most of the cultivators invest very small amount if at all for the improvement of agriculture. The margin of saving is negligible in most of the families and in spite of intensive campaign by the government, there is lack of propensity to save in rural areas. Hence both the ability to save and the will to save are negligible. A portion

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

of the family expenditure, in most of the families of lower income-group, goes in liquidating the debt and as such very little residue is left for saving. Landless laborers, as mentioned before, have a hand to mouth existence.

In 1943-45, the Labour Bureau of Government of India conducted some family budget enquiries in different industrial centers of India under the Government of India's cost of living Index Number Scheme. Due to its industrial importance, Jharia was selected as a center. Family budget enquiries were conducted by field investigators in strictly randomly selected workers' households. The information collected was about income the family, consumption of the family, in terms of quantities, expenditure on various goods and services, to determine weighing diagram, the average budgets showing expenditure on all goods and services consumed by an average family (excluding workers living single) derived from the above enquiries formed the starting point. The following consumption groups were chosen; food fuel and lighting; clothing, bedding and foot-were; house and miscellaneous.

In Jharia, workers were living in houses provided free of charge and so house rent was not included in the index. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and pan have been included under miscellaneous group. For assigning weight to individual item within a group, the expenditure on each item was expressed as a percentage of total expenditure of all items in the group. The group weights were in turn derived by expressing the total expenditure on the group, as recorded in the average budget, as a percentage of the total family expenditure in the average budget.

Illustrations of the average monthly expenditure for family as revealed by family budget enquiry will now be given which will show the pattern of expenditure.

Rs.42 as. 11 pies. 3= 100

- (a) Food group- 77.7 per cent.
- (b) Fuel and lighting- 0.5 per cent.
- (c) Clothing, bedding and foot-wear- 6.07 per cent.
- (d) House rent- Nil.
- (e) Miscellaneous- 15.0 per cent.

As is evident from expenditure pattern as much as 78 per cent of total expenditure is absorbed in food items; principal items in food are rice, flour, *dal*, vegetables, oil Expenditure on account of house rent is nil and miscellaneous items constitute as much as 15 per cent of total expenditure. In this miscellaneous group, alcoholic beverages and tobacco constitute main items. Thus a good portion of their hard-earned income goes for drinking, smoking, gambling and servicing of debt.

## DHANBAD.

In the family budget of the middle class families the following appear to be the expenditure groups with weight age :-

- (a) Food-52 per cent.
- (b) House rent- 15 per cent.
- (c) Clothing, bedding and foot-wear- 10 per cent.
- (d) Transport- 3.3 per cent.
- (e) Education-5 per cent.
- (f) Medical facility-3.3 per cent.
- (g)Entertainment- 3.3 per cent.
- (i) Fuels, light etc.-3.3 per cent.
- (j) Services, etc- 4.8per cent.

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**100 per cent.**  
 -----

The family consists of a middle class family in Dhanbad where the family consists of husband (1) wife (1), dependant (1), children 3 (1½) with an average income of Rs. 300 per month was found to consist of the following items of expenditure:-

- (1) Food for a month –
  - (a) rice 4 chataks per diet unit. Approx. 35 seers; @ Rs. 28 per md.- Rs. 24.50 np.
  - (b) wheat 4 chataks per diet unit. Approx. 35 seers; @ Rs. 16.50 per md.- Rs. 14.50 np
  - (c) pulse @ 1 chatak per diet unit. 15 seers @ Rs. 30per md – Rs. 11.25 np.
  - (d) vegetable for month Rs 40- Rs . 40.00 np
  - (e) mustard oil -4 seers @ Rs. 2.75 per seers-Rs. 11.00 np
  - (f) spices- Rs. 3.00.
  - (g) milk -30 seers (1 seer a day) @ Re. 1 per seer- Rs.
  - (h) sugar -5 seers@ Rs. 1-2-0 per seer-Rs. 5.50 np
  - (i) fish or meat- twice a week –Rs. 12.00 np
  - (j) tea -1¼ Ibs. Approximately- Rs. 5.00 np.
- (2) Fuel –
  - (a) coal-3mds.@ Rs. 1.75 per md. And casting- Rs. 6.00 np.
  - (b) Kerosene oil or electricity- Rs. 4.00 np
- (3) Clothes, beddings and foot-wear, etc. (average) monthly estimate- Rs. 30.00 np.
- (4) Medical expenses (average)-Rs. 10.00 np.
- (5) Education (average)-Rs. 15.00 np.
- (6)Transport (average monthly)-Rs. 10.00 np.
- (7) Entertainment (including festivals and journey to home once a year)-Rs

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

10.00 np.

(8) House rent (average) –Rs-. 45.00 np.

(9) Miscellaneous including services- Rs. 13.25 np.

Total—Rs. 300.00 np.

**LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT.***Sources of labour supply.*

According to 1951 census, the main source of labour supply was Purulia and Dhanbad districts. Hazaribagh, Shahabad, Bhagalpur and Saharsa districts of the State came next as important source of labour supply. The coal industry, however, has also been attracting immigration from all parts of the country. Gorakhpur labour for the coalmining industry, under the Gorakhpur Labour Organization Scheme, is a regular source of immigration. In other industries also, particularly in major industries like Sindri fertilizer, workers are drawn from all parts of the country. Thus immigration forms an important feature of the employment market conditions of this district. The rapid industrial expansion of coal industry started in this area during the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and since then, there has been-scale immigration from the west attracted by the development of mining industry. This has led to a big rise in population of this district. According to the District census Handbook, this district (then a sub-district) had a population of 7.32 lakhs in 1951 and of this only 70.1 per cent had their birth places in other districts of the district; 20 per cent were from other States and the balance were foreigners.

Levels of employment may be studied under two broad groups-level of employment in agriculture and level of employment in non-agriculture occupations.

**LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS.**

The number of self-supporting persons who derived their livelihood from non-agricultural occupations on the basis of revised boundaries of Dhanbad district at the time of 1951 Census has been estimated to be 1,88,843. Out of this, 1,27,640 persons were engaged in production other cultivation, 18,137 persons were engaged in commerce, 10,141 persons in transport and 32,925 persons in other services and miscellaneous occupations. Thus about 20 per cent of the total population of this district were employed in the non-agricultural occupations.\*

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\* At present (1960) the estimated level of employment in non-agricultural occupations would be near about 2,50,000.

## DHANBAD.

In the Census Report, however, details regarding the level of employment in non-agricultural occupations are available for the sub-district only. According to the Census of India, 1951, Volume V, Part II B, the level of employment in different non-agricultural occupations in the sub-district of Dhanbad would be as follows: -

EMPLOYMENT BY CLASSIFICATION IN DHANBAD (SUB- DISTRICT)  
IN 1951.

Nature of employment.	Level of employment.
	Industry and services (total)- 1,81,963
(1) Primary Industries	<b>1,008 (0.5 per cent)</b>
(a) <b>Animal Industry</b>	
(b) <b>Plantations</b>	
(c) <b>Forest and woodcutting</b>	
(d) <b>Fishery and hunting</b>	
(2) Mining and quarrying	<b>1,14,471 (62.9 per cent)</b>
(a) <b>Coal mining-1, 14,471</b>	
(b) <b>Iron mining-Nil.</b>	
(c) <b>Metal mining-Nil.</b>	
(d) <b>Mica mining Nil.</b>	
(3) Agricultural products	1,375
(a) <b>Grains and pulses</b>	
(b) <b>Sugar and beverages</b>	
(c) <b>Tobacco</b>	
(d) <b>Others</b>	
4) Commerce	<b>17,150 (9.4 per cent)</b>
(a) <b>Wholesale trade-156</b>	
(b) <b>Retail trade -16,762</b>	<b>Rural       7,101</b>
(c) <b>Real estate, insurance and banking</b>	<b>Urban       10,049</b>
-232	
(5) Transport	<b>10,516 (per cent )</b>
(6) Health, education and public	<b>Administration. 5,502 (3.2 cent)</b>
(7) Domestic services	<b>1,785</b>
(8) Personal services	<b>1,303</b>
(9) Hotels, restaurants and eating houses.	<b>660</b>
(10) Legal and business services.	<b>(10.8 per cent )</b>
(11) Art, journalism, religion and welfare services.	<b>277</b>



(12) Recreation and up 13,475  
classified services.

(13) Manufacturing industries ..

(a) Textile industries 1,526

(b) Leather industry 1,016

(c) Ferrous and non-ferrous  
metals and machinery 3,058

(d) Chemicals and chemical  
products 70

(e) Non- metal industries 1,005

(f) Other industries 834

(g) Wood and paper product 1,484

(14) Construction utilizes and 3,249 (1.8 per cent)  
maintenance

These figure could be accepted as approximately accurate .The statistics indicate that the employment in coal mining and quarrying froms the bullk of employment in non-agriculture sector in dhanbad district, that it comes to 62.9 percent of total non-agriculture employment . services accounted for 10.8 per cent and trade and commerce accounted for 9.4 percent total non-agricultural employment .

#### *LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN COAL –MINING INDUSTRY .*

At present there are about 426 working mines in dhanbad district employment about 1,31,156 persons. Females are not allowed to work underground and they work in opencast workings or on the surface and they constitute about 14 per cent of total employment in coal-mining industry in this district. Employment in coal –mining industry of this district during the past 12 years had been of the following order as given in the annual report of the chief inspector of mines for lsat twelve years :-

Year.	Level of employment
1950	1,50,867
1951	1,50,147
1952	1,45,612
1953	1,40,480
1954	1,38,338
1955	1,38,304
1956	1,38,212
1957	1,37,541
1958	1,39,979
1959	1,38,776
1960	1,38,716
1961 (July )	1,31,156

### DHANBAD.

These figures indicate that in recent years, the level of employment in coal industry has considerably fallen in comparison to the level of employment in 1950. This marked fall in the level of employment in coal-mining industry may be due to the restriction of more of new mines under private sector. It may also be due to more of mechanization of mines, which makes the industry capital intensive and eliminates labour-intensive methods of production.

#### CONTRACT LABOUR.

Labour employed consists of both direct labour and contract labour. Employment of contract labour, i.e. labour employed indirectly through the contractors, appears to be widespread in the collieries for raising coal, removal of overburden, coking etc., and in the construction establishments on earthwork, brick-making, etc. The following figures show the volume direct and contract labour employment in coal-mining industry of Dhanbad during the years 1957-60: -

Year.	Direct labour.	Contract labour..
1957	1,26,303	11,138
1958	1,26,888	13,091
1959	1,26,047	12,729
1960	1,24,555	15,161

Source :- annual reports of the chief inspector of mines .

The figures indicate that the level of employment of direct labour is more or less stable but that of the contract labour is fluctuating depending on the demand for contract labour .

Next to coal-mining industry, ceramic and refractories occupy a paramount position. In 1959 Dhanbad had 19 units of this industry operating, employing about 7,636 persons. With growing industrialization, accelerated electrification programmes and increasing urbanization the demand for ceramics and refractories is bound to rise. It may reasonably be expected that with the expansion of this industry, the level of employment in this industry would go up .

#### **FERTILISER INDUSTRY.**

The plant at Sindri is a major producer of nitrogenous fertilizer. Its output in 1956-57 was 3,33,705 tons (ammonium sulphate) valued at about Rs. 8 crores . The employment in Sindri fertilizers increased from 5,500 to 8,000 in 1956 at present it employs about 7,500 persons.

#### **BRICKS AND TILES.**

During 1956, there were nine units of this industry employing about 6,351 persons. The future of this industry is bright because with development of rural

#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

housing demand for bricks and tiles is bound to be increasing more . This is a labour – intensive industry and offers good opportunity for relief of unemployment and under employment in rural areas.

#### ***RADIO AND RADIOGRAMS ETC.***

The only unit of the state situated at Nirsachatti, was set up in 1946. it manufactures radio parts and assembles radios and radio grams . The unit is also manufacturing some electrical accessories. The level of employment increased from 62 in 1953 to 200 in 1956 and to 467 in 1959.

The cement factory at Sindri employs about 309 persons per day.

Stone – dressing and cutting industry had four units in 1956 employing 102 workers per day.

#### ***LEAD INDUSTRY.***

The Metal Corporation of India. Ltd at katrasgarh, the only unit of the state is engaged in smelting and refining of lead and employs about 480 persons per day.

#### ***TAR INDUSTRY.***

Tar is one of the major by-products of coal. There are five units in this direct which are engaged in the production of tar, and employs about 733 workers per day.

#### ***MISCELLANEOUS .***

In Electricity generation 589 workers employed in this district. There are nine electricity-generating units of which Sijuah electricity supply Co. ltd loyabad employs about 420 workers per day.

In chemical industries level of employment has gone up considerably. In 1951 this industry engaged 70 workers whereas at present it engages more than 600 workers per day. Loyabad coking and by-products recovery plant, bansjora, which is a sulphuric acid manufacturing plant employs 507 persons. Bihar state super phosphate factory at Sindri employs 100 persons per day is engaged in the production of sulphuric acid and superphosphate.

Apart from these are ferrous and non-ferrous foundries engineering and repairing works, employing about 4,500 persons. Kumardhubi engineering works at kumardhubi has force of employing about 1,812 persons. Engle Rolling mills (p), ltd. At kumardhubi employs about 500 persons. There are four repairing works of Damodar Valley Corporation at which employ 819 persons. These repairing works include maintenance and repairing of motor vehicles. There is one factory at panchet, which produces industrial fasteners (i.e. bolts and nuts) and engages 100 workers per day.

## DHANBAD.

At Maithan, the regular repair shop (fabrication) employs 449 persons. Another workshop at maithan employs 96 workers per day. Repairing works of colliery machines and automobiles of coalfields also account for a large number of employments.

The construction industry is more in the private sector and there are about 53 establishments, employing as many as 3,360 persons (1958 december )in recent years the tempo of construction activities has been on the increase and the level of employment in construction industry must have gone up very considerably.

**TRADE AND COMMERCE.**

According to the census report of 1951, the sub-district of Dhanbad had 17,150 persons employed in trade and Agricultural occupations. According to revised estimates the reorganized district of estate, insurance and banking 232 persons were employed. Since 1951 the level of employment in trade and commerce has tremendously increased. The shop and municipal act has been enforced in the municipal areas of Dhanbad and Sindri and in the areas under jharia mines board of health. According to present information available from the registers maintained by the inspecting officers under the Bihar shops and establishment act of 1953, there was in December, 1958, 5,694 shops with nil employee in which one or more members of the family of owners themselves were working, 3,347 shops with a licence to employ up two persons; 676 shops with a licence to employ between three to five persons and 166 shops with a licence to employ six to ten persons. In establishments in first category at least two members of the family would be working. It may be that in some cases the other member might be working only part-time. Assuming this it would be reasonable to estimate 1½ person for each shops on the average, which would mean self-employment of 8,541 persons. The number of shops with other employment capacities comes out to be 4,189 with an average employment of 11,568 persons. Thus in urban areas 20,109 persons are engaged in commerce. So far we have not considered rural areas where according to 1951 (sub-district figure) census 7,101 persons were employed. The recent data for the level of the employment in trade and commerce for the reorganized Dhanbad is however, not available.

**LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION.**

The effective licences for trucks were 564 during December, 1958. Assuming an average employment of two persons on each truck, the estimated number of persons working on these trucks would be 1,128. During December

\*SOURCE .- (1) list of registered factories (under the factories act, 1948 ) in the state of Bihar .

(2) Techno –economic survey of Bihar vol.. I.

ECONOMIC TRENDS.

1958 350 cycle-rickshaws, 184 licensed taxis, one auto-rickshaw, 141 bullock-carts were reported to be operating for hire in the municipal areas of this district. Assuming an average employment of two persons on each taxi and cycle rickshaw and bullock-cart, the total number of self-employed persons would be 1,210. During December 1958, 65 buses were operating, which employed 229 persons. Detailed statistic regarding employment in storage and communication is not available. According to (sub-district 1951 census 10,516 persons were engaged in transports, storage and communication. According to revised estimates for reorganized Dhanbad, 10,141 were so employed. This figure also appears to be an under-estimate as there has been an enormous expansion of this line of institution.

***LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE.***

So long we have not considered the level of employment in agriculture. In agriculture there are 1,75,411 self-supporting persons of which 1,830 persons are non-cultivating owners of land or agricultural rent-receivers. Under-employment, which is a characteristic feature of Indian agriculture, is also prevalent in this district but compared to other regions of the state, it is considerably lower as opportunity of fruitful employment in non-agricultural activities are widely available. Prior to the development of coal mining and other industries, agriculture was the main source of livelihood and under employment might have been a feature of agriculture in this district. But now that a large percentage of population has shifted from agriculture to industry, under employment in agriculture has considerably decreased. At present the ratio of relative level of employment in agriculture and industry is 5: 5. Details of statistics, however, regarding this shift of population from agriculture to industry and from one industry to another are not available.

On the whole the level of employment in this district has shown spectacularly marked upward trend during the six decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS AND EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\***  
***PERSONS SEEKING WORK.***

There is no quantitative information available so far from any source about the total number of persons unemployed in the Dhanbad employment market area. The only figures on the subject are those available the three employment exchanges (Dhanbad, Sindri and Kumardhubi ) in the area , which indicate the number of persons registered for employment assistance as unemployed . The limitation of employment exchanges statistics is fairly well known registration at

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Source:- basic report on dhanbad employment market (for the quarter ending  
December, 1958) series B.report Ist December 1959.

## DHANBAD.

an employment exchanges is not compulsory for the unemployment and the registrants with the Employment Exchanges also include some employed persons who conceal the fact of their present employment, at the time of registration with the employment exchange. Besides the statistics of employment exchanges are generally considered to be indicative of urban un employment mainly confined to non agriculture sector. However, the figure of employment exchanges in spite of these limitations. Are indications of the unemployment trends in the non0agricultural for utilizing the services of the Employment Exchanges.

**REGISTRATION AT THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.**

As many as 4,201 applicants (including 361 women) were registered at the three Employment Exchanges of the area during the quarter ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1958, as against 5,076 registrations in the preceding quarter. The comparatively larger number of registrations in the previous quarter was due to the fact that a larger number of persons registered at the Employment Exchanges during the quarter July-September after the announcement of the University results. The industrial origin of the registrants at the Employment Exchanges in the Dhanbad Employment Market area show that as many as 57.2 per cent of the applicants who registered themselves with the Employment Exchanges were either new entrants to the Employment Market or were formerly engaged in agricultural occupations, indicating thereby the magnitude of the problem of creating additional opportunities in the non-agricultural sector. Persons formerly engaged in manufacturing accounted for 18.2 per cent. Most of the persons (nearly 97 per cent) registered with previous employment in manufacturing industries, were formerly engaged with the Sindri Fertilizers for casual jobs. It is also interesting to note that, of the exchange registrants, only two persons (less than 0.1 per cent of the total) had previous employment in trade and commerce, which indicates that there is not much displacement of workers in trade and commerce. Another probable inference may be that those displaced from trade and commerce do not normally register themselves with the Employment Exchanges for employment assistance: -

Occupational group.	Number of persons on the Live Register.			Percentage
	Male	Female	Total.	
Professional, Technical and related workers other than Medical and Health and Teaching.	143	20	163	2.2
Medical and Health personnel	56	33	89	1.2
Teaching personnel	15	03	18	0.2

**ECONOMIC TRENDS.**

Occupational group .	number of personal on the live register.			
	Male.	Female.	total.	percentage.
Administrative executive and managerial personnel	20	..	20	0.3
Clerical workers.. ..	993	13	1,006	13.5
Farmers, Fishermen and related workers .	11	..	11	0.1
Miners and quarry –men .. ..	25	..	25	0.3
Workers in transport and Communication occupation	61	..	61	0.8
Craftsmen and production process workers.	644	..	644	8.6
Service, sport and recreation workers	25	55	80	1.1
Unskilled (office ) workers	1,139	..	1,139	15.3
Other unskilled workers (including sweepers ).	3,782	430	4,212	56.4
Total ==	6,914	554	7,468	100.0

This shows that the largest number of candidates on the live register was of unskilled workers (71.7 percent) . This is because a large number of new entrants including those migrating from agricultural areas, seek employment with the Sindri Fertilizers and other major manufacturing concerns of the area . Clerical workers indicating the demand for white-collar jobs also formed 13.5 percent of the total. There were only 25 miners and quarry- men on the Live Register of the exchanges. Apparently miners do not care to register with the Employment Exchanges .

Age analysis of application on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges –An age analysis of the 7,468 application on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges in the area on 31<sup>st</sup> December is given below:-

**Age analysis on Live Register of the Employment in the Dhanbad Employment Market area.**

Age group .	Number of. Persons.	Percentages.
Below 18 years ..	204	2.7
Above 18 years but below 22 years	2,298	30.8
Above 22 years but below 25 years	2,711	36.3
Above 25 years but below 35 years	1,641	22.0
Above 35 years but below 45 years	428	5.7
Above 45 years .. ..	186	2.5
Total	7,468	100.0

## DHANBAD.

The table will show that as many as 69.8 percent of the applicant on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in the Dhanbad employment market area was within 25 years of age. Persons in the age- group 25-35 year accounted for 22 per cent.

**Educated unemployed** – of the 7,468 applicants on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in the area, at the end of December, 1958 as many as 1,100 (including 21 women), i.e., 14.7 percent were matriculates and above. Similarly, out of a total registration of 4,201 during the quarter ending December 1958 as many as 575 persons, i.e. 13.7 percent of the total were matriculates and above. The figures separately for matriculates I.As., I.Coms., I.Sc. and graduates on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges are given in Table below:-

*Analysis by broad qualifications of the educated unemployed on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of December 1958.*

Qualification.	Number on the Live Register .			percentage.
	Male .	Female.	Total.	
Passed Matriculation but not passed Inter-Mediate.	921	20	941	85.6
Passed I.A. /I.Sc / I.Com. but not complete A degree course.	72	..	72	6.5
Graduates with one or more degree	86	1	87	7.9
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The table will show that amongst the educated unemployed, the largest percentage was that of Matriculates who formed 85.6 per cent of the total.

**Unemployment of women.**- Out of a total of 4,201 applicants registered with Employment Exchanges in the Dhanbad Employment Market area during the quarter October- December, 1958, as many as 361 (8.6 per cent) were women applicants. Of these 361 women applicants, application, 60.8 percent were formerly engaged in manufacturing and construction, mostly in unskilled work and 36.1 percent were partly new entrants to the labour market and partly those formerly engaged in agriculture. Similarly, out of a total of 7,468 applicants on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges in the area at the end of December 1958 as many as 554 were woman applicants representing 7.4 per cent of the total. Amongst those on the Live Registers, the largest percentage (79.4 per cent) was registered for unskilled manual jobs. Except for unskilled manual jobs,



#### ECONOMIC REWINDS.

medical and health occupations and service occupations, women applicants represented an insignificant proportion of the number of employment seekers in different occupations. Except in the occupations listed above, women workers do not seem to play any important role in the Dhanbad Employment Market area.

**Workers in short supply.** - Information about the types of workers in short supply is available from the Employment Exchanges. Further information on this subject has also been gathered from the returns under the Employers were requested to indicate the types of vacancies for which they have been either currently or continually experiencing difficulty in obtaining suitable persons. From the materials gathered, workers in following occupations appeared to be in short supply: -

- (1) Engineering occupations – Professors for Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Electrical Engineering, Surveyors (Civil), Turners, and Machinists.
- (2) Mining occupations – Professors for Mining, Colliery Managers, Surveyors (Mining) Overmen, Mining Sirdar and short firers.
- (3) Medical occupations – Lady health visitors, nurses and Midwives.
- (4) Technical occupation - Trained Science Teachers and Trained Teachers (High School).
- (5) Clerical occupation – Stenographers and experienced Account Clerks.
- (6) Other occupations- Lady social Education Organisers and Gram svikas.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

To establish a progressive system of agriculture in a land of impoverished soil, the work on community development projects was started after the independence of the. The community development projects try to give effect to an intensive and comprehensive programme covering all aspects of rural life, e.g. agriculture, rural industries, education housing, health, recreation, etc., and aim the utilising, under a democratic set-up, surplus labour force in the rural areas for development purposes.

As in many other districts of Bihar, the work on Community Development projects had started by the end of the year 1954, when the first Block Topchanchi was inaugurated under the project. Dhanbad was not a district at that time and so the work on other Block under this project was started after the sub-district was raised to the status of a district in 1956. Consequently the work on other Block, i.e. Chandankiary, Chas, Gobindpur, Tundi and Nirsa was started, one by one from 1956.

## DHANBAD.

Though the work started late on the project as compared to other parts of the state and the country, some achievements have been noticed in the field of rural welfare. It is true that too much emphasis on welfare activities, has led to lesser attention on agro economic activities, but at the same time effect on the welfare activities under taken so far have produced some effect on the rural consciousness of economic and to a smaller extent of social needs. New schools have started working in rural areas, and for the education of the backward or aboriginals, schools and hostels have been constructed.

In the field of health and sanitation, a few rural hospitals at Topchanchi, Govindpur, Nirsa, Tundi, Chas and Chandankiary have been upgraded to the status of Govindpur hospitals and in each one Assistant surgeon, Trained nurses and dais and compounders have been provided, Family planning clinics have been established in rural areas to aid and advise rural people in matters of family planning. For improvement sanitation wells have been constructed in villages under each block for the supply of drinking water to the people. Stipes have been intensified for preventing and curing leprosy.

The authorities have been trying to infuse the spirit of co-operation amongst rural people but due to passivity of the people, the progress in the field of co-operatives has been very slow.

Development in the field of agriculture has not been remarkable during the early years of the programme but recently recently efforts are being intensified for increasing agriculture output. The village level workers – the key extension agents – have been recently directed to devote most of their time to agriculture. The objective under agriculture programme is to raise the crop yield per acre through the greater utilization of irrigation. Facilities, fertilizers, improved seeds and new techniques and make farmer productivity conscious. In the field of irrigation 31 medium irrigation schemes were targeted of which 16 were completed up to 1959 at the cost of Rs. 1 lakh 80 thousand and the remaining schemes are being undertaken; some 731 wells were constructed on which Rs. 1,59,014 was spent, 5 small-scale irrigation schemes were completed; 13 *rehat* pumps and 35 engine pumping sets were distributed. Thus attempts are being undertaken to irrigate the rugged and undulating surface of Dhanbad region. For the distribution of improved seeds, 10 seed-multiplication farms were started on which Rs. 1,55,077 was spent up to 1959. Improved seeds were distributed. To supply the farmers with manure, green manure, compost, super phosphate, and nitrogenous fertilizers were distributed in sufficient quantity. Attempts were made to raise the production of vegetables and to introduce new techniques were production in agriculture. 2,391 implements of new techniques were distributed among the farmers. Attempts were

### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

also undertaken to impart training to agriculturists and one agriculture training school was opened at dhanbad.

An attempt was made to appraise the working of the projects and the main difficulties were found to be as follows :-

- (1)The apathy of the people and passivity of popular mind have hindered progress in the initial stages of the programme .
- (2) The assistance given by the panchayats and ad hoc popular organizations specially set up for this purpose has been inadequate .
- (3) Lack of proper planning has to a considerable extent been responsible for slow progress .
- (4) The shortage of trained personnel and staff was to a considerable extent responsible for the slow progress and for various mistakes which were made .

Out of a total of 575 Blocks to be opened within the entire states of Bihar, 10 are to be located in Dhanbad district. Up-till now seven extension Blocks have been opened and two pre-extension Blocks have recently come into existence. One Blocks – the last one to be opened in Dhanbad district is to be located in Jharia during the year 1963-64. When all the blocks come into existence, the community development projects would cover an area of 1,111 square miles and shall include 1,363 villages.

Following are details regarding the achievement of community development project in Dhanbad :-

Name of the Blocks.	When opened .	Number of Villages'	Area in square miles.
<b>I. Details of Blocks already in existence.</b>			
1. Govindpur .. ..	October ,1956	241	112
2. Tundi .. ..	October , 1957	258	152
3. Nirsa –Chirkunda ..	April, 1958	140	173
4. Topchanchi ..	December , 1954	111	71
5. Chas ..	June , 1956	148	178
6. Chandankiary ..	April , 1956-57	130	144
7. Baliapur ..	April, 1961	..	46
<b>II. Details of new Blocks</b>			
1. Baghmara .. .	1962-63 ..	207	102
2. Dhanbad ..	1962-63 ..	76	82
3. Jharia ..	1963-64 ..	52	51
Tota		1,363	1,111

Source :- “ Dhanbad , 1961 “ , Public Relation Department , Dhanbad .

## DHANBAD.

Details of information regarding the achievements of community development project and N.E.S. Blocks for the last 10 years.

-----	Top- Chanchi.	Tundi	Balia- pur.	Govind.- Pur	Chir- kunda.	Chas.	Chendan kiari.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Distribution of improved Seeds (in mds).	410	726	190	3,035	1,488	1,823	205
2. Distribution of chemical Fertilizers (in mds).	913	1,455	133	1,064	122	836	1,931
3. Number of compost Pits.	2,884	4,494	1,756	3,257	3,541	4,51	7,772
4. Use of green manure (area of total field in acres).	6,315	1,102	222	3,213	1,527	1,651	2,659
5. Cultivation in Japanese methode (area of total field in acres.)	11,891	5,295	751	1,612	4,216	419	5,341
6. Number of gram sewak	1,326	5,003	154	1,947	100	557	2,779
7. Cultivation of fallow lands (in acres ).	316 694	..	14 19,500	22 ..	..	702 2,500	385 ..
8. New afforestation (area in acres.)							
9. New pucca wells constructed (number )	260	8	33	84	..	105	72
10. New kachcha well constructed (numbers).	181	..	65	..	..	205	469
11. Medium scale irrigation scheme completed (numbers )	35	..	..	10	53	..	..
12. small-scale irrigation scheme completed (numbers)	57	..	13	27	9	..	31
13. Number of newly opened schools.	28	6	16	15	90	42	27
14. Area of land received from people for scheme (in acres ).	58	201	20	66	11	183	310
15. Number of co-operative societies.	21	36	2	33	35	32	110
16. Number of developmental works undertaken by gram punchayats.	83	286	10	707	251	1,935	177

Source:- "Dhanbad ,1961 ", Public Relation Department, Dhanbad .

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

**Expenditure of C. D. Programme in dhanbad district .**

Item	systematic ceiling	Expenditure upto 1958-59	Allotment during the year 1959-60 up to 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 1959.
		Rs.	Rs.
1. Block project Headquarters		16,60,000	3,52,276
2. Animal husbandry and agriculture.		3,00,000	39,630
3. Irrigation and Reclamation. ..		17,85,000	3,78,260
4. Health and Rural sanitation . ..		6,25,000	77,975
5. Education .. ..		3,50,000	27,220
6. Social Education .. ..		4,20,000	58,819
7. Communication .. ..		4,75,000	12,809
8. Rural arts and crafts and Industries.		3,75,000	1,211
9. Housing .. ..		5,30,000	2,24,169

Source :- Dhanbad "Past and Present", Public Relations Department, Dhanbad .

**THE ROLE OF DHANBAD IN IMPLEMENTING GOVERNMENT POLICIES  
RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING .**

Dhanbad is a newly created district, inaugurated as late as 26<sup>th</sup> October 1956. In fact ungrading of status from of a sub-district covering 1,625 villages with a population over 6 lakhs indicates the special attention of the government. the area has an extraordinary claim to importance because of its richness in coal deposits of well as its soil condition which is as conducive to the production of paddy, as the industries of ceramic and refractories and installation of many other industries . A brief assessment of its development on various lines may outlined.

*INDUSTRIES.*

As mentioned before Dhanbad is pre-eminently important for its coal industry. It possesses the best and the highest coal deposits in its main coal belt of which alone contributes more then 50 percent of the Indian coal .It covers an area of about 175 square miles, having an estimated reserve of 5,000 million tone. About 25 million tone of coal is its annual output and more then 2 lacs of people are engaged in it directed or indirectly . Besides the important coal mines at Lodna, Tata, Sijua, Loyabad, and many Other centres, different industries are there at loyabad, Bansjora, Bamee, etc. For the production of coke and bye-

#### DHANBAD.

products of coke, e.g. , coaltar roadtar, pitch, phenyl, sulphate of ammonia, sulphuric acid, naphthalene, Grease oil and many other chemicals . improvements are sought for , tried and implemented in the working of these industries and the coal washery plant at Jamadoba and at Dugda has been virtually much improved .

Dhanbad is much more than a mere coal centre. The rich minerals has helped a lot of other industries to build up. Kumardhubi engineering works is a big concern and there many other important ones like Meamco at Kusunda, Turner Nagar , Ektra, Nirsa, etc., the metal corporation of India at Tundoo near katras , the only factory at its kind in Bihar produces lead and silver . The glass factory at Chota Ambona is also famous. Besides these, there are several factories of refractories and ceramic products at Kumardhubi, Chanch, Jharia, Mugma, etc., and other such factories are likely to come up soon at kumarjuri at katras. Licences are being issued by the government authorities at for the expansion of these industries under the Five- Year Plans.

The existence of Sindri itself stands as a landmark in the agro industrial development of the district. The fertilizer production organization engages itself not only in an attempted production of 400 tone of double salts and 70 tone of uria p more than 2 lacs of people er day, but has also installed a big coke plant to derive benefits from the bye-products of coal industry. The state government of Bihar has further established a super phosphate factory there, which has gone in production since 1958. The associated cement factory at Sindri has also expanded accordingly.

As is evident, Dhanbad has been playing a vital role in the industrial development of the country during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> five year plans and it is needles to speak of its role during the third five year plan when the region is expected to be in the throe of dynamic expansion and development. During the third five-year plan, as everybody knows, the fourth steel plant under public sector is being located at Marafari near Chas police-station at Dhanbad, with its headquarters at Dhanbad, the hub-hub of Bihar coalfields.

#### POWER RESOURCES.

The fact that a district with 2 percent of total population of Bihar is responsible for 65 percent of total consumption of electricity is a significant pointer of the role this district in the utilization of power for the basic industries like coal and cement and for many other industries which are of national importance. Development of electricity been rapid and the main sources of EE

### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

supply are Damodar valley corporation with its houses at Maithon, Panchet, Sijua and Jharia Electricity supply company at Bansjora. One thermal plan power plant at dugda is also likely to be completed during the third plan period. The district has, thus, been economic development.

### *AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.*

Side by side of industrial development, attempts are sought for, tried and implemented in the development of agriculture base of this district. Improved methods of cultivation have been gaining ground amongst the cultivators in the village. Irrigation, distribution of improved seeds and fertilizers and new implement have aroused consciousness among the rural people for the betterments of agriculture. In matters of animal Husbandry, the developments have been marked and the district has been assigned the status at par been constructed at Topchanchi and Field veterinary dispensaries are under constructed. Poultry houses, artificial insemination Centres, Blocks Folder Nurseries, etc., have also been constructed.

### *CO-OPERATIVES.*

The role played by the district in the field of co-operatives has been of less significance for the fact that movement has not taken root in the life of the people, through it is gaining popularity day by day. Districted co-operatives department headed by an assistant registrar of co-operatives is trying its best to implement various scheme of co-operatives, which may help in improving the economic conditions of the people.

### *EDUCATION.*

In the field of education this district this district has been playing a very crucial role in implementing the policy of the government while the spread of general education in this district has started foundation for changes in social behaviors. Tremendous progress in the field of technical education has been providing the country with trained personnel who are as important for economic growth as capital formation it self. Indian school of mines, the only institution of its kind, has been a source of regular of supply of trained mine managers, in coal and other important mines of the country. Bihar institute of technology at Sindri has been supplying the nation with Engineers in mechanical, electrical, metallurgical and chemical engineering. The existence of two national research laboratories—Fuel research institute and central mining research station—points out

### DHANBAD.

the extraordinary importance of this place in the provincial as well as national economy of India. Apart from these, there are one polytechnic and different training institutes which supply the nation with skilled men of importance in the wake of industrialization of the country.

### *WELFARE ACTIVITIES .*

In imparting help to the less privileged section of the society the district welfare department under the district welfare officer, has done considerable constructive work. Welfare of the Adibasis, Harijans and the backward communities was done in various forms comprising establishment of welfare Institutions, construction of hostels, distribution of stipend and book grants, construction of wells for drinking water housing loan and many other works. apart from this, mines welfare organization under the able welfare commissioner has been trying even beyond its limits to promote welfare to the workers engaged in such a vital industry as coal which has rightly been stressed as the steel anchor of the country industrial prosperity .

### *Small Savings.*

In the field of small savings this district has ahead of all other district of the state in mobilizing the small saving of the people. This is as credit worthy as anything on the part of the small saving organisers who are trying their best to mop up the surplus money in from of small saving which can utilized for the development of the country.

With the tempo of expansion and all –round development germinated in this rich industrial belt of Dhanbad, this district stands as the “ Industrial Heart” of the state. The district provides the nation with the peaks of modern enterprise employing the latest flow process of techniques. It also provides the nation with its immense potentialities for further industrialization, which with the march of time would ripple onwards to a wider circle of economic transformation towards a self-sustaining and self-generating growth of the economy.

### **IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK ON THE TRIBAL PEOPLE OF TUNDI BLOCK.**

The community development project represents an integrated approach to the problem of rural uplift and development centred round agricultural production, which in view of the importance of food in the country’s economy, has necessarily to be in the forefront. Its basic aim is to effect material social and psychological improvement of the rural population, and the improvement of their technique in the matter of agricultural and industries and production. It seeks to



## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

provide such means, facilities and agencies as would create an environment in which the villager is able and willing to improve his lot by utilizing the fruits of research and modern technical aids in the spheres of better agriculture, better animal husbandry, and better health; broaden his mental horizon through increased opportunities for basic and social education: improve the social and economic life in the village by building up co-operative institutions, whether as multi- purpose societies or gram panchayats, which would help stimulate, social and education activities .

The Community Development Programme was started in the district in 1954 with the opening of a Development block at Topchanchi in police station Topchanchi now in Baghmara subdivision of the district. Since then the programme has steadily extended and nine block have been established. Tundi started in 1957 is one of them.

***DISRIBUTION OF TRIBAL POPULATION .***

The tribals form more then a quarter of the population in the northernmost part of Dhanbad which consists of the Parasnath and Tundi ranges and group of inconspicuous hills lying north of the grand Trunk road and comprised in the jurisdiction of Topchanchi, govindpur, Tundi and Nirsa police-stations. The tribals are scattered in all parts of Dhanbad but they are numerically small in areas lying south of the Grand Trunk Road as would appear from the following table according to the district census handbook of 1954, pages 8 and 77: -

Name of place .	Total Population.	persons		percentage (scheduled Tribal).	
		(scheduled Tribe)	Male (scheduled Tribe).		Female (scheduled Tribe).
1	2	3	4	5	6
Dhanbad district ....	731,700	114,529	57,137	57,392	15.6
Dhanbad rural ....	658,098	104,629	52,315	52,314	15.8
Dhanbad urban ....	73,602	9,900	4,822	5,078	13.4
Jharia revenue thana (excluding dhanbad ,jharia and sindri towns).	261,169	24,867	12,141	12,726	9.5
Topchanchi .....	160,065	12,432	6,481	5,951	7.7
Govindpur , nirsa and Tundi revenue thanas.	23,602	67,330	33,697	33,637	28.4
All towns of dhanbad district	73,602	9,900	4,822	5,078	13.4

## DHANBAD.

In Tundi p.s. which is adjacent to the district of Santhal Parganas in Bhagalpur Division and which covers 80 percent of the forest and hills of Dhanbad they form nearly half of the total population in the area .

As stated above Tundi Block was established in 1957. It covers an area of 152 square miles with 296 villages and 24-gram panchayats. According to 1961 census its total population is 59,545 persons, i.e. 30,252 male and 29,293 female. The tribal population of the block is 49 per cent.

The impact of community development block on the tribals was sought to be studied in eight selected villages, namely Laherbari Sinduaritand, Karmatand, Biranchi, Jhinaki, Naro Baghmara and Persatand. The background of these villages is indicated below: -

- (a) Laherbari.- This village is situated at a distance of about 5 miles from Tundi, the Block headquarters, and about 27 miles to the north-east from Dhanbad, the district headquarters. It has an area of 253.70 acres and 34 households and population of approximately 167 persons. So far as communication is concerned it has got no proper road. It has a village katcha road on which bullock-cart move.
- (b) Siduaritand.- The village is situated at a distance of about 5 miles from Tundi, The Block headquarters, and about 27 miles to the north from Dhanbad. It has an area of 313.96 acres. The village has 33 households and a population of approximately 158 persons. It has no proper road. It can be approached only on foot.
- (c) Karmatand.-The village is situated at a distance of about 5 miles from Tundi to wards north and about 27 miles from Dhanbad, the district headquarters. It has an area of 628.59 acres. It has 64 households and a Population of approximately 352 persons. The village is connected with Tundi by a katcha road.
- (d) Biranchi.- The village is situated at a distance of about 5 miles from Tundi towards the south-east corner and about 20 miles from Dhanbad , The district headquarters. It has an area of 283.63 acres. It has 22 households and a population of approximately 120 persons. The village is connected by a katcha hilly road.
- (e) Jhinaki.- The village is situated at a distance of about 7 miles from Tundi towards west and about 29 miles from the district headquarter. The village is connected by a graveled road from Tundi, the Block headquarters. It is easily approachable by jeep. It has an area of 346.30 acres. It has 35 households and population of about 318 Persons.

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

- (f) Naro- The village is situated at a distance of about 9 miles from Tundi towards west and about 31 miles from Dhanbad the district headquarters. A District Board connects the village by a road from Tundi. It has an area of 325.39 acres. It has 35 households and a population of approximately 131 persons.
- (g) Baghmara.- The village is situated at a distance of about 10 miles from Tundi towards south-east and about 32 miles from Dhanbad. The village is encircled by hills. It has got no road communication. People can go in this village Jhinaki only by foot with great difficulty. It has an area of 247.14 acres. It has 20 households and a population of approximately 169 persons.
- (h) Persatand.- The village is situated at a distance of about 4 miles from Tundi towards east and about 25 miles from Dhanbad. It has got a *katcha* road from Tundi on which only bullock-carts can ply. It has an area of 457.51 acres.

Of these villages only Persatand has a population of 59 per cent tribals and 41 per cent non-tribals. The rest have nearly 100 per cent tribal population.

A study was made as to the occupation of the tribals and the main trends of their economy. The study discloses that the main structure of the economy is just the same as in the previous decades. The main pursuits are still of certain types of unsatisfactory agriculture, rearing of cattle, pig and poultry, sale of jungle produce and working as a labourer in fields elsewhere and in the collieries. The economic incidence continues to be poor. Details regarding the various pursuits are indicated below.

### **Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.**

The lands of all the villages visited by the investigators are hilly and terrace agriculture is in practice. The only crop that is grown is paddy. In years of scanty rainfall there is very little of paddy harvested and tribals suffer much. To improve their agriculture the Tundi Community Development Block has introduced improved seeds available from grain *golas* at Tundi and Jhinaki meant for the tribals.

In the year 1962 the Community Development Block supplied-

- (i) **improved paddy seed**- two maunds to village Biranchi for about 20 acres of land, two maunds to village Laherbari for about 15 acres of land, three maunds to village Persatand for about 20 acres of land, twenty maunds to village Naro for about 10 acres of land, twenty-

## DHANBAD.

five maunds to village Karmatand for about 30 acres of land, thirty-one maunds to village Sinduaritand for about 45 acres of land.

Improved seeds were distributed in the villages, but very little of improved type of rice collected in the tribal households was seen. Evidently the villages that took more than two to three maunds of improved paddy seeds utilized it for daily consumption. The seed supplied was not adequate even for agricultural purposes in villages, Biranchi, Laherbari and Persatand;

- (ii) manures (ammonium sulphate)—three maunds to village Biranchi for about 16 acres of land, three maunds to village Karmatand for about 15 acres of land, four maunds to village Naro for about 8 acres of land, five maunds to village Sinduarit and For about 15 acres of land, six maunds to village Laherbari for about 25 acres of Land, nine maunds to village Persatand for about 35 acres of land, and 30 maunds to village Jhinaki for about 15 acres of land.

From the figures mentioned above it is quite clear that the distribution of manures was quite inadequate for the land.

When questions were put by the investigators to villagers of all the eight villages regarding the impact of the improved seeds and manures, they replied that they got better produce whenever they applied improved seeds and manures. They further said that everything depended on timely and adequate rainfall. Those villagers who took improved type of seeds and manures from the Block authorities had got at least five to six bighas of land.

The attempts of the Community Development Block to introduce Japanese method of paddy cultivation have not been successful because of the rocky soil and want of irrigation. The area is not suitable for this type of cultivation unless the skill is continuously spoonfed at an enormous cost. Attempts to sink wells have proved abortive and the people have no money to make their own arrangements for irrigation or fertilizers. As a result the old primitive method of cultivation was possible and found in the villages visited.

The incidence of indebtedness is extremely high and the investigators suggested that practically no tribal family was free from indebtedness. Under money economy the tribals have been

### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

getting into more debts and the fact that money is easily available from the mahajans has not been to their good. Barter economy was better for the tribals.<sup>435</sup>

The community development block has not been of much help to liquidate the indebtedness. The tribals are born in debt, live in debt and literally die in debt. Their income is mostly swallowed up in payment of the interest for the loans. But partly owing to their improvidence and partly owing to the heaviness of indebtedness there was not much of final liquidation of the debts. Stipulation was to pay back 25 per cent above the quantity of grains borrowed in some cases the quantity borrowed had not been repaid. This was either due to the fact that the crops were poor or that they had eaten up a portion of the seed and a quantity of the produce without thinking of repayment. It is also gathered that a particular political party and made some propaganda to the gullible amongst the tribals that if they would vote for the party their would be exemption from the payment of the loans seeds. The grain *golas* for the tribals have however, brought a modicum of relief. Four families of village Biranchi, three families of village Laherbari, six families of village Persatand, two families of village Naro, twelve families of village Karmatand, fifteen families of village Jhinaki and twenty-nine families of village Sinduaritand got grains from grain *golas* of Tundi and Jhinaki .

The tribals from time immemorial have carried on poultry farming. But the breed kept by them was of the ordinary type, which used to lay not more than 12 to 13 eggs at a stretch and then stopped laying eggs for about a month. The egg production was therefore, not more than 100 percent year. The Community development block began supplying them with improved type of poultry and eggs. of the villages, visited by the investigators, Naro was supplied with two eggs of improved type in 1962 to one person, jhinaki with four birds of improved type in 1958 to two persons persatand with 13 birds and 22 eggs of improved type to 13 families, sinduaritand with two birds and nine eggs of improved type to two persons, laherbari with 18 birds of improved type to 15 persons and biranchi with one bird and eight eggs of improved type to one persons in 1962 .

The tribals took to the poultry with great avidity, so much that the block could not supply their demands. Evidently there has been an increase in the production of eggs but the investigators could not get a single egg from any household of the villages Baghmara, Jhinaki and Naro thought there were quite a good number of birds both improved and ordinary types as seen by the investigators. Approximately 100 birds were seen in each of the villages. There were quite a good number of cross-bred birds at villages Laherbari, Karmatand, persatand , jhinaki and naro . the aversion to sell eggs locally was found to be due the idea that better prices could be had if eggs were sold at the market .

## DHANBAD.

The block office appears to have given substantial help for preventing diseases of the birds. The villages Laherbari, Sinduaritand and Jhinaki mention that injection had been given to the birds and tonic pills provided .

The improvement in the breed of livestock was not found in any of the villages visited.

The tribals have been rearing pig from time immemorial. The community development block has tried to introduce improved type of pig, but it appears that the improved type pig is more susceptible to diseases than indigenous ones. The block authority had distributed one improved type of hog in each of the villages Karmatand sinduaritand and jhinaki. There was no supply to other villages. It was learnt and the hogs distributed to villages Karmatand and jhinaki died. The investigators found only one hog of improved type and that in village's sinduaritand only. There has been very little of improvement in the breed of pigs owing to inadequate supply of hogs.

Rearing of goats and sheep is an indigenous occupation of the tribals. There has been no improvement in breed as there was no supply of ram of improved breed either in the villages or in the service arranged at the block headquarters .

The number of sheep found at the tribals villages was large but there was no utilization of the wool. The sheep were sold to Calcutta. Higher bred sheep and shearing of wool for separated sale could have improved the economic incidence of the tribals.

The indigenous forest produce of grass, leaves and seeds could have been put better use if ideas of improved ware were given. As none has been offered, the tribals still produce a small number of baskets, leaves cup (dona) and other wares of inferior quality, the sale of which is localized.

## EDUCATION .

Prior to the establishment of Tundi Community Development block there were only two middle schools located at villages Maniadih and Tundi .now there are primary schools at villages, jhinaki, Laherbari and biranchi. There is also a high school at Tundi. There is a library also containing 30 books only at village's jhinaki. Before the establishment of the block very little attention was paid towards education by the tribals .

The location of the eight villages visited by the investigators is such that very few officials willingly visit these villages. But with the opening of the block, villages are being visited by officials and non-officials. The blocks had opened social centres in the villages Baghmara and Biranchi to educate adults. It is gathered that through these centres about 20 persons of villages Baghmara and about 30 persons of village Biranchi were benefited.

#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Six boys of Baghmara of whom one student gets Rs. 15 as stipend from the welfare department and five students of Naro read in Meriadih school; five from persatand; 15 from karmatand; 13 from Sinduaritand and 15 from Laherbari attend the Laherbari school; 32 boys of Biranchi read in Biranchi school; and 15 boys and five girls of Jhinaki read in Jhinaki school. Five boys of Jhinaki read in Mariadih School, all of who get Rs.15 per month as a stipend. About 35 adivasi students read in Tundi high school and get Rs. 20 each per month from the welfare department. It is doubtful if the tribals boys in these villages would at all have come to the school if they were not given government stipends. There has to a constant stimulus in the shape of the teacher going round the villages to collect his students. the reason is that while elders engage themselves in cutting timber and other heavy work, the tending of cattle, goats and sheep devolves upon the children of school going age. One example may be cited to illustrate the handicap caused by the customs prevalent amongst the tribals. The custom of early marriage is prevalent amongst the tribals. The husband has to be with his wife least on every Sunday and failure to do so leads to divorce by the wife. One such case was found in village's Laherbari, where one student had for this reason to discontinue his studies after passing the secondary school examination. The result is that the education of the tribals in schools and colleges is much hampered, so much so that a big hostel for tribals at tundi constructed by the welfare department remains deserted.

#### HEALTH AND SANITATION.

The Santhals in spite of their poverty live neatly. The contribution of the community development project towards living in better sanitary condition is in introducing vaccination only inoculation has not been popular. There does not appear to be any other vital help. Regarding sources of water—supply excepting the repairs of few chaos (shallow wells dug in low-lying area to collect water from whatever sources available). Nothing has been done.

Dispensaries are becoming popular. But it is only after they have tried indigenous medicines and witchcraft and failed in curing the disease thereby that they come to dispensaries for treatment. The villagers of jhinaki, Baghmara and naro wanted health sub-centres in their localities but the villagers of other villages that were investigated did not evince desire for any such centre. The only dispensary is at tundi, which is at a distance of 8 to 10 miles from the villages

#### GRAM PANCHAYAT.

The tribals have their own indigenous panchayats, which continue to exercise the same influence as before. *The gram panchayats* set up by the government have little impact. Luckily the *gram panchayat* have not done the mischief in introducing litigation. There is practically no litigation amongst the tribals.

DHANBAD.  
*CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.*

Co-operative society has been started in villages Jhinaki, which casters for the villages in vicinity have 32 members. It advances short-term and medium-term loans to the members in agricultural purpose. as reported it has advanced Rs. 1,000 in 1960-61 and Rs.450 in 1961-62 for purchase of bullouks , seeds and manures . No other villages visited by the investigators have any have co-operative society of their own .

*SOCIAL IMPACT .*

There has been a shift towards wearing of shirts , bush shirts , blouses and underwear amongst the tribals . This is party due to the contact with block authorities. The block authorities have also encouraged the organization of dancing parties among the tribals. It may be mentioned that song and dance are integral part of their life.

*CONCLUSION .*

Out of 296 villages under the tundi community development block a sample survey of the activities and effects of the block on eight essentially tribals villages was made. The aims and objects of the block have already been discussed in the report. So far as the tribals villages are concerned this block along with the other blocks has one and the same pattern.

The impact has been only very partially successful: the main impediments are the inherent conservatism and some quaint social customs of the tribals, their poor economic incidence the rocky nature of the soil and a certain amount of lack of proper supervision by the block authority. Sinking of wells for irrigation or drinking purposes is practically impossible and an unwise experiment in introducing the Japanese system of paddy cultivation was probably a waste of money. The *gram panchayats* do not appear to have had any effect. The little progress in education was entirely due to subsidies and the teacher has to go round to collect these students.

Facilities in loan of improved seeds and manures were misused by appropriating them for immediate consumption. A slight improvement in poultry was seen but the handicap was in very small does of distribution of better eggs and pullets. As a better of fact more concentrated efforts in improvement of poultry were desirable instead of trying an all-round well-ramified scheme. The money wasted in the construction of wells or the introduction of Japanese method of paddy cultivation could have been better utilized by distributing more eggs and pullets or hogs. The villages remain where so far as land use is concerned and there has been no expansion apparently in the acreage of cultivation or in quanlity of the produce. Employment chances remain as they were.



#### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

But for the collieries the tribals might have had to starve. The ready cash money earned in the collieries is not again in their income as the incidence of intoxication has gone up. There has, however, been a slight change in the improvement in their dress and in taking to allopathathic medicine. The tribals have also become conscious of the good work veterinary science can do their complaint, however, is that they have to walk a long distance to attend the health sub-centres or the veterinary dispensaries.

Their diet still consists of rice, manual and pier fruit with a little addition of hunted birds and beasts. The *Handia* (home – brewed liquor) is the main beverage.

For cash credit they would go to the *mahajans* and be in perpetual debt.

The co- operative movement has not made much headway. There is no improvement in cottage industry or in marketing facilities.

In short the impact of the community development block on the life of the tribals, except in matters of health and medicine and to some extent in education has been negligible. There has been no change in the village leadership. It is confined to the tribals, and non-tribals, even if elected as *mukhias* of *gram panchyats*, do not exert any real influence on them. Modern ideas like birth control and casteless ness have not yet entered these villages, rather are laughed at. The primitive system of self-help still continues and they have not yet imbibed and new ideas so much so that the only compost pit in the villages visited is at Biranchi and that due to the at efforts of village level worker and has not been taken up by the indigenous population.

#### **ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE SEMI –TRIBAL VILLAGE RAJGANJ, P.S. KATRAS.**

A survey was made at Rajganj village to study the economic structure of a semi-tribal village that has undergone a rapid change in the last one decade due to its proximity to Dhanbad , the headquarters of the district and the centre of colliery and other industrial activities.

Rajganj is about 10 miles north-west from Dhanbad on grand trunk road. The total population of the village according to 1951 census was 2279 and in population has increased by about one thousand.

The village though situated in a tribal zone has recently undergone a complete change. Due to industrialization and spread of education and free association with different types of people in the collieries and the town, the tribals and the non-tribals here have changed a lot. It is difficult now to differentiate between the tribals and the non - tribals. Their dress and language are quite similar.

## DHANBAD.

The only thing which goes to separate them from the nontribals is that they keep their houses more tidy and decent than the nontribals.

It is expected that after a lapse of a few more years this semitribal village will lose all vestiges of tribalism.

The village is spread over an area of 809.84 acres and about 50 per cent of total land is cultivated. There are now (January, 1963) 442 households in cultivated. The village is connected by quick bus services with Dhanbad town. It has a post office, a police station, two middle schools, a high school, and a dispensary. It is also the headquarters of village level worker, *mukhiya* and the *sarpanch*.

During the survey, emphasis was laid to describe the role of caste in relation to economic structure, the important economic activities in the village like cultivation and animal husbandry and finally the cycle of activities of both males and females of different castes through out the year.

### Caste and economic structure.

The village has an entirely settled population. Even the aboriginals like Santhals have settled down to cultivation, which is the main stay of the village population. it has a heterogeneous caste composition as will be evident from the table given below:-

Caste composition.	
Caste	No. of households.
1. Brahman	2
2. Rajput	1
3. Kayastha	1
4. Swarna Banik Bengali	25
5. Muslim	50
6. Agrawala	20
7. Mahuri	10
8. Bania Jayaswal	7
9. Mandal	4
10. Kumhar	50
11. Teli	50
12. Halwai	15
13. Koeri	6
14. Chamar	35
15. Dhobi	5

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\*Supplied by the Gram Sevak of the village.

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

Caste	No. of households
16. Barhi	1
17. Kurmi	50
18. Dhewar	5
19. Nai	8
20. Santhal	50
21. Bauri	2
22. Mahra	1
23. Lohar	5
24. Barai	30
25. Darji	9
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<b>Total</b>	<b>442</b>
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The Bawris, Maharas and Dhiwars are on the periphery and may be described to belong to the category of semi-tribals.

There are thus about 25 castes in the village. The old order of the village society enjoins upon each caste to perform certain functions, which are interdependent and complementary and weave the economic system into a single integrated unit. All the castes are more or less associated with cultivation except Dhiwar, Bawri and Mahra. Some castes such as Kumhar, Halwai and Chamar, etc., follow their traditional caste occupation at well but Swarna Banik Bengalies have left their traditional caste occupation, i.e., goldsmithy and are busy in cultivation, care of animals and bidi making. Broadly speaking the caste men may be grouped into the following three categories according to their economic function: -

- (a) Agriculture followed by the Brahmans, Rajputs, Muslims, Koeris and Santhals.
- (b) Occupations ancillary to agriculture followed by the Lohars, Carpenters and Mahajans.
- (c) Various types of social services followed by the Nais, Darjis and Kumhars.

The interdependence of the different castes in the economic organization of the village becomes more emphasized during the occasions of marriage, festivals, etc., when each caste has a specific contribution to make. It was found that the services rendered by Lohar, Nai, Dhobe and Darji castes cater to the needs of a group of families at remuneration generally given on an annual basis either in cash or kind at the time of harvesting of grains. Due to impact of urbanisation and industrialization this practice is on the decline.

At the present moment owing to the economic shifts there is much or less rigidity in following particular avocations and caste occupations are definitely on the

## DHANBAD.

decline. This shift has been made more possible due to the general industrialization of the district. Quite a good percentage of the sons of agriculturists, cobblers or landless labourers are working in the same trade or in the colliery.

The economic functions of the different castes in the village are indicated below :-

**Lohar.-** There are five households of lohars of blacksmiths in the village. They make cart wheel, agricultural implements and other household articles. There is no barter system in this village, the produce is consumed locally or in the neighbourhood. These village lohars are allergic to do any other kind of work. They are well occupied.

**Nai.-** There are eight households of nais or barbers in the village. They are not attached to a group of families. At the time of harvest and marriage they get paddy and other grains from agriculturists but this is not obligatory. They take up other kind of manual work. They would not have got sufficient livelihood if they stuck to their caste-occupations.

**Darji(tailor).-** There are nine Darji families in the village. They are Muslims and live in the Muslim pocket of the village but their shops are in bazaar area. They are quite busy with their work and generally they do not do any other kind of work to add to their earnings.

**Kumhar(potter).-** Besides making of earthen ware some of the Kumhars also make bidi. They make just sufficient for their use. The children have started taking up other types of manual work.

**Agrawala.-** The eighteen families of Agrawalas are engaged in money-lending or other form of business. They are comparatively well to do. They are readily available to those who need credit. There has been no decline in their business.

**Chamar (cobbler).-** The Chamars are not usually confined to their caste-occupation. They also work as agricultural labour.

**Santhal.-** Santhals occupy about 13 per cent of the total population of the village. Their houses are not scattered. They do not depend on agriculture alone because agriculture provides them only during sowing and harvesting seasons. During the other period of the year, i.e., January to May they work in the collieries or in Dhanbad or other towns.

### ECONOMIC TRENDS.

The problem of indebtedness among Santhals specially is very acute in the village. Almost every family is in debt in spite of the fact that they earn quite well. They are still improvident by nature. The Community Development Block has not been of much help to liquidate the indebtedness.

### Animal husbandary

The Santhals keep domestic livestock. There were about 100 goats, 30 sheep, 75 cattle and 60 birds in their houses. Lately, some Muslims and Chamars have taken to cattle rearing. Some of the other caste men like Brahmans, Rajputs, Kayasthas and Bengalis regard sheep and goat rearing beneath their dignity.

A veterinary dispensary has been started in the village and the villagers are benefited. About 400 acres of land of the village are uncultivated because it is hilly area. This is the grazing land. Cultivated fields are also allowed for grazing after harvesting is over. The quality of livestock is very poor. Most of the livestock produce goes to meet the requirements of the family itself. A part of it goes to the village *mahajan* in repayment of the debt or goods obtained from him.

### System of Agriculture

The main stay of the village is agriculture. On local enquiry it was found that in every household about two to three persons were earning members. Traditional type of cultivation is in practice. Better land use has not yet come into vogue although the village is so close to Dhanbad.

Paddy and maize are the main crops. Paddy is grown in about 400 acres and maize is grown in up lands. Usually the landowner is his own ploughman. Occasionally labour is hired. There is no scarcity of labour.

### Cycle and Activities

The following chart gives the cycle of the economic activities of the males during the cultivating season and the off season for cultivation :-

#### Activities of male members.

Serial no.	Caste	Cultivating season (May to December)	Non-cultivating season (January to May)
1.	Agrawala	Cultivation, money-lending, shop-keeping.	Shop-keeping, money-lending.
2.	Muslim	Cultivation, care of livestock.	Care of animals, coal cutting.

**DHANBAD.**

3.	<b>Kumhar</b>	<b>Agricultural labour, pottery, care of animals.</b>	<b>Pottery, bidi making, coal cutting.</b>
4.	<b>Halwai</b>	<b>Cultivation, care of animals, sweetmeat making.</b>	<b>Sweetmeat making.</b>
5.	<b>Chamar</b>	<b>Cultivation, care of livestock, flying skin of dead bodies.</b>	<b>Cloth washing, care of animals.</b>
6.	<b>Dhobi</b>	<b>Cultivation on bataia land, care of animals, cloth washing.</b>	<b>Cloth washing, care of animals.</b>
7.	<b>Santhals</b>	<b>Cultivation, care of animals and livestock, coal cutting.</b>	<b>Care of animals and livestock, coal cutting, rope making.</b>

So far as economic activities of females of different castes are concerned, the females of Brahmans, Rajputs, Agrawalas and Bengalis usually perform household duties and do not engage themselves in manual labour in connection with agriculture. Women folk belonging to Kumhar, Chamar, Dhiwar do a certain amount of agricultural labour or helping in other work. Thus Kumhar women scrape and bring earth for their husband work while Barber women polish the nails of women. Some of the Santhal and Chamar women work in collieries.

**MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS**

Agriculture, trade, commerce, communication and transport, etc., provide the occupations for the bulk of the population. A small percentage of the population is engaged in public administration, learned professions and domestic services, etc. the middle class and the lower middle class come from these persons who may be said to follow miscellaneous occupations.

It has to be mentioned that the only reliable statistics for miscellaneous occupations could be had from District Census Hand-book based on 1951 figures.

The District Census Handbook for 1961 Census has not been published. Detailed figures are not available so far. Owing to the enormous expansion due to the projects in the Third Five- Year Plan and other reasons there has been a considerable accretion to the adherence of the miscellaneous occupations. In some cases the reported figures for 1951 Census Handbook appear to be and underestimate.

Public Administration

## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

The District Census Handbook for 1951 has given the statistics for Public Administration under “Health, Education and Public Administration”. The figures are as follows :-\*

Serial no.		Males	Females	Total
1.	Health, Education and Public Administration.	4,718	784	5,502
2.	Police (other than village watchmen).	358	Nil	358
3.	Village officers and servants including village watchmen.	24	Nil	24
4.	Employees of State Government	303	Nil	303
5.	Employees of Union Government	1,376	Nil	1,376

Without contradicting these figures we have to refer also to the statistics in the text on “Law, Order and Justice”. Some of the figures in that text refer to the period after 1951. These figures were collected for this Gazetteer.

## LEARNED PROFESSION

Persons under this category have the background of ‘Education and Culture’ and form the backbone of the society. They are lawyers, educationists, engineers, doctors, skilled professionals, writers, journalists, etc., either in public or private sector.

The figures of teachers inclusive of the different categories according to 1951 District Census Handbook are given below :-

Serial no.		Males	Females	Total.
1.	Educational Services and Research	1,956	234	2,190

These figures are to be taken with reference to the figures given in the text on “Education and Culture”. As mentioned in the text on “Education and Culture”, there were in 1961-62, 3,166 teachers employed in schools and colleges, out of which 245 were professors and lecturers of colleges including the technical colleges, the above figures include the teachers of primary, middle, secondary, oriental, professional and social education in Dhanbad district. Without again contradicting the disparity of figures we may say that, both the set of figures may not be absolutely correct.

So far as doctors are concerned the District Census Handbook of 1951 mentions 1,214 persons engaged in medical and health services of the district. Apparently the figure is an underestimate as it should include not only qualified doctors, nurses, compounders and midwives but also the unqualified quacks,

## DHANBAD.

homeopaths, kavirajs, hakims, etc. the difficulty is the want of statutory obligation for barring unregistered doctors from practicing. The figures in the District Census Handbook of 1951 must have undergone a large addition by now. The text on “Medical and Public Health Services” may also be looked into.

The figures for legal profession have not been separately given in 1951 District Census Handbook but have been clubbed with businessmen and said to be 2,169 persons. They do not give any indication as to the actual number of persons following the legal profession.\*

An investigation was made from the Secretary of the Bar Library and it was reported that there were 120 legal practitioners of whom 21 were advocates. This figure does not include the pleader’s clerks, stamp venders, deed writers or various other people who make a living out of the legal cases and the courts.

Arts, letters and journalism claim a very small number. According to 1951 Census there were five persons. This figure appears to be an underestimate as there are quite a few part-time press correspondents and writers. Many of the teachers and professors have taken to journalism and writing as a part-time occupation.

Religion claims a small number of exclusive adherents such as priests and missions but their number is not separately available. In the present day economic trends a Hindu priest or a Muslim divine will follow other occupations as well. Quite a number of drones are also covered by this category. In 1951 Census Handbook 267 males and 6 females were reported to be engaged in religious, charitable and welfare services. † No investigation was made to find out the present number. The 1961 Census figures are not available.

In the text on ‘People’ there has been a coverage on different religions.

## Domestic and Personal Services

The figures of persons engaged in domestic and personal services according to 1951 Census are as follows † :-

Serial no.		Males	Females	Total
1.	Services otherwise unclassified	12,249	840	13,089
2.	Domestic services	1,445	340	1,785
3.	Barbers and beauty shops	1,032	18	1,050
4.	Laundries and laundry services	201	52	253
5.	Hotels, restaurants and eating hotels.	660	Nil	660
6.	Recreation services	290	96	386

\* District Census Handbook, Dhanbad, published in 1954 (pp. 47).

† District Census Handbook, Dhanbad, published in 1954 (pp. 45-46).



## ECONOMIC TRENDS.

The persons engaged in domestic services include cook, household servants, water carrier, grooms, etc. The lot of domestic servants has definitely improved. They are profited by the enormous expansion of other avenues of occupation and get a better pay and fooding. Many are engaged in part-time job in several families and make out a good living. Many of the previous domestic servants have adopted other occupations as rickshaw pulling, working in hotels, office peons, *chawkidars*, etc. There is a dearth of domestic servants and this has been fully exploited for getting higher wages, lesser work and obligations. There is a constant interchange of occupations among this class of men. It is also possible that the same man is working as barber and a domestic servant or a peon or a newspaper vendor and *khonchawalla* selling snacks.

In urban areas the average daily earning of a barber is not less than Rs.2 to Rs.3. His charges vary. The road- side barber will charge from one anna to annas two for a shave and foruannas for a hair cut. There is non fixed charge for the female barber who visits houses particularly.

Laundries of the urban area are better equipped and the owners of such shops have also to employ hired labourers due to the increase in the volume of business. Washing charge per 100 pieces in the rural areas varies from Rs.10 to Rs. 15 and in urban areas from Rs.12 to Rs.20, the time taken for the service ranging from 1 week to 10 days or even more.

The district does not have any good hotel where a comfortable board and lodge are provided. Mostly there are cheap restaurants and eating-houses. These hotels and restaurants are generally situated near the court compounds, cinemas and in the town bazaar.

The tailoring profession has not been separately enumerated. Many independent tailors with their sewing machines are found in the district. In many cloth shops a tailor sits in a corner and carries on his work. No tailor earns anything less than Rs. 90 a month.

It has to be mentioned that Dhanbad being a highly industrial district, the number of persons following miscellaneous occupations is expected to be much larger than the figures quoted. There are a large number of Central Government Departments stationed within Dhanbad district and it is not known if the personnel in the Central Government Departments have been categorized properly. Many of them are highly technical men, administrators, doctors, engineers, mining experts, etc. the services personnel have not always got their own organizations to discuss on matters of common interest and ventilate their

grievances. If there were such organizations it could have been easier to collect figures for them. Some of the doctors are members of the Dhanbad Branch of the Indian Medical Association. The lawyers have their own Bar Association. But the teachers, the subordinates in Government service have not such strong and well-represented organizations and it is difficult to get definite figures. The persons engaged in various local self-governmental bodies have not got their figures correctly enumerated. The various statistics quoted in the different texts will also have to be considered in coming to have a somewhat correct appreciation of miscellaneous occupations. Persons who may be grouped under miscellaneous occupations play a very important role in the life of the district.